

BOTSWANA

Daily News

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Minister of Finance  
Mr Ndaba Gaolathe

Marvin Motlhabane  
KANYE

As Botswana marks half a century of the Pula and Thebe, Vice President and Minister of Finance, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe used the Bank of Botswana's golden anniversary celebrations to deliver a candid message: the currency's next 50 years will only be as strong as the diversified, inclusive economy that stands behind it.

Delivering key note address under the theme: Pula and Thebe: Shielding Wealth, Nurturing Inclusive Growth, in Kanye yesterday, Mr Gaolathe said Botswana introduced its own currency when it was just 10 years old, an act of monetary sovereignty that saw the establishment of a central bank and withdraw from the Rand Monetary Area.

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'Currency strength depends on diversified economy'

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# Dikoloti supports Millionaires Farmers Association

Booster Mogapi  
MEDIE

When farmers organise themselves, they are better placed to plan production, aggregate supply, maintain consistent quality, negotiate with buyers and participate in value addition.

That was the message from Minister of Land and Agriculture, Dr Edwin Dikoloti during the Diphale Agricultural Field Day and the launch of the Millionaires Farmers Association held at Hornbill Farm near Medie on Saturday.

Dr Dikoloti said Kweneng District was home to several farmers associations serving different parts of the agricultural sector.

“These associations unite producers around common goals, strengthen their collective voice and create opportunities to share knowledge and resources,” he said. He added that associations could also lower operating costs, improve access to programmes

and technical support, build stronger market linkages and represent the economic and legal interests of their members.

“Today marks an important milestone as we launch The Millionaires Farmers Association, which brings together 10 families engaged in horticultural production, covering both vegetables and fruit,” he said.

The minister noted it was encouraging that the majority of the farmers had benefited from government programmes to develop their farms and were now operating successfully.

He said government programmes were intended to help citizens establish productive assets, develop commercial capacity and move towards self-reliance.

On the association’s name, Dr Dikoloti said while it reflected ambition, true agricultural wealth would be measured by more than income alone.

“It will be measured by productive farms, sustainable jobs,



Minister of Lands and Agriculture  
Dr Edwin Dikoloti

reliable supplies of quality produce and a meaningful reduction in Botswana’s dependence on imported food,” he said.

“Government will continue to create an enabling environment through policy, infrastructure, extension services and well-targeted support,” he added.

He encouraged farmers to treat agriculture as a business, produce for identified markets, improve efficiency and build enterprises that could remain viable beyond the period of government

assistance.

Dr Dikoloti called on all stakeholders to support associations such as The Millionaires Farmers Association, saying their ambition must be matched by access to appropriate finance, fair markets, practical business support and commercial partnerships.

Chairperson of the Millionaires Farmers Association, Mr Tiro Sethate said the group began in 2022 with nine farmers in the Lentsweletau area and was later joined by one farmer from Molepolole.

“We are a collective of horticultural farmers bound by a common purpose of contributing to food security and our name ‘millionaires’ is not only a declaration of our quarterly projected income but a vision for our future collective potential,” he said.

Mr Sethate said they saw value in the land and water resources around them and chose to come together to cultivate not just crops

but a future of prosperity.

He added that their primary activity has been peer-to-peer education through farm visits, because “the best lessons are often learned from successes and challenges of our neighbours.”

Giving the vote of thanks, association member and host, Mr Omphile Plaatjie thanked main sponsor Netafim for making the launch possible.

He also thanked stakeholders, farmers and exhibitors who came to support and learn from one another. Lentsweletau/Lephephe MP, Mr Tshenolo Bogatsu reiterated the need for farmers to speak with one voice for their needs to be met.

He said being disfranchised means farmers were working in silos, which made it difficult for stakeholders and government to assist them.

Mr Bogatsu called on farmers to work together so they could produce quality goods fit for the market both locally and internationally. **BOPA**

# Bonno Housing Scheme faces land and funding challenges

Relief Lephutshi  
MOSHUPA

Bonno National Housing Scheme is struggling with delays due to land and funding challenges, Minister of Water and Human Settlements Mr Onneetse Ramogapi told Moshupa District Council on Thursday.

Addressing councillors, Mr Ramogapi said the partnership model under Bonno did not provide free land to investors. Instead, he said government would lease land to investors, who will then transfer it to beneficiaries at below market value.

“The investor will take their development costs and sell at free land value to the end beneficiary,” he explained.

The minister said government shifted to allocating developed plots to stop citizens from selling free land allocated to them. He noted that the previous administration targeted 100 000 plots, but progress was hampered by misconduct.

“This is why the current Bonno National Housing scheme provides developed land,” Mr Ramogapi said.

He added that beneficiaries would have rent-to-own or direct purchase options. Another bottleneck, he said, was the delay in issuing Secure Land Title Deeds, which slows investors from starting projects.

The ministry currently has 11 investors in Moshupa, with two already introduced to the community. Mr Ramogapi said the ministry also helped investors source funding, rather than just selecting them.

On construction, he said government lacked sufficient funds for additional home improvement and turnkey projects, but limited funds allocated to the district were being used. On water, Mr Ramogapi said Moshupa required 6.6 million litres daily but only receives 5.7 million litres.

Villages with adequate supply included Manyana, Bikwe, Ranaka,



Minister of Water and Human Settlements, Mr Onneetse Ramogapi said Bonno Housing Scheme has encountered challenges that hindered its progress.



Minister of Water and Human Settlements  
Mr Onneetse Ramogapi

Lotlhakane West and Gookodisa. However, GoTshwane and Gookodisa experience significantly lower supplies due to lack of water sources and often rely on bowser deliveries.

Acting Deputy Permanent Secretary - Housing, Mr Molebedi Khuduego, said the ministry’s mandate was to facilitate citizen housing despite financial constraints. Unlike Botswana, he noted, other countries rely on the private sector for housing.

He said priority for house sales would go to first-time homeowners. Those already owning multiple houses will not be prioritised, in response to councillors’ concerns about “fronting”.

A land agreement will specify development timelines, building standards and material quality. One condition is that houses be sold at a maximum price of P700,000, provided investor companies pass vetting. The ministry is also

negotiating with banks to develop affordable housing schemes for Batswana.

Moshupa District Council Chairperson, Mr Peter Sethibe said demand for Bonno housing remained high. He raised concern over long waiting periods, with 370 people still awaiting housing since 2016.

Of six houses funded in the district, three have been completed and handed over. Three more are scheduled for completion in September 2026, with one project still outstanding. To address the backlog, the council has identified 897 plots on 6.4 hectares of land. Ten investors have been allocated plots in Moshupa, but development has not yet commenced. **BOPA**

# Government aims to strengthen investor protection

Kabo Keaketswe  
LET LHAKANE

Batswana have been encouraged to move beyond talk and implement ideas and concepts discussed at forums.

Speaking at the inaugural Boteti District Investment and Manufacturing Forum recently, Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Mr Ketlhalefile Motshegwa said presentations and speeches must be followed by implementation. Mr Motshegwa,

who is also Member of Parliament for Mmadinare, said even the best ideas would remain empty concepts if they were not put into action.

“Plans and ideas should be implemented,” he said, adding that the focus must be on practical steps that deliver tangible results.

The forum was held under the theme: Unlocking Investment Opportunities for Sustainable Growth.

It brought together investors, institutions and local stakeholders to inspire meaningful engagement,

build partnerships and lay the foundation for bankable projects.

Mr Motshegwa told investors that government was creating an environment where investments could thrive.

He said government had committed to strengthening investor protection, modernising regulatory frameworks, and improving the ease of doing business.

“These reforms are designed to ensure that opportunities are not hindered by processes, but

supported by an enabling and predictable environment. The government is ready to work with you,” he said.

The minister also commended the district for establishing the Boteti District Council Investment Company. He described it as a well-calculated and forward-looking initiative.

He said the move reflected the ministry’s vision of encouraging councils to set up investment vehicles that can actively participate in local economic development,

investment promotion and project development, while generating much-needed revenue for the district.

Boteti District Council Secretary Mr Mpaphi Kgomotso said the forum aimed, among other things, to reduce rural-urban migration by creating employment and using local skills to develop the district.

He noted that the district’s central location and cultural diversity provided further opportunities for economic growth and investment. **BOPA**



# Government achieves core goals

Thato Mosinyi  
GABORONE

Government remains resolute to deliver on its mandate amid severe fiscal deficits due to declining diamond revenues and depleted foreign reserves.

Delivering a midterm briefing on the performance of government yesterday, Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa said government was focused on building an economy that worked for more people as well as on reforming institutions of the state in an effort to place Botswana on a more inclusive and sustainable path.

Mr Mohwasa highlighted that maintaining core public administration and institutional frameworks remained vital for national stability, even when fiscal constraints, bureaucratic backlogs and resource limitations continued to test state capacity.

Further, he also reaffirmed government's commitment to restore dignity in public services and to strengthen social protection.

"The record emerging from the first two years is one of substantial implementation under difficult fiscal conditions, as government has among other achievements,

expanded direct support to older persons, introduced a child support grant, begun national provision of sanitary pads to female learners, increased tertiary student allowances, ensured attainment of P4,000 living wages," Mr Mohwasa said.

To that end, he stated that the progress made to date demonstrated government's commitment to moving beyond policy commitments and creating tangible opportunities for Batswana, adding that the clearest evidence of delivery was in the number of citizens who have received a tangible benefit.

Additionally, Mr Mohwasa reiterated government's ambition to build fiscal resilience, observing that state of the Government Investment Account (GIA) was one of the clearest indicators of the fiscal constraints confronting the country and of the work required to rebuild national buffers.

He said there was urgent need for the account to be assessed carefully as it was prone to be affected by revenue inflows, expenditure, financing operations and valuation movements.

"Government has demonstrated an ability to rebuild the GIA materially during 2025, as it increased from P2.91 billion by November 2025 and closed



Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa (left) and Deputy Permanent Secretary for Information, Broadcasting and Government Printing, Mr Tshireletso Motlogelwa during mid-term report and update on the outcomes of the 2nd session of the 13th Parliament press briefing in Gaborone yesterday. Mr Mohwasa said government had among other achievements, expanded direct support to older persons, introduced a child support grant, begun national provision of sanitary pads to female learners, increased tertiary student allowances and ensured attainment of P4,000 living wages." Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

July 2026 at approximately P5 billion," he said.

Minister Mohwasa therefore indicated that the appropriate midterm status illustrated that government had begun rebuilding depleted fiscal buffers, though the fiscal restoration was incomplete.

Fiscal performance, he said, should therefore be judged on protecting essential delivery while rebuilding the capacity of the state to absorb future shocks.

For this reason, Minister Mohwasa stressed that the second half of the term should be reported against a set of national outcome measures which include jobs created and sustained, household income and cost-of-living relief, access to quality health and education as well as the sustained level of fiscal buffers, including the GIA and the broader net financial asset position. **BOPA**

## Gaolathe commends Debswana GM Walk initiative

Kabo Keaketswe  
LET LHAKANE

Vice President Mr Ndaba Gaolathe has praised Debswana Diamond Company for its annual GM's Walk, saying the charity drive is making a tangible difference in improving the quality of life for communities in the company's zone of influence.

Speaking during the charity walk in Boteti, the Vice President said the initiative would go a long way in improving lives in the district. He urged the mining giant to sustain the gesture.

For his part, Orapa, Letlhakane and Damtshaa Mines (OLDM) General Manager, Mr Mogakolodi Maoketsa said Debswana remained committed to creating a positive and life-changing legacy in host communities.

He noted that since its inception in 2002, the GM's Walk has transformed lives across various sectors.

"This year's OLDM General Manager's annual charity walk aimed to raise funds to address water shortages and improve water infrastructure in Letlhakane. It bears testimony to Debswana's enduring commitment to improve the quality of life of communities."

He added that the last two editions, in 2025 and 2026, focused specifically on augmenting water supply and improving water infrastructure in Boteti.

Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) Central Regional Manager, Mr Thabo Ndadi, the 2026 beneficiary, said the initiative was timely as the country continued to grapple with limited water sources. Letlhakane, he said, had long struggled with water supply.

Mr Ndadi said proceeds from last year's walk enabled WUC to move forward with commissioning the reverse osmosis plant in Letlhakane.

"Water supply sources in the area are prone to more saline or salty water quality. With the commissioning of the plant, the situation will improve," he said.

"Upon commitment from Debswana, we are now in a position to commission the plant in Letlhakane to augment supply in the village. Putting up the water treatment plant is a high capital investment project, and as an entity we could not afford such commitment on our own."

Mr Ndadi expressed sincere gratitude to Debswana for its support.

The event was held under the theme: A Walk for Water. **BOPA**

## 'Currency strength depends on diversified economy'

...from page 1

"There is something profound about the milestone we mark today. When Botswana was only 10 years old, we gave ourselves a currency. As Botswana approaches sixty, that currency turns fifty. The question before us is therefore not simply what the Pula has meant to Botswana over the past half-century. It is also what kind of Botswana must now stand behind the Pula for the next fifty years," he said.

"The names themselves, he noted, carried enduring meaning. Pula (rain) represents life, blessing and prosperity. Thebe (the shield)

represents protection, resilience and security. In those two words, our forebears gave us both an aspiration and an obligation to create prosperity and to protect it. That remains our responsibility today," he said.

Mr Gaolathe praised the Bank of Botswana for five decades of stewardship that earned public confidence through competence and integrity, while stressing that operational independence was a public trust exercised in service of the national interest.

Yet he refused to let the anniversary become mere celebration. Prolonged weakness in the global diamond market, he said, had exposed long-recognised vulnerabilities; pressure on government revenues and foreign-exchange reserves, narrowed fiscal space, heavy import dependence and an export base that remains too concentrated.

The deeper lesson, Mr Gaolathe argued, was that monetary tools alone could not permanently shield the Pula.

"Ultimately, the strength of a currency reflects the strength of the economy beneath it. We cannot permanently shield the Pula through monetary instruments alone. We must strengthen what stands behind the Pula," he said.

That foundation, he said, required productive farms and factories, competitive businesses, greater domestic value addition in mining, tourism that reaches more communities, energy security, modern financial services, technology companies

and entrepreneurs who could compete beyond Botswana's borders, above all, Batswana whose skills and enterprise are turned into productive activity.

Economic diversification, once a desirable goal, was now fundamental to our economic sovereignty.

Government's National Development Plan 12 and the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme aim at a high-income, digitally enabled, export-driven and diversified Botswana in which citizens are 'increasingly employed, empowered and fulfilled.'

He maintained that inclusive growth was inseparable from this vision.

"A Pula that is stable but cannot be earned by enough of our people cannot represent the fullness of our ambition," Mr Gaolathe said.

He added that opportunity must reach villages and districts, young people, women and entrepreneurs who lacked capital.

Financial inclusion, he said, must mobilise savings into productive activity and enable more Batswana to become owners and creators of wealth.

He welcomed the Bank's work on the future of money and payments, including digital currencies, while cautioning that innovation must be intelligent.

"The first fifty years proved that Botswana could create and safeguard its own currency. Let the next fifty prove that we can build beneath that currency, a more diversified economy, create

prosperity on a greater scale, and extend the opportunity to participate in that prosperity to every corner of our nation," he said. Meanwhile, Bank of Botswana Governor Mr Lesego Moseki said the commemoration of Pula Day in Kanye was not incidental, but intentional.

Mr Moseki said that since assuming office in November 2025, he had pledged to deepen public understanding of the Bank's mandate and strengthen trust, including embedding financial literacy in everyday life.

"Today's celebration is therefore not only about looking back on 50 years of the Pula and Thebe; it is about renewing the trust, discipline, and shared responsibility that must carry our currency into the next 50 years," he said.

He reminded the audience that the Bank's primary objective under the 2022 Amendment Act remains domestic price stability, keeping inflation low, stable and predictable so that rising prices do not erode the purchasing power of ordinary Batswana. Yet he stressed that safeguarding the Pula is a collective duty.

"Go itshetlela ga ledi la Pula gase boikarabelo jwa Bank of Botswana hela. Every Pula earned, he added, represents time, sacrifice, skill, patience and hope," Moseki said.

On 23 August 1976, Botswana introduced the Pula and Thebe as legal tender, moving from the Rand Monetary Area after the Bank of Botswana's establishment in 1975. **BOPA**

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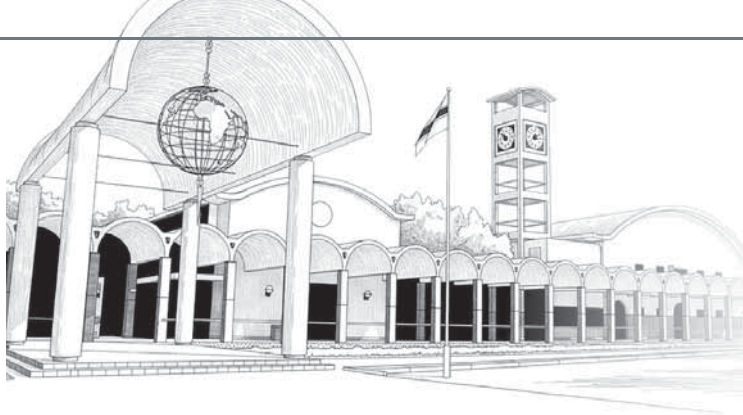
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PARLIAMENT 2026

Briefs

Junior school syllabus review next year

The entire junior secondary curriculum has been evaluated in preparations for syllabus review in 2027. Answering a question in Parliament, the assistant Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education, Mr Justin Hunyepa noted that the Junior Certificate syllabus currently in schools was revised in 2010 and on the other hand, the computer studies syllabus currently used in senior secondary schools was introduced in 1997. He said it was then revised in 2021 and it was part of the ongoing re-configuration of senior secondary curriculum to STEAM based education to be implemented in phases starting from January 2027. Mr Hunyepa also admitted that the ministry was aware of the situation, however the figure was not 90 per cent, citing that the available information indicated that approximately 46 per cent of senior teacher I, computer awareness posts were occupied by teachers who were not specifically trained in Information Technology. “It is important to clarify that the computer awareness at Junior Secondary School level was designed as a non-examinable, introductory computer awareness programme rather than specialist Computer Studies subject,” he noted.

Job losses not driven by new employment Act

Companies that retrench are obliged to state the reasons, which are further assessed by the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs. The Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware told Parliament that government had always been assessing the cause of job losses due to retrenchment. He admitted that job losses naturally affected the economy in many ways, citing that currently there was nothing to suggest that the job losses were attributable to the anticipated compliance to the new Act, as it has not yet commenced. To mitigate further job losses and unemployment rate, he reiterated that strategies and initiatives were in place to explore employment opportunities both locally and internationally. He also noted that the Employment and Labour Relations Act would impact businesses positively irrespective of the type of business because the new law, which was a product of a tripartite of the business representatives (Business Botswana), the Trade Unions Federations and government has considered fair labour practices, productivity and an enabling environment for trade, investment and job creation. Maj. Gen. Mokgware also stated that government had data on job losses for both private and public sector and such data was available upon request. MP for Chobe, Mr Simasiku Mapulanga, had wanted the minister to state whether government had assessed the principal causes of the reported increase in retrenchments, including the extent to which they were attributable to the economic downturn or to anticipate compliance with the new Act.

John Nswazi boarding facility exceeds capacity

The Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education is experiencing increased enrolments across its boarding schools, says the assistant Minister Mr Justin Hunyepa. Answering a question in Parliament, Mr Hunyepa said John Nswazi was also overcrowded, with boarding facilities built at a carrying capacity of 48. He said following the modification of two verandas on both girls and boys’ hostels, the capacity increased to 64. Mr Hunyepa also said to maximise space, cupboards for students had been removed to allow students to use mattresses on the floor, therefore accommodating 15 learners per room instead of eight. “Therefore, a total of 224 learners are accommodated in a hostel capacity of 128,” Mr Hunyepa said. Mr Hunyepa also said hostel ablution were fully functioning with the only challenge of four pit latrines and two showers in both boys and girls’ hostels, which he said was not enough to accommodate the boarding population, leading to students bathing outside to manage time. He said his ministry has played a critical role in improving the living conditions of the learners and that the situation would be monitored going forward and closing the hostels was not a viable option at the moment as it would disadvantage learners and deny them their right to education. Mr Hunyepa was answering a question from Nkange MP Mr Motlhaleemang Moalosi, who had asked if the minister was aware of the living condition and accommodation challenges at John Nswazi Junior Secondary School, and if he would consider closing the hostels until the situation had been resolved.

Forensic audit generates 90 priority actions

GABORONE

Allegations of corruption and abuse of office that surfaced during change of government warranted to be addressed, Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa has said.

In response to a question in Parliament, Minister Mohwasa said government then committed to conducting a forensic audit, although other quarters called for a Presidential Commission of Enquiry.

He said in March last year, the President instituted the forensic audit of public sector entities to assess the integrity and effectiveness of governance, control and oversight arrangements across public sector institutions, covering a 10-year period from April 2014 to 31 March 2024.

The minister said the initiative marked a significant step toward enhancing transparency and accountability within public institutions. He said a team of forensic auditors, namely Alvarez & Marsal Middle East Limited (A&M) was appointed.

Mr Mohwasa said forensic audit, the first of its kind in terms of scale and complexity in the history of this nation, was carried out in two phases. He said phase one involved the development of a comprehensive forensic audit plan and project.

Mr Mohwasa said the prioritisation of entities to be included in phase two of the

programme was based on several factors, such as the revenue generated by the entity, annual budget expenditure, financial performance and evidence of historic findings, procurement, governance strength and legal framework. He said the National Forensic Audit programme comprised 30 forensic audits of entities identified through the phase one risk assessment process, which involved 92 public sector entities.

Mr Mohwasa said the total project expenditure amounted to P97.3 million, comprising P82.5 million in fees paid to A&M and P14.8 million in administrative overheads.

Minister Mohwasa said at the end of phase two, the A&M forensic auditors produced three sets of reports, namely; the Summary Report of the National Forensic Audit Programme, thirty (30) entity-specific audit reports; and special investigation legal referrals arising from twenty-six (26) of the 30 entity-specific audit reports, which, in aggregate, include more than 80 current and former senior officeholders and more than 150 contractors, suppliers and counterparties.

He said to protect the integrity of potential future action, the 30 entity-specific reports were not published as part of the Summary Report of the National Forensic Audit Programme presented to the President on April 30, 2026.

Mr Mohwasa said the Summary

Report of the National Forensic Audit Programme presented summarised, consolidated findings and recommendations arising from the 30 forensic audits undertaken across selected government ministries and departments.

The minister said the programme had three primary outputs and the first major output was the 30 forensic entity-specific audit reports.

“These reports capture suspected fraud, corruption, and serious misconduct warranting urgent specialist investigations, asset tracing, recovery assessment, and potential enforcement actions,” he noted.

Minister Mohwasa said there were varying degrees of accountability attribution, ranging from failure to ensure that established controls were observed to suspected acts of gross negligence, serious misconduct, abuse of public resources, fraud and other acts of corruption. “Therefore, it would be neither appropriate nor right to publish these detailed reports (containing names of people) without due legal processes, as natural justice dictates,” he said.

Minister Mohwasa said the forensic audit generated 686 recommendations, including 90 Very High Priority actions, such as special legal referrals for further investigation and structural reforms, and 590 High and Medium Priority actions requiring entity-level implementation.

He said in this regard, the government had retained some members of the project governance teams, now repurposed as the Forensic Audit Implementation Steering Committee (FAISC), to assist with the coordination, governance and oversight of the implementation strategies and plans.

Mr Mohwasa said it was important to emphasise that the Summary Forensic Report of the National Forensic Audit Programme was widely disseminated to all key stakeholders, including Cabinet, Members of Parliament, Permanent Secretaries, Chief Executives of State-Owned Entities and the general public.

He said in this regard, in addition to the Report being posited in the government website, the Project Team produced 500 hard copies of the Summary Report of the National Forensic Audit Programme and distributed the report nationally.

Mr Mohwasa was responding to a question from the Maun North MP, Mr Dumelang Seshando, who an update regarding the processing of the forensic audit report. **BOPA**



Minister for State President, Defence and Security Mr Moeti Mohwasa

No investment in Sovereign Wealth Fund

GABORONE

The Minister for State President, Defence and Security Mr Moeti Mohwasa says to date, no funds have been invested either domestically or internationally to the Botswana Sovereign Wealth Fund.

Answering a question in Parliament from Kgatleng East MP, Mr Mabuse Pule, Mr Mohwasa said standard global

timeline for deal sourcing, due diligence and rigorous investment evaluation ranged from six to 18 months.

Therefore, he said the fund not invested to date should not be of great concern, as it was part of the globally accepted process.

He said the progress regarding the Sovereign Wealth Fund setup phase included operational and organisational development, investment pipeline and seed

capital, legislative and policy framework.

Furthermore, he said the Sovereign Wealth Fund was in line with the Global Governance Framework.

The Kgatleng East MP had asked the minister to state how much had been invested in the fund and whether the fund had met strategic objectives in support of economic growth and citizen benefit. **BOPA**





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CIRCULAR NO.3 OF 2026

1. CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER (1 Position)

**Reports to:** Chief Executive Officer

**Main Purpose of the Position**

The Corporate Services Manager is responsible for leading and managing the Society's Corporate Services function, including Human Resources, Administration, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Public Relations and Marketing, Procurement oversight, Facilities Management and General Administration. The position ensures that corporate support services are efficient, compliant and aligned with the strategic objectives of the Society, on a 3-5 years fixed term contract.

**Key Responsibilities**

**The successful candidate will be responsible for, among others:**

- Providing strategic leadership for Corporate Services and ensuring efficient service delivery.
- Managing Human Resource functions including recruitment, onboarding, employee relations, performance management, training and policy implementation.
- Overseeing administration, facilities management and office operations.
- Ensuring effective management and utilisation of ICT resources and systems.
- Providing oversight of the Society's marketing, branding and public relations initiatives.
- Managing procurement administration and ensuring compliance with procurement policies.
- Developing and implementing corporate policies, procedures and service standards.
- Coordinating corporate planning and reporting within the division.
- Managing budgets for Corporate Services and ensuring prudent utilisation of resources.
- Building productive relationships with regulators, suppliers, service providers and other stakeholders.
- Ensuring compliance with employment legislation, organisational policies and regulatory requirements.

**Qualifications and Experience**

**Applicants should possess:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Human Resource Management, Finance or a related discipline.
- A minimum of five (5) to eight (8) years' relevant experience in corporate services, administration or office management, with at least three years in a management position.
- Demonstrated knowledge of Human Resource Management, ICT governance, facilities management and administration.

**Competencies**

- Strategic Leadership
- People Management
- Decision Making and Problem Solving
- Communication and Interpersonal Skills
- Customer Focus
- Planning and Organising
- Accountability and Integrity

CIRCULAR NO.4 OF 2026

2. RISK & COMPLIANCE MANAGER (1 Position)

**Reports to:** Management Board (Administrative reporting to the Chief Executive Officer)

**Main Purpose of the Position**

The Risk & Compliance Manager is responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining the Society's enterprise risk management and compliance framework. The position provides independent oversight of organisational risks, ensures compliance with applicable legislation and regulatory requirements, and promotes a strong culture of governance, ethics and accountability throughout the Society, on a 3-5 years fixed term contract.

**Key Responsibilities**

**The successful candidate will be responsible for:**

- Developing and implementing the Society's Enterprise Risk Management Framework.
- Conducting enterprise-wide risk assessments and recommending mitigation measures.
- Monitoring compliance with the Co-operative Societies Act, Financial Intelligence Act, Data Protection Act and other applicable legislation.
- Developing and reviewing risk management and compliance policies.
- Monitoring emerging regulatory developments and advising Management and the Board.
- Preparing risk and compliance reports for Management and the Board.
- Coordinating internal compliance reviews and investigations.
- Facilitating compliance awareness and risk management training.
- Supporting business continuity planning and organisational resilience.
- Liaising with regulators and external stakeholders on compliance matters.

**Qualifications and Experience**

**Applicants should possess:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Risk Management, Law, Finance, Business Administration or a related field.
- A minimum of five (5) to eight (8) years' relevant experience in Risk Management, Compliance, Internal Audit or Governance.
- Sound knowledge of regulatory requirements applicable to financial institutions.
- Experience in enterprise risk management, compliance monitoring and policy development.

**Competencies**

- Enterprise Risk Management
- Regulatory Compliance
- Analytical and Critical Thinking
- Governance and Ethics
- Leadership
- Report Writing
- Communication and Stakeholder Management

CIRCULAR NO.5 OF 2026

3. INTERNAL AUDITOR (1 Position)

**Reports to:** Management Board

**Main Purpose of the Position**

The Internal Auditor provides independent and objective assurance on the effectiveness of governance, risk management and internal control systems.

The incumbent will evaluate financial, operational and compliance processes and recommend improvements that strengthen accountability, safeguard assets and enhance organisational performance, on a 3-5 years fixed term contract.

**Key Responsibilities**

**The successful candidate will:**

- Develop and implement risk-based internal audit plans.
- Conduct financial, operational and compliance audits.
- Evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls.

- Assess compliance with legislation, policies and procedures.
- Prepare comprehensive audit reports and present findings to Management and the Board.
- Monitor implementation of audit recommendations.
- Conduct fraud risk assessments and investigations where necessary.
- Support continuous improvement of governance and risk management processes.
- Liaise with external auditors and regulatory authorities.

**Qualifications and Experience**

**Applicants should possess:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration or related discipline.
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), CPA or equivalent professional qualification will be an added advantage.
- Registration with the Botswana Accountancy Oversight Authority (where applicable).
- Minimum of three (3) years' relevant auditing experience.
- Sound knowledge of IFRS, internal auditing standards and governance frameworks.

**Competencies**

- Internal Auditing
- Financial Analysis
- Report Writing
- Investigation Skills
- Ethics and Professional Integrity
- Analytical Thinking
- Attention to Detail

**Remuneration**

Thuto SACCOS offers competitive remuneration packages commensurate with qualifications, experience and responsibilities of the positions.

**Method of Application**

**Interested candidates should submit:**

- A detailed Curriculum Vitae.
- Certified copies of academic and professional qualifications.
- Certified copy of National Identity Card or Passport.
- At least three (3) traceable referees.

**Applications should clearly state the position being applied for and be addressed to:**

**The Chairperson**  
**Management Board | Thuto SACCOS**  
P O BOX 45821, RIVERWALK, GABORONE  
**Email:** recruitment@thutosaccos.co.bw  
**Closing Date: 28 August 2026**  
**Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

**Data Protection Notice**

**Thuto SACCOS** is committed to protecting the privacy of all applicants in accordance with the Data Protection Act. Personal information submitted as part of your application will be collected, processed, stored and used solely for recruitment and selection purposes.

By submitting your application, you consent to **Thuto SACCOS** processing your personal information for recruitment purposes. Your information may be verified and, where necessary, shared with external recruitment consultants, psychometric assessment providers, background verification agencies and other recruitment service providers engaged by **Thuto SACCOS** for the sole purpose of assessing your suitability for employment. All such parties are required to maintain appropriate confidentiality and data protection standards.

**Personal information will be retained only for as long as necessary to complete the recruitment process or as otherwise required by law.**





Plot 412, Selokwane Ward, Tlokweng  
Tel: +267 3500260  
Fax: +267 3500261  
Email: douobm@gmail.com

VACANCY ALERT

Tlou Drilling (Pty) Ltd invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for the following position

HEAVY DUTY MECHANICS - JWANENG

Main purpose of the job  
We are looking to hire an experienced heavy-duty mechanic to inspect, service, and maintain our range of heavy-duty fleet including but not limited to drill rigs, heavy duty trucks on site. The mechanic will be responsible for inspecting engines and equipment, carrying out services, conducting repairs, and providing maintenance (both preventative and corrective) to the fleet onsite. The above-mentioned mechanic will be working under the supervision of the Mechanic In charge and Project Manager.

- Competences, skills and experience:
- National Craft Certificate (NCC) - Heavy Plant Mechanic
  - A minimum of 5 years working with heavy plant & equipment
  - Experience in Mining will be an added advantageous.
  - Experience in Epiroc and Sandvik Machines will also be an added advantage.
  - Competence in basic hydraulics is a critical requirement. As an absolute minimum, candidate must be able to read and understand basic hydraulic schematic drawings.
  - Knowledge on Rig Control System (RCS)
  - Knowledge on Can Bus System

- Key Job Responsibilities
- Maintains equipment to ensure optimum fleet Availability and Reliability
  - Performs Condition Monitoring of equipment through daily inspections of wear and tear of parts.
  - Performs fault finding and testing of equipment by analyzing equipment deviations from normal specifications, identify possible causes, determine root cause and troubleshoot deviations.
  - Carries out planned schedules and non-scheduled

- installations, repairs and machine overhaul.
- Involved in installations and commissioning of machine systems onsite.
  - Provide timeous feedback to the Supervisor on tasks completed to ensure equipment maintenance history is captured and documented correctly by maintenance clerk.
  - Work Identification through inspections and populating backlog work through daily inspection to be done as part of corrective maintenance to feed into the short-term maintenance plans as well as long terms plans/shutdowns.
  - Adheres to ALL site Safety, Health and Environmental Policies and Procedures in Area Responsibilities.

- Core Competencies
- Basic computer literacy
  - Technical Analysis
  - Valid Driver License (at least 2 years)
  - Good Problem-solving skills.
  - Teamwork & Collaboration
  - Being able to work with less supervision.
  - Being able to work well and efficiently under pressure.
  - Being able to meet set performance targets.

Candidates who meet the above requirements should send their applications, including detailed CVs, Certified copies of certificates and names of referees to:  
Finance and Human Resource Manager  
Tlou Drilling (Pty) Ltd  
P O Box 1918 Gaborone

Email to: info@tloudrilling.co.bw  
SUBJECT: JOB APPLICATION – HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC  
Closing Date: 30 August 2026 NB: Only Shortlisted candidates will be responded to.

IN THE COMPETITION AND CONSUMER TRIBUNAL FOR THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO: CCT/CP/05/25

In the matter between:

COMPETITION AND CONSUMER AUTHORITY

APPLICANT

And

DEMAND DRILLING (PTY) LTD

RESPONDENT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: DEMAND DRILLING (PTY) LTD a company registered with the laws of Botswana, capable of suing and being sued, whose better and further particulars are unknown. (Herein referred to as "Respondent")

KINDLY TAKE NOTICE that by notice of motion/referral issued against you on 15th October 2025 by the abovenamed Applicant, whose address for purposes of suit is Competition and Consumer Authority, Plot 28 Matsitama Road, Main Mall, Gaborone, for the following reliefs:

1. Respondent has committed an unfair business practice against three complainants namely; Molatedi Motlatlawe, Moamogedi Ketlogetswe, Boiki Moagae.
2. Respondent refund Molatedi Motlatlawe the sum of P40 000, refund Moamogedi Ketlogetswe the sum of P70 000 and refund Boiki Moagae the sum of P50 000.
3. Cost of suit; and
4. Further and/or alternative relief

And that an Order has been made that the publication notice of such referral shall be deemed to be good and sufficient service of the referral on you.

You are therefore required to file your reply within ten (10) days after publication hereof, with the Registrar of the Tribunal and serve such filed answer upon the Applicant.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to give such answer within ten (10) days, judgement may be granted against you without further reference to you.



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# DailyBusiness



Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship Permanent Secretary  
Mr Joel Ramaphoi

**Mpho Mosojane**  
**GABORONE**

Botswana must streamline existing policies, expand early-stage start-up support and forge stronger public-private funding networks to turn local research into market-ready industries.

That emanated from a recent University of Botswana business forum which focused on how economic resilience can be built by combining innovation, intellectual property (IP) and entrepreneurship to create new and high-value industries, protect local assets from global shocks and empower small businesses to adapt quickly during uncertain downturns.

Speaking at the forum, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship, Mr Joel Ramaphoi, said breaking barriers of entry to a thriving economy required a mindset shift towards developing an integrated value chain framework.

“We do not need to formulate new policies but reinforce existing ones to break ambiguity and complexity in a coordinated effort to synergise the Research and Development (R&D) ecosystem focusing on innovation, intellectual property and entrepreneurship,” Mr Ramaphoi said.

He emphasised how sector players can stimulate innovation through R&D investments and funding new technologies through public and private partnerships.

“Innovation creates unique value while intellectual property protects that value and entrepreneurship brings those values to the market through products and services,” he noted. He added that IP was vital for helping entrepreneurs to secure patents and trademarks, protecting their rights while assuring investors that local inventions were safe and valuable.

To further encourage entrepreneurship, he reiterated the need to remove red tape in easing new business setups, offer

tax breaks for new ventures as well as connect founders with mentors and capital funding networks.

For her part, Angel Network Botswana managing director, Ms Mythri Sambasivan-George, underscored the essential role of such investment channel, saying “Strong funding networks help to build high-performing economies by creating jobs, driving new technology and turning fresh ideas into successful companies as they connect new businesses with funding, markets and mentorship,” she said.

She thus called on government to create an enabling environment for funding networks, given the value they injected into the economy through early capital, mentorship, networking and reduced business risk.

“Government can capitalise on R&D to create stable regulatory frameworks, public-private partnerships and offer financial incentives such as tax breaks, low-interest loans or guarantees for key economic sectors,” she added.

On one hand, a representative from the Finnish Institute of Public Administration, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Mr Taavi Erkkola said every nation reached a pivoting point. He urged Botswana to adopt Finland’s model of commercialisation by expanding the scope of institutions like the Innovation Hub to support early-

stage start-ups, active market-oriented scaling, and public sector adoption of local technologies.

Mr Erkkola further highlighted that Botswana needed to move beyond simple funding, pointing to Finland’s model of using targeted public co-funding incentives and grants to attract key sectors such as agriculture, tech companies and private mining, into co-investing in start-ups.

Meanwhile, participants agreed that transforming promises from high-level policy into measurable results was crucial, arguing that public speaking alone cannot deliver concrete public value.

Speakers also emphasised that building lasting strength required an economy to integrate innovation, IP and entrepreneurship into a single growth instrument to support new ideas, empower founders, protect ownership and connect networks to create a system that thrived through change. The engagement was sponsored by Falling Walls Lab Gaborone, an international pitch competition and networking forum for breakthrough ideas.

Held under the theme: Breaking the Walls between Research and Market, the event brought together government, industry, academia and innovation partners to chart practical steps for moving Botswana’s research into active markets for national impact. **BOPA**

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### FNBB creates new opportunities for growth

**MAUN** - As part of its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, First National Bank Botswana (FNBB) has opened a dedicated business hub in Maun to expand financial services across the region’s commercial and tourism landscape. Situated at New Mall, the new facility will ensure that clients have direct access to decision-makers, specialised expertise, faster support and bankers who understand the local market. Speaking at the official opening recently, FNBB chief executive officer, Mr Steven Bogatsu highlighted Maun’s importance as an economic centre and gateway to Botswana’s world-renowned tourism industry. He noted that the hub represented the bank’s commitment to bringing commercial banking expertise and support directly to where clients operated, adding that its establishment was a response to client feedback. **BOPA**

### Inflation falls to 9.4% in July as transport costs decline

**GABORONE** - Botswana’s annual inflation rate declined significantly to 9.4 per cent in July 2026, representing a 1.3 percentage-point decrease from the 10.7 per cent recorded in June 2026, according to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by Statistics Botswana. The decline was largely driven by a substantial reduction in transport costs, following decreases in retail pump prices for diesel and petrol during the month. However, the transport group remained the largest contributor to annual inflation in July 2026, accounting for 5.2 percentage points of the overall inflation rate. According to the release this was followed by miscellaneous goods and services, which contributed 1.2 percentage points, while food and non-alcoholic beverages contributed 1.0 percentage point. The release says transport group index declined by 6.5 per cent, from 194.1 in June to 181.5 in July 2026. **BOPA**

### East Africa backs local medical manufacturing

**ADDIS ABABA** - Experts and policymakers called for building a resilient regional health economy in East Africa, through expanded domestic medical manufacturing, enhanced public-private partnerships, and accelerated cross-border integration. They made the call during the 13<sup>th</sup> East African Health Federation Conference and International Exhibition, which opened Friday in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with the aim of building resilient health systems across the region and beyond. Addressing the conference, Workneh Gebeyehu, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, an East African bloc, said that health sovereignty represented “the absolute bedrock of national sovereignty.” **Xinhua**

## Francistown and Bulawayo seek structured trade link

**Kelebogile Taolo**  
**FRANCISTOWN**

Trade and investment between Francistown and Bulawayo should be more structured and intentional, with local authorities leading efforts to turn people-to-people movement into sustainable business partnerships.

This was revealed by speakers at the Hybrid Francistown Business Expo held in Francistown on Saturday which brought together entrepreneurs, policymakers and business networks from Botswana, Zimbabwe and other countries.

Bulawayo City Councillor, Mr Ntando Ndlovu, said his visit was aimed at promoting trade and investment between the two border cities.

“A lot of people from Bulawayo come here to Francistown to buy goods. We now want to see more people from Francistown coming to Bulawayo to invest and trade in Zimbabwe,” he said.

Mr Ndlovu said the two cities should not see each other as competitors but as cities that complement each other.

“We need to grow these two cities. As local authorities we can play a leading role in ensuring that trade between Francistown and Bulawayo becomes more structured, intensified and that we accelerate all the efforts already being done by our people,” he said.

He added that Zimbabwe was open for Botswana to explore

opportunities in manufacturing, retail and services.

“We want to see Francistown people come and spot where they can invest and trade.

We also need to learn more on value addition and beneficiation. Botswana are very hospitable and I am impressed to be attending this Expo,” he said.

Speaking on regional integration, Mr Ndlovu said cities close to each other like Francistown and Bulawayo have a unique advantage to lead in SADC as well as Africa as a whole. Also speaking at the Expo, Mr Khumbu Malinga from the Zimbabwe Business Network said SMEs should be at the centre of cross-border trade.

“I am very happy to be part of the Francistown Expo. We can

leverage SMEs in Botswana by having a database so that we can know verified sellers who are regulated and who also pay tax to government,” he said.

Mr Malinga called on leaders from both countries to push for by-laws that are considerate to SMEs to enable them to trade well across the border.

“SMEs are the ones moving goods and services daily. If we make it easier for them with proper documentation, information and supportive policies, then trade between Francistown and Bulawayo will grow,” he said.

The Francistown Business Expo sought to connect businesses, showcase products and explore opportunities in agribusiness, manufacturing, tourism, digital

services and others.

Trade between Botswana and Zimbabwe has traditionally been driven by individuals buying goods across the border. However, business leaders say there is potential to formalise that trade, develop joint value chains and position Francistown and Bulawayo as gateway cities for regional commerce.

The Francistown Business Expo was held under the theme: Transforming today, Empowering tomorrow: Building High Botswana Together.

It also closed with a youth session where young people were addressed on mental strength, mindset change and building the discipline required to succeed in business and life. **BOPA**



Botswana-Zimbabwe Trade, Investment & Economic Cooperation panelists, Bulawayo City councillor, Mr Ntando Ndlovu (left), Bulawayo Business Networks managing director, Mr Khumbu Malinga (centre) and Entrepreneur and Life Coach from Botswana, Dr Raymond Moses during the Hybrid Business conference at Francistown Business Expo on Friday. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata



# Botswana ventures into astro-tourism

Esther Mmolai  
MAUN

Botswana tourism industry is taking another significant step towards enhancing tourism appeal and diversifying products with the Second Astro-Tourism Training Programme, which started yesterday and ends today, at the Okavango Research Institute in Maun.

Organised by Career Dreams Centre in collaboration with Botswana International University of Science and Technology the training is designed to build the capacity of tourism professionals with a particular focus on professional, assistant and student guides, who are interested in developing competencies in night-sky interpretation.

The training will focus on developing practical competencies in night-sky interpretation,

identification and interpretation of constellations, introduction to Stellarium software and astronomical observation, telescope setting and alignment, stargazing activities, astronomy storytelling as well as linking astronomy with tourism and cultural interpretation.

Career Dreams deputy principal, Ms Lorato Daniel, told *BOPA* that the programme came at an important time when the tourism industry was seeking innovative ways to diversify tourism offerings and provide visitors with experiences that went beyond the traditional daytime safari.

Through the training, she said they intended to advance professional night sky interpretation noting that safari guides were the storytellers and interpreters of Botswana’s tourism experience and that their ability to explain wildlife, landscapes, culture and the natural environment played a significant role in shaping visitors’

experiences.

“By adding astronomy and night-sky interpretation to their existing knowledge, guides can become more versatile tourism professionals capable of delivering experiences throughout the day and into the evening,” said Ms Daniel.

Botswana, is internationally recognised for its wildlife, wilderness areas, cultural heritage and world-class safari experiences, however, the country’s tourism product, has the potential to offer visitors much more.

Training skills will therefore, enable guides to confidently introduce visitors to the wonders of the Botswana night sky.

Ms Daniel appreciated that astro-tourism provided an opportunity to extend the safari experience into the night stating that after a day of wildlife viewing, visitors could be introduced to the spectacular night skies through

guided stargazing, constellation identification, astronomy storytelling, indigenous knowledge of the sky and telescope-based observations.

“This creates an opportunity for tourism operators to develop new experiences that complement existing safari activities while providing visitors with another reason to remain engaged with the destination after sunset,” she added.

Furthermore, she noted that astro-tourism not only capitalised on the increasing interest in space exploration and astronomy but also represented a sustainable tourism model.

With a focus on rural and remote areas, she said astro-tourism could stimulate local economies by promoting conservation and creating jobs as well as contribute to longer visitor engagement, increased tourism activities and new opportunities for tourism

businesses and communities.

She also stated that the development of astro-tourism could not be achieved by one organisation alone, it required strong collaboration between tourism businesses, training institutions, government agencies, professional associations and communities.

“Therefore, the training will also engage key stakeholders within Botswana’s tourism industry, including the Botswana Guides Association, Hospitality and Tourism Association of Botswana, Botswana Tourism Organisation, Botswana Wildlife Training Institute and Destination Tourism Organisations.

Their involvement will provide an important platform for dialogue on the future of astro- tourism and how it can be integrated into Botswana’s wider tourism development strategy,” said Ms Daniel. **BOPA**

# Marope turns childhood curiosity into thriving milling business

Amantle Onneng  
PALAPYE

Driven by childhood curiosity, 35-year-old Gabane native, Mr Thatayaone Marope has successfully established a reputable agro-processing business, Warona Sorghum Milling, in Palapye.

Mr Marope’s business journey began with simple observation. “From a young age, my parents used to send me to the local milling centre. I became deeply curious about the entire process of transforming raw grains into maize meal and sorghum,” he said.

This curiosity blossomed into a passion to understand food processing mechanics. In 2014, he took his first formal step by registering Warona Milling and Packaging.

Explaining the inspiration behind

the name, Mr Marope noted that “Warona is my daughter’s name. I named the company after her because I am committed to building a lasting family legacy.”

The business received its first major breakthrough in 2020. After submitting a comprehensive business proposal to the Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) under the Youth Development Fund (YDF), Mr Marope successfully secured P100,000 in funding.

With the capital injection, he acquired two essential industrial machines: a hammer mill to crush grains into smaller fragments, and a dehuller mill to strip the outer husks from maize, sorghum and millet.

Operating initially from a cramped workspace with just a single employee, the business specialised strictly in processing sorghum meal.

Today, the business has grown



Mr Marope showcasing some of the products that he produces at his milling business. He said his business journey began with simple observation as his parents used to send him to the local milling centre.

significantly. Thanks to a subsequent P1.2 million expansion loan from the National Development Bank (NDB), Mr Marope has upgraded his facility with advanced machinery.

Now operating at Palapye Industrial area, located adjacent to the Coca-Cola depot, Warona Mills employs 10 full-time workers.

The company boasts a diverse product portfolio supplying both human and animal consumption markets.

Their range includes sorghum meal, samp, maize meal, wheat meal, mosuthane and maize and sorghum bran. The products are supplied directly to individual buyers and major retail outlets such as Square Mart, and the Palapye District Council for the school feeding programme.

Despite his visible success, Mr Marope contends with structural supply-chain issues. Chief among these is a chronic shortage of locally produced grain. “Most local small-scale farmers produce primarily for subsistence and family consumption rather than commercial supply,” he noted.

This deficit forces him to source high-quality commercial grains from far-flung agricultural hubs like Pandamatenga and Kwenantle Farms in Bobirwa.

Furthermore, inconsistent grain sizes from smaller farms occasionally



Processing machinery.

impact the uniformity and grade of the final product, underscoring his demand for premium raw materials.

Mr Marope said the milling business is mostly operated in industrial plots where the rent is high and wishes to be allocated a plot to operate his business with no rental cost.

He said his main goal is to make a lot of products to sell in most of retail shops around the country and even to export to neighbouring countries like Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Looking forward, he aims to capture national retail shelves and break into regional export markets.

He encourages aspiring youth entrepreneurs to stay the course.

“Many young entrepreneurs start businesses but throw in the towel when challenges arise,” he said.

“There is no business without hardships. The obstacles we face are exactly what helps us build a stronger brand and achieve long-term objectives,” he said. He emphasised that a mindset of persistence drastically increases the probability of success.

The entrepreneur expressed gratitude to the Palapye District Council for its continuous commercial support and for regularly extending invitations to capacity-building workshops, which keep him exposed to fresh strategies for business expansion. **BOPA**



Some of the ten workers who are full-time employees of Warona Mills packaging products at the factory recently in Palapye. Photos: Amantle Onneng



# Counter Terrorism Bill receives green light

## GABORONE

Parliament has passed the Counter Terrorism Amendment Bill of 2026 that intends to amend the Counter Terrorism Act to satisfy international standards set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

The proposed Bill amends Cab 08:08 in the Act to align Botswana's legal framework with the FATF requirements as they relate to the Targeted Financial Sanctions (TFS).

It was presented by the Assistant Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Ms Maipelo Mophuting-Dikoloti on Friday.

In support of the Bill, MP for Okavango West, Mr Kenny Kapinga noted that the proposed legislature was ideal, citing that terrorism remained a threat to international security and stability, yet it had been with humanity for centuries.

Botswana, he said was lucky to escape terrorism crisis that happened in other countries where there was mass displacement, deaths, severe economic contraction and children being exploited and stated that the Bill would protect the country from being exploited by terrorism networks.

He also underscored the need for government to run the country in a democratic manner to avoid terrorism acts.

MP for Letlhakeng, Brigadier

Domcaza Mokgwathi also supported the proposed Bill saying Botswana did not exist in isolation and as such, should comply with the set international standards. High unemployment rate, he said, could act as a contributing factor to terrorism but stated that government had a duty to prevent that by stimulating job creation.

MP for Chobe, Mr Simasuku Mapulanga argued that the Bill was critical to address the deficiencies identified to ensure compliance. Terrorism, he said, had the potential to destroy the country's reputation, hence the need to have the right tools to protect the financial systems and the people.

Mr Kgoberego Nkawana of Selebi-Phikwe East emphasised that government should make amendments that would be understood by people. Earlier, Ms Mophuting-Dikoloti told the house that the purpose of the Bill was to amend the Counter Terrorism Act Cab to align Botswana's legal framework with the FATF requirements.

The government, she said passed the Counter Terrorism Act in 2014 establishing the counter terrorism analysis and fusion division, which was under the Directorate of Intelligence and Security as custodian of the Bill.

The primary mandate of the division is to provide for measures to combat terrorism and its financing.

However, she stated that

Botswana would go for the third mutual evaluation in 2027, which was intended to assess the country's anti-money laundering, counter financing of terrorism, counter proliferation financing regime.

The mutual evaluation process, she said, required countries to demonstrate the degree to which the predetermined FATF standards were actually being implemented. Furthermore, Ms Mophuting-Dikoloti stated that non-compliance jurisdictions were included on the FATF grey-list depending on the nature and degree of non-compliance.

"Being listed on the FATF could have negative devastating consequences for our country such as delisting including the loss of correspondent banking relationships and increased costs of inability to complete cross border transactions," she said.

She also highlighted that such could sound like technical matters but it was ordinary Batswana who felt the impact.

The country, she said had worked hard to strengthen its standing in the international financial system, hence could not afford to lose that progress especially at a time when the economy was already under pressure, saying they must avoid adding further strain.

She said engagement with the Eastern and Southern Africa Anti Money Laundering Group, United Nations Office on Drugs

and Crime and local experts had identified some efficiencies in the country's counter terrorism legal framework and it was against this backdrop that the amendments were proposed. **BOPA**



Assistant Minister for State President, Defence and Security  
Ms Maipelo Mophuting-Dikoloti

BENEFICIARY  
ASSESSMENT NOTICE

nmg  
Administrators  
Botswana

CALL FOR BENEFICIARIES - DEATH BENEFITS CLAIMS

In line with the provisions of the Retirement Funds Act (2022) (the Act) which require retirement funds administrators to trace beneficiaries of death claims, NMG Administrators Botswana is currently assessing beneficiaries for deceased members of the Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund listed below. Therefore, all possible beneficiaries/dependants should liaise with the Administrator. This is to ensure that all beneficiaries or dependants are known and considered by the Trustees in apportioning the Death Benefits in pursuit of their fiduciary responsibility.

Kindly contact NMG Administrators Botswana within 14 days from the date of this Publication.

| MEMBER NAME             | EXIT DATE  | MEMBER NAME            | EXIT DATE  | MEMBER NAME            | EXIT DATE  | MEMBER NAME          | EXIT DATE  |
|-------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Bigboy Amos             | 25/04/2026 | Bontsibokae Koboto     | 20/08/2017 | Bickie W Monyamane     | 27/07/2021 | Thebeetsile Ramodisa | 12/11/2025 |
| Bothepha Baaitse        | 01/11/2025 | Moeng Legwete          | 08/06/2021 | Gera Morris            | 07/04/2026 | Keitumetse Rantsetse | 01/03/2026 |
| Lame Peter Bothman-Hall | 24/05/2026 | Keneilwe Lekula        | 19/11/2025 | Neo E Mosiakgabo       | 11/02/2013 | Batsetswe Seanga     | 07/03/2007 |
| Dihogole Dikokole       | 20/04/2026 | Petros Lesole          | 07/02/2026 | Lesitamang Motlhabane  | 05/02/2004 | Botshelo Seitiso     | 15/03/2022 |
| Jennifer O Dipholo      | 17/11/2024 | Kemoneetswe Maapatsane | 22/07/2025 | Onkutlule Motsewakgosi | 30/03/2015 | Samuel Sekate        | 13/02/2022 |
| Mpho Disane             | 22/11/2025 | Patrick Mafadza        | 23/10/2020 | Louis Motsholabatho    | 24/12/2016 | Masego Serameng      | 26/01/2026 |
| Keneilwe Diwanga        | 12/05/2026 | Kesetse Makanti        | 28/12/2016 | Tshoganetso Mpheretlhe | 12/02/2026 | Masedi Sethibang     | 02/07/2026 |
| Lizwe George            | 24/01/2026 | Gideon Masedi          | 15/11/2020 | Simon Ndiye            | 18/04/2026 | Oarabile Setlhare    | 06/10/2021 |
| Letsholathebe Gillard   | 18/10/2022 | Kereng Mbwe            | 01/05/2026 | Emmanuel K Nduna       | 23/02/2023 | Sebolai Setume       | 16/11/2018 |
| Molatedi Jacob          | 01/01/2026 | Benjamin Mekgwe        | 11/02/2026 | Orekolotse Ntshekisang | 05/08/2019 | Amos Siako           | 02/10/2022 |
| Charles Jongman         | 10/07/2022 | Michael Mmotlanyane    | 17/06/2018 | Tlhaloganyo K Otimile  | 28/07/2021 | Monosi Tebakae       | 10/02/2026 |
| Emmanuel Kapimbua       | 18/06/2004 | Sampson Molapisi       | 10/07/2026 | Keabewa Otisitswe      | 26/09/2006 | Kebolaelwang Tlhako  | 22/11/2018 |
| Ikwalthaeng Kefositse   | 18/05/2026 | Gaolebale Molome       | 08/12/2024 | Tonny Pilatwe          | 15/07/2026 | Ikgopoleng Tsetse    | 14/12/2025 |
| Spankie W Kelopang      | 15/03/2026 | Nlebgwa Monamati       | 08/05/2012 | Malibala Popo          | 28/04/2026 | Witness Wilson       | 14/09/2016 |
| Olathletswe Ketlajjesa  | 23/12/2025 | Onalematho Montsho     | 10/08/2020 | Kentse Raletsholo      | 17/12/2025 | Esnaarth Zhibi       | 07/07/2021 |

Please contact NMG Administrators Botswana at: +267 318 6820/ 241 2562/ 588 1236/ 686 0597 or Toll Free: 0800 600 177

Finding A Better Way



# Entrepreneur harnesses AI to enhance learning

Marvin Motlhabane  
KANYE

What if every learner could keep studying even when classrooms close, teachers are stretched thin, or resources are simply not available! One Botswana platform is turning artificial intelligence into a practical answer for those who have long been left behind.

Moithuti AI, as it is affectionately known in the market, is a website built precisely for such challenges. It uses adaptive AI to deliver personalised learning support that remains available round the clock, regardless of geography, school type or temporary disruption, under a monthly subscription of approximately P100.

When COVID-19 lockdowns shut down schools across Botswana in 2020, the gap between learners who could continue studying and those who could not became starkly clear.

BOPA recently interviewed Ms Tryphinah Moatshe, marketing and sales lead at Moithuti AI, to understand the significant redress the solution brings to the education space. Ms Moatshe described how the access gap played out under one roof.

A younger brother attending a private school in the city kept up with online lessons and largely maintained his academic performance. His cousin, a strong student living in a village and enrolled in a public school, had almost no access to learning resources. When schools eventually reopened, her results had dropped sharply. “The contrast was not about ability,” Ms Moatshe said. “It was about continuous access.” That realisation prompted the creation of Moithuti AI, a Botswana-developed education technology platform designed so that learning does not stop when classrooms do.

Founded in 2020 and incubated at the Botswana Digital & Innovation Hub (BDIH) in Gaborone, Moithuti AI draws its name from “moithuti,” the Setswana word for learner. Its goal is to create a connected digital ecosystem for students, teachers, school administrators and parents.

“At its core is the principle that quality education should not depend on geography, school type or temporary disruptions such as pandemics, natural events or other interruptions. The platform supports every stakeholder in a learner’s journey,” she said. Students can access resources, complete assignments and quizzes, and track their progress.

Teachers organise lessons, materials and assessments more efficiently. Administrators gain clearer visibility into school operations, while parents follow their children’s academic journey and stay connected with teachers, she added.

What sets Moithuti AI apart, Ms Moatshe said, was its use of artificial intelligence to make that support personal, adaptive and available at any time. At the centre is Thuto, an AI tutor that learns with each student. “Thuto adapts to individual learning styles, remembers progress, and delivers personalised explanations and resources at the learner’s own pace.

It is available 24/7, including through messaging channels, so students can get instant revision help, study guides, notes and academic support whether they are preparing for exams late at night or working through a difficult concept after school,” she explained.

The system supports learning

in both Setswana and English, allowing students to engage with material in the language that helps concepts click.

Beyond one-to-one tutoring, AI runs through other parts of the platform. Interactive quizzes adapt to each learner and provide instant, step-by-step feedback so students understand not only whether an answer is correct but why. An intelligent study planner adjusts schedules as exams approach. For schools, AI-optimised timetabling reduces clashes and keeps operations synchronised. Progress analytics give teachers live insights into grades, attendance and performance, highlighting which students are thriving and who need support before gaps widen.

Teachers also benefit from an intelligent assistant that helps curate lessons matched to a class’s evolving understanding and can learn elements of a teacher’s style so that independent learning still feels consistent with classroom teaching. Parents receive culturally and linguistically adapted insights and practical suggestions, making it easier to stay involved.

This combination of adaptive AI and practical school tools, Ms Moatshe said, directly addressed the vulnerability exposed during the lockdowns.

“When physical schools close or resources are uneven, learning can continue if support is accessible, personalised and always on.”

By analysing strengths and weaknesses and tailoring content accordingly, the platform moves beyond simple content delivery toward genuine personalised pathways. BDIH has been instrumental in the company’s development. Mr Nyaladzi Monyamane, entrepreneurship development advisor at BDIH, noted that mentorship and coaching sessions focused on business model refinement, go-to-market strategies and product development.

Practical support, including access to shared workspace and branded marketing materials such as gazeboes, banners and flyers, enabled the team to operate more professionally and visibly.

“The overall guidance helped them sharpen their execution and better position the company for growth,” Mr Monyamane said.

BDIH also facilitated meetings with the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education.

Moithuti AI was given the opportunity to present a full working demo of the platform and received guidance on addressing learners’ needs, including the integration of official learning content and curriculum. The hub further supported the piloting journey to selected institutions through company branding.

A commercialisation workplan is used to document the advisory and coaching sessions. Through its Technology Transfer Office, start-ups are assisted to protect their intellectual property, for example through the filing of trademarks.

BDIH promotes technology, entrepreneurship and commercialisation within its focal sectors, which include Information and Communication Technology, Mining Technology, Clean-Tech, Biotechnology and Indigenous Knowledge Systems.

Through its Commercialisation Centre, the hub works with experienced professionals as part of its mentorship programme, engaging mentors with diverse skill sets to guide affiliated start-ups.

BDIH has also partnered with international institutions such as the Massachusetts Institute

of Technology on the Early-Stage Program for Botswana and the Indiana University Kelley School of Business through the Globase Program. Moithuti AI is a beneficiary of both programmes, Mr Monyamane added. Recognition has followed these efforts. In 2024, Moithuti AI won the Pula Pitch Competition. Mr Monyamane said the founders’ longer-term vision extended beyond Botswana and aim to partner more widely with schools domestically and expand

into the SADC region, contributing to a more connected and inclusive education system across Southern Africa.

The goal is a trusted African platform that empowers learners, supports teachers, strengthens schools and enables parents to take an active role, regardless of the challenges of the moment.

In a country and region where educational continuity can still be fragile, Moithuti AI’s origin story remains relevant. What began as

one family’s uneven experience during a global crisis has become a deliberate effort to ensure that interruptions no longer determine who gets to keep learning.

By combining practical school-management tools with adaptive AI support that meets students where they are, and with sustained institutional backing from BDIH, the platform offers a concrete response to an enduring problem: making education accessible at all times. **BOPA**



Director of finance and procurement-Botswana Digital and Innovation Hub (BDIH), Mr Diane Mongudi (left), Technical Officer at Moithuti AI Mr Onkemetse Majoo (centre) and Marketing & Sales Lead at Moithuti AI Ms Thato Moatshe receiving a graduation certificate from the BDIH Accelerator Programme Photo: Marvin Motlhabane

## Alsaajo expands access to healthcare through digital service

Keetile Bontsibokae  
MOLEPOLOLE

Recognising that many patients left medical consultations with prescriptions but little understanding of their conditions, family medicine physician Dr John Keadile established Alsaajo Health Services to bridge the gap between medical treatment and patient education. Operating from Gaborone and Francistown, the clinic has pioneered an integrated healthcare model that combines in-person consultations, telemedicine and professional counselling under one roof. Dr Keadile said the practice is among Botswana’s first family medicine-led centres to integrate medical care with mental health support, ensuring that patients receive holistic treatment rather than fragmented services.

“We do not separate the body from the mind. Our services are culturally relevant because we speak our patients’ language, understand their context and remain accessible through 24-hour WhatsApp support, home medication delivery and outreach to rural communities.”

Although Alsaajo Health Services has physical offices, its online platforms have enabled it to extend care across Botswana and even beyond its borders. Dr Keadile said the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need for remote healthcare as many people struggled with transport challenges, stigma, anxiety, gender-based violence and limited access to medical services.

“We launched online counselling to remove barriers created by distance, stigma and time.

Today, a patient in Ghanzi can receive professional counselling without travelling to a clinic,” he said. Drawing on years of experience in primary healthcare, non-communicable diseases and

mental health, Dr Keadile said the clinic placed great emphasis on explaining medical conditions in simple language that patients could easily understand.

Patients do not require referrals to access the service. They can contact the clinic via WhatsApp, telephone or online booking, with free 15-minute triage consultations available before appointments are scheduled. Emergency cases receive same-day attention, while consultations are offered in both Setswana and English.

The growing popularity of the online platform has significantly increased patient numbers.

The clinic serves individuals, couples, families and children through guardians, while referrals are also received from healthcare facilities, churches and employers.

According to Dr Keadile, most clients were aged between 18 and 45, including students, working professionals and young parents. Women account for approximately 60 per cent of clients, while men represent about 40 per cent, typically seeking assistance for stress, substance abuse and marital challenges.

Common concerns presented by patients include anxiety, financial stress, unemployment, relationship conflicts, gender-based violence, depression, substance abuse and the psychological impact of chronic illnesses such as HIV, diabetes and cancer. Safety remains central to the clinic’s operations. Dr Keadile said counsellors followed structured crisis management protocols that prioritised immediate safety, assess suicide or violence risks and connect clients with relevant support services, including police, social workers, BOCAIP and other healthcare providers.

He stressed that confidentiality was strictly maintained except

where there was an immediate threat to life or where a minor was at risk of abuse. The clinic adopts an integrated counselling approach that combines the biopsychosocial model, cognitive behavioural therapy, solution-focused therapy and person-centred counselling.

To accommodate increasing demand for virtual consultations, Alsaajo Health Services has implemented a structured triage system supported by administrative staff, three counsellors, an on-call doctor and an online booking calendar to manage appointments efficiently.

The clinic also serves Batswana living in South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as expatriates residing in Botswana. While counselling services can be provided online, patients requiring prescriptions or emergency medical treatment are referred to healthcare providers within their respective locations.

Dr Keadile said WhatsApp counselling and evening appointments were particularly popular because they offered greater privacy and convenience. In addition to adult services, the clinic supports children and adolescents by providing parenting guidance, ADHD and autism support, anti-bullying interventions, counselling for teenage depression, substance abuse programmes and play therapy.

The facility also offers rehabilitation support for substance dependence, stroke recovery, diabetes management, post-traumatic care, postnatal depression and survivors of gender-based violence.

Stable patients managing chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and HIV can receive medications delivered directly to their homes or workplaces following teleconsultations. **BOPA**



Dikgang

PAMPIRI YA THUTO LE DIKITSISO

Ipapatse Fa  
Leletsa

659 6315 | 625 0353 | 533 0379 | 297 8237  
261 0480 | 241 3402 | 365 3500



# Thobo e tlaa abelwa ba ba dikobo dikhutshwane le masiela

Tshiamiso Mosetlha  
**SEROWE**

Kgosi ya GaMmangwato, Kgosi Khama IV, a re thobo e a e amogetseng e tlaa abelwa bagodi, masiela, balwetse le batlhoki mo dikgotleng tsothe tse di farologanyeng tsa Serowe.

Fa a amogela thobo go tswa mo morafeng le balemi ba kgaolo ya Serowe bosheng, Kgosi Khama IV, o ne a rebola komiti ya thobo go sekaseka le go tlhomamisa gore ba ba tlhokang thata e nna bone ba ba tlaa akolang. O boletse fa go isa thobo kwa kgosing e le ngwao ya Setswana, e a tlhalositseng fa e supa boleng jwa morafe le gore ke bo mang ebile ba tswa kae. O ne a rotloetsa balemi go tswela ba lema gore batho ba seka ba bolawa ke tlala.

Kgosi Khama IV o ne gape a rotloetsa balemi-barui mo kgaolong ya Serowe go nna malala a laotswe ka dipego di bolela fa mono ngwaga go tla nna le leuba le le itsegeng ka leina la el-niño. O ne a tswela a rotloetsa morafe go iphapa mo go tshubeng naga, a re seo se rotloetsa leuba ka gore phulo e tlaa nyelela mme leruo le bolawe ke tlala.

Modulasetilo wa komiti e e neng e bakanyetsa letsatsi la thobo, Mme Connie Nkobela, o tlhalositse fa setlhogo sa letsatsi leo e le, Thobo Ngwao ya Rona.

Mme Nkobela a re ba simolotse ka kgwedi ya Mopitlo go isa Letlhafula kwa kgotleng kwa go Kgosi, e le ntsha nngwe ya go boloka ngwao ya Setswana.

O boletse fa dipula tsa monongwaga di ne di le matsorotsoro mme bontsi bo ne jwa bona thobo e e nametsang, ka jalo ba leboga Modimo le dikgosi, le ntswa ba ne ba senyediwa ke diji jaaka dipeba, ditlhora le dikatamosima kwa masimo. O kgothaditse bahumagadi ba dikgosi mo dikgotleng tse di farologaneng go ema dikgosi nokeng gore ba rotloetse morafe go lema diji.

A re bahumagadi ba tshwanetse go nna le seabe kwa kgotleng ebile ba tshwanetse go ruta morafe mo dikgotleng ka malwetse mangwe a a kgoreletsang bagodi go lema, a tshwana jwa go lebala, go kotlomela mowa, kgokgontsho le madi a matona.

Mongwe wa mabutswapele, go tswa mo kgotleng ya Sekao mo Serowe, Rre Mmusi Modise, o tlhalositse fa go isa thobo kwa go Kgosisigolo e le ditebogo tse ditona, mme seo se dire gore ba segofale le go bona thobo e e gaisang ngwaga o o tlang. O rotloeditse dikgosi go nna ba tlhola balwetse kwa dipateleng le go ba abela thobo. A re dikgosi di tshwanetse gape tsa tsamaya le dikgotla tsa bone ba lekola morafe.

**BOPA**



Bomme ba kwa GaMmangwato ba gorosa thobo ya ntsha ya ngwaga kwa kgosing kwa Serowe bosheng. Kgosi ya GaMmangwato, Kgosi Khama IV a re thobo e a e amogetseng e tlaa abelwa bagodi, masiela, balwetse le batlhoki mo dikgotleng tse di farologanyeng tsa Serowe. Senepe: Boldwin Nyamande



Ba lephata la matlhako a leruo kwa Tutume ba tlhagisa ka tlhagogo ya bolwetse jwa molafo mo motseng.

## Ba Tutume ba tlhagisiwa ka bolwetse jwa molafo

Tebogo Masuruke  
**TUTUME**

Ba lephata la matlhoko a leruo kwa Tutume ba tlhagisa batho ka tlhagogo ya bolwetse jwa molafo mo motseng wa Tutume.

Ngaka ya leruo kwa lephateng la matlhoko a leruo kwa Tutume, Dr Elisha Nyakarobo o kopile barui ba dintsa le dikatse go di kentisa kwa lephateng leo.

O kopile gape gore barui ba dintsa ba di tswalelela mo

malwapeng a bone kana go di golega go laola metsamao ya tsone. Dr Nyakarobo o tlhagisa batho go ela tlhoko maitsholo a diruiwa tseo, a re fa e se a tlwaelesegileng mo leruong la go nna jalo, ba bebele ba lephata leo ka bofefo.

O supile fa bolwetse joo bo le borai ,ka jalo mongwe kana bangwe fa ba ka amana le seruiwa sa go nna jalo,ba bone ba bongaka nako e sale teng.

A re le yone nama ya seruiwa se se lomilweng ke ntsa ya molafo e borai thata go ka jewa. **BOPA**

DailyNews

BALA MO MARANYANENG  
<https://dailynews.gov.bw>





## DE BEERS GROUP PHD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST), in partnership with De Beers Group, invites applications from suitably qualified and highly motivated Botswana citizens for fully funded PhD scholarship opportunities commencing in the 2026/2027 Academic Year.

The scholarship programme aims to support the development of highly skilled researchers capable of generating innovative solutions to Botswana's national development challenges through research aligned with the country's priority research areas.

### Scholarship Objectives

The scholarship seeks to support doctoral research that contributes to Botswana's socio-economic development, industrial transformation, environmental sustainability, technological advancement, and community well-being. Research proposals should demonstrate clear alignment with one or more of Botswana's National Research Priorities

### Priority Research Areas

Applications are invited in, but not limited to, the following national priority areas:

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Agriculture                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Food Security</li><li>Water Security</li><li>Vaccine Manufacturing</li><li>Precision Agriculture</li></ul>                                   |
| Digital Economy              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Digital Government</li><li>Digital Science and Technologies</li></ul>                                                                        |
| Energy                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Biomass</li><li>Advanced Energy Storage</li></ul>                                                                                            |
| Environmental Sustainability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Biomass</li><li>Advanced Energy Storage</li><li>Natural Resources Management</li></ul>                                                       |
| Health                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>High-Tech Holistic Medicine</li><li>Community Health</li></ul>                                                                               |
| Manufacturing                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bio-manufacturing</li><li>Industrialisation</li><li>Specialty Chemicals</li><li>Advanced Materials</li></ul>                                 |
| Social Development           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Smart Communities</li><li>Resilient Built Ecosystems</li><li>Social Inequality and Instability</li><li>Early Childhood Development</li></ul> |
| Mineral Beneficiation        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advanced Mineral Processing</li><li>Tailings and Waste Valorisation</li></ul>                                                                |

Successful applicants will be registered in one of the following BIUST doctoral programmes, subject to the suitability of the proposed research topic and the availability of appropriate supervision:

### Engineering Programmes

- PhD in Geological Engineering
- PhD in Mechatronics and Industrial Instrumentation

### Science Programmes

- PhD in Biology
- PhD in Chemistry
- PhD in Computer Science
- PhD in Forensic Sciences
- PhD in Geological Sciences
- PhD in Computer Information Systems
- PhD in Physics
- PhD in Mathematical Sciences
- PhD in Statistics

### Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Be **youth** citizens of Botswana;
- Hold a relevant Master's degree from a recognized institution prior to enrolment into the PhD programme;
- Meet the admission requirements of the relevant BIUST PhD programme;
- Demonstrate strong academic and research potential;
- Propose a research project aligned with one or more of Botswana's National Research Priorities;
- Secure the support of a prospective BIUST supervisor willing to supervise the proposed research.

### Application Requirements

- Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- Cover letter outlining research interests and demonstrating alignment with one or more of Botswana's National Research Priorities;
- Letter of support from prospective supervisor(s) at BIUST indicating willingness to supervise the proposed research;
- Research proposal developed in consultation with the prospective supervisor(s), which should include:
  - Proposed research topic;
  - Background and justification;
  - Problem statement;
  - Key research questions;
  - Proposed methodology;
  - Expected contribution to knowledge and national development;
  - Clear alignment with one or more of Botswana's National Research Priorities;
- Contact details of two academic referees;
- Certified copies of academic certificates and transcripts;
- Any supporting documents demonstrating relevant work experience, professional training, publications, patents, innovations, or other research achievements.

### Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Academic merit and research capability;
- Quality, originality, and feasibility of the proposed research;
- Alignment with Botswana's National Research Priorities;
- Potential impact of the proposed research on national development;
- Availability of suitable supervision and research resources at BIUST.

Preference will be given to research proposals that demonstrate strong potential for innovation, industrial development, mineral beneficiation, environmental sustainability, technological advancement, or socio-economic impact.

### Application Deadline:

**Closing Date: 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026** (Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.)

### Submission of Applications:

Applications should be submitted electronically to this link:  
<https://custom.biust.ac.bw/onlineApplication>

**Application Fees:** No application.

For enquiries, please contact:

The Dean  
Postgraduate School  
Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST)

**Telephone:** +267 4931762  
**Email:** [DeBeersscholarship@biust.ac.bw](mailto:DeBeersscholarship@biust.ac.bw)

DE BEERS GROUP







LETLHAKENG CONSTITUENCY

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT PANEL

discussion



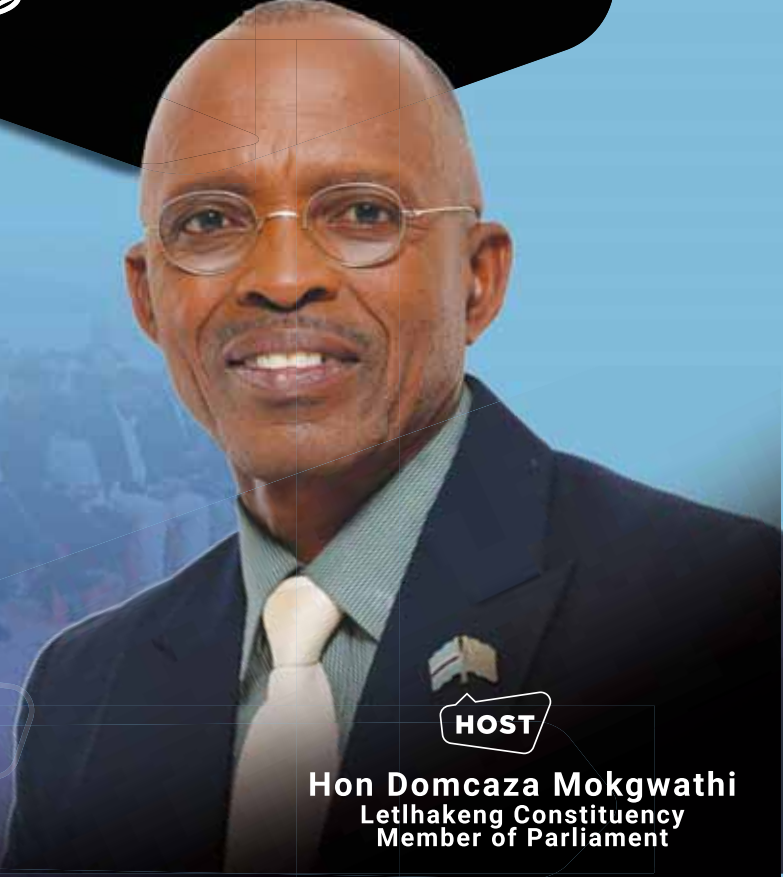
27 AUGUST, 2026



1730HRS UNTIL 2000HRS



LETLHAKENG COMMUNITY HALL



HOST

Hon Domcaza Mokgwathi  
Letlhakeng Constituency  
Member of Parliament



 594 3 177 / 110 | 72 294 461



KGATLENG CENTRAL CONSTITUENCY

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT PANEL

discussion



26 AUGUST, 2026



1730HRS UNTIL 2000HRS



HOME CRAFT, NEAR DRM HOSPITAL



HOST

Hon Maribe M. Morolong  
Kgatleng Central,  
Member of Parliament



 78 124 922 | 74 561 524





Classified Ads

REAL ESTATE | JOBS | FOR SALE | WANTED | SERVICES | LEGALS

ACCOMODATION

**SELF-CONTAINED STUDIO** pads ready to let in Shashemooke, (minutes drive from Francistown), tarred, road, running water and electricity, security fence and lights. Call 75 660 826 for an inspection

AUTOMOTIVE

**CAR SALE; TOYOTA YARIS** (2019) manual- local P150 000. 71302474.

FARM WORKES

**KE BATLA MODISA** kwa Mmamabifi mo kgaolong ya Dibete. Cell 72 904 890. Janet Mapena

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Kalakamati. Apply to Box 60, Masunga, call Tebogo on 74435324, closing date 30 August 2026.

**2 FARM WORKERS WANTED.** Apply to Mmapula Mulenga Tel 71848516

**2 FARM WORKERS WANTED.** Apply to Stephen Maluba P O Box 31 Sebina

**I KHULEKANI MODISE** looking for one herdboy at Sekgobotlwane cattle post P O Box 201912 Mochudi.

**FARM WORKER REQUIRED** at Mr Michael Thekiso's farm at Thagele by A1 road. Phone No 71 325 008. Basic work experience required.

**3 HERD MAN WANTED** at 256 cattle post. Contact Boitumelo Burger cell: 75 664 662 Kasane

**LOOKING FOR EXPERIENCED** farm workers to look after pig, goat, chicken and farm in Mabutswe farms. Apply: Dinah Modise-Bogacu Box 30361 Tlokweng or call 74 482 067.

**WANTED FARM WORKER,** Gabalistos Investment P O Box 2447 Mahalapye 76 408 862

**KE BATA MODISA** ko Tsetsebjwe 72 385 556

**FARM WORKER NEEDED** at Letetengwe, contact 71 703 950.

**FARM LABOURER WANTED** Leswareng Cattle Post. Apply to Otlata Mautle. Box 502568 Serowe 71 501 749

**FARM WORKER WANTED** Sebina Motshwane lands 72 207 809

**FARM WORKER OBAKENG** Popego. Box 2989 Molepolole. Call: 72 409 992 / 76 175 604

**FARM WORKER** Bongani Derick Mngibisa. Box 150112 Mogoditshane. 77 988 844 / 75211473

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Mothabeng, Sefhare, someone with knowledge of horticulture, crops like beans, maize and sweet potatoes. Contact Motlatsi Basupi 75 555 876.

**FARM WORKER WANTD-** Kopong Farm. Applicants with farming experience may apply. Send CV to P O Box 50346, Gaborone. Contact- 72 366 579 / 76 825 976.

**FARM WORKER NEEDED** Itlholatau 72 669 775

**LOOKING FOR A FARM WORKER** at Telekele farm in Medie for Mr Mothusi Akanyang. Contact number 74 444 948 / 73494536.

**FARM WORKER WANTED** at Shashe Bridge. Apply to Skmazh Investments Box 610 Francistown or contact Suthani Mazhani cell 71677104

**A FARM WORKER** is needed in an integrated Farm located in Letlhakane. Please send your application to whatsapp no: 72607061 or P. O. BOX 1505 Orapa.

HOUSEMAIDS

**HOUSE MAID NEEDED** at Serowe. Contact 71 703 950.

MISCELLANEOUS

**PRO SUBLIMPRINT IS** looking for an embroiderer/ machinist with (5) years experience with tailoring knowledge. Contact: 72 112 360 / 76 669 155

CATTLE HERDER

Dynamic and self-motivated Cattle Herder with a passion in animal husbandry. Responsible for daily monitoring, treatment, feeding and watering cattle with minimum supervision. This position is tenable in Kweneng District.

Apply:  
Mr. Mosenene [Box 1380 Gaborone](#)

Change of Land Use and Subdivision

Owner of **plot 22589**, Serorome ward, Palapye, wishes to subdivide their plot and change land use from multifamily residential to single family residential.

Any objections should be forwarded to Palapye District Council, Physical Planning office, **Tel: +267 493 0824** within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Master's Reference:  
**ESHGB 0001757-25**

IN THE ESTATE of the late MMATLHAPI BALEBETSE

Who died at Deborah Retief Memorial Hospital, Mochudi Kgatleng District, **Botswana on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

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

**DATED at \_\_\_\_ on this \_\_\_\_**  
**Day of \_\_\_\_ 2026**

The Executrix  
Bridget Chiepe  
P O Box 47142  
GABORONE  
CELL:72111130

Intention to Change Marriage Property Regime In terms of section 8(1)(f) of the Married Persons Act (2014)

- PHUTHOLOGO MONAMOLEDI** and **VIRGINIA DITSHUPO MONAMOLEDI** married in community of property on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1995 in Molepolole, wish to change their property regime to out of community of property.
- The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the (3) three weeks statutory notice from the date of the first publication hereof.
- Any person, creditor or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/ or liabilities of the parties estate, should they have objections to the parties changing their property regime, are to inform the parties in writing before the expiration of the said three (3) weeks period, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2026**  
PHUTHOLOGO MONAMOLEDI PO BOX 219 ABG Sebele **CELL: 72618562**  
VIRGINIA DITSHUPO MONAMOLEDI PO BOX 219ABG SEBELE **CELL: 76104690**  
Second Publication

LOST COVERING MORTGAGE BOND

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** in terms of Regulation 46 (4) Cap 33:02 that the undersigned intends applying in terms of Regulation 46 (1) Cap 33:02 for a certified copy of COVERING MORTGAGE **BOND NO. 1405/2013** dated **02<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2013** and made in favour of **NAA-YARLEY JULIA ADJEI** in respect of the below mentioned property, namely:

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Tribal Lot 318 Otse;  
**SITUATE:** at Otse in the Bamalete Tribal Territory;  
**MEASURING:** 1415m<sup>2</sup> (One Thousand Four Hundred and Fifteen Square Metres);  
**WHICH PROPERTY:** is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No: TL 59/2007 dated 01st day of February 2007 and made in favour of Ousmann Kabelo Bogosi;  
**SUBJECT TO:** all such conditions as are mentioned in the aforesaid Deed.

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

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2026**  
 **OSEI-OFEI LEGAL.** Attorneys for the Applicant  
First Floor, Unit 18, Kgale Mews, Gaborone International Finance Park,  
P O Box 26546, GABORONE



**FOR SALE: Shantui SL50W N-6 Front end Loader 2019**  
Year: **Approximately 8611**  
Hours: **P350.000.00 ex VAT**  
Price: **Kerry 72302213 /**  
Contact: **Dirk 71244868 /**  
**Doreen 71477889.**

Notice of Intention to Sell Tribal Land to a Non-Citizen

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that Wild Discoveries (Proprietary ) Limited proposes to enter into a sale of plot agreement with **Tabona Ketlogetswe** (the "Transaction"), in respect the below property, namely:

**CERTAIN:** Underdeveloped civic and community Plot No 10209;  
**SITUATE:** at Kazungula ;  
**MEASURING:** 3459 sqm (Three thousand four hundred fifty nine square metres);  
**HELD UNDER:** Memorandum of Agreement dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June , 2026. Hereafter referred to as (the "Property").

Purchase consideration for the property is the sum of **BWP370,000.00** (Three Hundred seventy Thousand Pula only)  
By virtue of this notice, any citizen of Botswana interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the above-mentioned property may make a similar offer through Chobe Land Board within thirty (30) days of publication of this notice.

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

I, owner of **Plot No. 4809** in **Tlokweng Masetlheng Ward**, hereby notify the owners of **Plot, 4808 & 4839** in Masetlheng Ward that I have built a boundary wall.

Any objections to this development should be made with Tlokweng District Council, Building Control Office on **Tel: 3659500** within **14 days** of publication of this notice.

**Contact:** Deemawatee Taukoor  
**Cell: 71306077**

Change of Land Use

**ROSEMARY BROCK**, owner of **Plot No. 2336, Gathaga Ward, Hukuntsi**, hereby gives notice of her intention to change the property land use from single-family residential to Self Catering Apartments.

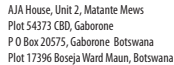
Any queries, comments, or objections regarding this application should be directed to Kgalagadi north District Council, Physical Planning Office on Telephone No. 6510286/ 7456/ 7453 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

LOST MORTGAGE BOND

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the undersigned intends applying for a certified copy of Continuing Covering Mortgage **Bond No. 1171/2012** dated the **21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2012** passed by **SAMUEL TSHIRELETSO** made in favour of **BBS BANK LIMITED**, in respect of the below mentioned property, namely;

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Lot No. 5356 Lobatse;  
**SITUATE:** in Lobatse Extension 22;  
**MEASURING:** 540 m<sup>2</sup> (Five Hundred and Forty Square Metres);  
**WHICH PROPERTY:** is held under Deed of Fixed Period State Grant N0.2349/2001 dated the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2001 made in favour of Samuel Tshireletso;  
**SUBJECT TO:** all such conditions as the aforesaid Deed will more fully point out;

All **persons objecting** to the issue of such copy are hereby requested to **lodge such objection in writing** with the Registrar of Deeds, Private Bag 0020, Gaborone **within 3 (Three) weeks** from the last publication of this notice.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 29<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2026**  
 **AJA House**, Unit 2, Matante Mews  
Plot 54373 CBD, Gaborone  
P O Box 20575, Gaborone Botswana  
Plot 17396 Boseja Ward Maun, Botswana  
**Tel:** (+267) 316 3125 **Fax:** (+267) 316 3124  
**Email:** [info@aja.co.bw](mailto:info@aja.co.bw)  
**Web:** [www.aja.co.bw](http://www.aja.co.bw)  
 **AKHEEL JINABHAI & ASSOCIATES**  
MORCE COMMERCIAL LAW  
Partner: Muband Jinhailal | Consultant Partners: Mark Mkhoe | Oritien Brind | (F I Ahi) | Lebogang George Nkomo | Mary Manda | Juvahhyah Mather | Anne Wanda

LOST MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF LEASE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** in terms of Regulation 46 (4) Cap 33:02 that the undersigned intends applying in terms of Regulation 46 (1) Cap 33:02 for a certified copy of MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT OF LEASE **NO: TL 59/2007** dated **01<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2007** and made in favour of **OUSMANN KABELO BOGOSI** in respect of the below mentioned property, namely:

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Tribal Lot 318 Otse;  
**SITUATE:** at Otse in the Bamalete Tribal Territory;  
**MEASURING:** 1415m<sup>2</sup> (One Thousand Four Hundred and Fifteen Square Metres);  
**WHICH PROPERTY:** is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease **NO: TL 59/2007** dated **01<sup>st</sup> day of February 2007** and made in favour of Ousmann Kabelo Bogosi;  
**SUBJECT TO:** all such conditions as are mentioned in the aforesaid Deed.

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

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2026**  
 **OSEI-OFEI LEGAL.** Attorneys for the Applicant  
First Floor, Unit 18, Kgale Mews, Gaborone International Finance Park,  
P O Box 26546, GABORONE

General Farm Worker Wanted- Jwaneng Area

**Experience Required:** Practical knowledge of farm operations with strong technical skills  
The ideal candidate will not only be experienced in day-to-day farm activities but also have a solid understanding of electrical and electronic controls used in modern farming systems.

**Key Requirements:**

- Hands-on experience with farm machinery and equipment.
- Familiarity with electrical and electronic control systems.
- Ability to troubleshoot and maintain farm automation tools.
- Strong work ethic, reliability, and willingness to learn.
- Capacity to work independently and as part of a team.

**Responsibilities:**

- Assist with general farm operations including planting, harvesting, and maintenance.
- Operate and maintain farm equipment safely and efficiently.
- Monitor and repair electrical/electronic control systems.
- Support the farm team in achieving production goals.

**Apply Now:** Send your CV and references to:  
Yusuf Desai  
P O Box 685 Jwaneng **Email:** omerob1mac@gmail.com



NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**GOEMEONE HENRY SEKOKO**, owner of plot in Mosetse proposes change of land use from single family to multi family residential. For objections contact Tutume District Council on 298 7232 within fourteen days of publication of advert.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the owner of Plot 37481, Block 4, Mogoditshane, intends to change land use from mixed commercial to commercial use. Any objections must be submitted to the Mogoditshane District Council Physical Planning office (Tel: 3105615) within fourteen days of this publication.

**THE OWNER OF plot 6660** at Metsimothabe Block 4 wishes to notify the owners of plot 6661 and 6659 of the intention to build a boundary security wall. Any concerns or objections regarding the proposal development can be communicated to Mogoditshane Council 310 5615.

**THE OWNER OF PLOT NO 966** Mokolodi, wants to change landuse from residential to group living housing landuse. Any comments should be forwarded to Mogoditshane sub-district council, physical planning office at 3905334 or in writing within 14 days (fourteen) of this publication.

TWO PRIESTS (PUJARI) required:

Candidate must be from Gaudia Vaishnava Disciple Succession background. Priest required 5 years experience in Diety dressing, decorations and preparing Bhoga. Candidate must be responsible for all aspects Diety worship. Deadline for application 07 September 2026 to ISKCON (BOTSWANA) PO Box 40317 Gaborone.

CHANGE OF LAND USE

**PAUL MOLEBATSI** wants to change the land use of their single – family residential plot to commercial at Plot 303, Kgatleng Ward, Mogoditshane.

Any objections should be forwarded to: **Mogoditshane – Thamaga District Council**, Physical Planning Office **within 14 days** or contact **3166653**.

REGULARIZATION OF EXISTING BOUNDARY WALL, PLOT 1315, LENGANENG, TLOKWENG

**Owner of Plot 1315 in Lenganeng ward, Tlokweng seeks to regularize an existing boundary wall of their multi-family residential plot. Neighbors of Plot 1315, may give consent by calling Tlokweng District Council on 369 5000 or the plot owners on +267 71 319 319 within fourteen (14) days.**

**OWNER OF PLOT NO 25471** Mogoditshane - Block 10, inform the public that she would like to change land use from single family to multi residential use. Any objection should be addressed to Mogoditshane council physical planning office within (14) days of publication of this notice.

Notice of Intention to Sell Tribal Land to a Non-Citizen

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that Girraff-A-Camp Proprietary Ltd proposes to enter into a sale of plot agreement with **Rebecca Mkheswa** (the “Transaction”), in respect the below property, namely:

**CERTAIN:** piece of a ploughing field, underdeveloped;  
**SITUATE:** at Lesoma Village;  
**MEASURING:** 3 Ha (Three Hectares);  
**HELD UNDER:** Memorandum of Agreement dated 6th November, 2025. Hereafter referred to as (the “Property”).

Purchase consideration for the property is the sum of **BWP300,000.00** (Three Hundred Thousand Pula only)

By virtue of this notice, any citizen of Botswana interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the above-mentioned property may make a similar offer through Chobe Land Board within thirty (30) days of publication of this notice.

INTENTION TO SELL AND TRANSFER IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

(SECTION 34(1) of the Tribal Land Act, 2018)

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** of the following proposed transaction to be entered into between.

**THE PARTIES:**

**TRANSFEROR:** Safari Consultants & Management (Botswana) Pty Ltd  
**TRANSFeree:** Eco Africa Botswana Pty Ltd

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.**

**CERTAN:** Commercial, Lot 242 Maun.  
**SITUATE:** Batawana Tribal Area, Maun Government Camp.  
**MEASURING:** 2003 Sqm.  
**SUBJECT TO:** the conditions contained in the aforesaid lease.

Consideration of the property amounts to of P 3,000,000.00 (Three Million Pula), excluding any VAT / Transfer duty consequential to the transaction. Notwithstanding the Transaction, priority is hereby given to any Citizen of Botswana interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the property. **Interested persons may forward their applications to [tholosafaris@gmail.com](mailto:tholosafaris@gmail.com)**

All persons objecting to the transaction are hereby requested to lodge such objection with reasons, in writing with the Tawana - Sub Land Board, P O Box 134, Maun within 30 (Thirty Days) from the last publication of this Notice.

**DATED AT MAUN ON THIS 18 DAY OF AUGUST 2026**

VACANCIES

1. Mechanical Installer Wanted

We are seeking a highly skilled Mechanical Installer with extensive experience in the SADC region. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter who demonstrates initiative, technical expertise, and problem-solving ability.

**Key Requirements:**

- At least 15 years of mechanical installation experience in the SADC region and beyond.
- Above-average skills in:
  - Welding
  - Troubleshooting
  - Controls
  - Electrical systems
- Strong ability to work independently and deliver results under minimal supervision.
- Proven track record of handling complex mechanical installations with precision and efficiency.
- Be part of a dynamic team working on challenging projects across the region.
- Opportunity to showcase your expertise and grow with a forward-thinking organization.

2. Heavy Duty Driver Wanted

The ideal candidate will have in-depth knowledge of the SADC region, proven driving experience, and the ability to handle sensitive deliveries with care and professionalism.

**Key Requirements:**

- At least 5 years of heavy-duty driving experience.
- Familiarity with routes, regulations, and logistics across the SADC region.
- Ability to identify and oversee the safe delivery of electrical and mechanical materials.
- Strong sense of responsibility, attention to detail, and commitment to safety.
- Excellent communication and organizational skills.

**Responsibilities:**

- Operate heavy-duty vehicles for regional deliveries.
- Ensure materials are transported securely and arrive in excellent condition.
- Monitor and oversee loading/unloading processes with due care.
- Maintain accurate delivery records and comply with transport regulations.
- Daily checks and report of vehicles and reporting and follow ups

**Apply Now:** Send your CV and references to:

Capital Electrical(Pty)Ltd  
P O Box 2238 Gaborone Email: [admin@capitalelectrical.co.bw](mailto:admin@capitalelectrical.co.bw)

PROPOSAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTROLLED TRANSACTION

(In terms of Section 34 (1) of the Tribal Land Act No. 1 of 2018)

**NOTICE** is hereby given to the members of the Public of the following proposed transaction to be entered into between **BONANG MAKGALE (citizen) and NICRAFTER HOLDINGS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** (Non-citizen), for the sale of the hereunder mentioned property, that is to say:

**CERTAIN:** piece of land being Ploughing Field, Tekeboso;  
**SITUATE:** at Tekeboso Ward in Kgatleng District;  
**MEASURING:** 338.48 x 197.58 x 196.72 x 344.44m;  
**HELD UNDER:** Certificate of Customary Land Grant between Oodi Sub Land Board and Bonang Makgale dated 18th October 2016;  
**SUBJECT TO:** The terms and conditions set out in the said Lease.

**FOR** the consideration amount of **P180 000.00 (One Hundred and Eighty Thousand Pula)** to be paid upon signature of deed of sale.

**ANY** citizen of Botswana who objects to or is interested in entering into a similar transaction in respect of the aforementioned property is afforded the right to register such objection or interest, in writing, to the Secretary of the Kgatleng Land Board, Private Bag 4, Mochudi or at the Land Board offices at Mochudi within **30 (THIRTY) DAYS** of publication of this notice, to receive priority notwithstanding the proposed transaction set out above.

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 15th DAY OF JUNE 2026.**

**MAINA NYANGARI LEGAL PRACTICE,**  
Plot 36933, Nakalatlou Crescent, Block 8, GABORONE.  
P O BOX 80342, GABORONE.

URBAN LIFESTYLE PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC, a physiotherapy clinic located in Phase 2, Gaborone is seeking suitable candidates for the following positions:

1. **PHYSIOTHERAPIST (X2)**

**KEY REPSONSIBILITIES**

- Conducting patient assessments and diagnosis
- Treatment planning and implementation
- Maintain thorough, accurate and timely patient health records
- Comply with BHPC regulations

**REQUIREMENTS**

- A Bachelor’s degree or equivalent in Physiotherapy from an accredited institution
- Must be registered with the Botswana Health Professions Council (BHPC)
- At least 1 year work experience

2. **ACCOUNTS OFFICER (X1)**

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Maintain organized records of patient accounts, treatments and billing information
- Ensure all documents are appropriately filed, both digitally and physically
- Track outstanding invoices and follow up on overdue accounts
- Compare records from the clinic’s billing system with payment confirmations to identify discrepancies
- Conduct reconciliations of accounts to ensure all transactions are recorded correctly

- Help prepare financial reports such as daily cash flow statements and accounts receivable aging reports
- Ensure that all accounting practices comply with relevant regulations and standards

**REQUIREMENTS**

- A degree in accounting or a related field is typically required
- At least one year of relevant experience
- Strong understanding of accounting principles and practices
- High level of accuracy and attention to detail in financial record keeping and analysis to ensure data integrity and compliance
- Proficiency in Microsoft Excel and other accounting software/tools for data analysis, reporting and financial management
- Commitment to upholding ethical standards and maintaining confidentiality of financial information

**Apply now:**  
[urbanlifestylephysiotherapy@gmail.com](mailto:urbanlifestylephysiotherapy@gmail.com)

**Closing date:**  
Friday 04 September 2026

**Plot 18510, Tlhaadiboe Road, Phase 2, Gaborone**  
Contact details: **74 778 589 / 393 3918**  
P.O. Box 500054, **Gaborone**

VACANCY

**Pinagare Engineers**, which is a Civil and Structural Engineering Consultancy company, invites applications for the following position within our organization:

CIVIL ENGINEER (x1)

**Qualifications:**

- Degree in Civil Engineering.
- A qualification in project management is an added advantage.
- Must be registered with Engineers Registration Board (ERB) as a Professional Engineer and with a valid Practicing Certificate.
- Must possess a valid driver’s license.

**Experience:**

- 12 years’ experience of which 8yrs in large civil engineering infrastructure design and construction supervision.
- AutoCAD and design software experience required
- Must have experience with project management, client-relations management, design, and technical staff supervision.
- Solid technical writing, presentation and communication skills.
- Manage project budgets and schedules.
- Problem solving and decision making

**Job Summary:** The Civil Engineer will be responsible for a variety of tasks such as design and supervision of Civil Engineering Infrastructure projects. The ideal candidate should have a strong background in project technical and regulatory requirements and design softwares. The Civil Engineer will also be interacting with clients, contractors, and local government officials, as well as working closely with project staff.

**Applications with detailed CVs and certified copies of certificates should be hand delivered or sent to:**

The Managing Director or  
Pinagare Engineers  
Private Bag BR57  
Gaborone  
Botswana  
**Tel.:** 318 2068/9

The Managing Director  
Pinagare Engineers  
Plot 6391, Cnr. Lejara & Noko Roads  
Broadhurst Industrial

**Email:** [pinagarereception@gmail.com](mailto:pinagarereception@gmail.com)

**Closing Date:** 15 September 2026

**Note:** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETING FOR THE  
DUMEZWENI MESHACK MTHIMKHULU - ESHGB - 000828-24

IN PURSUANCE of Section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap 31:01), the heirs and next of kin of the deceased persons specified above are hereby invited to attend a next of kin meeting on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2026 @ 10:30 hours, Masters Office, Gaborone.**

At the respective meeting, the next of kin are to recommend person(s) to be appointed as Executor(s)/Executrix Dative, identify beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to the estate of their deceased relative.

For any enquiries concerning the deceased person's estate please contact the Master's Office on **3718083, or 3718000/3718040 (switchboard).**

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

*Master's Reference: ESHMY 000349-26*

IN THE ESTATES of the Late **MATOBOTOBO MMUNYANE** who died at Mahalapye Hospital, Mahalapye, Central- Mahalapye District, Botswana on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2024.

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

**DATED at...Mahalapye....on this...27... Day of... July ... 2026.**

The Executrix Dative, Kgalemo Koogotsitse, P O Box 2168, MAHALAPYE, Cell: 72961460

FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000144/24

IN THE ESTATE of the late **TIRAFALO MOPORO NGAKANE** who died at Julia Molefe (Block 9) Clinic, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana on **3rd January 2023.**

**THE FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT** in the Estate will be open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Gaborone for a period of (Twenty-one) **21 days** from the date of publication hereof.

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master within the 21 days stated above

**DATED AT GABORONE this .....day .....2026**

**Executrix** Dative Kelebogile Ngakane P O Box 115 **MOGODITSHANE**  
**CELL: 72217909**

NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of The High Court at **Francistown High Court** on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

|                            |                        |                   |                |               |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Name of Deceased Person    | Estate Number          | Date of Meeting   | Time           | Master        |
| <b>THONO PATIKO MOTHEI</b> | <b>ESHFT-000726-26</b> | <b>03/11/2026</b> | <b>0900HRS</b> | <b>SARM 2</b> |

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2026**  
**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Reference: ESHGB 001699/25

IN THE ESTATE of the late **BURGERT GOTTLIEB MALAN** who died at Plot 43136, Phakalane, Gaborone on **18<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025.**

**THE FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT** in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Gaborone for a period of **(Twenty-one) 21 days** from the date of publication hereof.

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master within the **21 days** stated above.

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS ..... DAY OF .....2026.**

The Executor  
Schalk Willem  
Coetzee  
SCI Fiduciary  
P.O. Box 89AAH  
GABORONE  
TEL: 3180111

CHINESE CHEF  
WANTED

**Requirements:**

- Diploma/ Degree in Culinary Technology and Nutrition.
- 5 or more years' experience as a Chef.
- Skilled in Chinese cuisine, hot-dish preparation, seasoning and food presentation.
- Ability to develop practical menus and control food costs.
- Strong knowledge of food safety and hygiene standards.

**APPLY TO:**

**MIDAS PAN EXPLORATION TECH CO. PTY LTD**  
P. O. Box 3027,  
Francistown,  
Botswana

NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS ADMINISTRATION OF Estates Act [Cap 31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY** given that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act (Cap: 33:01), heirs and next of kin of the deceased and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of The High Court at Francistown High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for the purposes of recommending for appointment, a person or persons as Executor/Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

|                                      |                        |                   |                |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------|
| Name of Deceased Person              | Estate Number          | Date of Meeting   | Time           | Master     |
| <b>JOSEPH &amp; VUYELWA MOTLHABI</b> | <b>ESHFT-000774-26</b> | <b>10/11/2026</b> | <b>0900HRS</b> | <b>ARM</b> |

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 18TH DAY OF AUGUST 2026**

**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**

NOTICE FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy Of Deed NO: **DR00430954A** dated **26 day of MAY 2026**

made in favour of **NELSON KEMMONYE KEAGOLETSE** in respect of:

**CERTAIN: Piece of land being LOT 22158**

**SITUATE: IN CADASTRE 140, BANGWAKETSE TRIBAL TERRITORY**

**MEASURING: 2006 SQUARE METERS. TWO THOUSAND SIX SQUARE METERS**

**HELD UNDER: CERTIFICATE OF REGISTERED TITLE (SECTION 41) NO. DR004302949 26 MAY 2025**

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: ..... ON THIS..... DAY OF .....2026.....**

GEOLOGIST WANTED

Requirements:

- Diploma/ Degree in Resource Prospecting Engineering or related.
- 5 or more years of professional experience in the geology field.
- Experience in geological mapping, drilling and geological logging.
- Proficiency in 3D geological modelling and geological reporting.
- Experience in a mining environment is an added advantage.

**APPLY TO**

**MIDAS PAN EXPLORATION TECH CO. PTY LTD**  
P. O. Box 3027, Francistown, **Botswana**

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

*Master's Reference: ESHFT/000851-25*

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN THE STATE of the late **KGOLOLO GAOAAGA** who died Palapye Primary Hospital, Palapye Central District , Republic of Botswana on the at 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 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 30 days after the publication hereof.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2026**

Executor Coleen Malokwane, P O Box 259, **FRANCISTOWN**, Cell no. (+267) 71498401

**AND TO:** Master of the High Court, Private BagF13, **FRANCISTOWN**

VACANCY

**FRENCH INSTRUCTOR**

A reputable Training Academy invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced candidates to join our team.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Relevant French Teaching Diploma or higher
- B2 level French
- 5+ years experience in teaching or tutoring children track progress and manage records
- Strong communication and management skills
- Passion for teaching and learner development
- Must be reliable, professional and well organized

\* Interested candidates should submit their applications, detailed CV, copies of qualifications and traceable references by  
**11/09/2026.**

**APPLY TO:**  
**VUMILA TRAINING ACADEMY**  
P O BOX 3232  
GABORONE  
PLOT 109B0, EXTENSION 32  
GABORONE  
71423738  
EMAIL: vumila20@gmail.com

FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

*Master's Reference: ESHMY 000115-26*

IN THE ESTATE of the late **REX LERE CHIBUA** who died at Sekgoma Memorial Hospital. Central-Serowe District, Botswana on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

**THE FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT** in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Mahalapye for a period of twenty-one(21) days from the date of publication hereof.

**DATED at Mahalapye on this 24 Day of July 2026.**

The Executrix, Segolame Chibua, PO Box 18, SEROWE, Cell: 71809836

FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

*Master's Ref: ESHGB-000358/21*

IN THE ESTATE of the late **TIRO TSAONE PHETO** who died at Bokamoso Private Hospital, Gaborone, Gaborone District, Botswana, on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2024

**THE FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT** in the Estate will lie open for inspection at the offices of the Master of the High Court at Gaborone for a period of twenty-one (21) days from the date of publication hereof.

Any objection to the Estate Account may be lodged with the Master.

**DATED AT..... ON THE ..... DAY OF .....2026**

|                                                                                             |                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Executrix<br>Gontle Ntombi Tumelo<br>P O Box 113<br>MAHALAPYE<br>TEL: 74563200/78186512 | The Executrix<br>Lebogang Gaborekwe<br>P O Box 2024<br>MOLEPOLOLE<br>TEL:72134346 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

NOTICE OF DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of the late **AJAY KUMAR GARG** who died at 42 Gautam Nagar, New Delhi, India on **21<sup>st</sup> February 2020.**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** to all Debtors and Creditors of the above-mentioned 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 20<sup>th</sup> day of August 2026**

The Executrix Dative, Sumaya Khan  
**skhan LAW** c/o **S.KHAN LAW ATTORNEYS**  
PLOT 2851, South Ring Road, P O Box 72, Gaborone

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

**OWNER OF INTREGRATED** farm in Tonota wishes to change land use from agricultural to mixed use. Any objections contact Tonota District Council Office 248 4248 within fourteen days of publication of this notice

**OWNER OF PLOT 4133 and 4134** are informed of change of land use from residential to multi-residential and construction of boundary wall on both plots in Mogoditshane-Block 4. Objection call 390 6302 or Mogoditshane-Thamaga Sub District Council.

**CHANGE OF LAND USE-**neighbourhood consultation, owner of plot 3033, Borakanelo ward, Tsabong would like to change land use from single family to multi family, for any objection, contact Tsabong District Council (physical planning). Tell: 654 0061

**THE PLOT OWNER OF PLOT 4636** located at Flowertown, Kazungula wish to change land use from residential to commercial. For any objection contact physical planning department at 625 0275, Chobe District Council within 14 days of this publication.

PROPERTIES

**PLOT FOR SALE** in Kanye Mmamokhasi ward, plot number 23776 for 185k neg call (app) 73688884.

**3 BEDS FOR SALE** in Kanye, Taukobong ward. Plot 15031 for 350k neg, call/app 73 688 884.

VACANCIES

**CONSULTANT AND LAB ADMINISTRATOR** wanted. SA Minerals Laboratories Ithuba (Pty) want Cosultant and Lab Administrator who will be based in Mookane. Contact The Manager, P O Box 342, Serowe. Cell: 76495376

**APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED** for 4 Indian Executive Chef, min 5 years experience in Indian Cuisines for Swami Investments (PTY) LTD, at Mmamabula and Pandamatenga. Drop application at P. O. Box 315 Kasane, contact 625 2237. Batswana preferred. Last date to apply 5 September 2026.

**MEDICAL DOCTOR WANTED** medical license +BHPC registration 3 years minimum experiece, excellent clinical skills+medical procedures. Good communication skills send application to Chilani Care Clinic- Sowa Branch Box 2834 Serowe 76 375 394

**WANTED: NURSE AID/ CARETAKER** to take care of an elderly female. Apply: Jessica Ingwe Box 654 Gaborone. Closing date: 07/09/2026

**IRENE FASHION'S** LOOKING for a fashion designer. Date 07-09-2026. 5 years experience. Cell # 71707332.

NOTICE OF NEXT OF KIN MEETINGS

Administration of Estates Act [Cap.31:01]

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that by virtue of section 31 of the Administration of Estates Act ( Cap:33:01),**heirs and next of kin of the deceased** and all persons having claims against the above estate, are being called upon to attend before the Master of the High Court at Mahalapye High Court on the date and time specified opposite the names of their deceased relatives for purposes of recommending for appointment ,a person or persons as Executor / Executrix Dative as well as identifying beneficiaries and to discuss any other business relating to their deceased relative.

**Name of Deceased Person:** Madimabe Makhae  
**Estate Number:** ESHMY 000314-26  
**Date of Meeting:** 05.10.26  
**TIME:** 0900  
**MASTER:** SARM

**DATED AT MAHALAPYE THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2026**  
**MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT**



# WUC brings hope to Hereford primary

Letticia Nnokotema  
HEREFORD

The adoption of Hereford Primary School by Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) has brought renewed hope to a school grappling with geographical isolation, limited exposure and poor academic performance.

The school was officially adopted through WUC's three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under its Corporate Social Responsibility programme, which aims to support educational development, digital empowerment, environmental stewardship and community upliftment.

Speaking at the adoption ceremony, WUC chief executive officer, Mr Gaselemogwe Senai, said their responsibility extended beyond providing water and wastewater services, adding that they also had a role to play in developing communities and supporting schools where the country's future leaders were nurtured.

As part of the immediate support,

## Region celebrates staff

Mmoniemang Motsamai  
RASESA

Teaching comes with its fair share of heavy lifting. Between stretched teaching resources and crowded classrooms, educators face an uphill battle daily. But recently in Mochudi, Kgatleng region decided to put the spotlight on the dedicated men and women shaping the future.

The awards honoured 60 teachers and non-teaching staff members for their outstanding performance last year.

Speaking at the ceremony, regional operations director, Ms Veronicah Mochotlhi, said lack of funds was never going to stand in the way of a good cause noting that one thing remained certain that excellence and inspiration did not depend on circumstance.

Gathered under the theme, Honouring Excellence, Unleashing Opportunities, the event celebrated individuals, schools and support staff whose contributions had kept Kgatleng's reputation as an academic powerhouse alive.

Guest speaker, Botho University vice chancellor, Professor Jane Lloanya praised the initiative, highlighting how vital it was to lift-up those who served on the front lines of education.

She described education as a transformative investment that empowered both individuals and the wider community to thrive.

The evening spanned a wide array of categories, applauding everyone from stellar classroom teachers and dedicated heads of department to essential support staff who made learning environment thrive.

Closing the celebration on a life-changing high note, one teacher walked away with a full sponsorship to pursue a degree programme of her choice, courtesy of Botho University. **BOPA**

WUC donated five computers for the school's computer laboratory, printer toners and whiteboard markers. The Corporation further committed to support the school through STEM, career exposure programmes and infrastructure support. Mr Senai said the investment in Hereford Primary School was an investment in the future, adding that the computers provided were intended to open opportunities for learners to access knowledge, innovation and technology.

He said WUC hoped the initiative would inspire learners to dream bigger and pursue careers in

different fields. Hereford Primary School head Ms Keatametse Mokgatitshwane said the intervention came at a critical time to a school that faced challenges associated with its remoteness; with the nearest service centre, Werda, located about 55 kilometres away. She said the bad and poorly maintained road connecting the village to other areas made movement difficult, particularly when the school needed to take learners to regional activities.

To Ms Mokgatitshwane, limited mobility meant that learners were often confined to their village, depriving them of opportunities

to gain broader knowledge and exposure beyond their immediate surroundings.

She identified lack of exposure as one of the factors contributing to the school's poor academic performance, noting that the school recorded 34.1 per cent pass rate in the previous Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE). She said WUC's intervention brought hope not only for improved educational outcomes but also for better working conditions for staff.

Regional Director of Education, Ms Neo Tsietso, said the adoption reflected the importance of viewing education from a multi-

sectoral approach. She said that the approach had previously led to the formation of Adopt-A-School Programme, which encouraged different sectors to contribute towards improving education.

She welcomed WUC's initiative, describing it as a significant intervention for the school, which she said had experienced poor performance.

Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) representative, Mr Lawrence Tsebenz expressed hope that the adoption would encourage more sectors and organisations to come forward and contribute to the development of Hereford **BOPA**



FNB is pleased to introduce a revised Rewards Model with effect from September 2026.

### Key Enhancements:

#### Smart Account Holders

The model has been simplified for the Smart segment such that they only have one goal to attain – cash to card goal. This segment will be offered a shopping voucher of up to P500 every calendar quarter based on their card activities for 3 months.

**Qualifying Criteria:** Clients must have an active transactional account, have all existing accounts in good standing (not overdrawn), KYC compliant and be digitally registered.

#### Goals:

- a) Spend P500 or more using their Debit cards for three consecutive months OR
- b) Increase their card spend for three consecutive months to earn a voucher.

The voucher amounts will differ according to client's total spend after three months cumulatively.

#### Gold, Premier and Private Clients Account Holders

**Qualification Criteria:** Clients must have an active transactional account, have all existing accounts in good standing (not overdrawn), KYC compliant and be digitally registered.

**Goals:** The rewards model has several existing goals that clients may achieve to earn cashback depending on the account they hold:

- a) **Cash to Card:** Clients required to spend using the debit card or credit card
- b) **Alternative Channels:** There is a target for minimum monthly transactions using alternative and electronic channels and not the branch
- c) **Save & Invest:** Grow and maintain balances in any FNB Savings Account every month
- d) **Borrow:** Have asset balances at the prescribed thresholds
- e) **Insure:** Have an FNB Funeral Plan
- f) **Bundled Pricing:** Be on the bundled pricing option (applies to Gold clients only)

#### There are three additional goals introduced below:

- a) **Family banking:** Having an active linked FNB or FNB Next account and deposit a minimum of P100.00 to each account
- b) **Forex:** Maintaining the prescribed minimum balances in any of the global accounts (ZAR, USD, GBP, EUR)
- c) **Pay:** Meet a set target for payments using the FNB App

**NB:** The goal requirements are differentiated per account holding.

For full details on all rewards goals, please refer to the Terms and Conditions (Ts & Cs) available on the FNB website.

Clients will no longer earn for their electricity purchases.

Visit [www.fnbbotswana.co.bw](http://www.fnbbotswana.co.bw)

Visit nearest FNB Branch

Terms and conditions apply

First National Bank of Botswana Limited Registration Number BW00000790476.  
Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana





# MPs approve proposal to raise ceiling for Bond Issuance

Ketshepile More  
GABORONE

Parliament has adopted a motion to raise the ceiling on the Government Bond Issuance Programme, from the current limit of P55 billion to P85 billion. Presenting the motion to legislators on Friday, the Minister of Finance also Vice President, Mr Ndaba Gaolathe said the proposal was

about ensuring that government retained the flexibility required to finance national priorities, continued supporting economic recovery and further deepened Botswana's domestic capital market while maintaining prudent and sustainable debt management.

Mr Gaolathe said the programme had evolved alongside the country's economic development and financing requirements, adding that

Parliament successively approved increases in the programme ceiling to meet economic needs; from P5 billion to P15 billion, then to P30 billion and reaching P55 billion in 2024. He said each increase reflected the changing needs of the economy while remaining consistent with government's objective of developing a strong and resilient domestic capital market.

Mr Gaolathe said when

Parliament approved an increase to P55 billion, government made commitments including more frequent government securities auctions, publication of annual borrowing strategies, introduction of liability management operations and improved transparency in borrowing.

These commitments, he said, had largely been met, resulting in monthly auctions and enhanced investor engagement.

The minister said the reforms had improved the domestic debt market and strengthened debt management practices, maintaining strong investor confidence in government securities, evidenced by robust demand and oversubscription of recent auction.

The success of recent reforms, Mr Gaolathe said Parliament's approval for the P55 billion increase was justified and effective.

He therefore said the domestic capital market was increasingly vital to the government's financing strategy, offering a reliable source of funds alongside external sources.

The minister said currently, the programme was nearing its limits, with minimal room left, while the financing needs for the 2026-27 financial year were projected.

Supporting the motion, MP for Chobe, Mr Simasiku Mapulanga said the increase should be for finance productivity and should have high return expenditure.

He cautioned against over borrowing, saying it could have economic implications, which could even shake investor confidence if the debt was unsafe.

Also in support of the motion was Bobirwa MP, Mr Taolo Lucas who said government should have a fiscal discipline to avoid reaching the P85 billion ceiling.

Responding to the legislators, Mr Gaolathe said Botswana's nominal ceiling remained lower compared to other countries and said adjustments were critical as diamond revenue downturn widened local deficits. **BOPA**

## Parliament adopts motion on missing persons

Esther Mmolai  
GABORONE

Parliament has adopted an urgent motion that requested government to broaden the approach to the search and rescue of missing persons by establishing appropriate mechanisms through which, families and communities may engage traditional practitioners and spiritual leaders.

The motion also aims to allow families to engage other persons whom they believe may assist in locating missing persons in coordination with and subject to the oversight of the Botswana Police Service.

Presenting the motion, the MP for Mmopane/Metsimotlhabe, Ms Helen Manyeneng expressed concern over the rise of missing persons linked to ritual killings in the country. She argued that allowing the families to engage traditional healers or spiritual leaders where they so wished could be an effective strategy for locating missing persons.

As such, she underscored the need for government to take urgent action to develop a framework or mechanisms that granted families what to do while working jointly with the police, adding that the spiritual and traditional leaders could help with lead and guidance while the police did the investigative part.

"Incidents of missing persons have created fear among the communities and yet we have registered traditional healers who can be resourceful in the search of those missing without interfering in police investigations," she added, citing that in other countries, the police did work with spiritual leaders or psychics to find missing people.

Ms Manyeneng acknowledged that police relied on evidence but argued that traditional healers could also be helpful to them by providing any resourceful information. By introducing proper processes, she stated that could also help curb mob justice, citing an incident at Takatokwane where a primary school boy had been missing for some months.

In support of the motion, Gaborone South MP and also Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Nelson Ramaotwana noted that police officers were investigators and such traditional healers or spiritual leaders could work with the police as informers.

He argued that there was power in spiritual world and also alluded that putting in place frame works and systems would be ideal to allow families to engage people whom they felt could assist in the search.

MP for Boteti West, Mr Sam Digwa also supported the motion, noting that his area was prone to cases of missing people.

Culturally, he said traditional doctors and spiritual healers, as part of the society, were engaged to assist in the search alongside the police, but knowing that the police had laws that guided their working operations. Specially Elected MP and also the Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Mr Moeti Mohwasa stated that the issue of missing people was worrisome, but reaffirmed that police were committed to investigating all missing person cases, adding that they were always alert to advice and support families.

He also stated that Botswana Police Service had established a dedicated Missing Persons Unit

to strengthen investigations and handling of cases.

Mr Mohwasa also noted that the proposed processes should be aligned to the United Nations protocols to ensure they uphold human rights and operated within the global standards of accountability and transparency.

MP for Okavango West, Mr Kenny Kapinga argued that the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act did not recognise the formal engagement of spiritual and traditional healers, explaining that the police relied on tangible evidence. Such people, he said could complicate the work of the police and wished they could be not engaged. Mr Kapinga said instead of engaging them, the relevant minister must revise missing persons' protocol and ensure adequate resources were

mobilised within a short period of time following the report of a missing person.

He also advocated that police should be transparent in the way they handled missing persons reports, noting that they should keep on updating the affected families.

MP for Okavango East, Mr Gabatsholwe Disho also backed the motion, noting that cases of missing persons were often higher in rural areas and often families turned to spiritual and traditional channels to complement official search efforts.

He also wished the processes could also allow families to even go beyond the borders to engage traditional healers or spiritual leaders of their choice to help in tracing their beloved missing persons. **BOPA**



Recognising the need for long-term improvements, the Ministry of Health has developed a two-phased refurbishment programme to address infrastructure and maintenance challenges at Sbrana Psychiatric Hospital.

## Efforts underway to improve Sbrana hospital

GABORONE

The Ministry of Health is aware that the Sbrana Psychiatric Hospital faces a number of infrastructure and maintenance challenges, which include aspects of original building design.

The minister, Dr Stephen Modise told Parliament that the challenges made patient observation more difficult.

To strengthen patient safety, he said CCTV surveillance had already been installed in one in-patient ward, while expansion of CCTV coverage was targeted to the remaining wards to improve patient monitoring and enhance security.

He said recognising the need for long-term improvements, the ministry developed a comprehensive two-phased

refurbishment programme in 2024, adding that the refurbishment of the acute ward had been completed and handed over in December 2024 as Phase I of the refurbishment programme.

Dr Modise said the improvements included introduction of the vandal proof ceiling in the wards to improve their durability and ability to stand in vandalism attempts, given the patients accommodated by the hospital.

He further highlighted that preparations of Phase II were underway, noting that the ministry was collaborating with Botswana Defence Force (BDF) and the University of Botswana (UB) to undertake a comprehensive assessment of all health facilities in the country.

The minister said the assessment encompassed referral hospitals, district and primary levels, adding

that it focused on facility condition audits, structural and utilities assessment and spatial analysis to inform future expansion as well as modernisation initiatives.

"Sbrana Psychiatric Hospital as one of the major facilities is covered by this exercise. The ministry also recognises that quality patient care depends on the well-being of the health care workers," he noted.

He said the hospital had an active staff welfare committee that implemented staff wellness activities throughout the year.

The minister also told Parliament that the hospital operated a staff clinic five days a week to improve timely access to healthcare services for employees and quarterly staff welfare and general staff meetings provided structured opportunities for engagement between management and staff on workplace issues and staff well-

being.

In addition, Dr Modise stated that a fully equipped staff gymnasium was available to promote physical wellness while partnership with relevant stakeholders enabled the provision of financial management education and other staff development initiatives.

The ministry, he said remained fully committed to ensuring that Sbrana hospital provided a safe, secure and therapeutic environment for patient while maintaining a healthy and supportive workplace for staff.

He was responding to a question by Lobatse legislator, Mr Jamal Jacobs, who had asked if the minister was aware of the state and situation at Sbrana hospital, particularly in terms of the health risk, patient well-being as well as the state of the facility and the wellbeing of employees. **BOPA**



# First Ladies of Botswana: A Legacy of Service

Since independence, Botswana's First Ladies have used their public positions to champion causes close to the hearts of communities. Their initiatives spanned humanitarian service, education, environmental awareness, women's empowerment, the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) and the welfare of children. From Lady Ruth Khama's association with the Red Cross movement and Lady Olebile Masire's work for children and education, to First Lady Barbara Mogae's environmental campaigns, First Lady Neo Masisi's advocacy against GBV and First Lady Kaone Boko's focus on child welfare, each First Lady has contributed to Botswana's social development in her own way. Their initiatives helped give greater visibility to causes that required collective action, compassion and community participation.



Lady Ruth Khama addressing Red Cross trainees at the Denmark Rural Centre in Gaborone in 1971. Her life was marked by service to vulnerable communities, including support for the Red Cross, Botswana Council of Women and SOS Children's Villages.



Lady Olebile Masire launching the "Ngwana O Ruta Ngwana" initiative in Hukuntsi in 1983. A teacher by profession and Botswana's longest-serving First Lady, she devoted much of her life to the welfare and development of children, young people and disadvantaged communities.



First Lady Barbara Mogae joining Tonota residents in a community clean-up campaign in 2001. During her tenure, she became closely associated with environmental awareness and community cleanliness, working with organisations involved in environmental conservation and clean-up campaigns.



First Lady Neo Masisi taking part in an initiative aimed at combating gender-based violence (GBV) during her tenure. She made women and girls empowerment as well as the fight against GBV key areas of her advocacy.



First Lady Kaone Boko interacting with children during the commemoration of International Day of Play in Gaborone in 2026. Through Mpepu programme, she has placed child welfare and protection among key priorities of her advocacy. The initiative addresses maternal and infant care, nutrition, child protection and safety, while also incorporating efforts to combat GBV and promote positive masculinity and femininity.



# 'Protect children against abuse'

Kelebogile Taolo  
TONOTA

Communities have been urged to take collective responsibility to ensure safe families and protect children from abuse and domestic violence.

Speaking at the Child Protection Week commemoration in Tonota recently, principal community development Officer, Ms Keitumetse Kgosimoloi said child protection was not the responsibility of government alone. "Every child has the right to grow up in a safe, loving, caring and supportive environment.

The protection of children is not the responsibility of government or any single organisation. It is a shared responsibility that requires the commitment of parents, families, communities, schools, traditional leaders, law enforcement agencies, service providers, civil society organisations and every citizen," she said.

She said domestic violence remained a serious concern as its impact extended beyond immediate victims. She noted that children who witnessed violence in their homes may experience fear, emotional distress and difficulties in their social and emotional development.

"We must therefore reject the notion that domestic violence is simply a private family matter. Violence has no place in our homes, our families or our communities," she said.

Ms Kgosimoloi called on parents and caregivers to create homes where children feel safe, valued and confident to speak openly.

"Let us listen to our children, take their concerns seriously and respond appropriately whenever they report situations that make them feel uncomfortable, threatened or unsafe," she said. Addressing community leaders and stakeholders, Ms Kgosimoloi urged them to strengthen referral systems and coordination among service providers.

"We must strengthen our referral systems, community awareness programmes and coordination among service providers so that no child is left without protection," she said. To children and young people, she said, "Your voice matters. You have the right to be protected, respected and heard. If you experience or witness something that makes you feel unsafe, please speak to a

trusted adult and seek help. Remember that abuse is never your fault." Ms Kgosimoloi emphasised that Child Protection Week should serve as a renewed commitment, and commended SOS children's villages for organising the event and for their continued commitment to the protection and wellbeing of children and families.

Kgosi Lesitamang Molebedi of Seroto Ward in Tonota expressed gratitude for the event, describing it as important in addressing issues affecting children. He raised concern over the rising cases of child neglect in the village, noting that in most cases children were left alone while parents engaged in other activities.

He further indicated that some cases involved children being left in the care of other children.

"You will find that a child who is in junior school is left with his or her younger siblings while the parents are away. This puts children in great danger as they may be exposed to abuse and other harmful acts such as rape," he said. Kgosi Molebedi also cautioned against leaving children in the care of elderly grandparents, saying they struggled with schoolwork, as grandparents may not be able to assist. He further cited issues of poor hygiene among children left without adequate parental care. Therefore, he appealed to parents and guardians to care for children, protect them and put their best interests at heart.

"When children are raised well they tend to become responsible citizens in future. But when they are not taken care of they may turn out to be a problem to society," he said. SOS Children's Villages Botswana Project Manager, Mr Nkgopolang Dikwena emphasised the need for children to be raised in a healthy and conducive environment.

He said children well taken care of and protected would have a better future, whereas those neglected may resort to criminal activities.

Although SOS strives to do its best, Mr Dikwena said it faced challenges, including reliance on donations to care for the children.

Despite these challenges, he said SOS continued to raise responsible citizens, citing former beneficiaries who become professionals such as lawyers, magistrates, teachers and nurses. **BOPA**



Kanye District Council has submitted a special waiver request to the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, seeking temporary permission to resume limited use of donkey carts for transporting learners, while looking for funds for desired mode of transportation.

## Council requests waiver to use donkey carts

Marvin Motlhabane  
KANYE

Kanye District Council (KyDC) has submitted a special waiver request to the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, seeking temporary permission to resume limited use of donkey carts for transporting learners, while looking for funds for desired mode of transportation.

The application, filed in July 2026, comes after months without organised transport for pupils in hard to reach parts of the district.

The gap has contributed to learner fatigue, late arrivals, increased absenteeism and potential risks associated with long daily walks.

In an interview recently, KyDC Chief Education Secretary, Mr Tebogo Rapalai said meeting the government's target of dignified transport across the district would cost approximately P7.7 million to procure 11 new 4x4 double-cab vehicles suitable for all terrains.

He said six primary schools, namely Molapowabojang, Phutisutlha, Diabo, Dipotsana, Mosamowakwena and Lotlhakane had previously relied on the donkey carts to serve about 157 pupils.

Therefore, Council was awaiting feedback from the ministry on whether the waiver would be granted.

The current situation emanated from an announcement made by the Ministry in February 2026, to end the use of donkey carts for school transport.

He emphasised that the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Mr Ketlhalefile Motshegwa previously informed Parliament that the carts were unsuitable because they exposed learners to safety risks, including road accidents and harsh weather conditions, citing that the minister had directed local authorities to put in place alternative arrangements that meet acceptable safety standards, specifically roadworthy and properly covered vehicles.

Mr Rapalai said the halt affected the programme that operated in five districts

of Kweneng, Kgalagadi, the former Central, Southern and North East since its launch in the 2015/16 financial year.

He added that government framed the move to discontinue the use of donkey carts around children's rights, dignity, welfare and reliability, requiring councils to replace animal-drawn carts with modern logistics that protected learners rather than leave them vulnerable. Mr Rapalai noted that the original programme was introduced to address a practical gap in remote areas where roads were difficult for small vehicles and commercial taxi services were unavailable for distances beyond five kilometers.

The said Carts were built to specified standards that included carrying capacity of 10-15 learners with mounted seats, side rails, a step ladder and a roof. Each specific designed four-wheeled donkey cart costs roughly P25,000. Although the service fell short of the dignity standard now prioritised by government, he reiterated that it helped reduce daily fatigue for children who would otherwise walk long distances, adding that no serious incidents were recorded while it operated.

The programme also provided modest local employment. In Kanye alone, eight operators were engaged, each earning around P1,500 per month.

After the February halt, the KyDC management and the education committee consulted parents and teachers in the affected communities. Mr Rapalai said parents acknowledged that the administration's decision rested on the fundamental rights of learners and accepted that responsibility for ensuring children reach school ultimately rests with families as well as the government.

The consultations also helped in clarifying what "dignified transport" meant in practice.

While KyDC seeks temporary relief through the waiver, the broader national effort remain focused on moving every learner onto safer, covered and roadworthy transport that reflected the current government's commitment to children's rights and well-being. **BOPA**



Tonota District principal community development officer, Ms Keitumetse Kgosimoloi (left) addressing children and stakeholders at the Child Protection commemoration in Tonota on Thursday. Ms Kgosimoloi said child protection was not the responsibility of government alone, adding every child has the right to grow up in a safe, loving, caring and supportive environment. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata





Kgosi Kgari Sechele III (left) and Absa head of marketing and corporate affairs, Dennis Mambure, during the official launch of the Dithubaruba Absa sponsorship in Gaborone on Friday. Kgosi Kgari III thanked the bank for the sponsorship, saying it would help secure the festival during financial challenges and strengthen its future. Photo: Washa Bofelwang

# Absa pledges P2.5m to power Dithubaruba Cultural show

Ndingililo Gaoswediwe  
**GABORONE**

Absa Bank Botswana has committed P2.5 million towards the Dithubaruba cultural show over the next three years, in a partnership aimed at strengthening cultural heritage and community development.

Speaking at the sponsorship launch in Gaborone recently, Absa head of marketing and corporate affairs, Dennis Mambure said the bank would provide P500 000 annually in direct sponsorship, alongside additional investment in activities and community initiatives. Mambure said the partnership would use the cultural platform to create opportunities for financial inclusion and economic empowerment, particularly among entrepreneurs and underserved communities.

He highlighted initiatives including the Women in Business workshop series, MobiTap and the SHE Account as avenues through which Absa would support participants with financial tools and business opportunities. Kgosi Kgari Sechele III said Dithubaruba was more than a cultural celebration, describing it as a socio-economic catalyst for the community. Celebrated under the theme: Unlocking Heritage, Transforming our Integrity, he said the festival supported artisans, created opportunities for young people and stimulated local businesses in hospitality, retail and transport. He welcomed Absa’s support, saying it would help secure the festival during financial challenges and strengthen its future. Kgosi Kgari III also announced the Pitso ya Borre Road Safety event, billed for September 4, a day prior to the Dithubaruba festival and organised with the MVA Fund to promote responsible road use, responsibility and leadership among men and boys. He called for unity, integrity,

resilience and collective commitment to preserving Botswana’s heritage and improving

The Saturday Ballads collective DJs gave the audience an uplifting show perfect for summer at Avani Gaborone Casino and Resort gardens on Saturday. With consistent impressive audience, the gathering provided a relaxed outdoor atmosphere with camp chairs, scenic view, friendly mature energy and a fun dress code of denim and white. The diverse crowd responded to the various DJs’ sets with the same density, creating emotional connection through interlocking features, expressive vocal delivery, call and response interaction and harmonic richness of the soul ballads served

community wellbeing. The partnership is also expected to broaden participation in

cultural activities and strengthen community engagement and create sustainable opportunities. **BOPA**

## Saturday Ballads delivers uplifting summer vibes

Ketshepile More  
**GABORONE**

on the day. Dedicated to soul showmanship, the DJs authenticity shone through, with over-the-top gestures and hand motions that got the audience to drop their inhibitions and flood the dance floor. Holding it down to some sing along soul rhythm and blues were Resego Motlhokathari and Dj JazzyPete, with Dj JazzyPete spicing a little with some old funk genre. However, it was not long before Charles Matlou, Dj Kgantsho and Koki Molf reminded the crowd of a journey of soul sounds with some generation formative sounds of the 80s, leaving the stage with the audience baying for more of their soulful sets.

Interestingly, Koki Molf played afro soul in his set, something unusual for the soul ballads as the genre is often linked to European or American soul sounds. “We have our own soul music that speaks about love. We have those artists that really can make our ballads, so what I normally do is that from playing all the European songs, I will translate to Africans,” Koki Molf said in an interview following his set. Known for their slow tempo vibes, however Koki Molf also transitioned to a fast tempo in his set which the crowd embraced, reminiscing the yester years.





DJ Lawry-T (left) and DJ Obza brought Saturday Ballads to an energetic close, with the crowd singing along and creating a memorable, euphoric finale. Photo: Felicity Male

# Saturday Ballads delivers uplifting summer vibes

...from page 21

“As Africans, we are used to beat, we are used to dancing. That is why normally when I play, I will end up with an up-tempo to make people dance, and for us to have meaning with our own songs,” he said.

Koi Molf said the soul crowd in Botswana was ‘coming through and developing quite nicely. I am happy with it as compared to the first time I came here.’ He suggested inter-country events to further build on the sustainability of the music events and also to have it

blended.

Closing the show, was the duo of Dj Obza and Dj Lawry-T who are seen as pioneers of the soul genre particularly on radio; and Dj Obza continues to give his listeners a frantic programmed moment on radio.

The duo essentially continued the story of African soul ballads. The two effortlessly delivered a faultless, solid undeniable power set with every bit as impressive as soul’s finesse, ensuring the crowd sing every lyric of the song and ending the show on a euphoric high. **BOPA**

## Eisteddfod puts schools musical talent on spotlight

Lindi Morwaeng  
**MOGODITSHANE**

Mafitlhakgosi Primary School, Etsha 6 Junior Secondary School and Mater Spei College emerged overall winners in their respective categories at the 2026 Botswana Schools National Music Eisteddfod held at the Sir Seretse Khama Barracks (SSKB) Auditorium on Saturday.

Mafitlhakgosi took first place in the primary schools category, followed by Tshimoyapula in second and Rasesa in third.

In the junior secondary schools

category, Etsha 6 emerged overall winner, with Tlokeng taking second place and Rutwang finishing third.

Mater Spei College claimed the top position in the senior secondary schools category, followed by St Joseph’s College in second place and Gaborone Senior Secondary School in third.

The competition marked the revival of national school music competitions, bringing together learners from across the country to showcase their musical abilities and creativity.

Speaking at the event, Acting

Minister of Child Welfare and Basic Education, Justin Hunyepa said the revival of school music competitions should be viewed as more than a platform for entertainment, arguing that music has the potential to become an important contributor to Botswana’s creative economy.

He said the music industry extended well beyond performers, creating opportunities for composers, conductors, accompanists, sound technicians, photographers, videographers, graphic designers, event organisers, advertisers and promoters.

Mr Hunyepa challenged music teachers to work with colleagues in design and technology, business and information and communication technology to expose learners to the business and technological opportunities within the music industry.

He said schools should encourage learners to begin thinking about entrepreneurship while still in school, including establishing community choirs and entertainment groups, organising concerts and festivals and performing at weddings, cultural events, conferences and national celebrations.

Mr Hunyepa further challenged Botswana to look beyond national competitions and consider hosting regional and international school music festivals, particularly within the Southern African Development Community.

“Why should Botswana not become a destination for a SADC schools choral music festival?” he asked, noting that Botswana could also provide opportunities for its learners to perform across the region and beyond.

He urged learners to see themselves not only as competitors but as future creators, entrepreneurs and employers.

Mr Hunyepa also emphasised the broader role of music in society, saying it can heal, comfort and bring people together while strengthening communities and cultural identity.

He said the competitions should help restore quality singing in schools and communities by developing learners’ harmony, rhythm, voice control and confidence, while also promoting respect for national songs.

Mr Hunyepa challenged teachers and conductors to deliberately develop learners who can

eventually take over responsibilities such as conducting, composing, accompanying and managing choirs.

Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General Pius Mokgware said music has the ability to educate, inform and enrich people while building relationships, communities and nations. He called for greater recognition of local songwriters and producers, urging organisers to ensure that participants, particularly teachers who invest their time and expertise in preparing learners, were recognised and rewarded.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education, Ms Mamiki Kamanakao said the performances have demonstrated that Botswana was rich in talent and creativity, with considerable potential still to be developed. Ms Kamanakao said the arts and sport must remain an important part of education as the country moves toward a STEAM-driven curriculum.

She said music and sport teach discipline and teamwork while also developing creativity, confidence and self-expression.

Ms Kamanakao thanked participating schools, learners, teachers, school heads, parents, host schools, cooks, sponsors and other partners for contributing to the success of the national event.

She said the support provided by the private sector was more than sponsorship as it represented an investment in the future of the country.

The 2026 Botswana Schools National Music Eisteddfod is part of efforts to strengthen music education and create platforms through which young people can develop their talents, leadership abilities and potential careers within the creative industry. **BOPA**

## Thomas remains in contention despite head-to-head loss

Ndingililo Gaoswediwe  
**GABORONE**

Miss World Botswana Ruth Thomas took to the stage yesterday for the second round of the Head-to-Head Challenge in Vietnam, but did not secure a place in the next stage, with South Africa emerging as the continental winner.

Among 111 contestants, Thomas has already made progress in two major challenge events, advancing to the Top 60 of the Top Model Challenge and the Top 24 of the Sports Challenge.

Her latest appearance in the Head-to-Head Challenge provided another platform to showcase her communication skills, confidence and advocacy, although she was not victorious.

The Head-to-Head Challenge is one of the competition’s major fast-track events, alongside Beauty

with a Purpose, Multimedia and Top Model. Under the Miss World format, winning the Head-to-Head Challenge guarantees a contestant a place in the Top 20.

Thomas is also counting on public support through the People’s Choice competition. On Monday morning, she was in fourth position among African contestants.

Voting is increasingly important as the first round approaches its September 4 deadline, with continental People’s Choice winners securing places in the Top 40.

The People’s Choice competition therefore offers Thomas another potential route into the later stages of the pageant. First-round voting closes at 10pm Vietnam time on September 4, giving supporters 11 days to rally behind her.

Under the Miss World format, the Top 40 will comprise continental

People’s Choice winners, fast-track qualifiers and contestants selected by the judges. The field will then be reduced to the Top 20, Top 12 and eventually the Top 6, before the winner is crowned.

Thomas’ progress so far places her firmly in contention as the competition enters its crucial stages.

Her Top 60 qualification in the Top Model Challenge keeps her in the running in that event, while her Sports Challenge performance has already secured her a place among the Top 24 contestants.

Winning the African People’s Choice title would be particularly significant for Thomas, as it would guarantee her a place in the Top 40. Victory in the overall People’s Choice competition would bring an even greater reward, providing a direct route to the Top 6 under the new format. **BOPA**



# Dikgang wins Kofukan tourney

Thamani Shabani  
FRANCISTOWN

The hall at Donga BDF erupted on Saturday afternoon. Fists flew, feet snapped and the crowd was on its feet as Serati Dikgang of Eagle Claw Karate Club from Selebi Phikwe dethroned the hosts to become Botswana Kofukan champion.

Dikgang beat Thabang Thabiwa of Kagiso Karate Club 4-2 in a bruising senior men’s final that left Thabiwa gasping for air and the Selebi Phikwe contingent chanting his name. From the first bell it was clear Dikgang had come to take, not to ask. He stalked Thabiwa across the mat, trading crisp punches and forcing the Kagiso fighter onto the back foot. By the final minute Thabiwa looked exhausted, but Dikgang never let up. “I have lost many titles before,” Dikgang said, clutching his gold medal and trophy. “Today I said this one is mine.”

The road to the final was no walkover. Dikgang had earlier dismantled Thapelo Jophias of Police Karate Club from Gaborone 3-0 in the semi-finals.

Thabiwa earned his spot with a gritty 2-0 win over club mate Emmanuel Mosate, who was later named Best Male Karateka of the tournament. Many expected Mosate to be in the final, but on the day the ‘Gods of karate’ chose otherwise. Thabiwa took defeat like a warrior.

“Dikgang deserved it. He was too difficult to break,” he said.

Then he pointed a finger across the mat. “Today was not mine. Next time, I will teach you a lesson.” With the win, Dikgang puts himself in strong contention



Botswana Kofukan Open senior women champion, Katlego Mosweunyane (left), of Kagiso Karate club, against club mate, Katlego Dibule during the finals in Francistown on Saturday. Mosweunyana also emerged the individual kata champion. Photo: Ogopoleng Kgomoethata

for qualification to the international championships scheduled for March next year in France.

“The sky is not the limit. I am going for more,” he said.

If Selebi Phikwe took the men’s crown, Francistown answered back through the women.

Katlego Mosweunyane of Kagiso Karate Club gave the home crowd something to cheer about, beating fellow Kagiso fighter Katlego Dibule 2-0 to win the female championship. It was a masterclass. Mosweunyane danced in, kicked high, and followed with a volley of punches that kept Dibule defending. Earlier she had survived a tough semi-final against another club mate, Marang Magola.

“It was not easy. We train together every day so I knew where to hit,” said Mosweunyane.

Ironically, Dibule still left with

individual honours after being named Best Female Karateka of the tournament. She took silver, Mosweunyane gold.

Proud father Mosinki Mosweunyane watched from the stands. “She balances school and training very well. With support, she will be a star on the international stage,” he said.

Mosweunyane’s depth showed. The club was crowned Best Overall Team, walking away with the bulk of medals and a trophy.

The senior men also produced another thriller when Mosate met Kabo “Mozambia” Modisenyane, also of Kagiso. For three minutes, they went toe-to-toe, spectators shouting for more. Mosate edged it 5-2. In the Under-16 girls, Lala Othusitse of Tlhabologang Junior Secondary School from Borolong village caused an upset.

Her bout against Tsaone Teso of Kagiso ended 2-2, but the judges raised Othusitse’s hand.

“I’m over the moon. I want to work hard and qualify for France in March. I want to see the world,” she said. Tournament Director and Botswana Kofukan Federation technical member, Sensei Webster Mosinki, said the championships delivered exactly what was needed.

“This was one of our key preparatory events for the world tournament in March next year,” he said. The event was originally set for Gaborone but was moved to Francistown at the last minute.

He warned that the road ahead will need support. “We will have another selection tournament next year. But sponsors are thin.

We are appealing to parents and the business community to help our athletes get to France,” he said.

As the drums fell silent at Donga BDF, one message was clear, Botswana’s karatekas are sharpening their weapons.

And in March, they intend to take them to the world. **BOPA**

## Olympic icons step in to save grassroots athletics

Anastacia Sibanda  
GABORONE

With school sports suspended and Botswana’s traditional talent pipeline disrupted, two of the country’s celebrated athletics icons are taking on an unexpected role to help to rebuild grassroots sport from the ground up.

Olympic stars, Nijel Amos and Amantle Montsho, are among a growing number of former elite athletes turning their experience and influence towards developing the next generation by establishing private athletics initiatives to keep young talent training, competing and dreaming.

The ongoing suspension of school sports has dealt a severe blow to talent development across the country. At the forefront of this movement is the Tatamilawoloto Academy, a track and field project spearheaded by Botswana’s athletics icons, Amos and Montsho.

For Amos, the transition from world-class athlete to coach has been driven by a desire to give back to the country that supported him throughout his career. After retiring from professional athletics, he turned his attention to mentorship, recognising a growing gap in opportunities for young athletes to train and compete.

There is little doubt that private initiatives are increasingly carrying the weight of grassroots athletics development and the rapid growth of the academy’s competitive platform, the United Youth Athletics League, is evidence of the demand.

When the league debuted

in April, it attracted about 180 athletes. By Saturday, participation had grown to around 500 competitors.

“That alone shows there is growth and the need for young athletes to compete. The academy is a long-term project,” says Amos. The initiative extends beyond regular training. Through the United Youth Athletics League, Amos has created a competitive platform designed to give young athletes opportunities to test themselves, with registration open to academies from across the world. He observes that while new athletics academies are emerging across the region, many lack an important component: meaningful competition.

After training, athletes need opportunities to test their progress against others and that is where the league fits in.

The league caters for young athletes aged nine to 18, providing an inclusive platform that reaches beyond the limitations of traditional school sports.

He says school sports traditionally cater mainly for athletes enrolled in government schools, leaving out children attending private institutions or those who are temporarily outside the formal education system.

“With our league, whether a child is out of school or attends a private institution, they are welcomed,” he adds.

By opening access to competition and creating alternative pathways for young athletes, Tatamilawoloto is demonstrating how Botswana’s athletics community can mobilise its own resources and expertise to keep the country’s talent pipeline alive. **BOPA**



Collen Kebinatshipi



Letsile Tebogo

## Kebinatshipi and Tebogo lead charge to ultimate championship

Anastacia Sibanda  
GABORONE

With the inaugural World Athletics Ultimate Championship fast approaching, elite sprinters are hitting top gear at just the right time, fuelled by Collen Kebinatshipi’s blazing 43.59-second performance in Silesia, Poland and Letsile Tebogo’s dominant bend-running display in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Whenever Kebinatshipi steps onto the athletics track, records seem to shatter. It comes as no surprise that athletics pundits are now eagerly waiting for him to lower the World Record. Returning to action after a six-week competitive break, the 400m runner made a resounding statement at the Silesia Diamond League meeting in Poland, clocking a Meeting Record of 43.59 seconds.

Although Kebinatshipi downplays the mounting World Record conversations, experts strongly believe he might stage an assault on the historic mark at the inaugural World Athletics Ultimate Championship scheduled to take place in Budapest, Hungary, from September 11-13.

In the same Silesia race, his compatriot Bayapo Ndori, who

has been side-lined by an injury, finished eighth after crossing the finish line in 45.18 seconds as he continues his journey back to peak fitness.

Meanwhile, at the Lausanne Diamond League meeting in Switzerland, sprinting sensation, Tebogo stepped onto the track to sample the tactical adjustments he has been finetuning with his coach.

He cruised to victory in the 200m race with a time of 19.87 seconds, a performance that has sent a clear message to his competitors that he has fully mastered running the bend.

In the middle-distance category, Oratile Nowe finished ninth in the women’s 800-metre event, clocking a commendable time of 2:00.89.

The momentum extended all the way to Asia, where the national flag was hoisted equally high at the World Athletics Continental Tour Silver meet in Bhubaneswar, India after up and coming 400m runner, Justice Oratile stormed to victory with a time of 45.35 seconds on Saturday.

Oratile displayed immense composure to hold off South Africa’s Leendert Koekemoer, who finished second in 45.40 seconds. **BOPA**



Olympic stars, Nijel Amos and Amantle Montsho, are turning their experience and influence to develop the next generation, keeping young talent training, competing and dreaming. Photo: Courtesy of Tatamilawoloto Academy





# Local athletes impress US delegation

Esther Mmolai  
MAUN

A delegation from the United States (US) has expressed deep appreciation for the North West exceptional raw talent showcased by some youngsters in Maun.

The delegation had the opportunity to participate and observe in the Youth Talent Identification Festival, hosted by the Botswana Athletics Association (BAA) at Maun Sports Complex on Saturday.

The event, which attracted athletes from some schools and local coaches showcased the BAA's approach to identifying and developing young athletic talent, with US and Botswana coaches exchanging practices and working together to observe and assess young athletes aged 4-16 years.

After their observation, some members of the delegation believed the region was rich in sports talent and advised local coaches to transform that raw talent into elite performance.

They also warned against forcing kids into sports, saying passion should drive them to participate.

They believed that when kids follow their own hearts, they enjoy the game and stay active naturally.

Sharing his observation, head track coach, Chris Patterson

could not hide his excitement acknowledging that youngsters had showed a high potential and gave credit to local coaches.

"Seeing kids showcasing their natural athletics abilities is truly amazing.

I am happy with what the coaches are doing here because I do exactly that during my coaching sessions. I take off the kids' shoes and expose them to the track at an early stage," he stated emphasising the importance of skill acquisition, agility and fun over winning.

Patterson highlighted that youth sports built confidence and spark a lifelong love for physical activity.

One of the local coaches, Meleko 'Max' Ndolo appreciated the initiative by BAA and the US delegation, saying it has indeed motivated them to go an extra mile as coaches.

The suspension of school sports, he said, has severely affected the core pipeline for grassroots athlete scouting.

Currently, he said limited resources restricted them to visit other areas as far as Seronga where they could identify talent at an early stage and nurture it.

With the initiative in place, he said they could easily identify talent and develop it and eventually increase the number of elite athletes from the region.

The vibrant Maun based coach

Ndolo has been focused on grassroots sports development in the country since 2006 and continued guiding several athletes to success in continental and global competitions.

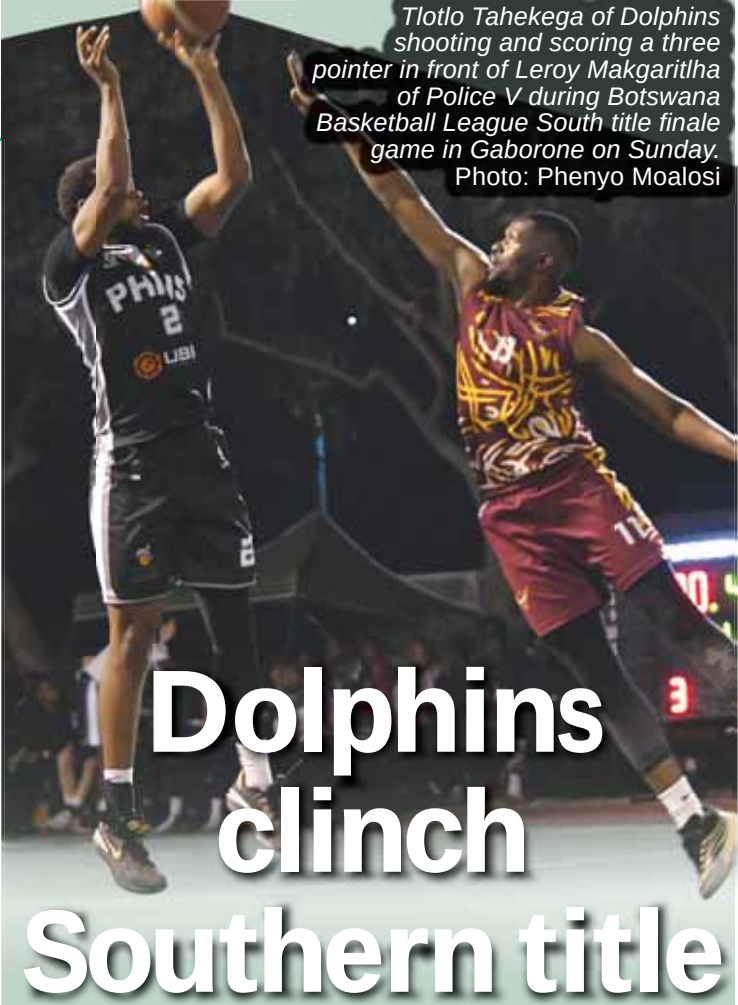
While he appreciated the great work by American track and field coaches in blending vigorous technical training and mentorship, he wished they could also take their partnership to another level and consider assisting them with resources to address challenges that frustrated their efforts to catch them young and eventually produce champions who could match the Americans in competitions.

However, according to BAA sports development manager (technical) Patrick Moesi, the sports diplomacy exchange provided an opportunity for the US delegation and Botswana athletics professionals to share expertise, build professional relationships and engage directly with young athletes and local communities.

The programme underscores the role of sport as a platform for people-to-people connections, youth development, professional exchange and stronger ties between the US and Botswana.

Through the programme, he said they would also see some local coaches visiting America to learn best practices as far as coaching athletics was concerned. **BOPA**

Some of the young athletes who attended the Youth Identification Festival, hosted by Botswana Athletics Association at Maun Sports Complex over the weekend. Photo: Esther Mmolai



Tlotlo Tahekega of Dolphins shooting and scoring a three pointer in front of Leroy Makgaritha of Police V during Botswana Basketball League South title finale game in Gaborone on Sunday. Photo: Phenyio Moalosi

Thato Mosinyi  
GABORONE

Dolphins concluded a flawless season as they clinched the Botswana Basketball League South title on Sunday evening with a dominant 99-61 scoreline against Police V at Ba Isago courts in the finals of the southern league top 4 championship games.

Top seeded Dolphins booked a place in the final after going past Jwaneng Diamond Bullets 103-64 in the semifinal. On the other hand, Police V, had a grueling battle against BDF V, securing a narrow win of 74-72 for a spot in the final match.

With both teams on the back of impressive semifinal victories, Dolphins were on paper hot favorites to triumph over their much experienced opponents and they went into the match oozing with confidence boosted by a dominant and unbeaten run during the season, averaging over 100 baskets a game.

Having defeated Police V twice in the regular seasons, Dolphins had a 100 percent win record going into the championship series and were out to complete what has been an incredible season by their standards.

The youthful Dolphins raced out of the blocks in the first

quarter leading the much experienced Police 11-0 in the first five minutes of the game before Police V time out call.

Dolphins Captain, Kesaobaka Ndwanyana and supporting cast of experienced national team player Thuto Gaborone and German national Adrian Breitlauch lead the offence from the first buzzer to give the Dolphins a 17 points lead before the first half interval.

In a game that was marred by turnovers on both sides, Police V struggled offensively, even further in the third quarter managing only 12 points to end the quarter trailing 68-43.

With tired legs and minds, things went haywire for Police with Dolphins reflecting well on the offensive side of the court.

Police were however their own worst enemy, hitting just 18 points from the field in the final quarter with Dolphins staging a spirited fourth quarter performance with five turnover possession play and a series of fast break layup baskets to put the game far beyond their opponent reach.

Championship victory guaranteed Dolphins a ticket for the national championship against the Northern league champions Maun Delta Spirit to be played later during the year. **BOPA**



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