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Digwa implorers Boteti to revive trusts

By Thandy Tebogo

KEDIA/MOKOBAXANE Residents of Mokobaxane and Kedia in Boteti have been implored to revive community trusts.

Addressing the leadership of the two villages on Monday, Boteti West MP, Mr Sam Digwa said trusts were established with the sole purpose of stimulating the village economy and creating employment opportunities as a move to alleviate poverty.

He said Khumaga Trust was presently the only functioning trust in Boteti area.

The legislator also expressed concern about veld fires in Boteti, noting that they destroyed natural resources.

He proposed that a grader should be secured through Community Constituency Projects Fund to assist in creating firebreaks..

Mr Digwa noted that it was important to conserve natural resources and protect flora and fauna.

In his comment Lenao La ga Kwalabe Trust, Vice Chairperson Mr Keleemetse Shimane pleaded with government to accord them access to Kalahari Game Reserve so that they could develop cultural

sites.

He said there was a lot of tourism opportunities within the park, hence the request.

Mr Shimane said Lenao La ga Kwalabe Trust sites were not easily accessible for day to day running as they were located far from the village centre.

He emphasised the importance of having a trust vehicle to facilitate their operations, noting that they had failed to establish a ranch as planned.

Mr Shimane said they had another plot in the village that was not electrified nor fenced but their intentions was to establish a link

that would connect all their sites.

Mokopi Trust Chairperson, Mr Unangoni Ngalang said their trust had received funding but did not get any output.

He said the trust’s restaurant construction was allocated a six months duration but had not been completed yet.

Lions at the trust, Mr Ngalang said were at risk because there

was no guard at the site, adding that copper and engine for the trust mini- bus were stolen.

He urged Mr Digwa to assist them to speed up completion of the project.

The Village Development Committee Chairperson Mr Bonyere Jane called for an audit of Mokopi Trust and Boteti Cultural Festival. **BOPA**

Tourism ministry consults communities on CBNRM bill

By Naomi Leepile

TSABONG - Community members in the Tsabong District have been urged to fully utilise the provisions of the newly proposed Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) Bill.

Speaking during the consultative meeting on CBNRM held in Tsabong on Tuesday, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, deputy permanent secretary, Ms Abigail Khumoyame, emphasised the importance of the bill in combating financial misconduct.

“It is vital because it would reduce corruption and mismanagement of trust funds,” stated Ms Khumoyame, adding that embracing the bill would ensure communities truly benefited from their trusts, promoting prosperity and economic development.

She said the comprehensive bill aimed to usher in a new era of sustainable resource utilisation and enhanced community beneficiation.

Ms Khumoyame explained that the bill had been in development since 2019, and it sought to address long-standing challenges within the CBNRM framework, such as poor governance, maladministration, misappropriation of resources, and a lack of accountability within Community Based Organisations (CBOs).

It also aims to rectify the absence of explicit legal standing for the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in managing agreements between the government and CBOs, and between CBOs and their partners, she said.

“The intended objectives of the CBNRM program was not achieved as desired,” Ms Khumoyame noted, underscoring the need for this new legislation. The legislation was designed to provide a much-needed legal framework for CBNRM,

define the rights of CBOs, establish support structures, and improve the overall management and security of these community entities.

For his part the acting principal natural resource officer, Mr Maika Maika said that the government’s long-standing support for CBNRM, which commenced in 1989 as a joint effort with USAID, was rooted in the belief that direct benefits to communities were essential for sustainable natural resource conservation.

He said that the approach had yielded significant economic returns, with controlled hunting alone generating P105 million since 2022. Furthermore, in 2022/23, CBOs employed over 7 000 people and generated more than P134 million from various activities, Mr Maika said and pointed out that once enacted, the bill would mandate the registration of all CBOs as well as establish a dedicated CBNRM department to oversee their activities and provide crucial capacity building.

“It would also create a national CBNRM board that would advise the minister and resolve disputes. Stricter regulations on CBO board member qualifications and financial management, including annual audits and a holding account with the district commissioner as a principal signatory, are also key components,” said Mr Maika.

The bill also outlines clear dispute resolution mechanisms and imposes severe penalties for offenses like embezzlement and fraud. The widespread consultations for the bill have involved various stakeholders, including Technical Advisory Committees, NGOs, development partners, and other government ministries.

Existing CBOs will have a 12-month period from the bill’s commencement, to register under the new act. **BOPA**



Acting Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Helen Manyeneng (left), Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs, Ms Lesego Chombo (centre) and Gaborone Mayor, Mr Oarabile Motlaleng during the interfaith prayer session to mark the end of the week-long prayer against gender-based violence (GBV) in Gaborone on Monday. Ms Chombo stressed that the fight against GBV demanded a coordinated, multi-sectoral strategy, urging collective investment from government, civil society, traditional authorities, individuals and the private sector. Photo: Phenyo Moalosi

GBV needs collective intervention - Chombo

By Lesedi Thatayamodimo

GABORONE - In a powerful show of unity, religious leaders from various faiths gathered over the past week to pray against the scourge of gender-based violence (GBV), emphasising the critical role of spiritual intervention in addressing what they described as a deeply rooted societal ill.

The interfaith prayer session, held at the Three Dikgosi Monument in Gaborone brought together representatives from Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and traditional African spiritual practices.

The event was organised as part of a national campaign to combat rising cases of GBV, which continue to plague communities across the country.

Addressing the gathering during the mark of the end of the week-long prayer, on Monday, minister of Youth and Gender Affairs, Ms Lesego Chombo, described GBV not only as a legal or social crisis but as a spiritual affliction tearing at the fabric of families and communities.

“Gender-based violence is a spiritual battle that must be fought with spiritual weapons, it is a manifestation of darkness, and we must call on the light of faith, unity, and compassion to drive it out, it has no place in our society,” Ms Chombo stated.

She stressed that the fight against GBV demands a coordinated, multi-sectoral strategy, urging collective investment from government, civil society, traditional authorities,

individuals and the private sector.

“We cannot tackle violence in isolation, a multi-sectoral investment approach is key to building a violence-free Botswana, we must direct resources towards the prevention of gender-based violence, and we must do so collectively,” she said.

Ms Chombo further highlighted the need to strengthen legal and judicial systems, noting that while policies existed, their enforcement often fell short due to limited coordination and resources.

“Our legal framework must be supported with proper enforcement mechanisms, it is not enough to have laws on paper, they must translate into real justice and protection for our people,” she added.

Minister Chombo concluded by reiterating the government’s commitment to creating a society where peace, equality, and dignity were the norm.

She encouraged all sectors to align their efforts with national development goals that prioritised safety, social justice, and human rights. Ms Chombo’s remarks struck a chord with the diverse audience, as religious leaders took turns leading prayers, chanting, and reading from their sacred texts, all calling for healing, transformation, and divine intervention.

In her keynote address, the Acting Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Helen Manyeneng commended the spirit of interfaith cooperation, describing it as a powerful force for national healing.

“This is not just about religion,

it is about coming together for the soul of our nation,” she said.

Ms Manyeneng emphasised the role of moral and spiritual education in shaping respectful communities and urged families to instill values of empathy and non-violence in children, especially boys.

“Violence against women and children is not only a crime, it is a sin in all our faiths, we must raise boys who understand that strength lies in kindness, not control,” she said.

Ms Manyeneng also thanked traditional leaders for playing a transformative role in shaping community values and behavior.

“Chiefs are custodians of our culture, we need them to help rebuild our communities with a moral compass that rejects violence in all its forms, let us revive the spirit of botho and unity, where every individual feels safe and valued,” she noted.

Ms Manyeneng stressed that rebuilding communities on a foundation of mutual respect, empathy, and accountability began with strong moral leadership.

Faith-based organisations pledged to enhance community outreach, counseling, and educational initiatives to help prevent abuse and promote respectful relationships.

During the solemn event, congregants lit candles in memory of GBV victims and in hopeful reflection for a future where every individual, regardless of gender, can live free from violence. **BOPA**



Ministry of Environment and Tourism, deputy permanent secretary, Ms Abigail Khumoyame emphasised the importance of Community Based Natural Resources Management Bill in combating financial misconduct. Photo: Naomi Leepile



Clerk of the National Assembly, Dr Gabriel Malebang (left), Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Dithapelo Keorapetse and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung resident representative, Mr Thilo Schone (right) during a courtesy call by the latter on Tuesday. Mr Keorapetse said they were open to receiving cooperation aimed at capacitating Members of Parliament on topics surrounding constitutional matters. Photo: Tshepo Gombo

Botswana readies for first ever Gaborone Democracy Lab

By Bakang Wren

GABORONE - Botswana will host the inaugural Gaborone Democracy Lab (GDL) from October 27 to 29, to position itself as a regional hub for democratic dialogue and innovation.

Organised by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), the landmark event will bring together political and civil society leaders from over 20 African nations, as well as Members of Parliament from Germany and Brussels.

This development was announced by FES resident representative, Mr Thilo Schone and his delegation during a courtesy call on the Speaker of the National Assembly, on Tuesday, the aim of which was to deepen cooperation between Botswana's Parliament and FES.

Mr Schone announced that Botswana now served as FES Africa's Democracy Hub, housing the Foundation's flagship programme.

"This is not about high-level ministers and presidents, but about the real drivers of change, the MPs, the community leaders, the activists," he said and explained that the term, lab, was chosen to reflect a space for experimentation, honest dialogue and collaborative learning.

Mr Schone also said that key areas of focus would include youth empowerment, gender

inclusion, and leadership development. Organisers highlighted a long-standing Youth Leadership Training Programme, which since 2016 has mentored young Botswana active in political parties, unions, and community initiatives. The nine-month programme blends coaching with expert mentorship, often engaging national and international facilitators.

Mr Schone also welcomed FES growing relationship with Botswana's Parliament, affirming the foundation's commitment to democratic development in the region.

He shared that FES, a German social democratic foundation founded in 1925, operated 104 offices globally 24 of which were in Sub-Saharan Africa and had worked with progressive Botswana actors since 1973.

Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Dithapelo Keorapetse for his part said the current 13th Parliament was unique, having emerged from a historic general election that ended 58 years of single-party rule.

He described this as an opportunity to drive meaningful reform, with Parliament now working towards becoming a modern, inclusive, and paperless institution.

"The Parliament must be transformed to fully execute its mandate," Mr Keorapetse said

noting that strategic partnerships like this were key in capacitating Parliament and facilitating the exchange of ideas.

He further emphasised the need to cut down on printing costs and shift towards digital systems, citing the high expense of producing daily order papers, government gazettes, and committee reports.

"We must go paperless, not only to save money but to function efficiently in a digital era," he said,

The speaker also envisioned a Parliament that was transformed to effectively fulfill its mandate to the full capacity.

He highlighted that Parliament major functions were to legislate, represent citizens, and provide oversight on the government actions as well as approving national budget.

Mr Keorapetse also explained that through its functions, parliament played a critical role in instilling and facilitating democratic principles in the country.

As a result, he said there was need for Members of Parliament to be fully capacitated to deliver the mandate of Parliament fully.

The Speaker pointed out that strategic partners and think tanks like FES were crucial in collaborating with Parliament, to capacitate and facilitate exchange of ideas for both MPs and staff of Parliament. **BOPA**

Botswana to prevail despite diamond market slump

By Thato Mosinyi

GABORONE - President Advocate Duma Boko has expressed confidence that Botswana will triumph amid the country's current economic outlook affected by the decline in diamonds sales.

Briefing the media following his recent international engagements in United States of America, Hungary and Angola, President Boko encouraged the nation to remain hopeful, stating that government was actively working to establish its position and assert its rightful place in the global affairs.

He said Botswana's participation at the Jewellers Circular Keystone (JCK) diamond show in America availed a perfect platform for the country to champion its diamond legacy and challenge laboratory grown diamonds alternatives.

The JCK show, the President said was an opportunity for Botswana to share its successful diamond story and reinforce market confidence on natural and ethically mined gem stones.

"Botswana is now well known at the global governing table for diamond trade and the world will once again show confidence in the value of natural diamonds and their positive impact on the livelihoods of the nation," he said.

President Boko highlighted that Botswana was alive to the fact that global diamond industry was navigating a period of profound transformation as demand pattern were shifting, driven by consumer value especially among the millennial market.

To that effect, he said government was thus betting on diamonds to make a big

recovery in late 2025, adding that key to the market rebound would be the newly introduced diamond traceability which would establish all above 1 carat diamond to their single country of origin listed on the digital block chain.

While also growing other industries like tourism, agriculture, manufacturing and energy, President Boko highlighted that digitalisation would also play a key role in the country's journey to economic stability.

He said in an endeavour to fully attain economic diversification and sustainable economic development, government made a commitment towards rolling out services digitally through investing in digitalisation and innovation.

"Our approach towards digital transformation has been to activate the entire country to achieve this common goal," said President Boko.

With regard to the Hungary official visit, he said despite nurturing the bilateral relations between the two countries, an agreement was reached between the International Judo Federation (IJF) and government for the establishment of a Judo training facility centre in Dukwi.

The two countries, President Boko said also agreed to collaborate on key areas such as agro-processing, education and tourism.

In addition, he applauded Botswana's participation at the just ended US -Africa Business summit in Angola, adding that he had a tête-à-tête with his Angolan counterpart during which Angola offered Botswana a 30 per cent stake at the Lobito oil and petroleum refinery in Angola. **BOPA**

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Published by: Department of Information Services.
Plot 37795 Wellie Seboni Drive.
Private Bag BR 139 Gaborone.

Printed by: Government Printing and Publishing Services

Online Edition: <https://dailynews.gov.bw>

email: bopa@gov.bw

email: dailynews@gov.bw

Circulation 20 000 per day except Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.



Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Mr Noah Salakae (left) Minister for State President, Mr Moeti Mohwasa (centre) and Kgosi Khama IV after a Ntlo Ya Dikgosi session in Gaborone on Monday. Minister of Justice and Correctional Service, Mr Nelson Ramaotwana confirmed that some prison facilities were overcrowded, with facilities such as Gaborone Central holding nearly triple their intended capacity. Photo: Gaseitsiwe Moruakgomo

Prisons overcrowding concern

By Gontle Merafhe

GABORONE - The national capacity of jails is 4 337 against the 4 220 currently incarcerated. This was revealed by Minister of Justice and Correctional Services, Mr Nelson Ramaotwana during Ntlo Ya Dikgosi meeting in Gaborone on Monday.

Currently, Minister Ramaotwana said some prisons were below carrying capacity while those in maximum prisons were to be kept in the same space without possibility of transfer.

He said the Gaborone Village Central prison with had a capacity of 112 but had 313 inmates; an excess of 201, while First Offenders had 319 when it was supposed to carry 170 inmates and Boys Prison had 129 inmates against its capacity of 120.

He also said Molepolole and Mochudi had less inmates below their carrying capacities whereas the Francistown Centre for Illegal Immigrants had 526 people, a figure above their carrying

capacity of 504.

“The centre is mostly used for holding illegal while waiting repatriation.”

He further said Mahalapye like Gaborone prisons had excess inmates as indicated in the daily unlock report that depicted the state of prisons.

He therefore said members of Ntlo Ya Dikgosi were welcome to visit prisons, to appreciate the state they were in. --

He said government was keen on promoting Human Rights, for people to live in habitable spaces and was hoping that once the economy improved, government would better the state of prisons as well.

Minister Ramaotwana explained that there was a rehabilitation programme across the prisons that included teachings in agriculture, carpentry and other character moulding programmes such as counselling, positive parenting and substance abuse prevention, which were facilitated by social workers.

He further said during random checks, inmates were found to be in possession of mobile phones that were sneaked into prison by relatives and the same were used to commit more crimes.

Kgosi Khama IV of Bagammangwato had asked the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services whether he was aware that a letter was written to him by the former permanent secretary to the president, Carter Morupisi about the conditions of Prisons while a similar report was given to Ntlo Ya Dikgosi by Commissioner of Prisons.

Kgosi Khama IV had also asked what steps were taken as a matter of urgency, to address the situation.

He also asked when a delegation of Ntlo Ya Dikgosi could engage on a fact finding mission to Prisons and what was being done with officers implicated in sneaking mobile phones and other undesired activities going on in prisons.

For his part, Kgosi Mbaoh Kahiko III of Ghanzi West region asked about the safety of inmates in the overcrowded Prison, considering that it potentially posed the risk of communicable diseases to the inmates. **BOPA**

Insufficient machinery leaves road works pending

By Relief Lephutshi

KANYE - Kanye District councillors have called for the establishment of a road maintenance master plan to cater for all roads that need to be attended to across the district.

The councillors were responding to the District Development Committee (DDC) Report on the maintenance of dry grading of roads across the district, which appears to have been suspended due to lack of machinery.

This transpired during the DDC report presentation update at the recent full council session. According to the report, maintenance of dry grading of roads across over five villages appears to be on suspense pending the break down of the only grader shared between the two districts of Moshupa and Kanye.

The affected villages are inclusive of Tshweneyagae - Gasegwagwa Road (50km) and Gasita-Lorolwane road (48km). Both roads need to be re-graveled.

The same applies to both

Molapowabojang-Lorwana road (14km) and Kanye-Ditojana road (one kilometre) which is also await grading.

Deliberating on the current road situations in the district, the councillors sought after ways to assist the situation as some proposed for sourcing the said machinery through tendering on the basis of rent to buy from prospective commercial service providers.

Councillor Tebogo Thebeyame of Lodubeng Ward said it would be of benefit to the council to acquire the machines after the tender is completed. On the same note, councillors proposed that sister departments be approached on the basis of borrowing to bring the roads to a better quality, which the past heavy downpours left in a bad state.

Councillor Neo Tumelo of Gasita had expressed concern that the Kanye-Ditojana road was a production road that was soon expected to be busy, especially as field harvest was ready to be transported from the farms.

On a different note, councillors

decried that the existing burrow pits, especially at Losabanyana be taken care of as they had become a hub for evil activities.

The burrow pits are also said to pose a risk of drowning children during rains. Responding to the councillors after the report, Mr Boniface Morapedi, chief technical officer at the Department of Roads Infrastructure Development and Maintenance said the Mankodi junction-Kanye roads project scope was inclusive of three major junctions starting from Ranaka-Kanye roundabout. Such junctions are Molapowaditau, Losabanyana and Sejelo traffic lights.

Concerning Gasita-Selokolela dry grading project extension, which was completed in May, Mr Morapedi said the savings from the extensions could not be used in any projects as there were no plans in place for such.

Therefore, he said decision to be taken pertaining to such savings remained with the department. He said Kanye-Ditojana road was now under central government

and was to be scheduled once the grader became available.

He said Selokolela internal road was fog sprayed to fill-in cracks on the tarmac, explaining that the road would, therefore, not be asphalt overlaid.

Mr Morapedi said Kanye-Mmathethe asphalt overlay had been done around the cattle grid along that road. He continued to state that Gasegwagwa road would receive tyre-grading due to unavailability of the grader.

However, he said tyre-grading though an option, was not as effective as grader grading.

He further confirmed to the councillors that the only available grader, which was said to be at the garage for maintenance, had been repaired, expressing hope that road works would soon take off.

He said Molapowabojang-Lorwana road had been tyre-graded in the last quarter and was included in the grading scope of Digawana, Lorwana, Molapowabojang, Kgomokasitwa and Ntlhanthe village roads, which tender was awarded to Steal Base Contractor. **BOPA**



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“I think that the trouble we now face in the world is caused mainly by the refusal to try and see another man's point of view, to try and persuade by example - and the refusal to meet a rather passionate desire to impose your own will upon others, either by force or other means.”



CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF BOTSWANA'S FIRST PRESIDENT | DATE 01 JULY 2025

Borehole to end Xobe water woes

By Esther Mmolai

XOBE - Residents of Xobe 2 settlement in the North West district have been informed that their water woes will soon end as drilling and equipping of a borehole has been earmarked for this financial year under the Community Constituency Programme (CCP).

The Member of Parliament for Maun East constituency, Mr Goretse Kekgonegile told residents during a kgotla meeting that an agreement has been made with the council to undertake the said project.

Although, the council, he said, has not yet received the CCP funding, he assured residents that once the funding had been released, the project will

commence and urged them to identify a borehole with better yields and clean water.

In other areas, he said the boreholes were producing salty water citing the one at Dikgatlhong, which was also drilled through CCP.

He decried that residents have been experiencing a severe water shortage for years as Water Utilities Corporation was only providing potable water to gazetted villages hence they took a decision to address their water woes through CCP.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr Kekgonegile said the corporation supplied residents with water through bowising to improve water availability in line with the pandemic and the arrangement was later stopped.

He also informed residents that bringing infrastructure developments such as roads to their area is a challenge as it is an ungazetted settlement. He agreed that such developments were crucial for agricultural production.

He said that improved infrastructure could boost agricultural productivity and help alleviate poverty in agricultural communities.

Mr Kekgonegile also informed the gathering that currently, the country was experiencing a cash flow crisis due to a prolonged downturn in the diamond market, which was negatively impacting the economy.

As such, he said the government would not be able to implement some new development projects because of financial constraints and urged residents to exercise patience as the government was working on strategies to address the situation.

“This is a serious challenge as there will be no new projects this financial year and this requires all

to change mind-set and consider reviving the spirit of self-reliance to undertake minor projects for our benefit,” he said.

Presenting residents issues, Village Development Committee chairperson, Mr Etsogile Mokerenge said they have been experiencing a severe water crisis and many relied on buying water from Maun.

He also decried the delay in Ipelegeng payments saying workers have stayed three months without pay as well as the bad state of the road saying small vehicles could not use it because it was sandy.

The majority of residents, he said were serious farmers who relied on livestock rearing and cultivation of land but lacked of proper infrastructure is a challenge.

Mr Mokerenge also expressed concern about lack of maintenance of the VDC office saying the ceilings were failing.

He also stated that the offices were not fenced and that efforts were made by residents to

volunteer to cut mapako to fence but transporting them was a challenge.

On other issues, residents called on government to help secure small stock market complaining that the local butcheries were exploiting them as they determined prices for their livestock and ended up taking them at low prices.

They also requested government to consider paying donkey owners who use their animals for farming saying that could relieve tractor owners the burden of assisting many people. Some revealed that they failed to plough last season because they had to queue for one tractor until the ploughing season came to an end.

Ms Kedibetswe Leatamo urged government to consider paying what a farmer has lost through animal conflict at market price of the assets.

Ms Leatamo, who lost 85 goats through predators said they invested a lot in farming and compensation was low. **BOPA**

Council focuses on revenue collection, service delivery

Marvin Motlhabane

MOSHUPA - Moshupa District Councillors have expressed support for chairperson, Mr Peter Sethibe, regarding his ambitious roadmap for 2025-2027, aimed at enhancing service delivery and increasing the council's revenue base.

During a recent council meeting, Mr Sethibe emphasised the importance of effective decision-making, clear communication and strategic focus to achieve the council's objectives.

He stated that his plan would facilitate proactive planning and enable better evaluation of progress and its impact.

The primary focus of the roadmap is to enhance service delivery and customer service within the community.

“We can significantly improve service delivery by concentrating on citizen engagement, technology integration and strong partnerships,” Mr Sethibe said. He proposed involving residents in key decision-making processes and using technology to improve communication and service delivery.

To achieve these goals, Mr Sethibe outlined several key initiatives, including the use of bulk messaging services to engage with the community, the establishment of a Toll-Free number for inquiries, hosting round-table discussions with the local business community, and creating a leadership forum that includes essential stakeholders such as Dikgosi, Tribal Administration, the Land Board, the Office of the District Commissioner, Members of Parliament, and council leaders.

As part of the community engagement process, Mr Sethibe plans to hold bi-annual kgotla meetings across 18 villages, providing a platform for residents to discuss development issues and service delivery concerns collaboratively.

The second priority of the

roadmap is to augment the council's revenue through the implementation of digital payment platforms, making services more accessible.

Mr Sethibe highlighted plans to introduce user-friendly payment options such as USSD platforms like Orange Money or My Zaka, allowing customers to manage payments conveniently from their mobile devices.

During the bi-annual Kgotla meetings, Mr Sethibe will educate the community on the significance of paying for public services.

He also intends to identify and profile public assets to enhance revenue generation through outsourcing.

The council's third priority focuses on accelerating economic development by diversifying the local economy.

He aims to implement the Local Economic Development (LED) programmes and encourage investments in strategic initiatives, such as tourism development, highlighting local attractions like the Bikwe Hiking Trail, Ntlhantle/Mogonye Clusters Zip Line, and cultural festivals such as Hika la Ngwanyana and Dimawe.

Additionally, he suggested utilising local veldt products, such as Mosukujane from Polokwe village, for herbal tea production to stimulate community development.

He urged councillors to explore their respective villages and wards to identify natural resources that could be leveraged for the benefit of the community.

The priority entails building resilient communities capable of recovering from disasters or enduring persistent challenges.

To enhance community resilience, Mr Sethibe emphasised active engagement in health planning, developing social networks, and creating health-promoting opportunities to improve the overall well being of residents. **BOPA**



Jwaneng Mine project manager, Mr Letlhogonolo Ofithile (right) briefing the Jwaneng Mine general manager Mr Goitseone Gadifele and his delegation during a tour of the Magagarape Road construction project on Tuesday. The P74 million project is scheduled to be complete by end of August. Photo: Kehumile Moekejo

Magagarape road completion scheduled for August

By Kehumile Moekejo

JWANENG - The construction of the 40km Magagarape road, which runs from the Jwaneng Mine north gate to join the Letlhakeng/Morwamosu road, is expected to be complete by the end of August.

The P74 million project is one of the landmark community projects undertaken by Jwaneng Mine within their area of influence as an investment geared towards sustainable developments beyond the diamond mining era.

Speaking during the tour of the project on Tuesday, Jwaneng Mine General Manager Mr Goitseone Gadifele noted that once complete, the road would not only be an efficient link between Jwaneng and Maboane, but would also ease congestion from the Gaborone-Jwaneng-Kang road.

“The completion of this road means a lot of things because it is the one that links Jwaneng and Maboane and it will further decongest the road between Jwaneng and Gaborone as well as between Jwaneng and Kang because you can either use it to go to Molepolole or Kang. The road will also improve accessibility of cattleposts and other settlements this side,” he said. Additionally, he said that the road would be instrumental in accessing the water plant in Magagarape, which supplies the mine and Jwaneng township, among other areas in the vicinity. Mr Gadifele noted that Jwaneng Mine was committed to collaborating with other stakeholders such as the government to develop the communities within which they operate. He said they intended to invest in various sectors such

as health and sport to benefit the people in their surroundings even after the mine is closed.

However, he underscored the need for all stakeholders to play a role in ensuring that such projects were effective, and guard against vandalism.

Giving an overview of the project, Jwaneng Mine project manager, Mr Letlhogonolo Ofithile said even though the initial completion date was end of this month, it has since been revised due to some delays experienced.

He noted that double seal surfacing of the 35km of the road was scheduled to commence next week, while the remaining 5km was still undergoing layer works processing. He said that out of 169 people employed in the project, 77 were from areas constituting Jwaneng Mine's area of influence. **BOPA**



Ms Oganeditse Sicholi performing her daily duties of tending to grape vines.

Batswana value Pandamatenga farms work experience

By Portia Ikgopoleng

PANDAMATENGA - Many Batswana are tapping into opportunities presented by the Pandamatenga Commercial farmers through knowledge sharing.

The agronomy hub offers diverse skills, from farm operations, mechanical skills, crop management, machinery maintenance, crop lifecycles and fertilisation, harvesting techniques among others.

Eagle Ranch worker, Ms Oganeditse Sicholi told BOPA that she was a caretaker of grapevine, a skill that she learnt from being a general worker at a farm owned by Mr Hill van Schalkwyk, who mentored her on grapevine handling and planting.

Ms Sicholi indicated that with the skills acquired, she was now an expert of canopy management and ensured that birds did not

destroy the grapes.

She said she was also responsible for pruning, shoot thinning and overall handling of grapevines as they were a sensitive fruit.

Furthermore Ms Secholi said that her duties entailed feeding the grapevines the right amount of water and fertilizer.

Her daily routine involves walking in between the vine rows, to check for pests and weeds and exterminate them accordingly.

BUAN student attaché at Access Holdings farms, Mr Taziba Gabosekegwe said he was grateful for the opportunity accorded to him by the owners together with their workers, to mentor him and exchange knowledge in farming.

As a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Mechanisation student, he remarked that he had been at the commercial farm since beginning of June, and learnt different farm operations including machinery.

He pointed out that since his arrival, he was given an opportunity to operate a combined harvester and worked at the horticulture garden where he studied pesticides and fertilizers.

Moreover, Mr Gabosekegwe indicated that he was currently working with other farm workers to harvest sorghum and millet which they would later pack.

“This has been an amazing experience for me because here, things are done differently through the use of machinery to harvest, thrash then package the crops,” said Mr Gabosekegwe.

He said farming presented many opportunities to create wealth and promote economic growth hence encouraged the youth to explore it.

Mr Gabosekwe said that Batswana had potential to become commercial farmers because the foundation had already been laid by the forefathers. **BOPA**



Mr Taziba Gabosekegwe packaging sorghum as part of his attachment training programme at Access holdings farm. Photos: Portia Ikgopoleng

Bill to foster sustainable development

By Malebogo Lekula

GHANZI - Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) serves as a development approach that empowers local communities to manage and benefit from natural resources sustainably.

Therefore, government saw it fit to push for the introduction for the CBNRM Bill which would serve as a legislative framework for community based natural resources management.

Speaking during a consultative meeting held in Ghanzi on Monday, deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Ms Abigail Khumoyame decried the rampant mismanagement surrounding the locally-based Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) across the country hence they saw the need to legally protect them in order to empower and deliver on their intended community development goals.

She said the resultant Act would provide for the establishment of the CBNRM department that would be responsible for natural resources as well as facilitate and coordinate registration of CBOs.

Ms Khumoyame also said the department would ensure that the CBOs were operated and managed in a transparent, accountable, participatory and non-discriminatory manner.

Furthermore, she said every CBO would be required to be registered in accordance to the Act and that they would be open to the public for inspection except for confidential information.

Moreover, Ms Khumoyame mentioned that there would be refusal of registration by the relevant director if the application for registration did not comply with requirements of the Act such as in the event that the applicant would have given false information in any material particular to the application.

She added that a registered CBO may sue or be sued under its registered name.

When giving the objectives of the day, CBNRM officer Mr Maika Maika explained that CBNRM was launched in Botswana in 1989 as a joint effort between government and USAID under its natural resources' management project.

He said that the aim of the strategy was that communities must conserve their natural resources sustainably as well as draw direct benefits arising from their use.

He said the utilisation of natural resources by CBOs included but was not limited to controlled

fishing, controlled harvesting and processing of veld products and many more.

Mr Maika said there were 165 CBOs nation-wide which were classified under consumptive usage and non-consumptive usage.

He explained that the introduction of the CBNRM Bill was necessitated by poor governance, maladministration, misappropriation of community trust resources, lack of accountability, litigation and land issues.

He said the above-mentioned attributes hindered the communities from achieving the desired benefits of the strategy.

However, Mr Maika emphasised that the Bill would provide a legislative framework for CBNRM as it would enhance security, strengthen coordination, regulation and control.

Above all, he said it would improve beneficiation by communities while ensuring environment protection and conservation.

Meanwhile, the participants endorsed the bill but with mixed feeling as, Kgosi Johannes Magwase from East Hanahai said that they welcomed the proposed bill as it would serve as an imperative tool that would promote proper bookkeeping and ensure accountability of funds.

He also said it would strengthen the board members to ensure that they operated the CBOs by book.

Kgosi Mogwase however, decried that the bill should cater for the board members' salaries as they were only entitled to sitting allowances which he deemed to be too low to sustain an individual.

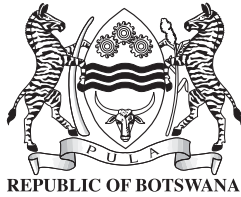
He said they end up abandoning the Trust's responsibilities and opt to seeking temporary employment at Ipelegeng.

He therefore, proposed for attractive incentives for board members so that they would be committed to the CBOs responsibilities.

Kgosi William Morris of Chobokwane also shared the same sentiments for the proposal of attractive incentives as he said it would reduce cases of fraud.

He added that political figures must not be involved in the CBOs to avoid incidents of political interference that he said might jeopardise chances of CBOs delivering on their mandate.

In his closing remarks, Councillor for Kcagae Mr Isang Saidoo also welcomed the Bill as it would allow the Trusts' members the opportunity to reshape and build the reputation of the CBOs. **BOPA**



TENDERING PROCEDURES T1.1 TENDER NOTICE and INVITATION TO TENDER

- **Kazungula Bridge Project Office**
- Tender Reference No. KBP/SP/O3/2024-LOT 1A
- Procurement Requirements are: Procurement of Services for Landscaping, Grounds Cleaning and Waste Management Services
- Sealed Tender offers are invited from 100% citizen owned companies for the provision of Services for Landscaping, Grounds Cleaning and Waste Management Services for Kazungula Bridge Project Office at the Kazungula One Stop Border Post-Botswana for a period of 12 Months
- The Procuring Entity is Kazungula Bridge Project Office
- Procurement Method is: Open Domestic Bidding
- Tenderers who are domiciled in Botswana must, in order to be considered for the award of the contract, be registered with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority in the following categories:
 - Code: 137 - Gardening and Landscaping Services.
 - Sub code(s): 01 – Gardening, Landscaping and Maintenance.
 - Code: 103 – Collection and Disposal of Hazardous Material
 - Sub code(s): 02 - Refuse collection and disposal services
- This tender is reserved for Citizen Service providers in line with Section 76 of the Public Procurement Act.
- Preference Margins will be applied to qualifying bidders in line with the following schemes:
- *Directive on the Economic Diversification Drive (EDD), Presidential Directive CAB 34 (B) 2014 will also be applied*
- *The Directive CAB 19(B) 2013: Local Procurement Scheme (LPS) shall apply in this tender and bidders shall complete the Local Procurement Registration Certificate Attached. The Bidders shall submit evidence for youth, women, disability, rural setting and employment.*
- The physical address for collection of tender documents is: Administrator Office, Kazungula Bridge project Office
- DRTS Plot, Along A33 Road, Kazungula, Botswana
- Documents may be collected during working hours between 08:00hrs – 12:30hrs and 14:00hrs - 17:00hrs

A non-refundable deposit of P500.00 payable by Bank deposit to the Account below and produce deposit proof upon collection of the tender documents in favor of the Kazungula Bridge Project Office. Proof of payment may be sent to records@kazungulabridgeproject.com and the soft copy of the ITT/ Bidding document will be availed by the Kazungula Bridge Project Office. Youth owned companies shall pay only P250.00 as per Presidential Directive CAB 14(B) 2015 In addition, youth companies shall provide certified copies of Omang for shareholders.

Account Details:

Account Name: Kazungula Bridge Project
Bank Name: Absa Bank of Botswana
Account No. 1071042
Branch Name: Maun
Branch Code: 291967
Swift Code: BARCBWGX
Account: Corporate Current Account
Currency: BOTSWANA PULA (BWP)

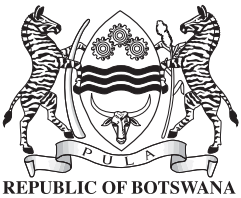
- Queries or clarifications relating to the issuance of these documents may be addressed in writing no later than 5 days before the tender closing date to Mr. Mothusi Ntseme and Eng. Lazarous Nyawali at Tel No. 6253029, e-mail: records@kazungulabridgeproject.com
 - A compulsory site visit and/ or pre tender meeting with representatives of the Procuring Entity will take place at Kazungula OSBP Botswana on 14th July 2025 starting at 09:00hrs.
 - No persons participating in the site visit shall be allowed to represent more than one tenderer. A site visit attendance register will be signed on site as evidence of site visit attendance. Any clarifications regarding the tender will be addressed onsite.
 - Any bidder who fails to attend the site visit shall be disqualified from further participation on the tender.
 - The closing date and time for receipt of sealed tender offers is 09:00 hours on 28th July 2025
 - Late tender offers will not be accepted.
- The Bid Submission Method is: One envelope Submission Method in which a single envelope or package method in which a bid is submitted in a one sealed envelope or package.
- One (1) original tender document marked ORIGINAL and 3 duplicate copies of the original
 - Document marked copy in one sealed envelope clearly marked
 - “Tender Reference No. KBP/SP/O3/2025-LOT 1A Procurement of Services for Landscaping, Grounds Cleaning and Waste Management Services for Kazungula Bridge Project Office at the Kazungula One Stop Border Post-Botswana” shall be delivered to Kazungula Bridge Project Office.
 - The name and address of the bidder should be clearly marked on the envelope.

The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority's Standardised Conditions of Tender for Services apply to this procurement, for which all the applicable Tender Data is contained in the tender documents.

{Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, Kazungula Bridge Project Office is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender offer.}

Mr. Mothusi Ntseme
Ag Project Manager
Kazungula Bridge Project
Botswana

Eng. Lazarous Nyawali
Project Manager
Kazungula Bridge Project
Zambia



TENDERING PROCEDURES T1.1 TENDER NOTICE and INVITATION TO TENDER

- Tender Reference No. KBPO/SP/04/2024-LOT 2A
- Tender Title: **A Tender for the Procurement of Office Cleaning Services for Kazungula Bridge Project Office at Kazungula One Stop Border Post for a duration of twelve (12) Months**
- Sealed Tender offers are invited for the provision of Cleaning Services at Kazungula Bridge One Stop Border Post for a duration of twelve (12) months.
- The Procuring Entity is Kazungula Bridge Project Office
- Procurement Method is: Open Domestic Bidding
- Tenderers who are domiciled in Botswana must, in order to be considered for the award of the contract, be registered with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority in the following categories:
 - Code: 132 Cleaning Services.
 - Sub code(s): 01 Building Cleaning Services (including windows, carpets & others),
 - 04 Hazardous Materials
- The tender is reserved for 100% citizens or citizen owned contractors as stated under Section 76 (2) of the Public Procurement Act.
- *Directive on the Economic Diversification Drive (EDD), Presidential Directive CAB 34 (B) 2014 will be applied in this tender.*
- *Directive on Local Procurement Scheme (LPS) of Presidential Directive CAB 19 (B) 2013 will also apply to this tender.*
- The physical address for collection of tender documents is: Administrator Office, Kazungula Bridge Project Office
- DRTS Plot, Along A33 Road, Kazungula, Botswana

- Documents may be collected from 20th June 2025 during working hours between **08:00hrs – 12:30hrs and 1400hrs - 17:00hrs**
- A non-refundable deposit of P500.00 payable by Bank deposit to the Account below and produce deposit proof upon collection of the tender documents in favour of the Kazungula Bridge Project Office. Proof of payment may be sent to records@kazungulabridgeproject.com and the soft copy of the ITT/ Bidding document will be availed by the Kazungula Bridge Project Office.

- Youth owned companies shall pay only P250.00 as per Presidential Directive CAB 14(B) 2015 In addition, youth companies shall provide certified copies of Omang for shareholders.

Account Details:
Account Name: Kazungula Bridge Project
Bank Name: Absa Bank of Botswana
Account No. 1071042

Branch Name: Maun
Branch Code: 291967
Swift Code: BARCBWGX
Account: Corporate Current Account
Currency: BOTSWANA PULA (BWP)

- Queries or clarifications relating to the issuance of these documents may be addressed in writing not later than five (5) days before the tender closing date to Mr. Mothusi Ntseme and Eng. Lazarous Nyawali at Tel No.6253029, Fax No. 6251495, email- records@kazungulabridgeproject.com.
- A compulsory site visit and/ or pre-tender meeting with representatives of the Procuring Entity will take place at Kazungula One Stop Border Post on 14th July 2025 starting at **1400hrs**, at the entrance gate parking lot.
- No persons participating in the site visit shall be allowed to represent more than one tenderer. A site visit attendance register will be signed on site as evidence of site visit attendance. Any clarifications regarding the tender will be addressed onsite.
- Any bidder who fails to attend the site visit shall be disqualified from further participation on the tender.
- The closing date and time for receipt of sealed tender offers is **1200hrs on 28th July 2025.**
- Late tender offers will not be accepted.

- The Bid Submission Method is: One envelope Submission Method in which a single envelope or package method in which a bid is submitted in a one sealed envelope or package
- One (1) original tender document marked ORIGINAL and 3 duplicate copies of the original Document marked copy in one sealed envelope clearly marked
- “Tender Reference No. KBPO/SP/03/2024-LOT 2A Procurement of Services for Office Cleaning Services for Kazungula Bridge Project Office at Kazungula Bridge One Stop Border Post-Botswana” and shall be delivered to Kazungula Bridge Project Office.

The name and address of the bidder should be clearly marked on the envelope.

The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Standardised Conditions of Tender for Services shall apply to this procurement, for which all the applicable Tender Data is contained in the tender documents.

{Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, the Kazungula Bridge Project Office is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender offer.}

Mr Mothusi Ntseme
Acting Project Manager
Kazungula Bridge Project Office
Botswana

Eng. Lazarous Nyawali
Project Manager
Kazungula Bridge Project Office
Zambia

President Boko at US-Africa



Panelists during a previous US-Africa Business Summit held in Botswana in 2023.

Botswana forges digitalisation path for diversification

President Advocate Duma Boko says it is a fact that the country is facing financial crisis, a result of lack of ingenious ideas to sustain, grow and diversify the country's revenue sources.

President Boko said the situation emanated from the dependence on diamonds as the sole driver of the economy.

Responding to media questions in an interview on the sidelines of the just ended 17th US-Africa Business Summit in Luanda, Angola on Tuesday, President Boko said now that the trade in diamonds was at its lowest, the country was faced with the calamity of draining financial coffers.

Faced with such a situation, he said the country had to regroup, shake off the dust and take advantage of the opportunities presented by digitisation.

He said the country's economy would not rise from shambles in an environment where the ease of doing business was mere imagination.

He said in a situation where the country was almost bankrupt, it was important to engage with and lure investors with the technological know-how and the financial muscle to do business in the country.

President Boko said the country must invest in companies that would advance the digitisation drive and by so doing engage digitised system that will curb all financial spillages and insure prudent spending.

The President said Public Private Partnership (PPP) was not just a mere chant, but a potential driver of sustainable growth.

He said the private sector would bring with them diverse expertise in doing business while government would on the other hand provide an opportunity where their technology would thrive at an affordable rate and help government grow its economy.

President Boko therefore noted that government was determined to put in place modalities of doing business in a technologically advanced environment by the end of 2025.

He said in challenging circumstances, such as the current position that the country finds itself in, leadership must thrive and do so by engaging in strategies that would help the nation rise and prosper.

However, the President said what the people must appreciate was that solutions to long-standing challenges could not be put in place overnight.

He said dealing with a deep-rooted challenge would take time and strategic measures.

"What I can assure you without doubt is that, we shall forge a way forward as we have devised formidable strategies to address the challenging environment," he said.

The President said a well-defined strategy would take the country from its current thought-provoking state of affairs and accurately place it where it belonged.

Currently, he said what the government was doing was not glorifying challenges and giving up, but rather analysing the situation in order to come up with tangible solutions.

He said he was not defiant on the target he had set, that government would turn around

the country's fortune in three years.

The nation must hope and trust that the government will deliver on its promise of reviving the country from its current position, he said. **BOPA**



President Advocate Duma Boko said the African market on its own could trade amongst its member states (intra-Africa trade) unlocking huge value and economic potential.

President Advocate Duma Boko was among global leaders and business executives at the 17th US-Africa Business Summit in Luanda, Angola which was held from June 22 to 24. The summit, organised by the US-based Corporate Council on Africa, provided a platform for Botswana to identify market access opportunities for local products in the US. The delegation also explored trade and investment opportunities for local products in the US such as agricultural products. Boko has participated in the five editions of the US-Africa Business Summit including

By Moshe Galeragwe in Luanda, Angola

US tariffs pose challenge to effort to grow Africa economy

The 17th US-Africa Business Summit is held at a time when the world is engulfed by uncertainty from the changes introduced by the United States government that are impacting negatively on long standing and beneficial trade relations, President Advocate Duma Boko has said.

In an interview with the media on the sidelines of the just ended US-Africa Business Summit in Luanda, Angola on Tuesday, President Boko said the US tariff tensions had been a daunting challenge, likely to backslide efforts to grow the African economy.

He, however explained that following pleas from concerned countries that were trading with the US, the tariffs were suspended until further notice to allow for dialogue.

President Boko said the tariff imposed on Botswana worsened the already bleak future faced by the diamonds industry.

He said Botswana was therefore, pleading for zero tariffs, with emphasis on the

sale of diamonds to allow for the sector to resurrect.

He said the Summit was an ideal platform for businesses, African leaders to come together, build a united force that would cement and grow the existing business relations with the US.

He also added that the Africa Growth and Opportunities Act, (AGOA), a piece of legislation that was put in place to guide trade relations, protect goods from countries such as Botswana, allowing access to the US market without challenges would expire September, 2025.

He said the consensus of African leaders as it was the case with scrapping of the introduced tariffs, was for AGOA to be reinstated as it had been doing well in allowing African businesses to trade in lucrative US markets.

He also added that his attendance at the US-Africa Business Summit was to engage in talks with representatives of the US government with the view to iron out some issues that were a hindrance to trade between Botswana and the US.

He said it was important to balance the equation as the US was concerned that they were giving business to Botswana while getting nothing in return.

"We want them to come to Botswana and do business in a way that will be mutually beneficial," he said.

President Boko said allowing US businesses to set up in Botswana was a way of nurturing and harnessing beneficial business relations between the two countries.

He said the fact that Botswana was part of the US-Africa Business Summit showed willingness that Botswana was open and determined to do business with the US.

He said the Summit was held in Angola, a partner in good standing with Botswana as the duo were tied and working together on varied relations.

President Boko said it was of importance to engage in relations with other nations that would benefit the country's economy.

He said it was pleasing that African nations were now determined and willing to work together to grow a robust economy and open free trade that would grow the regional market.

He added that Botswana was gradually gaining confidence, trust and respect from other African countries.

The President said Botswana was seen as a guide and a model of good governance and that would

Business Summit in Angola

Executives at the 17th US-Africa Business Summit, hosted by the government of Angola and Botswana to promote its economic interests and also deliberated on ways of enhancing agricultural produce. Since, 2019, Botswana has been hosting the summit in Gaborone in 2023.

Angola

Angola, defeats economy

only become realistic by action, taking the lead and guiding the region towards prosperity.

He further said Botswana must give direction and bring the continent together, open up markets for locally produced goods and services, grow the economy by engaging in beneficial business relations. **BOPA**



Diamond polishers in a factory. President Advocate Duma Boko said it was a fact that the country was facing financial crisis a result of lack of ingenious ideas to sustain, grow and diversify the country's revenue sources.

Boko sparks hope of transformation through digitalisation

Botswana is moving in the direction of digitalisation, which has been identified as a pivot point to remove wastage expenditure.

In an engagement with the media on the sidelines of the US-Africa Business Summit on Tuesday, President Advocate Duma Boko said it was equally important to foster openness, accountability and transparency, raising the level of confidence, faith and belief in the level of democratic principles and leadership.

He said the development would ultimately result in better service to the people.

President Boko said the bulk

of short-term investment would go toward digitalisation as it had the ability to deliver quality e-health, e-learning.

The President said it was important to equally invest in the development of the energy sector.

"The country must be energy sufficient, therefore we need an energy transition that will enable Botswana to move away from the current reliance on 99 per cent of generating energy through fossil fuel (coal) to at least curb it by 50 per cent by 2030," he said, adding that this would be achieved through digitalisation.

President Boko said the education system also needed an

overhaul.

"We need partners with the expertise, skill, appetite to come in not for a short-term as we need to build resilient, robust, hyper-scaled data facilities that will allow on-boarding of other technologies and be spread evenly across the country," he said.

He emphasised the importance of availing accessible network services to every citizen across the country through investors and durable partnerships.

President Boko said African countries were beginning to take active steps to consolidate their efforts around the Africa Continental Free Trade Area

(AfCFTA) agreement, which was opening up for all countries in the region, a huge market of 1.5 billion people.

"The African market on its own can trade amongst its member states (intra-Africa trade) unlocking huge value and economic potential. Once this is achieved through multi-varied approach one of which was recently launched in Lusaka, Zambia, as part of the digital free trade programme where trade would now be facilitated through technological platform. The digital infrastructure forms the backbone of this transformation," he added.

He said at a point where

Africa would be able to stand consolidated, united, it would be able to attract attention and command respect.

President Boko said dealing with matters as a block as it was the case with other blocks across the world would make a strong voice and earn respect.

He added that the continent and Botswana need scalable technologies to grow, therefore the US-Africa Business Summit was a platform where government must show complete engagement with the private sector which was in a position to provide the resources needed.

He said government was to ensure that the laws, and policies were conducive for business rather than impede their efforts.

President Boko said cutting edge technologies that were coming from the US were required to anchor and sustain relationships that the US had with African countries.

He said in order for Botswana to deepen its relationship with the US, it had to ensure that the Africa Growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA), which was set to expire in September 2025 was reinstated, improved and advanced. President Boko said the Summit was a vital platform as it offered his government and others across the region to engage in vital engagements with the private sector and investors from the region and the US.

He said through such a forum, countries would be able to come up with strategic goals on how to engage the opportunities offered by the platform among others availing of finance and transfer of skills that will grow and diversify the economies of the continent.

President Boko said he was able to, on the sidelines of the summit engage with four companies that were ready to come and invest in Botswana. One of them is the Mitrelli Group, an international company focused on developing sustainable large turn key infrastructure projects in Africa. **BOPA**

'Homegrown businesses have potential to enjoy global market'

President Advocate Duma Boko says it is evident that there are credible home grown businesses with the potential and technological know-how of producing quality goods able to compete in local, regional and the international markets.

However, for goods to thrive and sustain in any given market, they must be of the desired quality and be able to sell without a hassle. They must be International Standards Organisation (ISO) certified, President Boko said in a media interview on the sidelines of the US-Africa Business Summit in Luanda, Angola on Tuesday.

After touring the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) stalls where goods produced by Botswana companies were exhibited at the summit, President Boko said he was without doubt that some local companies had the potential to enjoy the international market as long as they do it right.

He said companies must ensure that goods were at the level of acquiring ISO certification thus giving the consumers assurance that such goods were of high and desired quality.

The President further said patenting a product was also an important step in doing a reputable businesses.

He said there were cases where individuals had lost businesses ideas or any form of ingenuity as they were never patented.

He said through reverse engineering, some master minds were stealing other people's ideas that were never protected and running away with it.

"Before taking your ideas/product into the market, first safeguard your intellectual property to safeguard your idea and creativity," he said.

He said the goods must first be consumed by the local market and make it a point that they were of good quality, priced accordingly and be able to penetrate the world markets.

In addition, President Boko said it was important to devise ways of advertising such goods and making them accessible.

He urged them to take advantage of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, which would equally encourage the use of digitalisation, a platform where businesses would market their products.

"Goods made in Botswana will be accessed by a customer in as

far as Algeria, engage each other with ease at an affordable cost and timely," he said.

As such President Boko said not only was the digital infrastructure necessary and a backbone for trade, it would push for the development of other trade corridors such as roads.

He said a typical example of why connectivity was the foundation of ease of doing business was the Lobito Corridor, a major economic route connecting the Port of Lobito in Angola to the Katanga Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Zambian Copperbelt.

"All we have to do as Botswana is to ensure that we link with such corridors and allow locally based businesses to transport and sell goods wherever they were needed and arrive in good condition and on time," he said.

He said as it was the case with Amazon where people from the comfort of their home using digital platform buy and sell products, the local companies must equally be in a position to sell to the different markets without any hassle.

Therefore, he said trade and digital platforms as well as

transport infrastructure must be in place for local businesses to grow.

President Boko said he was concerned that most of Botswana were into doing business as middle men, where they bought finished products in other countries which could be done locally.

"We want Botswana who focus on manufacturing. It is mandatory for government to prioritise local manufacturers and long as they were producing goods of high and desired quality," he said.

While encouraging local businesses to grow and penetrate global markets, he acknowledged that access to finance remained one of the primary challenges.

He said it was important for companies to have easy access to financial assistance in order to produce food and feed the nation.

In an effort to address shortage of funding, President Boko said Botswana Stock Exchange would in October, launch a financial assistance scheme for small, medium enterprises and the informal sector. For a start, he said P600 million had been set aside to fund the scheme.

He said the market was equally a challenge for products produced locally. **BOPA**

Salakae o gwetlha morafe go itshekatsheka

Ka Malebogo Lekula

GHANZI - Mopalamente wa Ghanzi, Rre Noah Salakae o ebileng e le Tona wa lephata

la Dipalamo le Dikago, o kgothatitse banni ba Ghanzi, go ema kgaatlhanong le kgokgontsho ya bong. O buile se, kwa phuthegong

ya kgotla kwa Ghanzi bosheng. Rre Salakae, o buile a sa kgale mathe ka fa kgokgontsho e gomagometsang go phutlhamisa lefatshe leno ka teng.



Rre Chandapiwa Mokozi o tswelletse ka go tshwara ditlhapi mo nokeng ya Chobe fa e sale e tshela ka Mopitlo. Senepe: Portia Ikgopoleng

Batshwari ba ditlhapi ba tlaa dika ba akotse

Ka Portia Ikgopoleng

MUCHENJE - Batshwara ditlhapi ba metse e e kwa Chobe Enclave, go tswa Mabele go ya Parakarungu ba itumeletse go tshela ga noka ya Chobe monongwaga.

Go tshela ga noka ya Chobe go bakiwa ke go penologa ga noka ya Zambezi, e e fetisetsang kwa nokeng ya Chobe go ralala Chobe National Park, Ngoma, Muchenje, Mabele, Kavimba, Kachikau go hetela kwa makadibeng a Satau.

Mo potsolotsong bosheng, modulasetilo wa mokgatlo wa batswara dithapi kwa Chobe, Rre Kamwi Mbanga o tlhalositse fa go tshela ga metsi go simolola ka Mopitlo, go tsisitse botshelo mo batswaring ba ditlhapi.

A re mo nakong ya gompieno, ditlhapi di boutsana mo makadibeng ka ntlha ya gore noka e ne e sa tshela ngwaga o

o fetileng, a tlatsa ka gore go le gantsi ba tshwarela go ja kwa malwapeng.

Rre Mbanga a re nako e gorogile gore batshwara ditlhapi ba letlelelwe go tshwara kwa Linyanti, kwa ditlhapi di leng dintsi teng.

A re khamphani nngwe e e gwebang ka bojanala kwa Linyanti, e ba kgaphetse ntle gore ba seka ba tsena teng, go itsa kgopagopetsano le bajanala le fa gone batshwara ditlhapi ba tswa kgakala ba tshwara teng go sena mathata.

Rre Mbanga o tlhalositse fa ba kopane le Mopalamente wa Chobe, Rre Simasiku Mapulanga besheng, go rarabolola dikgogakgogano tsa go tlhoka go letlelelwa go tshwara dithapi kwa Linyanti, mme a ba solofetsa fa a tlaa kopana le ba khansela ya Chobe, Chobe Landboard, Wilderness Safaris le ba lephata

la Diphologolo le Makgabisa naga.

O kaile fa dithapi e le konokono ya matshelo a bone kwa Chobe.

Motswhara dithapi kwa Muchenje, Rre Chandapiwa Mokozi, a re go tshela ga noka go tsisitse boitumelo mo matshelong a bone.

A re e sa le noka e tshela ka Mopitlo, ba bo ba fudugela kwa Ngoma go ya go tshwara dithapi, mme erile metsi a fetela kwa Muchenje ba fudugela teng go tshwara gaufi le kwa lwapeng.

O buile fa noka e tsisitse boitumelo le mo tikologong, diphologolo tsa naga le leruo ka dikgomo tsa bone di bone dijo le metsi.

A re mo nakong ya gompieno ba tshwara ditlhapi ka di ditshipi tse di kgogetsang e seng matloa, se e le go netefatsa gore ditshidi tse di nwang metsi jaaka dinonyane ga di tshwarwe ke matlowa a. **BOPA**

A re ntswa puso e thubile lobelo go tla ka methale ya go lwantsha mmaba o mo setshabeng, ke tshwanelo ya mongwe le mongwe go itshekatsheka le go netefatsa gore ba ema kgaatlhanong le kgokgontsho gore e seka ya kukela ka bokete.

Rre Salakae o ne a gwetlha makgotla a dikereke go ema puso nokeng, ka go rera lefoko la Modimo go leka go lemotsha setshaba ka bodiphatsa jwa kgokgontsho, mme ba sokologe mo meweng, gore go nne le thokgamo mo setshabeng ga mmogo le kwa malwapeng.

Le fa go ntse jalo, o ne a supa fa ka maswabi go na le baruti bangwe ba e leng diphiri tse di apereng matlalo a dinku, ka jaana ba amega mo dikgannyeng tsa kgokgontsho ya bomme le bana.

Ka jalo, o ne a ba gwetlha go kgala mokgwa oo, ka jaana o kgotlela sedumedi mme e bile o ka nna le botlhabetsi jwa go paledisa maiteko a puso go fedisa seemo se.

O ne a tswelela a tlhalosa fa bomme le bana e le sone setlhopha se se amegileng ka bokete mo dikgannyeng tsa kgokgontsho, mme a ba kopa go itsaya motlhala go leka go ikimolola manokonoko a kgokgontsho.

Mo dikgannyeng tse dingwe, Rre Salakae o ne a itsise morafe fa palamente e e tsenang ka Phukwi, go tlaa sekasekwa melao kakanyetso e ka tshwara masome a matlhano.

O ne a supa fa mo melao kakanyetsong, e tlaa akaretsa wa molao motheo, melao e e tsamaisang makgotla a tshwana le matlhabelo a Botswana Meat Commission (BMC), Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board (BAMB), Air Botswana le tse dingwe.

A re maikaelelo ke go leka go tsosolosa makgotla ao, gore a kgone go itshetlela go dira letseno le le ka thusnag go tsosolosa itsholelo.

Mo dikgannyeng tsa BMC, o ne a supa fa ba tlaa bo ba itebagantse le go dira melao e e tlaa tlhabololang mhama wa theko le thekiso ya nama ya kgomo.

O ne a tlatsa ka gore puso e kgonne go rekisetsanama kwa mebarakeng ya Democratic Republic Of Congo(DRC) le China.

O ne a gwetlha barua kgomo go ititaya ka thupana go netefatsa gore ba fitlhelela seelo se se batliwang ke mebaraka eo.

Mo mafokong a gagwe a kamogelo, Kgosi Annah Rankho wa Ghanzi, o ne a lebogela mafaratlhatlha a ditlhabololo tse di dirwang mo kgaolong.

O ne a tlhalosa fa ditlhabololo di le botlhokwa ka jaana di thusa go ngoka babeeletsi mme phelelong go godise itsholelo ya kgaolo.

O ne a supa fa ba lebogela ditlhabololo di tshwana le mafaratlhatlha a kgopo ya metsi a a leswe, ditsela tsa mo mebileng, paakanyo ya diofisi tsa lekgotla la Setswana le paakanyo ya sekole sa Itekeng Community Junior School.

Mo go tse dingwe, Kgosi Rankho o ne a lela ka go gola ga dikgang tsa borukutlhi di akaretsa bogodu jwa leruo, dipolao, kgokgontsho ya bong, le boimana jwa bana ba dingwaga tse di kwa tlase.

O ne a itela mo morafeng go nna seope se le sengwe, mme ba fetole dikakanyo go fedisa dikgang tse tsa borukutlhi gore kgaolo ya bone e robalelwe ke ditlhokwa ba kgone go ngoka babeeletsi.

Modulasetilo yo o okametseng dikomiti tsa motse, Rre Jecter Marambe o ne a lela ka mosuke wa baithuti ba ba ka tshwarang 1 500 kwa sekoleng sa Itekeng, palo e a reng e tlhoka puso go e tsibogela ka go aga sekole sa bobedi.

O ne a kopa gape gore puso e tsibogele seemo sa go tlhomamisa kgaolo ya bone go nna toropo gore ditogamaano le tsone di bopiwe ka fa tshwanelong go itepatepanya le seemo sa toropo.

Rre Marambe o ne a tlhalosa fa kgaolo ya Ghanzi e tumile ka thuo ya dikgomo mme a supa fa ba kopanetse molelwane le kgaolo ya Ngamiland, ka jalo a kopa gore go tsennngwe terata ya motlakse go laola mosepele wa diphologolo le leruo, go hema kgonagalo ya kanamo ya malwetsi.

Mo dikakgelong, monni Rre Sox Keadile, o ne a ikuela ka tiego ya kabo ditsha tsa bonno kwa Ghanzi a kopa gore maphata a puso ba seka ba baya ka fa mosing dikhampani tsa beng gae kwa Ghanzi mo kabong ya dithendara.

Mme Dineo Swartz ene o ne a ikuela gore go sekasekwe lenaneo la go thusa bomme ka dithuso tsa madi morago ga gore le emisive ka ngwaga wa 2010.

A re lenaneo leo, le ka thusa bomme go itlhabolola go iphalotsa manokonoko a lehuma.

Rre Monyatse Mbise ene o ne a lela ka tiego ya dikgang tsa bogodu jwa leruo, a kopa gore puso e di ntshe kwa makgotleng a ga mmakaseterata, mme di neelwe ba makgotla a Setswana.

Mo mafokong a gagwe a malebo, moemela modulasetilo wa khansela ya Ghanzi, Rre Poifho Ditshwene, o ne a kopa tshwaragano ya bodiredi le setshaba gore go nne bonolo go isa ditirelo kwa setshabeng kwa ntle ga makgwere ape.

O kgothatitse batsadi go tshwaraganela thuto ya bana le barutabana, a supa fa kgaolo e lebanwe ke kgwetlho ya maduo a a sa itumediseng. **BOPA**

Tona o kopa khansele go fa dialogane ditiro

Ka Aobakwe Molefhi

SEKHUTLANE

Mopalamente wa Good Hope/Mmathethe, Dr Edwin Dikoloti o kopile khansele go abela dialogane tsa lenaneo la tlhabololo dikitso la Ipelegeng ditiro. gore thuto ke sengwe sa dilo tsemi fang seriti mo botshelong.

O buile mafoko ao kwa Sekhutlane ka Labobedi mo moletlong wa kaloso ya dialogane tsa lenaneo la Ipelegeng la go tlhabolola dikitso (Skills Development).

Dr Dikoloti re seo go abela dialogane dingwe tsa ditirelo go tlaa ba thusa gore ba gole mo dithutong tsa bone mme gape ba tlaa thusa ba malwapa a bone le setshaba ka kakaretso.

Mo palong yotlhe ya dialogane tse di masome a mabedi le bongwe, gona le dialogane tsa kago, tsa go penta le tsa go betla.

Dr Dikoloti o supile fa kaloso eo jaanong e tlaa ba fa ditshono tse dintsi mo botshelong tsa go itshetsa.

Mopalamente o supile gore e re le ntsa Sekhutlane e le motse oo kgakala le ditlamelo, dialogane tseo jaanong ke tsone sekao, e bile a dumela fa jaanong go sena yoo tlaa salelang kwa morago.

Rre Dikoloti o gakolotse dialogane tseo gore ba bereke jaaka ngatana ka gore ba tshwere dithuto tsemi farologaneng, a supa fa seo seka netefatsa gore mongwe le mongwe o dira tiro ya gagwe ka botswa pelo.

Fa a tswa la gagwe Modulasetilo wa khansele ya Good Hope Rre Gofaone Nkwane o tthaloseditse dialogane tseo gore e seka yare ka gore ba tshwere ditlankana, jaanong ba neela tshwene marapo.

O supile fa jaanong ba tlaa tshwanelwa ke go itse gore ba tlile go gaisana le ba bangwe ba ba saleng ba feditse dithuto. “Go bereka ka thata, boitshoko le boikokobetso ke tsone di tlaa le kgontshang dikgwetlho tsa botshelo,” ga bua rre Nkwane.

Mongwe wa dialogane Mme Segomotso Seumako o supile fa a tletse boitumelo e bile a le

motlotlo ka phitlhelelo ya gagwe.

O kopile setshaba go inaakanya le lenaneo leo, a supa fa Ipelegeng e se tiro ya sennela ruri, fa go ithuta gone e le boswa jwa botshelo jotlhe e bile motho a ka batla tiro go sele.

Mogokaganyi wa lenaneo la Ipelegeng Rre Moengele Otlae a re dialogane tseo di simolotse dithuto bale masome a mabedi le bongwe mme ka lesego ba feditse go sena yoo tlogetseng mo tseleng.

O supile fa ba bereka le ba sekole sa CITF se se kwa Phitshane Molopo, a re ke bone batlathlelela dithuto e bile ba netefatsa gore tiro e e dirwang keya maemo a ntlha.

Rre Otlae o tthalositse fa ditlankana tseo tsa bone jaanong di ba letlelela go batla tiro gongwe le gongwe, a supa fa seo se tlaa fokotsa thata go ikaega ka lenaneo la Ipelegeng. **BOPA**



Mopalamente wa kgaolo ya Good Hope/Mmathethe Dr Edwin Dikoloti (Mojeng) a abela sealogane setlankana sa lenaneo la Ipelegeng la Tlhabololo Dikitso kwa Sekhutlane ka Labobedi. Dr Dikoloti o akgotse dialogane tseo, tse mo go tsone go nang le baagi, bapenti le ba babetli. O ba gakolotse gore ba nne boikobo e bile ba reetse dikgakololo gore ba kgone go gola. Senepe: Aobakwe Molefhi

Direlang babereki di tseletso - Maele

Ka Omphile Ntakhwana

GOOTAU - Banni ba Gootau ba ba thapileng batswakwa ba kopilwe go direla babereki ba bone dipampiri tsa tseletso tsa pereko.

Fa a bua kwa phuthegong ya kgotla ka Labobedi, Mopalamente wa Tswapong Bokone, Rre Prince Maele a re puso e tshwentswe ke dikgang tsa batswakwa ba ba berekang mo Botswana e se ka fa molaong.

O supile fa puso e tsile go gagamaletsa ba ba thapang batswakwa ba sena tetla ya go berekela mono molao.

Fa a bua ka kgang ya P4 000 wa dituelo tsa babereki ba dituelo tse di kwa tlase, Rre Maele Rre Maele, yo gape e leng Tona wa Thuto e Kgolwane a re go supega go na le ketsaetsego ka kgang e ka gore Batswana ba botsa ka badisa le bathusi mo malwapeng gore a le bone puso e tsile go ba tlama go duelwa P4 000.

Rre Maele a re dituelo tsa P4

000 di tsile go ama babereki ba puso ba ba santseng ba amogela kwa tlase ga P4 000 le babereki fela botlhe ba ba berekang dikhamphani tse di ikemetseng.

“Dikhamphani fela tsotlhe tse di kwadisitsweng ka fa tlase ga CIPA di tsile go amiwa ke molao o wa P4 000, mme pele re dira o ne molao o, re le puso re tshwanetse go ikatega pele,” Rre Maele a supa.

O supile fa bagwebi ba ba botlana (informal sector) basena go amiwa ke molao o, tsholofelo e le gore fa puso e sena go baakanya seemo sa babereki ba yone, ke gone e dire molao go tlama bagwebi ba ba botlana fela botlhe, go duela P4 000 le go feta foo.

Rre Maele o tswelletse a tthomamisetsa banni ba Gootau gore puso e itlamile go dira molao wa health insurance, e le tsela ya go tokafatsa seemo sa botsogo mo Botswana.

“Motswana mongwe le mongwe o na le tshwanelo ya go bona

bongaka le dithuso tsa botsogo tse di maleba, e bile ke tsholofelo ya rona gore fa itsholelo ya lefatshe e siama, re dire tshutiso ya molao kakanyetso,” Maele a tthalosa.

Rre Maele o tswelletse a rotloetsa botlhe ba ba duelelwang ke lephata la gagwe mo thutong e kgolwane go dira ka natla gore go se ka ga nna le dikgang tsa go kopa puso go ba duela gape ka ba sa dira sentle kwa sekoleng.

“Mo bo gompionong, re na le bana ba le 25 000 ba ba sa dirang sentle mo lekwalong la botlhano (Form 5), mo ke sa itseng gore re ya go badira jang, jaanong go botlhokwa gore ba ba kgonneng go bona dithuso ba dire ka tlhoafalo,” Rre Maele a tlatla.

Fa a ntsha la gagwe, Mokwaledi wa khansele ya Palapye, Rre Oboikanyo Koti a re sekole se se botlana sa Gootau se tlhoka P2.1 million go baakangwa le go ntshafadiwa dikago.

Rre Koti o supile fa kwa kgaolong ya Tswapong Bokone, dikole tsotlhe tse di botlana di

le mo seemong se se sa nnang sentle.

“Dikole tse di mo kgaolong ya rona di masome a mararo le bosupa, mme go supegile fa tsotlhe di tlhoka go ntshafadiwa. Sekole sa Gootau se mo maemong a lesome le borobabobedi mo lenaneong la khansele la go ntshafatsa dikago, e bile mo bo gompionong re setse re simolotse ka sa ntlha go ntshafatsa,” Rre Koti a tthalosa.

A re fa seemo sa itsholelo se tokafala, tsholofelo ke gore lephata la khansele le tlaa seegela fa thoko madi a a tlhokegang go dira tiro e.

Modulasetilo wa komiti ya ditlhabololo tsa motse, Mme Gosaitseope Mareko, o supile fa ba tlhoka moalo wa go ntsha metsi a pula mo motseng, a re motse ga o tsamege fa pula e nele.

O ne gape a kopa khansele ya Palapye go oketsa baoki kwa Gootau, go tswa kwa bobeding go ya borarong, ka tiro e ntsi. **BOPA**

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ClassifiedAds

ACCOMMODATION

MASHUSHA GUESTHOUSE, SHOSHONG. From P 450.00. 73873037/ 78468818.

MASHUSHA BED & BREAKFAST Gaborone Block 5 from P400.00. 73062819 / 3101996

FARM WORKERS

FARM WORKER WANTED at 3 Kopi. Gagoitsewe Saleshando Box 405555 Gaborone 73284515.

FARM WORKER WANTED to look after goats in Butale. Vusi Vusumuzi Alec Ziga. Box 770 Francistown 71772655

HERD BOY WANTED at Francistown, Old Masunga road Gerald Estates Farms. Justice Maruba Tawana Box 10124, Tatitown 73504242

FARM WORKER WANTED at Tsamaya. Contact Francinah Monyatsi cell. 77016232 Box 20065 Monarch F/town

HERDMAN WANTED IN Kokotsha. 72477072

URGENTLY WANTED A married male all rounder farm worker aged between 24 and 35 years at Machokochoko farm in Sebina Phanga, Jabulani Makwanda, Box 47795, Phakalane 75592393

3 FARM WORKERS wanted at farm 25-NQ portion 5 and 6 Gerald Estates farm Box 3 Matsiloje K Dorothy Machola 74887838

2 FARM WORKERS wanted at Mahibitswana Farm Palapye Box 24 Palapye Nonofa Makwapa 73977391

FARM WORKER WANTED at Mosetse Farm Cell: 71700705 Box 178 Sowa Town by Bontsibokae

FARM WORKER WANTED- Kgope Lands. Call 72451355.

FARM WORKER WANTED at Morwa. Apply to P O Box AE908 Gaborone.

FARM HEADBOYS WANTED in Metsimantsho Farm areas, 2 posts. Apply to: P O Box 10, Kalkfontein or call: 72165155, 73338822.

FARM WORKERS WANTED Mookane Menoge 72680467 / 73108088 / 75537145

TWO FARM WORKERS wanted at Mogotlhowalenong. Contact Simon Tau at 71630231

FARM WORKER WANTED . Mabutswe ,Tlokweg. Contact : Gaobatwe 76915679. Address : P O Box 1131 AAD Gaborone.

FARM WORKER NEEDED at Lemone lands. Apply at P O Box 20895 Maun. Cell No : 72690762 Tumelano L . Maruping

MISCELLANEOUS

HERDMAN WANTED CONTACT: 72635737

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

OWNER OF PLOT 10419, Extension 7, White City, Gaborone wishes to change land use from residential to commercial. Owners of plot 1660, 1661, 1662, 10418. 10420 and those interested are herein informed. For consent / objection and viewing drawings contact Thabo @ 71612915 or GCC physical planning department.

NEIGHBOUR CONSULTATION

OWNER OF PLOT 75400, Peto estate, Phakalane, Gaborone wishes to construct a double storey house, Owner of plot 75401 in informed. For consent/ objection contact Thabo @ 71612915 or GCC physical planning department

OWNER OF PLOT 21537, Sepitswana, Ramotswa would like to subdivide, change land use of resultant portion to single family residential. Any objection should be forwarded to Ramotswa Council on 5381200.

OWNER OF A PLOT 1211 Newstance in Tatisiding is proposing change of land from civic & community to multi-family residential. Any objections contact North East District Council Physical Planning office on 2431136

OWNER OF PLOT 686 in Masunga proposes change of landuse from residential to commercial (Hotel). Any objections contact North East District Council on 2431136

OWNER OF PLOT Number 81475 Gaborone North wishes to erect a boundary wall. For any queries contact Gaborone City Council, Physical Planning officer on 3647400 or 72723622.

NEIGHBOURS OF RESIDENTIAL plot at Magokotswane, Molepolole. Owner wishes to change landuse from residential to multi family residential, contact Molepolole/ Kweneng District Council office on 5915122 for any objection.

I GAONE T. P. Mogorosi wishes to change land use of plot 5350 at Goodhope from residential to commercial. Any objection may contact Goodhope District Council, Physical planning office at 5404183 within 14 days of the publication.

OWNER OF PLOT 3242, Goo Shaodi Ward, Gabane wishes to change land use from civic & comm to residential. Those interested in the area are herein informed. For consent/ objection and viewing drawings contact Thabo @ 71612915 or Mogoditshane Thamaga District Council Physical Planning Department.

CHANGE OF LAND use. Michael Thabo Sello, owner of plot 793 in Makakatlela, Mochudi wishes to change land use from single-family residential to multi-family residential. For comments contact 72688252 or Kgatleng District Council within 14 days of this publication.

OWNER OF PLOT 59030 located at Block 7 Gaborone changes land use from civic and community to commercial use. To those who have objections to the proposal are requested to forward them to GCC, physical planning office or call 3657400 within (14) days.

TSHEPISO LAME LEPOTOKISI to apply for change of land use to multi family residential plot # 22163 Moshupa/ Mmapholana. Any objection forwarded to Moshupa Council physical planning office Tel 5449223.

THE OWNER OF lot 886 Modipane Mr William Griffiths wishes to change landuse from residential to multi-residential. Any objections contact Gaborone City Council, physical planning office at 3657494 / 3657400 within 14 days of this publication.

NEIGHBOURS OF PLOT 11764 Letlhakane contact 72439974/ 75472392 regarding change of landuse from single residential to multi residential

VACANCIES

URGENTLY WANTED: MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR with more than 7 years working experience, extensive knowledge of the most current drill rigs in Africa, Asia, Europe, hydraulic and electrical system of drilling. Apply to G.D.E Botswana Drilling and Exploration (Pty) Ltd Box Ha Maun.

DRILLING TECHNICAL MANAGER wanted with more than 10 years working experience. The applicant should have worked as a supervisor for more than 5 years in Mining Industry. Apply to G.D.E Botswana Drilling and Exploration (Pty) Ltd. P.O. Box Ha 3 Maun

MECHANIC WITH HEAVY duty driving license and relevant qualifications. Apply to Seabelo's Express, plot 17998 G/West Industrial, P.O Box 1837 Gaborone. Closing date : 20- July- 2025. email : enquiries@seabelo.bw



An expanding Consulting Engineering Firm based in Gaborone invites applications for suitably qualified candidates for the under-mentioned position:

1. SENIOR LAND SURVEYOR

Candidates must possess minimum qualifications Degree in Land Survey, with at least fifteen (15) relevant practical surveying experiences in the discipline of Roads, Bridges as well as water and waste water. Candidates must be familiar with Survey and Engineering software such as AutoCad and Surpac, and a good knowledge of other engineering software such as Civil Designer Road Module and other related packages will be an advantage. The applicant should be proficient in the use of the modern electronic surveying equipment like GPS, Total Station and Automatic level. Candidates registered with surveyors' registration board will be given preference.

2. SENIOR CAD TECHNICIAN

Applicant must have a minimum of fifteen (15) years experience in detailing structural elements and civil works. ONC/ND in Civil/Structural Engineering or equivalent is the minimum qualification required. Candidate must be familiar with AutoCad (Release R14/2000/2002/2004 or latest versions) and a good knowledge of other software such as Civil Designer Packages. Interested individuals meeting the above requirements should forward their application letter accompanied by current Curriculum Vitae (CV), certified copies of academic qualification and professional registration/affiliation and contact details of two (2) referees to:

The Director HR Department P. O. Box 2884 Gaborone | Fax: 318 1635 | Email: pula@it.bw
Closing date for applications is 18th July 2025

SLEEK FOODS IS looking for an Accounts Officer in Jwaneng. Qualification : Degree in accounting and minimum 3 years experience. Closing date 7th July 2025. Apply to sleekfoods1@gmail.com.

PROJECT MANAGER NEEDED. Minimum 10 years experience. Applications addressed to 2R Construction. Private Bag BR 82 Gaborone.

MEDICAL GASES TECHNICIAN/ Supervisor required. Relevant Diploma or higher, 15+ years experience in specialized gases, HVAC Systems. Apply- Climate Control, Box 25632, Gaborone

SPlicing TERMINATION FIBRE Optic & Software defined Specialist (SDWAN) wanted. Apply to Dazzel Point Construction Box 26690 Gaborone

FASHION DESIGNER/CUTTER COMPETENT in Men and Woman Apparel. Call 76306105. P O Box 405153 Gaborone, Feura.

1 LABORATORY DESIGN SPECIALIST

(Ba Interior Architecture), CAD proficient-spatial planning, BoQ preparation wanted by TACHU SCIENTIFIC. Knowledge in medical environments, equipment, safety standards, class B drivers licence & 10 years experience required.
Email: Sales@tachumedequip.com, Tell: 3119636, Plot 68294, Phakalane industrial, Gaborone, Botswana. Box 503665, Gaborone. Closing 14/07/2025

About Us:

Our company is a leading provider of innovative energy solutions specializing in solar power systems and backup generator supply, installations and project management, in Botswana.

Position Overview:

We are seeking a dynamic and experienced professional to lead our Technical Division, overseeing the design, implementation, maintenance, site analysis, quote and support of solar energy systems and generator solutions.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead, manage, and mentor the technical team in solar and generator projects.
- Design and approve system layouts, technical drawings, and specifications.
- Oversee project execution from planning through commissioning and after-sales support.
- Ensure compliance with safety standards, regulations, and best practices.
- Conduct technical assessments, feasibility studies, quotes (solar and generators) and system audits.
- Liaise with clients, suppliers, and internal departments to ensure project efficiency and customer satisfaction.
- Stay abreast of emerging technologies and integrate them into operations.

Qualifications & Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering, Renewable Energy, or related field (Master's degree is an advantage).
- Minimum 5 years of practical technical experience in solar energy and backup generator systems.
- Proven leadership experience and strong knowledge of solar systems, inverters, battery systems, diesel generators, and hybrid systems.
- Certification in solar installation/design is an asset.

How to Apply:

Please WhatsApp your updated CV and Certificates to +267 75662833

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 Administrative 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 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
JACOB BALE	ESHFT-00497-25	08-07-25	1130HRS	RAMPHA

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 24TH DAY OF JUNE 2025

MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT

External Vacancy: Botswana Operations – Extra Heavy Duty Drivers



Job Functions:

Responsibilities and essential job functions include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Driving of 8ton, Tri Axle and Superlinks
2. Delivering and collection of freight around Botswana.
3. Delivering and collection of freight to and from all over SA, Botswana and Namibia.
4. Operational requirements are on a 24-hour basis. Business requirements will dictate working hours required.
5. Tying down of own freight once loaded at the in-house and Customers.
6. Closing of freight with sails and nets before departing for routes, ensuring freight is safe at all times on routes checking the freight.
7. Using scanners for all deliveries and making sure all POD's and delivery notes are returned and scanned.
8. Ensuring Health and Safety Rules / Housekeeping standards are adhered to at all times
9. Be able to adhere to specific timeframes and ensure daily tasks are completed within timeframe.

Minimum Requirements:

1. BGCSE Certificate
2. Valid passport
3. Minimum of 5 years' working experience as Extra Heavy-duty driver.
4. Between the ages of 30 years - 45 years.
5. Must have own transport
6. Must have had valid PRDP and EC license for a period of 5years
7. A high sense of responsibility
8. Ability to work under pressure

The company in all instances reserves the right to withdraw / amend this position.

If you meet all the above requirements, please submit your completed application letter to TumeloN@namlog.co.za by the 15th of July 2025. Please quote BW- D14 in title of email.

Hand Delivery: Namlog Botswana
P O Box 47106
Gaborone,
Plot # 54060, Phakalane

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN
CASE NO: ESHFT 000137/24
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of the Late **Nenekwane Bude – ESHFT 000137/24** who died at Bluetown Plot 7212 Francistown District on the 19th June 2023.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that Debtors and Creditors in the above Estate are hereby required to pay their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within 30 days after the publication hereof.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 24TH JUNE 2025.

Olipha Rapelang Executor Dative P O Box 578 FRANCISTOWN	AND TO: MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT PRIVATE BAG F13 FRANCISTOWN
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BOAGO KETLHAOTSWE BOX 149 Sebina CELL: 74554515/72515565	MASTER OF THE HIGH COURT Private Bag F13 Francistown
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IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN
ESHFT 217/23

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of the late **OOKEDITSE PAPHIDZO KETLHAOTSWE ESHFT 217/23** who died at FRANCISTOWN DISTRICT ON THE 05/09/2015

Notice is hereby given that debtors and creditors in the above are hereby to pay their claims of whatever nature with the undersigned within 30 days after the publication thereof.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF JUNE 2025.
BOAGO KETLHAOTSWE EXECUTOR DATIVE P. O BOX 149 SEBINA
AND TO: MASTER OF HIGH COURT BAG F13 FRANCISTOWN

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LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE is given that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed of Fixed Period State Grant Transfer No. 2426/2005 dated 24th day of October 2005, in respect of the belowmentioned property, namely;

CERTAIN:	piece of land being Lot 4379, Ghanzi;
SITUATE:	in the Ghanzi Administrative District;
MEASURING:	600 m² (Six Hundred Square Metres);
WHICH PROPERTY:	is held under Deed of Fixed Period State Grant No. 2426/2005 dated 24th day of July October made in favour of the RAPS MBISH.

All persons having objection to the issue of such a copy, are hereby requested to lodge 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 ON THIS 16TH DAY OF JUNE 2024.

MINCHIN & KELLY (BOTSWANA), Attorneys for Applicant, The Fields Precinct, Plot 54349 CBD, Gaborone, P.O. Box 1339, Gaborone, (TD/gk/M007886)

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DailyNewsbw



Former Big Brother Africa housemate Kaone Ramontshonyana alias KayOne has released a new single Suzluv inspired by his wife Suzan.

KayOne drops Suzluv

By Bakang Wren

GABORONE - Botswana's former Big Brother Africa housemate Kaone Ramontshonyana alias KayOne has released a soulful new single dubbed *Suzluv* inspired by his wife of eight years Suzan.

He described *Suzluv* as a heartfelt tribute to their love and journey together while reflecting the beauty, brilliance and unwavering support his wife had shown him throughout their marriage.

He said it was also a gift for his wife's 30th birthday and also marked their eighth wedding anniversary.

"The song is inspired by the love I have for my wife and what she has been to me during our eight years together. Her love, care, understanding and charm have been nothing short of amazing," Kay One said in an interview recently.

He said it was an Afrojazz genre, but with a twist drawing *dikhwaere tsa manyalo* and traditional wedding chants.

"I have coined the sound as *DikhwaerePop*, a subgenre of Afrojazz that modernises wedding folk music," he added.

KayOne explained that the hook of the song was drawn from a lesser-known traditional tune that was often sung at weddings.

"I tweaked the pitch and key, then added verses that celebrate her beauty, intelligence and natural charm," he said.

He said the track also included a Setswana poem and was enriched with the sounds of ululation by a village elder, Mme Study, and

backing vocals by a young female singer.

"This is the first project I have taken from concept to completion. I have worked in many studios with many people, but this is the first one I have seen through to the end, and now it's playing on radio and streaming platforms," he said.

The original concept was born in Mopane at Mahempe's Studio, but the song came to life this year when he resumed work with producer Letlhogonolo Laolang, aka Jabezbeats, at Salvation Music Group Studios in Kanye.

The final version, he said, saw a complete transformation of the song's approach from Mpaxanga to the newly formed Afrojazz *DikhwaerePop*. Keyboardist Gape Peter, aka Collush, contributed to the arrangement, alongside the featured vocalists.

"The message is simple. Let's show love to our loved ones publicly. Men must make intentional efforts to recognise and cherish their wives."

He said his eight-year marriage shaped the emotional tone and lyrics of the song, adding that the project spoke to his personal growth as a husband and father.

Reflecting on his transition from reality television to music, he acknowledged that while many people remembered him from Big Brother, music formed part of his creative identity.

"I have not robustly shared my other talents with the public until now. I believe this is the right time."

Quizzed if shifting public perception was challenging, he

responded, "That shift will be tested by the journey I have just started. This is my first musical offering to the world, and I'm hopeful it will be well received."

The song has already started generating positive feedback both in Botswana and across the continent. "The response so far has been encouraging," he said.

He said he was currently working on visuals and planning intimate performances for weddings, gatherings, and corporate events.

"Because of the personal nature of the music, I want to reach people where love lives in their moments of celebration," he said.

He added that he was working on new singles and upcoming collaborations.

"Therem is more music coming, and I have a special feature on a song by ZEUS that's about to be released," he said.

During this creative phase, he aid he spent most of his time refining his own music but occasionally listening to gospel and love songs from various local and international artists.

Asked what his song would look like as a movie, he painted a romantic scene, "My wife and I are walking through a public space, and people notice her beauty and grace as she helps others and solves problems effortlessly."

He hoped for listeners to feel the warmth, love, and nostalgia when they hear the song.

"I want people to feel inspired to be affectionate and intentional with those they love," he added.

BOPA

Tsodilo Hills film dazzles on global stage

By Kedirebofe Pelontle

GUMARE - A short film that captures the essence of Tsodilo Hills known as *Mountain of the Gods* has recently premiered in Manhattan, New York as part of the recent New York Africa Film Festival.

It was also a runner up to the opening of the Metropolitan Museum of Art MCRW Wing that exhibited works of art from Africa, Oceania and Ancient America.

The short film exhibits the historic rock paintings that brands Tsodilo Hills as a World Heritage site, the intangible cultural heritage, thanks to the spiritual beliefs associated with the Hills and the San people's traditional dance that is synonymous with healing.

Tsodilo Hills story is told through the four of Tsodilo Hills community member, rock specialists from University of Capetown and the Botswana National Museum and Monuments chief curator, Phillip Segadika.

It appreciates the archaeological aspect of Tsodilo Hills, which has had human occupation for over 100 000 years and the creativity depicted by over 4 500 rock paintings.

The film further evokes the challenges and future of the rock paintings since some of the rock paintings are fading.

Located in the Ngamiland region, Tsodilo Hills, consists of rock art, depressions and caves, and was recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's World Heritage Site in 2001 for its unique religious and spiritual significance to the local people and its unique record of human settlement, according to prodafrica.com website.

In an interview Segadika said the short film placed Tsodilo amongst other master pieces from Mali, the Tzecs and Oceania.

He said out of the 12 Cultural Landmarks films that were recently produced by Metropolitan Museum, Tsodilo was one of the

three that were actively screened while some were only accessible through QR codes.

"Tsodilo was selected by the Met curatorial and film team to serve as the anchor site introducing the galleries, providing an interface between the Met's Greek galleries and the rest of the Africa, Oceania, and Ancient Americas exhibitions."

The film, he said, showcased how rock art was the earliest form of art known, based on its evidence found at Blombos Cave in South Africa in layers that are 80 000 years old.

Segadika said the film was made possible through the Metropolitan Museum and the World Monuments Fund, a global fundraiser and awareness campaigner for conservation of heritage sites on their watch list.

"Part of the objective of visiting and filming Tsodilo in 2024 was to identify conservation gaps, those have been identified and projects are being formulated, especially around rock art conservation, training of guides and community

empowerment," he said.

He said the awareness raised was intended to trigger tourism by funding agencies not only for Botswana, but Southern Africa and

Africa as a whole.

Directed by Sosena Solomon, the film is available on the Metropolitan Museum YouTube. BOPA



Tsodilo Hills with its unique rock art that has branded it as a World Heritage site. Photo: Courtesy of Botswana National Museum and Monuments



CASABLANCA - The Mares doctor, Dr Saone van Zyl said the players were following a balanced meal plan that supported high-intensity training and player's performance. Photo: Anastacia Sibanda

'Maintain women football promotion in Africa'

By Anastacia Sibanda

CASABLANCA - The focus to promote women's football should be maintained especially since it had come out of age. This was said by Confederation of African Football (CAF)'s head of TV and communications, Lux September during the Participating Member Associations' media officers meeting for TotalEnergies CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) in Morocco on Tuesday. He said women's football in Africa has suffered for many years in terms of coverage and stereotypes and has also been shrouded by stories of corruption and maladministration. He said the media only covered women football when there were negative stories and infighting. He however said the last couple of years had seen an improvement with Africans writing differently on women's football in the continent. Appealing for the sport to be given the seriousness it deserves, September said WAFCON should not be treated as a development competition, but should be treated the same as men's AFCON. "Football is football, the ball is not in a different shape when it is women's football, the ball and the time are the same, they both play 90 minutes, and the rules are the same," he said.

On other issues, September said there would be a new trophy for the WAFCON champions, which would be unveiled soon. CAF media expert Juliet Bawuah said WAFCON was a flagship tournament of women football in the continent, adding that it had also attracted global attention. Africa, she said, had the best football stars with the most expensive footballers in different teams, hence it was important for them to deliver sustained media interest, before and after the tournament. Bawuah said the objective of this

tournament was to elevate the profile of WAFCON, given that the players and the federations had worked hard to be competing at the tournament. "We are competing for so much eyeballs, there is women's Euro, FIFA club World Cup also taking place, therefore it is very important for us to own and protect our product, in Africa and also globally," she said. She said as CAF, they would also want to drive sustained media interest, which they would be doing that with the help of the media present at the meeting. **BOPA**

Uganda golfer Akena heads to US for golf championship

KAMPALA - Uganda's top golfer, Reagan Akena has expressed his excitement after being invited for the US Amateur Championship. Akena, the reigning Uganda Open champion, will start with the qualifiers when the US Amateur Championship takes centre stage at the PB Dye Golf Club course in Maryland July 17-19. "I am very delighted about this invitation because it gives me a chance to compete against

the best amateur players from all over the world," the 20-year-old golfer told *Xinhua*. The Ugandan qualified to make the cut at the US Amateur Championship because he is among the top 500 amateur golfers in the world. "It will be the best thing to rub shoulders with many good players from around the world and hope that I can learn many things to be able to improve on my game," added Akena. Akena was also part of the

Team doctor unpacks diet importance

By Anastacia Sibanda

CASABLANCA - The importance of good nutrition and hydration on football players cannot be over emphasised. In fact, according to *British Journal of Sports Medicine*, a healthy diet focusing on 'food first' may help players to limit the risk of becoming ill or suffering an injury. It says consuming appropriate and adequate nutrients, such as carbohydrates, and proteins, before and after matches and high-intensity training sessions can help to support a player's performance and speed up recovery. It is against this background that Botswana senior women national football team, The Mares Dr Saone van Zyl has put the team on well-structured diet to ensure that they are fit and

ready for the TotalEnergies CAF Women Africa Cup of Nations, which start on July 5. The diet, she said encompassed carbohydrates, proteins, vegetables and fruits. The diet, she said would also ensure that they had ample energy for the training sessions, as it also focused on muscle repair after their training sessions, which were derived from the proteins. Furthermore, she said fruits and vegetables helped to boost the immune system, adding that they were also trying to avoid oily and sugary foods, which caused energy spikes, as well as fatty foods, which slowed down digestion. "So far, I will say the team is doing well in terms of following the diet plan. We are cautious even on salt intake," she said. **BOPA**

Namibia rugby head coach steps down

WINDHOEK - Namibia rugby finds itself at a crucial juncture just weeks before the Rugby Africa Cup, as the men's head coach, Chrysander Botha has stepped down from his role. The Namibia Rugby Union (NRU) announced on Tuesday that Botha had resigned from his role as head coach of the national team. NRU president, Petrie Theron stated that the NRU fully respected his decision and extended its sincere gratitude for his dedication and valuable contributions to Namibian rugby during his tenure. Botha, who had been in charge for only seven months, cited 'work commitments' as the reason for his resignation. "In alignment with its high-performance strategy, the NRU has acted promptly to ensure continuity and effective preparation ahead of the upcoming Africa Cup," he said.

Theron confirmed the appointment of Darryl de la Harpe as technical assistant to the national team. "A former Namibian international with a wealth of rugby experience and insight, de la Harpe brings significant value to the technical team. He will collaborate closely with the coaching staff to support team readiness and on-field performance," he added. Adding to the leadership structure, NRU director of Rugby, Jacques Burger, will now assume leadership of the coaching team. This transition comes at a challenging time, as the squad approaches a critical World Cup qualifying campaign. Despite the change, Theron assured that 'all operational and performance plans remain on track, and the union is committed to fielding a competitive and well-prepared national team'. The Rugby Africa Cup 2025, scheduled for July 8 to 19 in Kampala, Uganda, is a straight knockout format tournament. The winner will secure a direct qualification spot for the 2027 Rugby World Cup in Australia, making it the most significant continental competition for African rugby nations outside of South Africa. **Xinhua**



Chrysander Botha

Ugandan team that dethroned Kenya to win the 2025 Victoria Cup which took place in March. Dr Jackson Were, president of the Uganda Gold Union said that having two players Akena and Godfrey Nsubuga invited for the US Amateur Championship is very good news. "Our two players will be able to carry the Ugandan flag high and also get more exposure playing against different top players," added the Union President. **Xinhua**

Team to compete in Utsugi cup



Botswana National Sport Commission board chairperson, Marumo Morule (left) presenting the national flag to Botswana Softball Association president, also head of delegation, Tirelo Mukokomani (centre) and team captain, Amogelang Molelekwa during a send-off ceremony for the National Under 18 girls' Softball Team in Gaborone on Tuesday. The team departed for Takasaki, Japan yesterday, to compete in the Utsugi Cup 2025 tournament scheduled for June 28 to 29. The Utsugi Cup is a six-nation tournament featuring Japan, Botswana, Tanzania, Germany, Singapore and Italy. Morule said sport was not just about competing, but also a vehicle for character building, fostering international goodwill and national pride. He urged the team to represent the country with pride and bring back not just the results but the experience, growth and memories that would inspire the next generation. Photo: Phenyo Ramatu

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