


BOTSWANA Daily News

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Botswana loses billions



Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa, yesterday presented The Summary Report of the National Forensic Audit in Gaborone. Mr Mohwasa said the report flagged 80 cases for special investigation linked to contracts, payments and other expenditure worth about P160 billion, with an estimated P33 billion in potential loss due to fraud, waste and mismanagement.

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Minister of Higher Education, Mr Prince Maele officially launching the 2026 Roadshow in Maun recently. He said the initiative represented a deliberate effort to ensure that education opportunities reached every corner of the country. Photo: Goalethoo Kgatitswe

Roadshow brings tertiary education closer to communities

Gaolethoo Kgatitswe
MAUN

For the first time, the Tertiary Institutions National Roadshow has been launched outside Gaborone, bringing tertiary education opportunities directly to communities and signalling a shift toward more inclusive access to learning across Botswana.

Officially launching the 2026 Roadshow in Maun, Minister of Higher Education, Mr Prince Maele said the initiative represented a deliberate effort to ensure that education opportunities reach every corner of the country.

He said taking the launch beyond the capital city showed that access to tertiary education must not be defined by geography, but by equal opportunity for all learners.

“Opportunity must not be limited by where one comes from, but must reach every potential student with a dream,” he said.

Minister Maele described the roadshow as a critical platform that had over the years connected thousands of young people with opportunities in higher education, technical training and career development.

He said the initiative continued to bridge the gap between aspiration and opportunity, particularly for learners in rural and underserved communities who often have limited access to career information.

Mr Maele emphasised that Botswana’s future lies in its people, describing human capital as the country’s new diamonds in a world driven by knowledge, innovation and evolving technologies.

He said the education system must continuously adapt to global changes, including artificial intelligence and digital transformation, to equip young people with relevant and competitive skills.

Meanwhile, chairperson of the Tertiary Institutions National

Roadshow Movement, Ms Rosa Kedisang, said the initiative sought to remove barriers that hindered access to tertiary education.

“We are committed to bringing information and opportunity closer to the learner, ensuring that no young person is left behind,” she said.

Ms Kedisang noted that collaboration among institutions has been key to the success of the movement, which continues to grow in reach and impact across the country.

She said the Roadshow provides a platform for learners to explore different career pathways, engage with institutions and make informed decisions about their futures.

The Roadshow is expected to travel to various parts of the country, bringing together tertiary institutions, training providers and stakeholders to engage directly with prospective students.

For many young people, the initiative represents more than an outreach programme, but a gateway to education, skills development and future opportunities. **BOPA**

Prioritise fight against Foot and Mouth Disease

Thuso Kgakatsi
KANG

Residents of Kgalagadi North District have been urged to cooperate with government efforts to contain the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), which has led to the suspension of slaughtering cloven-hoofed animals.

Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti made the appeal during a consultative kgotla meeting at Kang recently to brief the community on the outbreak and outline possible interventions.

Dr Dikoloti emphasised that unity and adherence to veterinary officers guidance was critical in overcoming the crisis.

He assured residents that the country possessed the expertise and experience to manage the disease, noting the country’s long history of combating FMD.

“We will win this battle. We can never be defeated by FMD,” he said. However, the acting minister expressed concern about individuals who do not view the outbreak as a shared responsibility.

He cautioned against attitudes that prioritised immediate economic gain over collective disease control efforts, stressing that government alone could not manage the situation without the support of farmers.

Dr Dikoloti highlighted that preventative vaccinations in designated containment zones were nearing completion, expressing optimism that these measures would help bring the outbreak under control.

He added that lifting the suspension on slaughtering would depend highly on the success and speed of these interventions.

Dr Dikoloti also revealed that the government is working to strengthen veterinary services, including restructuring efforts aimed at retaining skilled personnel, adding that early detection of the disease reflected improved national capacity to respond effectively.

In addressing long-term resilience, Dr Dikoloti attested that there was need for farmers to consider establishing an FMD Fund to support agricultural infrastructure and provide relief during outbreaks.

He suggested that such a fund could be financed through mechanisms such as slaughter levies or a percentage contribution from live exports.

“This is a matter that requires collaboration. Farmers and government must work together to determine sustainable solutions,” he noted.

Dr Dikoloti acknowledged the financial strain on farmers, noting that a dedicated fund could be used to provide subsidies during periods when livestock sales were halted.

He also raised concerns about the underperformance of government-allocated ranches, calling for a review to improve productivity and value.

Dr Dikoloti further underscored the need to enhance biosecurity measures, including the installation of wheel baths, checkpoints, and buffer zones once rezoning becomes feasible, adding that for now, efforts remained focused on controlling the

current outbreak.

He called on farmers to actively participate in policy discussions, particularly around rezoning strategies.

The acting minister assured residents of the support of President Advocate Duma Boko, adding that it was through that the approval of P3.7 million was disbursed to assist in addressing the outbreak.

He added that the President’s ongoing international engagements, included efforts to strengthen technical partnerships for the Botswana Vaccine Institute, adding that that when successful, it could enhance the country’s capacity to respond to animal health challenges and contribute to economic growth.

Dr Dikoloti also warned against the politicisation of the FMD issue, urging stakeholders to remain focused on practical solutions.

In addition, he acknowledged challenges such as stock theft and indicated that stricter laws might be necessary, especially as agriculture continued to attract increased investment.

He noted that prior to the outbreak, the country’s beef industry had shown strong performance.

Dr Dikoloti said approximately 12,000 cattle had already been slaughtered, with a target of 100,000 set for the year.

He noted that plans were also underway to exceed the Norway quota by July and expand into the European Union market, where demand remained high, adding that all these would not be achieved due to FMD.

Further, he said efforts to scale up operations also included engaging the multi-species abattoir in Gaborone as an extension facility and increasing capacity at the Maun abattoir, adding that recently the abattoir was certified for Halaal markets with its slaughtering from 120 and were planning to increase to 240 cattle per day.

These initiatives, however, have been disrupted by the current outbreak. Despite the setback, Dr Dikoloti reaffirmed government’s commitment to restoring the sector and ensuring that farmers ultimately benefitted from expanded market opportunities once the disease is contained.

For his part, Kgalagadi North MP, Mr Reason Lekhutlane echoed the call for discipline and cooperation, urging farmers to comply fully with regulations aimed at containing the spread.

However, residents raised concern over the absence of dipping points between Borolong and Charleshill, saying the lack of visible control activity is fuelling panic and uncertainty in livestock zones.

Some farmers further pleaded with government to subsidise them by assisting with payment of herd boys who care for cattle at farms, and to scrap the four percent tax charged on cattle sales, arguing it worsened financial pressure on already struggling farmers.

Meanwhile, butchery operators questioned the duration of the restrictions, saying their businesses are struggling to cover basic operating costs under the prolonged controls. **BOPA**

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Botswana loses P33 billion to fraud and mismanagement

Bonang Masolotatse
GABORONE

The National Forensic Audit summary report has revealed that Botswana may have lost an estimated P33 billion to fraud, waste and financial mismanagement over the last decade.

The findings therefore call for special investigations into a network of senior officials and private contractors. The report, covering April 2014 to March 2024, was presented by Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa yesterday. Conducted by Alvarez and Marsal (A&M) Middle East Limited, the audit scrutinised 30 government entities, including ministries, state-owned enterprises and regulatory bodies.

The investigation identified 814 instances of irregularity and 80 cases flagged for immediate criminal or disciplinary investigation.

Cases involve contracts and expenditures totalling P160 billion, resulting in a conservative P33

billion in potential damage.

“The P33 billion figure is a conservative and preliminary estimate of likely loss based on the matters reviewed,” Minister Mohwasa said.

The minister further explained that the figure included estimated overpricing, unsupported payments, suspected diversion, non-delivery, waste and other financial exposure.

He warned that the financial impact was likely deeper than the numbers suggested.

“The indicative loss figure does not capture the full public cost of the matters identified,” he added.

In some cases, he said the wider cost may extend beyond the contracts, payments or asset values reviewed, including disrupted public services, delayed infrastructure delivery, reduced reliability of supplies, additional costs of securing alternative supply and long-term contractual or operational exposure.

The report also indicates that the rot is not confined to junior staff or isolated departments. The findings implicate more than 80 current and former senior government officials and over 150 contractors and suppliers, including both local and international entities.

The audit identified a consistent set of underlying conditions that enabled the findings, such as weak oversight mechanisms, ineffective control institutions, vulnerabilities in procurement processes and a weak culture of accountability.

“The recurrence of similar issues across multiple entities shows that structural reform is required,” he said.

To address these systemic failures, the report proposes comprehensive reforms in governance, institutional, procurement, financial and cultural areas.

Meanwhile, the 80 referrals are intended to enable formal investigation, asset tracing and recovery assessment, alongside potential criminal, civil or regulatory action. **BOPA**



President Advocate Duma Boko (left) receiving a Medal of Honour from African Federation of Teaching Regulatory Authorities board chairperson, Mr Ebby Mubanga during the official opening of the 13th African Federation of Teaching Regulatory Authorities conference in Gaborone yesterday. The award is the federation’s highest honour, reserved for African heads of state who had distinguished themselves in promoting the teaching profession in their countries and across the continent. Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

‘Africa education reforms imperative’

Thato Mosinyi
GABORONE

Africa should strive for a resilient, inclusive and future facing education system capable of innovation, productivity, social cohesion and renewal on a scale that could alter the trajectory of the global economy.

Officially opening the 13th Africa Federation of Teaching Regulatory Authorities Teaching and Learning Conference and round table, Tuesday in Gaborone, President Advocate Duma Boko, said it was therefore no coincidence that the principal continental and global policy framework of the modern time placed education at the centre of the development strategy.

He said Agenda 2063 under the powerful formulation of ‘The Africa we want’, envisaged a continent defined by well-educated citizens and a skills resolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation.

President Boko added that the Sustainable Development Goal four,

also advocated for a sustainable roll out of an inclusively and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all to the international community.

He stated that it was on that regard that the continental education strategy for Africa located teacher development, quality assurance and research and innovation at that centre of educational transformation.

President Boko said SADC had within the region, continued to emphasise cooperation in teacher development, curriculum reform and quality assurance.

This frameworks, he said stated in policy language what experience had always taught in practice and that no education system could rise above the quality, professionalism and ethical fibre of its teachers.

He said AFTRA therefore, sat at the heart of that continental effort, with its mission being to raise teacher education, teacher practice and status to the highest possible status though networking,

solidarity, cooperation and the promotion of African philosophy as well as holistic education.

“AFTRA should be commended for recognising standards, legitimacy, public trust, accountability and the protection of learners,” he said.

Additionally, President Boko emphasised that teacher regulation was a democratic necessity and at the core of such regulations was a simple proposition which highlighted that children must learn in safe environments and receive the highest possible quality of education.

Similarly, Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education, Ms Nono Kgafela-Mokoka, reaffirmed Botswana’s commitment to strengthening teacher professionalism, improving learning outcomes and ensuring equitable access to quality education.

She said Botswana continued to invest in teacher development, curriculum transformation and systems that supported both learners and teachers. **BOPA**

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Ministry of Lands and Agriculture says movement of cloven-hoofed derived fresh products from Botswana Meat Commission Lobatse, is allowed within zone 11 without a permit and to the rest of the country under permit and seal.

Ministry eases restriction on cloven-hoofed products

LOBATSE

Ministry of Lands and Agriculture says movement of cloven-hoofed derived fresh products from Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) Lobatse, is allowed within zone 11 without a permit, and to the rest of the country under permit and seal.

A press release from the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture states that export of cloven-hoofed derived products is allowed subject to import requirements of the importing country, while import of cloven-hoofed derived products is also allowed subject to import requirements.

Meanwhile government

maintains movement restrictions in Zones 11, 12 and 13 in an effort to control the spread of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). Additionally, movement of all cloven-hoofed animals remains prohibited in Zones 11, 12 and 13 and the prohibition includes transport or slaughter of cloven hooved animals for personal use or social events such as weddings, and funerals.

The Press release further states movement of cloven-hoofed derived fresh products from FMD free zones such as 4a and 3b as well as registered free compartments is allowed into zones 11, 12 and 13 under permit and seal. In addition, movement of cloven-hoofed derived

fresh products is allowed within a zone without a movement permit.

The ministry also states that the hunting of cloven-hoofed wild animals is not allowed and that transit of cloven hooved derived fresh products from FMD-free zones and registered FMD-free compartments through zones 11, 12 and 13 is allowed in sealed containers or trucks under veterinary movement permit.

At present, movement of cloven-hoofed derived fresh products out of the containment zone is not allowed while movement of livestock feeds, trophies, skins and hooves, out of zones 3c-Dukwi, 3c- Maitengwe, 4b, 5, 6a, 6b, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 remain prohibited, except milled

feed or treated by-products.

The revision of movement restrictions currently in place will be considered after the second round vaccination of cattle in the containment zones which is planned to start 28 days after completion of the first round of vaccination, and also after the elapse of two incubation periods from the last FMD case documented.

The release urges farmers, members of the public and stakeholders to comply with the revised disease prevention measures, remain vigilant and report any signs of illness in livestock to the nearest Department of Veterinary Service or Botswana Police Service offices. **BOPA**

World Relays economic legacy lives on

Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE

Botswana's hosting of the 2026 Debswana World Athletics Relays is proving to be more than just a sporting success, emerging as a strategic turning point in the country's efforts to revitalise its diamond industry.

Like the winds that set sails to a windmill, the partnership between the diamond sector and the World Athletics Relays has propelled Botswana toward a renewed and robust marketing strategy for natural diamonds, aimed at restoring the industry to its former strength.

In a bold and symbolic move, 120 locally sourced natural diamonds were embedded into the medals awarded during the competition.

The initiative not only celebrated athletic excellence but also positioned Botswana as a global leader in ethical and traceable diamonds, aligning with the nation's 60th independence anniversary.

As history is written, this moment will likely stand out as a defining chapter in how Botswana leveraged sport to promote its most valuable natural resource, while countering the growing influence of lab-grown diamonds in the global market.

For decades, diamond revenues have underpinned Botswana's development, transforming



About 120 locally sourced natural diamonds were embedded into the medals awarded.



Minister of Minerals and Energy, Ms Bogolo Kenewendo.

livelihoods and driving national progress. However, declining global demand, increased competition from synthetic alternatives, and an oversupplied market have significantly impacted export earnings.

In response, Botswana is shifting from a traditional "dig and ship" model to one focused on value addition, branding, and strategic partnerships. The World Relays, supported by Debswana, provided an ideal platform to implement this multi-pronged recovery strategy.

Beyond the diamond narrative, the event delivered tangible economic benefits.

It boosted tourism, supported

local businesses, created employment opportunities, and enhanced sports infrastructure, reinforcing Botswana's capacity to host world-class events.

To ensure successful hosting, government allocated P39 million to the Ministry of Sport and Arts, covering obligations such as performance bonds, specialised athletics equipment, and broadcasting rights.

The diamond sector's involvement reflects a broader national principle: that mineral wealth, when strategically managed, can be transformed into public value. This extends across sectors, from tourism and local enterprise development

to the creative industry and global branding.

Speaking at the sponsorship launch, Minister of Minerals and Energy, Ms Bogolo Kenewendo said Botswana's next chapter would focus on strengthening provenance, deepening socio-economic impact, and expanding citizen participation across the diamond value chain.

"Today, Botswana stands as a benchmark for ethical luxury, where diamonds are valued for their integrity, traceability, and contribution to national development," she said.

By embedding diamonds into medals, Botswana created a powerful narrative linking the discipline and resilience of athletes with the enduring value of natural diamonds, allowing the country's story to travel across the globe through sport.

Aligned with National Development Plan 12, which identifies sport and the arts as key drivers of tourism, the World Relays demonstrated how global events can advance national development goals.

Ultimately, the 2026 World Athletics Relays mark a defining shift in Botswana's diamond journey from resource extraction to global reputation, and from mineral wealth to meaningful public value through sport, culture, and enterprise. **BOPA**

BUSINESS BRIEFS

South Africa announces new round of fuel price hike

JOHANNESBURG - Amid mounting pressure from global oil markets, the South African government announced on Monday a new round of fuel price increases starting May 6. The Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources confirmed that the price of both grades of petrol will increase by R3.27 per liter, while diesel will rise by R6.19. According to the department, the average Brent Crude oil price surged from US\$93.67 to US\$101 dollars per barrel during the review period, largely due to ongoing tensions between the United States and Iran, as well as disruptions to key supply routes, including the Strait of Hormuz. In response to the fuel crisis, the department announced last week that it would extend temporary relief measures from May 6 to June 2, specifically a reduction of R3 per liter for petrol and R3.93 rand for diesel. **Xinhua**

Ethiopia eyes record US\$10 billion annual export revenue

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has announced that the country is on track to achieve a historic milestone of US\$10 billion in annual export revenue during the current fiscal year. Speaking at a high-level event in Addis Ababa, on Sunday, Abiy highlighted that the projected annual export revenue of US\$10 billion for the 2025/2026 fiscal year, which began on July 8, 2025, was estimated to be nearly triple the country's annual export earnings from three years ago. The prime minister attributed the sector's remarkable progress to positive growth trends in manufacturing in recent years, aligning with the country's economic strategy of boosting exports while reducing reliance on imported goods through enhanced domestic production. **Xinhua**

Uganda launches electric buses to boost clean transport

KAMPALA - Uganda has deployed a fleet of locally manufactured electric buses in the capital, Kampala, marking a significant step toward cleaner urban transport. E-Bus Xpress Kiira, a subsidiary of the state-owned Kiira Motors Corporation, announced in a statement on Monday that it officially launched electric mass transit operations in the city on Sunday. Speaking at the launch, Minister of Works and Transport Edward Katumba Wamala said the initiative represented a key milestone in Uganda's transition to an organised, efficient, and sustainable public transport system. "This initiative demonstrates our commitment as a government to modernise mobility, reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and support locally manufactured solutions that create jobs and drive economic growth for our country," Wamala said. **Xinhua**

Dikgang

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Bakgatla ba itlama go aga terata

Mmoniemang Motsamai
MOCHUDI

Barui mo kgaolong ya Kgatlang ba itlamile go tsosa le go aga terata ee kgaoganyang Botswana le South Africa go lwantsha kamano ya tihako le molomo

Mo bokopanong jwa go loga maano a sennela ruri mo twantshong ya bolwetse jo, le a mangwe a leruo a a ka tthagang mo isagong, barui ba dumalane gore ba tlaa kolekela terata le tsotlhe tse di ka tlhokwang.

E rile fa mogokaganyi wa tsa temothuo wa Kgatlang, Mme Kgotso Madisa a ba rolela tse puso e di kgonngeng, a tlhalosa fa puso e

kgonne go reka terata le mapako, tse a supileng fa di sa lekana.

Ka jalo, o gwethhile bauri go tsenya letsogo go thusa puso.

Selekanyo se se tshwanetseng go agelelwa ke sekgala sa dikhilomithara di le lekgolo, masome a robabobedi le bobedi kwa metseng e e tlwaelesegileng la leina la Dinokeng go ya kwa Phala Camp.

Le fa go ntse jalo, Mme Madisa o boletse fa go agelela terata go tlaa simololwa ka go remelela mo mafelong a nang le matshosetsi, a eleng selekanyo sa dikhilomithara di le masome mabedi le bothano.

Mme Madisa o ne a tlhalosetsa barui ka fa tiro ya morafe e tshwanang le e, e tlhoka gore go direlwe dilo mo pontsheng ka jaana go tla be go dirisiwa madi a setshaba. Tiro e, e tla simololwa mo malatsing a latelang, Mme Madisa o tlhalositse fa khansela ya Kgatlang e tla netefatsa gore madi a kolekiwang a dirisiwa mo tirong ya go lwantsha Tlhako le Molomo mme morafe o tla fiwa ditsamaiso tsa gore go duelelwa kae. **BOPA**



Ramapodisi a Serule, Superintendent Lesego Kgosiemang o kopile badirisi ba tsela ya A1 go kgweetsa ka kelotlhoko ka e na le dikhuti tse dintsi. O supile fa mo tseleng eo, go simolola fa Topisi go ya Serule, go na le dipaakanyo tsa yone go kaba dikhuti tseo. A re dingwe tsa dikotsi mo tseleng eo, di bakiwa ke go tlhoka kehelelo le neelano ya bakgweetsi bangwe. Ka jalo, o gakolotse badirisi ba tsela go dirisanya sentle go hema dikotsi. Senepe: Portia Rapitsenyane

Khansela e dira bojotlhe go baakanya dikago

Portia Rapitsenyane
PALAPYE

Modulasetilo wa khansela ya Palapye, Rre Kabo Ketshogile a re ba tlaa dira ka bojotlhe go thusa go baakanya dikago tsa puso fa go kgonagalang teng le gone go tsibosa maphata a a lebaganeng go bona gore diemo tse di leng teng di ka tsibogelwa jang.

Rre Ketshogile o ne a bua bosheng mo Palapye, mo leetong la gagwe le a tswelentseng ka lone la go lekola seemo sa dikago tsa puso.

A re ntsa go na le letlhoko la madi, dingwe tsa tse di tlhokang le go baakannwa jaaka tse di tshwanang le mabati, dipone le diloko tsa mabati ga di tlhokane le madi a a kalo kalo.

Dingwe tsa tse Rre Ketshogile a nang a lekodisiwa ka tsone e ne e le mantwana a boitiketso a a sa direng kwa dikoleng le kwa dikokelwaneng fa a mangwe a ne a dira mme a tsholola metsi.

O ne gape a lekodisiwa ka seemo sa matlwana a borutelo, matlo a boapeelo a dikole le matlo a barutabana a a seng mo seemong se se siameng mme a tlhokana le paakanyo.

Mangwe a na le bommamantlwane, mangwe ga a na mabati, dipompo tsa metsi, fa mangwe marulelo a one a se mo seemong se se siameng e bile a tsena metsi fa dipula di na.

Kwa sekolong se segolwane sa Mabogo mo Palapye, mogokgo wa sekole seo, Dr Mmoloki Moreo o ne a supa fa puso e dira mo go lekaneng mme mo dinakong tse dingwe mathata e le baithuti bangwe ba ba tswelentseng ka tshenyoo.

A re baithuti ba tshwanetse ba nne le boikarabelo jwa go tlhokomela didirisiwa tsa bone a supa fa bangwe ba thuba digalase tsa diokomelabagwe, bangwe ba ntsha tse barutabana ba ba kwalelang mo go tsone fa bangwe ba senya mabati le didirisiwa tse dingwe kwa matlwane a boitiketso a a dirisang metsi.

Dr Moreo a re fa baithuti ba ne ba sa dire tshenyoo e ba e dirang e, go ka bo go sena bothata jo bo leng teng mo nakong eno.

Mookamedi wa kokelo ya Palapye, Dr Boikhutso Rammidi a re ba na le letlhoko la melemo le dipilisi dingwe tse di bothokwa.

Le fa go ntse jalo, Rre Ketshogile o ne a rotloetsa badiri ba puso go tlhokomela tikologo ya bone ka go ntsha leswe le le mo tikologong ntsa mo mafelong a mangwe go supafala fa dikago di le dikgologolo.

O ne a ba rotloetsa gape go dirisa babereki ba lenaneo la Ikageng le a supileng fa le ka thusa mo go phapafatseng tikologo ya dikago tsa puso di tshwana le dikgotla, dikole le dikokelwana bogolo jang fa go sena bodiredi jo bo lekaneng. **BOPA**

Pabalesego le botsogo di bothokwa mo tirong

Cathrine Simane
TSABONG

Badiri ba koporase ya metsi mo Tsabong ba kgotlhaditswe go tshwaragana le go tshagetsana ka seo se ka thusa mo pabalesegong ya botsogo jwa tlhologanyo le tikologo ee nonofileng mo tirong.

Mookamedi wa koporase ya metsi mo Tsabong, Rre Benjamin Baitshenyetsi o buile jalo bosheng mo Tsabong a rola molaetsa wa letsatsi la mafatshefatshe la pabalesego le botsogo jwa tlhologanyo le tikologo e babalesegileng mo tirong.

Rre Baitshenyetsi o tlhalositse fa maikaelelo e le go lwantsha dikgobalo tse di ka nnang teng mo tirong kana malwetse.

A re letsatsi leo, le ba fa sebaka sa go buisana ka dikgwethlo tse

ba kopanang le tsone mo tirong mabapi le pabalesego, botsogo, tikologo e ba berekelang mo go yone le gone, le go tswa ka ditharabololo.

Rre Baitshenyetsi o ne a supa fa setlhogo sa monongwaga se re: Go Bereka Mmogo Sentle Ka Neelano, Tsela Ya Go Aga Mmerekwa Motia le Lefelo La Pereko Le Le Nonofileng.”

A re setlhogo se ba gwethlha go itshekatsheka ba itebagantse thata le seemo sa botsogo jwa tlhologanyo mo tirong ka gore seemo seo se ka bakwa ke tse di akaretsang bokete jwa tiro,kgatelelo ya maikutlo le tse dingwe.

Mmaboipelego go tswa mo kokolong ya Tsabong, Mme Game Seakgatlhogo o gwethhile badiri ba koporase ya metsi go

laola maikutlo a bone le go fetola ka fa ba tshelang ka teng.

A re boitshwaro jo bo eletsegang le go tshwaragana mo tirong di ka thusa mo botsogong jwa tlhologanyo le maikutlo le pabalesego mo tirong.

Mogolwane wa tsa pabalesego, botsogo le tikologo, Rre Bakang Ndebele o tlhalositse fa lekgotla la mafatshefatshe la melawana ya pereko le tlhamilwe ka 1919 morago ga go lemoga dikgwethlo tsa badiri mo tirong.

Rre Ndebele o kgotlhaditse badiri ka ene go tshwaragana, seo se ka thusa mo go ntsheng maduo aa eletsegang, mme ba dira seo ka fa tlase ga tikologo e babalesegileng, ba itekanetse mo ditlhaloganyong e bile ba wetse maikutlo.

BOPA

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Celebrating Nation Hood

What has been your role in passing down culture to the next generation?



Neo Rapaila

As a Motswana I have learnt so many cultural practices, (gathering of wild fruits, farm work,collecting firewood, etc. Values like Botho,sharing and caring,I take as my responsibility to teach young ones by engaging them. For example, taking them along to collect firewood,teaching them good morals,encouraging them to share with others and many more. **Neo Rapaila**

I pass culture through oral tradition. Teach kids how to greet and behave around elders, through poems and other performing arts. **Kedirelang Buka**



Kedirelang Buka

What am I proud of? Botho - our Setswana way of respect, community, and "I am because we are." How do I keep it alive? I speak Setswana, greet elders properly, help my neighbours, and solve problems by talking. How do I pass it on? I teach the kids proverbs and take them to family gatherings so they learn by seeing. Culture lives in what we do, not just what we say. **Refilwe Matshidiso**



Octobia Molatise

As a Mogkglagari, my role in passing culture to the next generation has been through language. For instance, I teach my younger siblings Segkalagari words and tell them the stories of our culture (mainane). Many youth in the city lose the dialect. Even though I'm a young Motswana, I believe culture can survive when we all speak our language and live our culture proudly. **Octobia Molatise**

My role in passing culture to the next generation has been intentional and ongoing. I prioritize teaching language, traditions, and values through daily practices. This includes sharing our cuisine, participating in cultural ceremonies, and storytelling. My goal is to ensure younger generations understand their heritage and carry it forward with pride and respect. **Theo Kemoreng**



Dintle Thebeyagae

Teaching kids in my neighbourhood folktales (go tlhabela bana mainane) le go ba ruta diane. **Dintle Thebeyagae**

My role in passing culture down to the next generation is a bit

different from our grandparents. I don't live it, but I help keep it alive by cooking Setswana food and helping kids with Diane,dith-amalakane ,mainane and also meila ya Setswana and their meaning,-because culture lives in people,-food,stories,language and land. I encourage kids to speak Setswana and learn more about culture. **Maipelo Gabothuse**

Go hitsetsa se bommaarona le bo nkuku kwa baneng le bana ba bana ba rona gore dijo di tswa mo mmung. O a lema hela le mo jarateng. O Sela morogo o a apaya o a anega, mmidi le one hela jalo. Nche o a obola o a anega o dira leswabi. Go ira jalo ke go ipeela o tlaa ja nako e ntse e ya kwa pele. Ngwao boswa a re ruteng bana ba rona e seka ya nyelela. **Florah Modukanele**

I pass down culture to the younger generation by sharing history, traditions and stories in our unguage with them.**Kago Ngakaemang**



Refilwe Matshidiso



Masego Peggy Dipholo.



Maipelo Gabothuse



Theo Kemoreng



Florah Modukanele



Kago Ngakaemang

As a Motswana , my main role right now is keeping Setswana alive at home. I speak to children exclusively in Setswana, teach traditional greetings like 'dumela mma'. **Shirley Moabi**



Shirley Moabi

O ntse o dira eng go fetsetsa ngwao kwa go ba ba botlana?
#Omang

Arts & Culture



BoJackson unlocks opportunities for Batswana

Lesedi Thatayamodimo
GABORONE

A local digital marketer and branding specialist, Boago Jackson, alias BoJackson on social media, is making a name for himself by connecting Batswana to life-changing opportunities through online platforms.

BoJackson, who works professionally in digital marketing across various sectors, has built a growing online presence as a content creator.

Through platforms such as TikTok where he has 85 000 followers, WhatsApp Channel 6 500, Instagram 18 000 and Facebook, BoJackson shares information about free training programmes, scholarships and grants available both locally and internationally.

His mission, he says, is rooted in a desire to give back to the nation.

"I realised that it does not cost much to share information that can change someone's life, people often think opportunities only exist outside Botswana, but there is so much happening locally, from government institutions to private companies, NGOs and international organisations," he says.

He emphasises that 'information is the new currency', noting that access to the right knowledge can elevate individuals to new levels of success.

He conducts extensive research to ensure the opportunities he shares are legitimate, often verifying details directly with embassies, high commissions and relevant institutions.

"All the information I share is

authentic, I take time to confirm eligibility requirements and even speak to officials where necessary. Some opportunities come directly from ministries, embassies and international bodies," he explains.

In an era where scams are increasingly common, BoJackson has also taken on the role of a watchdog, as he says he actively exposes fraudulent scholarships and fake funding schemes, warning his followers against individuals who falsely claim affiliations with government ministries.

Through his efforts, Bo-Jackson says he has helped thousands of people across Botswana and the broader Southern African region.

He says many have benefited from free training programmes in sectors such as diamond processing, electronics, coding and 3D design, adding that others have attended in-person courses at institutions like the Orange Digital Centre.

He also highlights success stories, including individuals who have won funding to grow their businesses. Among them is Dr Precious Serero of Phemo Wellness Centre, who secured P150,000 from VISA Botswana after participating in a competition he shared.

Despite his impact, BoJackson admits that balancing his full-time job with his passion project is challenging.

"There are opportunities I do not get to share because I do not have enough time to verify them properly," he said.

He also raises concern about impersonators who copy his work and solicit money from unsuspecting individuals.

BoJackson encourages Batswana to take a proactive approach by carefully reading application details

and conducting their own research using the sources he provides.

He also advises young people to make better use of social media and to consider volunteering as a way to gain experience and build networks.

He further calls for a shift in mindset among young people, urging them to think globally and reduce over-reliance on government support.

"We need to monetise our talents, step up and contribute, the youth must take the lead and pave the way for future generations," said BoJackson.

Sharing similar sentiments, Advisor Kapoko also urges Botswana youth to seize global opportunities through scholarships.

Kapoko, who recently completed a fully funded master's degree in India, notes that many opportunities are shared online but are often overlooked due to limited digital literacy.

"People should embrace digital platforms and trust legitimate sources, these scholarships are fully funded and applicants are not required to pay any fees," he says. He thus urges Batswana to take advantage of international scholarship opportunities, particularly those offered through bilateral partnerships.

Beyond academics, he emphasises the cultural exposure and hospitality he experienced during his stay.

"I never encountered racism or xenophobia, Indians were welcoming and I was treated like family," he says, noting that he formed meaningful relationships with both locals and fellow international students.

"Opportunities are there, especially on official social media pages and government platforms, we must develop the skills and confidence to apply," he added.

He encourages young Batswana to follow verified channels such as government ministries and international programme websites, assuring that legitimate scholarships, such as those offered through ICCR, did not require application fees.

Recently, the Indian High Commissioner to Botswana, Bharath Kumar Kuthati, hosted a celebration of ICCR Day 2026, bringing together alumni, officials and members of the Indian community to mark the enduring educational partnership between India and Botswana.

The event honoured graduates who studied in India and returned with skills, knowledge and lasting personal connections.

He Kuthati described them as 'some of the finest ambassadors of India-Botswana friendship'.

He said the alumni, drawn from diverse academic backgrounds, had completed undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral studies across India, adding that many are now contributing to Botswana's development in sectors such as agriculture, banking, engineering, education, health and public administration.

He revealed that the government of India had increased ICCR scholarship slots for Botswana from 54 to 75 this year, reflecting growing demand and continued commitment to human resource development.

Describing the ICCR scholarship as more than an academic opportunity, he called it "a bridge between nations," enabling Batswana to experience India's diversity, democratic values and innovation.

The alumni, he said, were uniquely positioned to strengthen ties in business, education, culture and technology. **BOPA**

Boago Jackson, alias Bo Jackson, who works in digital marketing across various sectors, has built a growing online presence as a content creator. Through platforms such as TikTok, WhatsApp Channel, Instagram and Facebook, he shares information about free training programmes, scholarships and grants available both locally and internationally. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo




National Stadium earns premier fast track status

Anastacia Sibanda
GABORONE

The newly refurbished National Stadium track is quickly earning a reputation as one of the world's premier fast tracks and joins elite venues like Hayward Field at the University of Oregon and Monaco's Stade Louis II.

This follows the transformation of the National Stadium's track to more than just a renovation of rubber and lane markings by local firm BWX Links (Pty) Ltd in association with Athletics Track SA, with technical oversight provided by ADR Consultants under the representation of Engineer Floyd Mogapi.

The refurbishment involved high-level

engineering to meet strict World Athletics standards, including a sophisticated drainage system that clears water within 20 minutes of rainfall. Beyond the infrastructure, the track surface itself was meticulously crafted using a base of Styrene Butadiene Rubber (SBR) from South Africa and a final layer of Kencoat material from Turkey.

Notably, a broadcasting method was used for the final layer instead of traditional spraying to ensure a superior finish.

The stadium's debut during the Debswana World Athletics Relays proved its speed immediately, as three World Records were shattered within just 48 hours in the 4x100m mixed relays.

The 4x400m finals further solidified

this status, with Botswana taking gold in an African and Championship Record time of 2:54.47.

The event was a success for international visitors as well, with athletes from countries like Zimbabwe and Switzerland returning home with new National Records.

Historically, the athletics world has looked to Monaco for record-breaking performances, such as Beatrice Chepkoech's 3 000m steeplechase world record in 2018 and Joshua Cheptegei's 5 000m world record in 2020.

Botswana is now entering that same conversation.

Early signs of the track's potential were evident during the Botswana Golden Grand Prix, where Olympic champion

Gabby Thomas broke the 11-second barrier for the first time with a 10.95 personal best.

This was followed by Collen Kebinatshipi's incredible performance at the Orange Botswana National Championships, where he clocked a world-leading 9.89 seconds in both the heats and the finals.

Because athletes prioritise fast tracks to secure Olympic and World Championship qualifying marks, the Botswana Athletics Association is now in a prime position.

By hosting more events during qualification windows, Botswana can expect to attract top-tier international athletes who are willing to travel at their own expense for a chance to compete on one of the world's fastest surfaces. **BOPA**



The National Stadium proved its speed, as three World Records were shattered during the Debswana World Athletics Relays Gaborone 26.