


THE FINAL  
SHOW

3.

From humble beginnings to national stardom, Atlasaone "ATI" Molemogi carved a path that was uniquely his, leaving a mark that cannot be erased, even by the power of death.



8.

FORMER  
CMS BOSS  
DEFENDS  
STAFF,  
BLAMES MOH



9.

UN EXPERT  
PROBES  
BOTSWANA'S  
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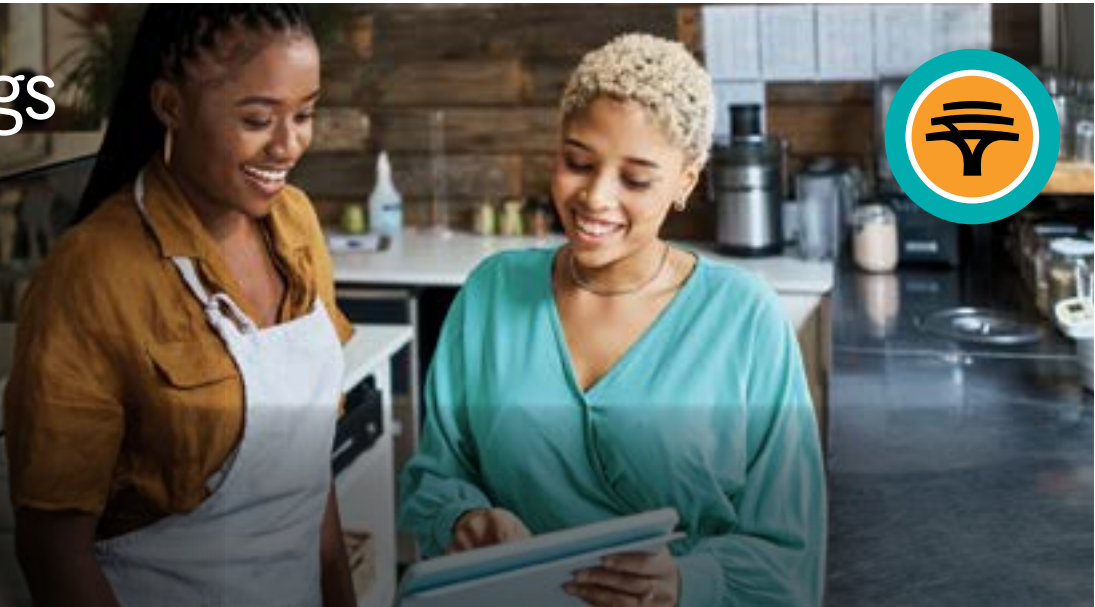
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# THE FINAL SHOW

From humble beginnings to national stardom, Atlasaone “ATI” Molemogi carved a path that was uniquely his, leaving a mark that cannot be erased, even by the power of death.

BONGANI MALUNGA, TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO & GOSEGO MOTSUMI

At his farewell memorial yesterday, ATI whose artistry transformed Botswana’s soundscape seemed to come alive once more.

His music, message, and his memory filled the air with an energy reminiscent of his time and vibes, an eternal reminder that legends never truly leave the stage.

Friends, family, and fans gathered to pay their respects, turning grief into a moving celebration of a life that burned bright. Tributes poured in through heartfelt speeches, performances, and testimonies of how his music touched lives.

His journey, often marked by both triumphs and struggles, resonated deeply with young people who saw themselves in his art.

## The musician

As a musician, Atlasaone “ATI” Molemogi’s gift went far beyond entertainment. His purpose was to move people. Through his creativity, he invited us into the depths of his mind and through his vulnerability opened the doors to his heart.

In a genre where flamboyance and lyricism can sometimes feel cold or artificial, ATI had the rare courage to infuse authenticity and relative topics into his music.

Fusing native vernacular into hip-hop preceded ATI’s era but he took it a step further by introducing a melody-driven style that saw him channel superstition, taboo and mental health issues to produce some of the most iconic Botswana songs of all time.

## Speaking to the humanity in us

Like many artists, he began by chasing trends, but once he discovered his own voice, he carved out a lane so distinct that it didn’t just propel him forward; he became the lane.

By baring his soul, he was able to reflect victory and struggle in equal measure, speaking to the humanity in all of us. Pressing play to ATI’s songs sent fans beyond rhythm and melody on a journey of healing, reflection and connection.

His courage to confront reality with



openness gave his music a timeless quality, creating a soundscape where truth and artistry lived in harmony. This rare combination set him apart, establishing ATI as one of Botswana’s most influential and irreplaceable voices.

## A man of the people

“Like I always say, it’s not about me, it’s not about you, it’s all about the people,” ATI, carried those words like scripture. He repeated them often, a compass pointing him back to where it all began and where it always ended: the people. They were not just lines that he dropped in interviews or concerts; they were his creed.

His music may have elevated him, his genius may have set him apart, but ATI never stood above his people. He stood with them and was one of them. And now,

in the days after his passing away, as grief sweeps across Botswana, social media has been flooded with tributes that show exactly that. His voice was never just his. It belonged to us all.

## Substance as the stuff of his music

To list ATI’s great songs is impossible, because greatness ran through all of them. But some pieces stand out, not just as music but as moments — records that spoke to us with particular force. Take, for instance, Lephoi. A love song, yes, but more than that: a hymn.

He sang of love in its purest form, “*E le lerato le le tlang le tswa mo pelong e tshweu, bosweu jwa lephoi.*” Unconditional and untarnished love, the kind that we all

Continues page 6



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# TENDER NOTICE

Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited (BVI) is inviting companies to submit proposals for the below mentioned tenders:

1. WORKS TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSION, QUALIFICATION AND VALIDATION OF BLENDING AND FILLING PROJECT EQUIPMENT – HVAC

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	COMPALSORY SITE VISIT DATE AND TIME	TENDER CLOSING DATE & TIME
1.	BVI/PRJ/03/2025- 26	WORKS TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSION, QUALIFICATION AND VALIDATION OF BLENDING AND FILLING PROJECT EQUIPMENT - HVAC	PPRA CODE:02 ELECTRCAIL ENGINEERING WORKS & MAINTENANCE SUB-CODE 01 ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS GRADE E  AND  PPRA CODE:08 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING WORKS & MAINTENANCE  SUB-CODE 01 AIR CONDITIONING/ REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS GRADE E	OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING METHOD	08th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00am  LOCATION: BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE LIMITED, PLOT 6385/90 LEJARA ROAD, BROADHURST INDUSTRIAL. GABORONE, BOTSWANA	29th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00am

Tender documents for the supply, delivery, installation, commission, qualification and validation of blending and filling project equipment - HVAC, will be available with effect from 25th August 2025. Tender documents will be sent to the bidder via email upon submission of proof of payment of a non-refundable and non-transferable fee of **BWP1 100.00** (One Thousand One Hundred Pula Only). Youth Owned Companies will pay **BWP 550.00** (Five Hundred and Fifty Pula Only) non-refundable and non-transferable fee upon submission of Identity Document (Omang) and company documentation payable to the BVI Account details provided. Proof of payment must be emailed to [procurement@bvi.co.bw](mailto:procurement@bvi.co.bw)

2. WORKS TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSION, QUALIFICATION AND VALIDATION OF BLENDING AND FILLING PROJECT EQUIPMENT – CLEAN ROOMS

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	COMPULSORY SITE VISIT DATE AND TIME	TENDER CLOSING DATE & TIME
2.	BVI/ PRJ/04/2025- 2026	WORKSTENDER FORTHE SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, COMMISSION, QUALIFICATION AND VALIDATION OF BLENDING AND FILLING PROJECT EQUIPMENT – CLEAN ROOMS	PPRA CODE:01 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKS & MAINTENANCE SUB- CODE 01 PRE- FABRICATED BUILDINGS GRADE E  AND  PPRA CODE:02 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING WORKS & MAINTENANCE  SUB-CODE 01 ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS GRADE E	OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING METHOD	08th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00am  LOCATION: BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE LIMITED, PLOT 6385/90 LEJARA ROAD, BROADHURST INDUSTRIAL. GABORONE, BOTSWANA	29th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00am

Tender documents for the supply, delivery, installation, commission, qualification and validation of blending and filling project equipment – Clean Rooms, will be available with effect from 25th August 2025. Tender document will be sent to the bidder via email upon submission of proof of payment of a non-refundable and non-transferable fee of **BWP1 100.00** (One Thousand One Hundred Pula Only). Youth Owned Companies will pay **BWP 550.00** (Five Hundred and Fifty Pula Only) non-refundable and non-transferable fee upon submission of Identity Document (Omang) and company documentation payable to the BVI Account details provided. Proof of payment must be emailed to [procurement@bvi.co.bw](mailto:procurement@bvi.co.bw)

To access the full tender notice please visit <https://bvi.co.bw/tenders/>

**Bank:** Access bank **Account type:** Current **Branch number:** 552067 **Branch name:** Corporate **Account number:** 1002533640701 For more details on the tender information please visit BVI website <https://bvi.co.bw/tenders/>



Ya  
Batswana

1 OF 10

SPAR®  
SUPER  
MAIZE MEAL

Naturally High in Energy  
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112<sup>95</sup>

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Junior 5 42s, Maxi 50s,  
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PICTURES USED FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES ONLY

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Quarter Chicken and Chips

99<sup>95</sup>

per kg

Chicken Wrap Assorted

25<sup>95</sup>

each

Chikka Chicken 4 Spicy Wings & Chips

31<sup>95</sup>

per combo

Baker's Selection

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SPAR Premium White or Brown Bread 700 g

10<sup>95</sup>

per loaf

Jumbo Pies Assorted

16<sup>95</sup>

each

Pizza Slice Assorted & Pepsi 300 ml

15<sup>95</sup>

BUY BOTH FOR

Doughnuts 6s

24<sup>95</sup>

per pack

Cream Cakes Assorted

49<sup>95</sup>

each

Cocktail Scones 10s

22<sup>95</sup>

per pack

Butcher's Best

PICTURES USED FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES ONLY

Chilli Chakalaka Wors

49<sup>95</sup>

per kg

Chuck or Blade

79<sup>95</sup>

per kg

Lamb Liver

45<sup>95</sup>

per kg

Twin Pack Chicken

54<sup>95</sup>

per kg

Ground Beef Mince

57<sup>95</sup>

per kg

Fresh Produce

PICTURES USED FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES ONLY

SPAR freshline Green Pears 1.5 kg

25<sup>95</sup>

per pack

SPAR Country Value Banana's 650 g

12<sup>95</sup>

per pack

SPAR Country Value Avocado's 800 g

29<sup>95</sup>

per pack

Beetroots 1 kg

8<sup>50</sup>

per pack

Naartjie 2.5 kg

19<sup>95</sup>

per pack

Carrots 1 kg

14<sup>95</sup>

per pack

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SPAR Rewards deals available while stocks last.

Maximum 10 deals per customer on all SAVE EXTRA products. Specials only available at SPAR and SUPERSPAR stores from 04 September 2025 up to and including 07 September 2025, while stocks last. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Prices include VAT. E&OE.

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3 litre

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Assorted  
750 ml

150<sup>00</sup>

each

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Dry, Gold Twister  
or Hard Lemon  
Cider Cans  
6 x 440 ml

105<sup>00</sup>

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Not For Persons Under The Age Of 18.





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seek but rarely ever find. ATI gave tenderness a language, turned yearning into poetry. He wasn't just singing for himself but for every listener who had ever longed for something true.

**Setimamolelo**

The epic Setimamolelo track moved the needle. Its video was released in the shadow of COVID-19, just after ATI had been arraigned for breaking lockdown rules. Among other things, the video showed a man under siege.

But where the public saw scandal, he saw a story because vulnerability became art and struggle testimony. He did not wallow in self-pity but elevated pain to something that spoke to all who had been misunderstood, suppressed, or judged.

Then there is Khiring Khiring Khorong, maybe his most prophetic work. He opened with a call - "Batho bame, are you listening?" - and the answer was always yes. We listened then and we listen still. In that song, ATI stripped life bare: love, betrayal, greed, loyalty, contradictions of the human heart. His words were like a surgeon's scalpel and cut deep, but ATI never flinched. He held nothing back because truth was all that he ever promised.

**More than an artist**

ATI was more than an artist. He was a mirror. In him, Botswana saw their joys and sorrows; their contradictions and resilience. He demanded more than applause. He demanded introspection. He forced us to hear ourselves in his words and to sit with uncomfortable truths and remember our capacity for tenderness.

More than an entertainer, ATI became a vessel for collective hopes, struggles and

# Deposit & Lending Interest Rates

For the month of September 2025

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Effective Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
	(Lowest-Highest)	(Lowest-Highest)	(Pula)
Current	Nil	Nil	Nil
Call	0.10% - 0.60%	0.10% - 0.60%	1000
Savings	0.15% - 5.50%	0.15% - 5.50%	100
91Day	1.00% - 3.50%	1.00% - 3.50%	1000
6 Months	1.76% - 4.01%	1.75% - 4.00%	1000
12 Months	2.05% - 6.25%	2.05% - 6.25%	1000
24 Months	2.25% - 6.25%	2.25% - 6.25%	1000
Over 24 Months	2.55% - 6.25%	2.55% - 6.25%	1000

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Average Effective Interest Rate (%)
MoPR	1.90%	1.90%
Access Bank Botswana Prime Lending Rate	7.16%	7.16%
Mortgage Facility	From ABB Prime +0.5% to ABB Prime +10%	From ABB Prime +0.50% to ABB Prime +10%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit lines)	From ABB Prime +1.0% to ABB Prime +35%	From ABB Prime +1% to ABB Prime +34.9%
Credit Card	Up to 32%	Up to 37.1%
Lease Loans	From ABB Prime +1% to ABB Prime +6%	From ABB Prime +1% to ABB Prime +7%
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage and credit cards)	From ABB Prime +1% to ABB Prime +25%	From ABB Prime +1% to ABB Prime +28.1%
Other Long-Term Loans	Not Available	

\*Minimum Pricing Available

Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, all commercial banks are authorized to set their own Prime Lending Rate (PLR). The Prime Lending Rate will now be referred to as the "Access Bank Botswana Prime Lending Rate". The Access Bank Botswana Prime Lending Rate is **7.16%** effective 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

**Deposit Interest Rates shown are indicative only.** For firm rates please contact any of our Branches and Sales and Service Centres:

Game City Branch	- 370 4700
Fairgrounds Branch	- 367 4600
Airport Junction Branch	- 371 9700
The Square Branch	- 398 5700
Ghanzi Sales and Service Centre	- 659 8800
Molepolole Sales and Service Centre	- 592 3050
Letlhakane Sales and Service Centre	- 298 5011
Kanye Sales and Service Centre	- 544 6300
Shakawe Sales and Service Centre	- 687 5244

For deposits more than P1, 000, 000 please contact 367 4377

Type of Deposit Account	Foreign Currency	Nominal Interest Rates	Effective Interest Rates	Minimum Opening Balance
		(Lowest-Highest)	(Lowest-Highest)	(Pula)
Current	USD	Nil	Nil	Nil
	ZAR	Nil	Nil	Nil
	EUR	Nil	Nil	Nil
	GBP	Nil	Nil	Nil
Call	USD	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	100
	ZAR	1.95% - 2.50%	1.97% - 2.53%	100
	EUR	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	100
	GBP	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	100
91 Day	USD	0.00% - 1.40%	0.00% - 1.41%	1000
	ZAR	2.50% - 3.15%	2.52% - 3.19%	1000
	EUR	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	1000
	GBP	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	1000
6 Months	USD	2.35% - 2.85%	2.36% - 2.87%	1000
	ZAR	3.70% - 4.70%	3.73% - 4.76%	1000
	EUR	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	1000
	GBP	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	1000
12 Months	USD	2.85% - 4.50%	2.85% - 4.50%	1000
	ZAR	4.71% - 5.50%	4.71% - 5.50%	1000
	EUR	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	1000
	GBP	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	1000
24 Months	USD	Negotiable		
	ZAR			
	EUR			
	GBP			
Over 24 Months	USD	Negotiable		
	ZAR			
	EUR			
	GBP			

ATI embodied the possibility of art as activism, music as therapy and creativity as courage ...

triumphs. His music was never self-serving because it was a mirror of the nation that was at once a rallying cry for the youth and an anthem for unity.

**The showman who defied gravity**

ATI was never ordinary on stage. His performances were legendary for their creativity and electricity - none more memorable than the day he descended onto a show held aloft by a crane before touching down to deliver his verses. Every performance was a spectacular occasion that reminded audiences of the boundless power of art.

Beyond the spotlight, ATI was revered for his humility. He was deeply committed to uplifting the creative sector, pushing boundaries so that other artists could find their footing. He carried the weight of being a cultural icon with grace, often reminding Batswana that his art was never about fame or fortune but was about service. He embodied the possibility of art as activism, music as therapy and creativity as courage.

**A legacy of timeless songs**

ATI's untimely passing following his recent hospitalisation for immediate intensive care has silenced one of Botswana's most powerful voices. But his legacy will not be silenced, not even by the power of death.





TENDER  
NOTICE

Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited (BVI) is inviting companies to submit proposals for the below mentioned tenders:

1. A TENDER FOR PROVISION OF INSURANCE BROAKAGE SERVICES TO BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	COMPALSORY SITE VISIT DATE AND TIME	TENDER CLOS-ING DATE & TIME
1.	BVI/ FIN/22/2025-26	A TENDER FOR PROVISION OF INSURANCE BROKAGE SERVICES TO BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS	PPRA CODE:127 INSUARANCE AND PENSION SUB-CODE:06 BROKERAGE AND RISK RELATED SERVICES  And  SUB CODE 07: LIFE INSURANCE SERVICES	OPEN DOMESTIC BIDDING METHOD	N/A.	18 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00 HRS

2. A WORKS CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF A 2000LPM PHARMACEUTICAL PURIFIED WATER PLANT AND 6000L LOOP BUFFER TANK.

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	COMPULSORY SITE VISIT DATE AND TIME	TENDER CLOSING DATE & TIME
2.	BVI/ ENG/13/2025-26	A WORKS CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF A 2000LPM PHARMACEUTICAL PURIFIED WATER PLANT AND 6000L LOOP BUFFER TANK	CODE 05 – WATER AND SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT WORKS AND MAINTENANCE, SUB CODE 01- WATER AND SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS GRADE OC	OPEN DOMESTIC BIDDING METHOD	11TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00 HRS  LOCATION: BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE LIMITED, PLOT 6385/90 LEJARA ROAD, BROADHURST INDUSTRIAL, GABORONE.	19th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00 HRS

Both tender documents will be available with effect from 03 September 2025 and will be sent to the bidders via email upon submission of proof of payment of a non-refundable fee of **BWP250** (Two hundred Pula and Fifty pula Only). Youth owned companies will pay **BWP125** (One hundred and twenty-five pula only) non-refundable fee upon submission of Identity Document (Oman) and company documentation payable to the BVI Account details provided below. Proof of payment must be emailed to [procurement@bvi.co.bw](mailto:procurement@bvi.co.bw).

To access the full tender notice please visit [www.bvi.co.bw/tenders](http://www.bvi.co.bw/tenders)

**Bank:** Access Bank  
**Account type:** Current  
**Branch code:** 552067  
**Branch name:** Corporate  
**Account Number:** 1002533640701



# Former CMS Boss Defends Staff, Blames MoH

The former head of CMS, Dr. Onalenna Seitio-Kgokgwe has warned that without structural transformation of CMS and broader reforms in procurement, the country will continue to face serious drug shortages, most of which are rooted in systemic problems long ignored by the government

TEFO PHEAGE

The former head of the Central Medical Stores (CMS), Dr. Onalenna Seitio-Kgokgwe, has broken her silence on the crisis at the country’s main drug supply agency, saying the Ministry of Health and government at large must shoulder the blame instead of vilifying CMS employees.

CMS has been under intense scrutiny recently after President Duma Boko dispatched a task team to probe alleged corruption and inefficiencies in the supply of medicines.

But Dr. Kgokgwe, a public health practitioner and researcher in health systems management, insists CMS staff have been unfairly scapegoated.

“When CMS fails to deliver on its man-

date, the Ministry of Health must account, and the government must account, because CMS is a department under the ministry like all others,” she told this publication in an interview.

She added that CMS employees work tirelessly, often during weekends and holidays, despite being under-resourced and without adequate decision-making authority. “It is unjustified and unfair for the nation to keep pointing fingers at workers who cannot defend themselves. I know the men and women at CMS — they work hard under difficult circumstances.”

### Structural weaknesses

According to Dr. Kgokgwe, CMS manages more than 2,000 health products with an annual budget exceeding one billion pula and supplies medicines to over 80% of the population. Yet, unlike other ministries

with far smaller budgets, CMS lacks a fully resourced procurement and finance unit.

“Even with this size of procurement and budget, CMS has no decision-making powers. Authority is centralized at the Ministry headquarters. This has long been identified as a barrier to efficiency—going back to the 2002 organizational review, whose recommendations remain unimplemented,” she said.

“CMS has an annual budget of more than one billion pula. This is definitely huge procurement, with a huge budget. Can we just pause and consider what structures are there, and who is there (qualification and numbers) at CMS to manage procurement of this magnitude? This issue has been raised over and over again,” she added, further saying “some of the Ministries have a budget far less that what CMS has, but they



Dr. Onalenna Seitio-Kgokgwe  
(Pic: Central Medical Stores, Botswana)

have full complement in their procurement and Finance units-Director Procurement; Director Procurement Oversight; and other senior procurement staff; same goes for their Finance Units. The same cannot be said with CMS.”

Dr Kgokgwe further pointed to legal and regulatory hurdles, such as the Public Procurement Act of 2021, which reserves tenders for citizen-owned companies. While well-intentioned, she said, the law has worsened shortages by inviting middlemen and fronting in a market where Botswana has little manufacturing capacity.

### Global Supply Complexities

Dr. Kgokgwe warned that medicines are not consumer goods that can be easily stocked and bought off the shelf. “The global supply chain for medicines is complex, requiring long-term contracts, demand forecasting, and often upfront payments. Under current government financial regulations, CMS cannot make such commitments, which undermines supply reliability.”

### Recommendations

She urged government to revisit earlier studies, including the 2002 review and the 2023–2028 Botswana National Supply Chain Strategy, both of which recommended transforming CMS into an autonomous organization.

Other critical issues, she noted, include: Ensuring medicines reach remote health posts and clinics, improving storage conditions and accountability at facility level, addressing the shortage of pharmacy technicians and disputes over who manages medicines in lower-level health facilities, developing a logistics information system to track consumption in real time for better forecasting.

On costs, Dr. Kgokgwe stressed the need to cut out the middlemen by allowing government to procure directly from reputable international manufacturers through competitive processes.

“Direct procurement from manufacturers can reduce mark-ups and improve efficiency. But this requires regulatory oversight and financial flexibility, which current systems don’t allow,” she said.

### Recent pricing controversy

“P705 M and P80 M as annual CMS budget, I took it that it was an issue of using different currencies. It must have been some misunderstanding. If that is indeed P 80M, I will call upon BOMRA to be on its feet to safeguard the nation,” she said.

### Bigger picture

While acknowledging the president’s task team, Dr. Kgokgwe cautioned that reforms must go deeper than blame games. “Temporary fixes will not solve systemic problems. Without structural transformation of CMS and broader reforms in procurement, the country will continue to face drug shortages.”

## TENDER NOTICE and INVITATION TO TENDER

**Tender BUAN: 6/2025**

**2. Tender Title: Provision of Alarm Monitoring and Maintenance Service at Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources at BUAN Sebele Main Campus, MITI in Lobatse and Farm Areas for a Period of Three (3) Years**

3. Sealed Tender offers are invited for the Provision of Provision of Alarm Monitoring and Maintenance Services

4. 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: 100 – Security Services (100% Citizen)**  
**Sub code 04 – Electronic Security Service**

5. The tender is reserved for Citizens or Citizen Contractors as stated under Section 76 (2) of the Public Procurement Act.

6. Preference margins will be applied to qualifying bidders in line with the prescribed Preference Scheme

**Economic Diversification Drive initiative (EDD) - CAB 11 (A) of 2011**  
**Local Procurement Scheme (LPS)**  
**Bidders shall only benefit from the scheme with the highest preference margin**

7. Tender Documents will be available with effect from **26 August 2025 to 25 September 2025 at a Non- Refundable fee of P200.00.**

100% Youth Owned Companies will purchase the document at half price (P100.00)

Purchase of tender documents shall be made through electronic fund transfer or deposit made to BUAN account (banking details below) only.

The proof of payment must be sent to [purchasing@buan.ac.bw](mailto:purchasing@buan.ac.bw) with a request for the tender document to be sent via email.  
Documents shall be emailed during working hours between **0830 hours** and **1600 hours**.

**BUAN Banking Details:**  
**Beneficiary Name: Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) Account No: 0100150424100**  
**Bank: Standard Chartered Bank Branch: Mall Branch Branch Code: 662167**  
**Swift Code: SCHBBWGX**  
**Reference: TENDER NUMBER AND COMPANY NAME**

8. Queries or clarifications relating to the issuance of these documents may be addressed in writing not later than seven (7) days before the tender closing date to Manager Procurement and Supply at Tel: 3650294/385/177/384/181 Fax: 3928753 or Email: [purchasing@buan.ac.bw](mailto:purchasing@buan.ac.bw)

9. **A Compulsory Site Visit** with representatives of the Procuring Entity will take place on the following dates:

i. **For MITI Lobatse: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 0930 hours**  
ii. **For BUAN Main Campus and Farm Areas: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 1400 hours**

10. The closing date and time for receipt of sealed tender offers is **25<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 1100 hours at the following physical address:**

Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources Content Farm, Sebele  
Office No: 1  
Block 304 Gaborone.  
Attn: Manager, Procurement and Supply

Late tender offers will not be accepted.

Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, the University is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender offer, nor incur expenses in the preparation thereof.





# UN EXPERT PROBES BOTSWANA'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS RECORD



(Pic: MONIRUL BHUIYAN/PRESS PHOTO)

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples is in Botswana to assess the situation of the Basarwa, focusing on land rights, justice, equality, culture, and climate change for a report to be presented to the UN Human Rights Council in September 2026

## GAZETTE REPORTER

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Albert K. Barume, is set to begin an official visit to examine the human rights situation of Indigenous communities across the country from 1–12 September 2025.

During his mission, Barume will assess key issues such as land rights, access to natural resources, equality and non-discrimination, justice, participation in decision-making, and the protection of Indigenous languages, education, and culture. He will also look into the impacts of climate change, environmental challenges, and the role of

During his mission, Barume will assess key issues such as land rights, access to natural resources, equality and non-discrimination, justice, participation in decision-making, and the protection of Indigenous languages, education, and culture

business in relation to Indigenous rights.

## Visits

The Special Rapporteur's

itinerary includes visits to Gaborone, the Kgalagadi District, Ghanzi, Ngamiland, the Central District, and the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. In each location, he will engage with government officials, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, civil society, academics, UN representatives, and directly with communities to hear their priorities and concerns.

According to the UN office, Barume is scheduled to hold a press conference on 12 September at the UN Building in Gaborone, where he will share his preliminary findings and recommendations.

## The final report

The final report of his mission will be presented to the UN Human Rights Council in September 2026, providing a comprehensive review of Botswana's progress and challenges in upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Barume comes to Botswana under completely different circumstances where Duma Boko a human rights champion, who has previously represented the Basarwa in their struggle for their rights has been voted in the highest office in the land. Upon assuming office, Boko presented his government as a pro-human rights government. The dispute between the Basarwa and the government has been that the latter wants a modern, unified state with no special groups while the Basarwa want recognition of their unique identity, land rights, and the ability to sustain their traditional way of life without being forced into assimilation.



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Geoflux wishes to appoint suitably qualified experienced and appropriately registered individuals for the positions of:

### DEPUTY ENGINEER OF RECORD

The key role of the EoR is to support the Mineral Residue Facilities Operational Team in meeting the requirements of the Technical Standard Global Industry Standard for Tailings Management - GISTM over the life cycle of the facilities. This position is tenable at Jwaneng Mine in Jwaneng.

#### Qualification and Experience

- Degree in Civil Engineering (Geotechnical or Hydraulics), Environmental Engineering, Engineering Geology or Mining /Metallurgy Engineering with specialty in mining geotechnics and/or mineral residue management and or Water Resources or Hydrology
- Ten (10) years' experience in similar role in undertaking sufficient roles in design, construction, monitoring and surveillance of tailings facilities.
- The Engineer must have strong geotechnical engineering background with added proficiency in site coordination, data analysis and report preparation for SCPTu to the level required for preparation of stability and dam breach reports.
- Registration with Professional Engineering Institution such as; (ERB – Botswana Engineers Registration Board) and/or equivalent elsewhere.

#### Responsibilities:

- To support the Operational Team in meeting the requirements of the Technical Standard (Global Industry Standard for Tailings Management -GISTM) over the life cycle of the facilities.
  - Data analysis and report preparation for SCPTu to the level required for preparation of stability and dam breach reports.
  - Reviewing, verifying, and signing all documents issued by the Client and any others related to the design, construction, monitoring and/or operation of the mineral residue deposit(s).
  - Understanding and awareness of emergent technologies
  - Well-developed networks with subcontractors.
- Demonstrated track record in working with operational mining, project and supply chain teams.

#### Geoflux offers:

- Opportunity to apply your skills and knowledge.
- A learning, self-development and actualization working environment.
- Competitive remuneration package.

**Note: Only shortlisted candidates will be responded to.**

Applications with traceable references must be submitted not later than 22nd September 2025 to the address below.

**For further enquiries, you may contact The Human Resource Manager at +267 3975105.**

**The Human Resource Manager**  
P. O. Box 2403 AAD Poso House  
Gaborone  
Or email to: [info@geoflux.co.bw/rmooketsi@geoflux.co.bw](mailto:info@geoflux.co.bw/rmooketsi@geoflux.co.bw)



# UN Intervenes in Botswana Health Crisis

Botswana’s health crisis has prompted swift intervention from the United Nations, following President Duma Boko’s declaration of a public health emergency

GAZETTE REPORTER

The United Nations has stepped in to support Botswana as the country battles a deepening health crisis marked by drug shortages, strained hospitals, and mounting debts in the health sector.

President Advocate Duma Boko recently declared a state of public health emergency after the Ministry of Health warned that the system was “severely strained,” with government reportedly owing more than P1 billion to private health providers and suppliers. Stockouts of essential medicines and equipment have left clinics and hospitals struggling to treat patients.

The immediate focus will be on securing medical supplies and stabilising public health facilities

To respond, Boko on 22 August appointed a National Task Force of experts to address supply chain disruptions at central medical

depots. The team reports to a National Steering Committee, which has been granted sweeping authority to make all decisions during the emergency.

**Partnership**

Confirming the UN’s intervention, spokesperson Nchidzi Smarts said the organisation will work with government through the newly formed structures. The response will be spearheaded by the World Health Organization (WHO), supported by UNICEF, UNAIDS, and other agencies.

“The UN is committed in the days and weeks ahead to coordinate the response, working closely with the Government to leverage our convening power for urgent



(Pic:Ministry of Health,Botswana )

action in the country to protect the health and future of everyone in Botswana,” said UN Resident Coordinator Wenyang Yang.

The immediate focus will be on securing medical sup-

plies and stabilising public health facilities. But both the government and its partners also face the challenge of building resilience in the health system to prevent future crisis.



## TENDER NOTICE

Botswana Vaccine Institute Limited (BVI) is inviting companies to submit proposals for the below mentioned tenders:

1. A TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FILTRATION FILTERS TO BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE

NO	TENDER REF:	DESCRIPTION:	PPRA CODE:	PROCUREMENT METHOD	TENDER CLOSING DATE & TIME
1.	BVI/WAR/10/2025-26	A TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FILTRATION FILTERS TO BOTSWANA VACCINE INSTITUTE	PPRA CODE:203 ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL AND ICT SUPPLIES SUB-CODE:01 ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,SPARES AND ACCESSORIES (INCLUDES ICT,PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT AND OTHERS	OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING METHOD	07 OCTOBER 2025 AT 10:00 HRS

Both tender documents will be available with effect from 03 September 2025 and will be sent to the bidders via email upon submission of proof of payment of a non-refundable fee of **BWP250** (Two hundred Pula and Fifty pula Only). Youth owned companies will pay **BWP125** (One hundred and twenty-five pula only) non-refundable fee upon submission of Identity Document (Oman) and company documentation payable to the BVI Account details provided below. Proof of payment must be emailed to [procurement@bvi.co.bw](mailto:procurement@bvi.co.bw).

To access the full tender notice please visit [www.bvi.co.bw/tenders](http://www.bvi.co.bw/tenders)

**Bank:** Access Bank  
**Account type:** Current  
**Branch code:** 552067  
**Branch name:** Corporate  
**Account Number:** 1002533640701



# Botswana Trades Mineral Access for US Tariff Relief

Government offers priority mineral rights in bid to cut export duties

GAZETTE REPORTER

President Duma Boko's administration has offered the United States priority access to critical minerals in ongoing negotiations to reduce export tariffs recently imposed on Botswana goods.

The United States government introduced a 37 percent tariff on all goods imported from Botswana, effective August 1, 2025. According to Diamond World, Botswana is the world's second-largest diamond producer after Russia, with mineral exports to the US amounting to approximately \$500 million annually. Before the tariff, Botswana's diamond exports enjoyed zero-rated status in the US market.

President Boko sought to have the tariff delayed through direct engagement with Donald Trump's administration, but these diplomatic efforts yielded no results. The tariff structure included a baseline 10 percent duty introduced in April 2025 and an additional 27 percent under new reciprocal measures, which Botswana regards as a serious threat to its export economy.

"These punitive measures threaten the sustainability of Botswana's diamond industry and present a serious obstacle to broader economic growth across Africa," President Boko said.

## Strategic engagement with the US

In response, Botswana moved to offer concessions aimed at reducing the tariff. Weeks after its implementation, the government tabled a Strategic Bilateral Engagement proposal in July 2025, which offered the US first-mover rights in exploring three high-value geological zones. These zones are believed to contain multi-metal deposits, including critical



minerals and rare earth elements.

A source familiar with the discussions confirmed that Vice President Ndaba Gaolathe met with US Secretary of Commerce Lutnick Howard on July 19, 2025. During the meeting, Howard assured that the United States Trade Representative (USTR) would share a framework outlining specific US trade concerns for Botswana's consideration.

"While we wait for the framework detailing the specific trade concerns of the US, we submit the four proposals (using the initial discussions in the meeting of record as a basis) for consideration," the Strategic Bilateral Engagement document noted.

## Proposals to the United States

One of the central proposals involved granting the US government priority access to Botswana's critical minerals. The structured exploration partnership would give American companies first-mover advantage across the identified zones. The offer also envisaged US participation in mining projects, with the US providing technical expertise.

Another element of the proposal involved facilitating US investment in other sectors, such as renewable energy, health, technology, and infrastructure. The government committed to supporting such investments through the Botswana One Stop Service Centre (BOSSC) by streamlining the process for acquiring permits, licences, and authorisations.

Botswana also committed to removing non-tariff barriers (NTBs) in international trade. The proposal indicated that the process of eliminating NTBs

was already underway, but that Botswana would require US assistance, both technical and financial, to expedite completion. In addition, the government expressed willingness to receive and address specific US requests regarding NTBs and trade facilitation to enable the free movement of US imports into Botswana.

A final component of the proposals was Botswana's readiness to consider and accept specific US product standards upon request. The document noted that the US has several standards development bodies that Botswana had already engaged with in the past.

## Tariff Reduction Secured

Following the proposals, the US reduced the tariff on Botswana's exports from 37 percent to 15 percent. The Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship announced the change on August 15, 2025, noting that the revised rate had taken effect on August 7.

"We wish to inform the business community and the general public that, effective August 7, 2025, the United States government has adjusted its Reciprocal Tariff Rates for its foreign trading partners, including Botswana," Permanent Secretary Joel Ramaphoi said in a statement.

"Under the revised structure, the Reciprocal Tariff Rate applicable to Botswana's exports to the United States has been reduced to 15 percent, down from the previous rate of 37 percent announced on April 2, 2025," he added.

Ramaphoi explained that the tariff reduction was part of a series of US executive orders aimed at establishing a reciprocal trade framework with global partners. He noted that further adjustments could follow as negotiations progress.

"To further reduce or eliminate the 15 percent Reciprocal Tariff,

Botswana and the US continue negotiations. These discussions aim to address the specific concerns of both parties and strengthen bilateral trade ties," he said.

"These punitive measures threaten the sustainability of Botswana's diamond industry and present a serious obstacle to broader economic growth across Africa"

## Concerns from Industry Stakeholders

While the government hailed the tariff reduction as a success, the concessions offered have drawn criticism from some quarters. Mining stakeholders have warned that granting priority access to mineral rights could contravene Botswana's Mineral Rights Act and undermine communal land protections enshrined in the Tribal Land Act. They argue that mineral resources belong to Botswana, not to government negotiators.

Critics also caution that mining accounts for roughly 30 percent of Botswana's GDP, and giving first-mover advantage to foreign firms risks diminishing local beneficiation opportunities, weakening DEBSWANA partnerships, and reviving exploitative resource models of the past.

There are also concerns about transparency. Stakeholders have pointed out that the negotiations took place without parliamentary debate or public consultation, raising questions about accountability in decisions involving the country's most valuable resources.

# WHY MAGOSI, MACHOLO DON'T WANT TO BE IMPRISONED

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Director of the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM), Gaone Macholo, and the Director General of the Directorate of Intelligence and Security (DIS), Brigadier (Ret.) Peter Magosi, have filed an urgent application seeking a stay of execution of a High Court ruling that found them in contempt of court.

Last week, Justice Zein Kebonang ruled in favour of more than 400 DIS agents, ordering that both Macholo and Magosi be jailed for contempt of court after failing to comply with an earlier order issued in June 2024. The ruling directed that the two remain imprisoned until they purge their contempt, effectively plac-

ing their liberty on the line.

## "Presidential appointee"

In her founding affidavit, Macholo argued that the matter is "inherently urgent" because the contempt orders carry implications on their personal freedom. She insisted that the case was mishandled since neither she nor Magosi was personally cited in the contempt application.

"I aver that my imprisonment will affect the public interest and public service delivery as I am a Presidential appointee, administratively responsible for human resource policy formulation and the day-to-day running of the Public Service," she stated.

## Magosi arrest compromises national security

She further contended that Magosi's imprisonment would

compromise national security. As head of the DIS, he is the principal advisor to the President and government on security matters, a role explicitly provided for under the Intelligence and Security Service Act.

According to Macholo, the respondents have failed to prove that she and Magosi deliberately and maliciously disregarded the court order. She maintained that contempt proceedings target natural persons responsible for compliance, and therefore require those individuals to be cited by name and served personally with the application. Instead, the contempt case was instituted against government offices, with the papers served only on the Attorney General.

"The order, when implement-

ed, will have the effect of stripping me and Brigadier Magosi of our liberty despite the fact that we were never given a chance to defend ourselves as we were not personally cited nor served with the contempt application," Macholo argued.

## Appeal to the court

She added that the ruling not only jeopardizes their rights but also risks destabilising public administration and security. "We humbly seek that execution of the order be stayed, pending determination of the appeal," she pleaded.

## Technical errors

Macholo and Magosi point out technical errors in the original contempt application. They note that while the respondents cited the "Director of Public Service

Management" and the "Director of Intelligence and Security Services," there is no such position in the DIS structure. Macholo argued that the application likely intended to target the Director General, which is the position Magosi holds.

Macholo and Magosi maintain that the High Court misapplied the law by committing them to prison without satisfying the requirement of personal service.

They argue that contempt is a serious sanction that should not be imposed lightly, especially when individual constitutional rights to liberty are at stake.

The stay of execution application, now before Kebonang, will determine whether the two senior government officials avoid imprisonment while challenging his ruling. For now, Macholo and Magosi are clinging to their liberty, arguing that their personal freedoms, the stability of the public service, and the security of the state are all on the line.



# PPRA P662m E-Learning Tender Cancelled

PPRA has ordered cancellation of a multimillion-pula education tender for irregularities, lack of transparency and risks in the procurement process involving Emeritus Training Academy Botswana



Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education, Botswana

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) has called out the Ministry of Child Welfare and Basic Education for fail-

ing to follow procurement procedures in the awarding of a P662 million e-learning tender.

Following an investigation, PPRA concluded that the procurement process was marred

by serious irregularities, including lack of transparency, insufficient justification for direct procurement, and failure to follow prescribed procedures.

**Risks and ambiguities**

The Authority also flagged significant risks and ambiguities in the bid submitted by Emeritus Training Academy Botswana (Pty) Ltd, raising concerns about its capacity to deliver.

Key findings included the ministry's failure to secure funding before initiating the procurement, failure to provide justification for using direct procurement, failure to include mandatory documentation such as beneficial ownership forms and failure to ensure fairness, transparency and scope sufficiency in the procurement process.

**Fair competition**

Additionally, Emeritus Training Academy Botswana was found to have potentially misrepresented critical information, placing it in possible breach of the Code of Conduct for Contractors.

PPRA consequently ordered the ministry to cancel the tender, re-tender the project competitively and strengthen oversight by ensuring proper risk management, fair competition, and clear accountability.

Meanwhile, Emeritus has been referred for possible suspension and blacklisting, pending further investigation.

**No justification**

"The ministry has not provided adequate justification for the use of direct procurement as prescribed in Regulation 20 of the Public Procurement Regulations," said PPRA.

"Specifically, none of the

conditions prescribed under Regulation 20 are met, and the convenience of the encounter of the benchmarking team with Emeritus Training Academy (Pty) Ltd (South Africa) does not qualify as justification for the direct procurement.

**"The ministry has not provided adequate justification for the use of direct procurement as prescribed in Regulation 20 of the Public Procurement Regulations"**

**Significant gaps**

"The bid by Emeritus Training Academy Botswana (Pty) Ltd company has significant gaps and areas of ambiguity which pose as risk areas for uncontrolled expenditure that has the potential to exceed the current bid price during implementation.

"Emeritus Training Academy Botswana (Pty) Ltd, in the bid submission, has not provided verification of its experience, nor has it substantiated its claim that it has the capacity to implement the required services."

## BCP LEGISLATOR RAISES ALARM OVER NEW PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL

Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang says a Parliamentary Counsel redeployed from a government department could weaken Parliament by hesitating when called upon to make decisions at odds with the Executive

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Botswana Congress Party (BCP) has expressed concern about the independence of Dr Ame Rebecca Masuku as Parliamentary Counsel because her appointment is effectively a re-deployment from another government department.

Following Dr Masuku's appointment, the MP for Tswapong South, Dr Kesitegile Gobotswang, said such deployments can create conflicts of interest when parliamentary staff is required to make decisions affecting the Executive.

Dr Gobotswang - who is a former vice president of the BCP - was speaking in an interview with

*The Botswana Gazette.*

**Fear of insubordination**

"The Parliamentary Counsel may be afraid to take decisions against the Executive, especially in situations where Parliament and the Executive are in conflict," he said.

He asserted that parliamentary staff deployed from government ministries or departments rarely operate independently. Instead, he added, they tend to avoid making decisions that might be seen as insubordination.

"Most of the time, they do not act independently," Dr Gobotswang said. "Their fear of being seen as defying the Executive un-



(Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

dermines the autonomy of Parliament."

**More red tape**

In his view, deploying officers from the public service to Parliament creates unnecessary red tape, thus weakening the ability of Parliament to assert its authority.

Dr Gobotswang said the BCP believes that parliamentary staff

should be fully insulated from government ministries in order to avoid undue influence and ensure legislative independence.

"We need people who are employed directly by Parliament, not this kind of deployment," he asserted. "We need someone who will not be afraid to take independent decisions and who will grow

within Parliament, gaining full knowledge of all its operations.

**Constitutional review**

He emphasised that Parliament should not be dominated by the Executive, saying such developments weaken democracy.

"We have a weak foundation of democracy that needs urgent review," Dr Gobotswang stated. "That is why we are advocating for a comprehensive review of the constitution.

Dr Masuku is a law lecturer at the University of Botswana and a former State Counsel at the Attorney General's Chambers. She was appointed Parliamentary Counsel last week.

**Ability and credentials**

Reached for comment, former deputy speaker of the National Assembly, Pono Moatlhodi, dismissed concerns that a redeployed Parliamentary Counsel could be biased.

"This is far from the truth because all the Parliamentary Counsels the National Assembly has had were redeployed from the AG," he said.

"We have never had anybody from private practice appointed directly to the National Assembly. In appointing Parliamentary Counsel, we focus on ability and credentials."



# Ex-Minister Tibone, Company in Court Over Labour Dispute

A former employee of Charles Tibone's company has dragged the company to court demanding more than P285,000 in unpaid commissions



The case pits Tibone's company against Nomsa Kebathalefe, who worked as Fleet Sales Manager at Motor Holdings Gaborone from November 2020 until her resignation in July 2024. Photo Credit: Hi Range Safari City

## GAZETTE REPORTER

Former Cabinet Minister and businessman Charles Tibone and his company, Motor Holdings Botswana are embroiled in a bitter pay dispute at the Industrial Court where a former employee is demanding more than P285,000 in unpaid commissions.

The case pits Tibone's company against Nomsa Kebathalefe, who worked as Fleet Sales Manager at Motor Holdings Gaborone from November 2020 until her resignation in July 2024.

Kebathalefe alleges that while her contract guaranteed a basic salary of P21,000 plus commission on departmental vehicle sales, the company repeatedly withheld her payments despite her meeting set targets.

### Systematically denied commissions

According to her statement before the court, Kebathalefe was entitled to 0.75% of gross sales above P878,750 and 3.5% of profits above P362,250. She insists she was systematically denied commissions for February, May, June, and July

2024-amounting to P285,519.33. This compelled her to lodge a complaint with the Labour Department before escalating the matter to the Industrial Court.

"I was never told why I wasn't being paid. This is purely greedy behavior. The commission structure was designed by the directors themselves, and I want to be paid what is due," she told the court, adding that she eventually resigned because "the environment was no longer conducive."

### Admission by Finance Manager

Kebathalefe says even Motor Holdings' own Finance Manager, Gayan Nayanapriya, admitted she was owed money and at one point advanced her P20,000, promising deductions would be made once her commissions were processed. She claims one of the managing director of the company, Badeti Tibone personally blocked the payments.

But the company, represented by Mbewe Legal Practice, has denied any wrongdoing.

### Defence

In its defence, Motor Holdings insists Kebathalefe is not entitled to the commissions she claims, arguing that she played no role in the tender deal that saw 69 out of 74 vehicles sold during the period in question.

"The directors negotiated, secured, and closed the tender sale. The applicant's involvement was minimal, limited only to delivering the vehicles. She cannot claim commission on sales she did not make," the company argued in court papers.

Instead, the dealership says it offered her a "gratuitous payment" of P300 per vehicle delivered, totalling P20,700, which it insists was fair compensation for her contribution. The company further accuses her of later sending a "xenophobic and threatening" message to the finance manager, an allegation she has not addressed publicly.

The matter, chaired initially by Labour Department official Mimie Orapeleng, had concluded that Kebathalefe should be paid as per her contract. But with no resolution reached, the case has now advanced to the Industrial Court.

## Botswana Taps Global Banks For De Beers Takeover Bid

Having earned plaudits for bringing in Lazard as cross-border transactions experts of repute, Botswana has also raised eyebrows by involving another Swiss bank that is considered insufficiently experienced in mining mergers and acquisitions

### BONGANI MALUNGA

The government has enlisted the expertise of French investment bank Lazard to provide advisory services on its planned acquisition of a controlling stake in diamond giant De Beers.

This move signals Botswana's determination to strengthen its influence in one of the world's most storied diamond companies.

### To work in tandem

According to a report by global publication, *The Financial Times*, Lazard will work in tandem with Swiss private bank Compagnie Bancaire Helvétique (CBH), which has already been engaged as a co-adviser, to help steer the government through the complexities of the transaction.

The partnership underscores Botswana's strategic intent to secure greater ownership and long-term value from its diamond resources.

### Leading int'l adviser

Industry experts say by bringing Lazard on board, Botswana gains access to one of the world's leading advisers on complex cross-border transactions.

However, contrasting reactions have been raised about the deployment of CBH, with *The Financial Times* indicating that

those close to the talks and the sale process have expressed shock over the inclusion of CBH, which is considered a novice in mining mergers and acquisitions.

### Corporate controversy

"CBH director Sherzod Yusupov, an Uzbek-born banker who is working on the Botswana account, was previously a senior vice president at UniCredit and a board member at Moscow-based Uniastrum Bank," said the report.

"From 2019 to 2021, he was involved in a high-profile corporate dispute at Vostochny Bank, which roiled the Russian business community and led to the brief jailing of US private equity investor Michael Calvey."

A representative of CBH is quoted as saying in a statement: "All court cases with Yusupov's involvement were amicably settled and discontinued in their entirety."

### Vindicated

Additionally, Yusupov's lawyer has maintained that his client's position in relation to the dispute was vindicated and negative allegations levelled at him dropped.

While the details of the potential transaction remain closely guarded, the engagement of Lazard and CBH highlights Botswana's resolve to recalibrate its partnership with De Beers on terms that secure long-term value creation.

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## SWITCH FROM EMPLOYMENT TO PROFIT SHARING (A call to all innovative professionals)

We are a consultancy firm currently offering specialist tax services, bespoke HR consultancy and property investments. We have to date served 15 BSE-listed entities, 7 commercial banks, 2 statutory banks and all the 3 telecommunication companies, among other clients. We invite professionals of any field who need to switch from mere employment to owning part of a business whilst retaining their employment. The professionals would be assisted to start consultancies from scratch under our brands using an already crafted and successful blueprint of growing similar firms. The professionals immediately become the head of divisions, they keep their current remuneration and in addition, they participate in the profits of the business.

### Qualities & qualifications

The ideal candidate must have the following qualifications and qualities:

1. Be highly innovative
2. Able to solicit for clients
3. A motivating team player
4. Good writing and communication skills
5. Be a holder of a diploma or degree in any field other than legal services or any profession whose consulting licenses are reserved for citizens

### Applications

Must include the following: a detailed CV with at least 4 written references, 2 of which must relate to work experience/employment and 2 must be for character, details relating to the current salaries and benefits all converted to monetary terms (BWP)/cost to company. A detailed narration of the proposed consultancy stating the following:

- Nature of the business, how clients will be solicited for/ go-to-market strategy, anticipated revenues and expenses in the first, second and third year.
- The regulatory environment i.e., licensing or accreditation or permits, etc.
- An analysis of the competition and how the firm will snatch its part of the market (this must not exceed 5 pages in WORD)

### Contacts

Applications should be sent to [tax1@aupracontax.co.bw](mailto:tax1@aupracontax.co.bw) cc [jhore@aupracontax.co.bw](mailto:jhore@aupracontax.co.bw) and [tax9@aupracontax.co.bw](mailto:tax9@aupracontax.co.bw) by 30 September 2025





# CHOMBO LAUNCHES BA ISAGO UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR GBV PREVENTION

GAZETTE REPORTER

**B**A ISAGO University has broken new ground in Botswana's higher education sector with the launch of the Centre for Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Empowerment (CGBVPE), a first-of-its-kind institutional unit dedicated to combating one of the nation's most persistent social ills.

The launch, officiated by the Minister of Youth and Gender Affairs, Lesego Chombo, was hailed as a

bold and timely move. Chombo applauded the University for taking leadership in the national fight against gender-based violence (GBV), describing the Centre as a significant step in safeguarding families and strengthening communities.

"This is not simply the unveiling of a new institutional unit. It is a declaration that Botswana will not stand idly by while one of the greatest crisis of our generation undermines our families, scars our young

people and derails our national progress," Chombo said.

## Founder's brainchild

The Centre is the brainchild of Odirile Gabasiane, Co-Founder and Managing Director of BA ISAGO University, who underscored the need for academia to play an active role in tackling GBV. "We knew then that BA ISAGO had to take a bold step. We decided to create something unique, a Centre that would focus specifically and comprehensively on GBV—not as a side

issue but as a core mission. A Centre that would bring together research, teaching, advocacy and community outreach under one roof," he said.

## Three-legged pot

Following a feasibility study, the Centre was structured as a "three-legged pot," built on education and training, research, and community outreach and advocacy. Its dual emphasis on Prevention, to stop violence before it happens, and Empowerment, to restore dignity and opportunities to survivors, forms the bedrock of its mandate.

Among its groundbreaking initiatives is the introduction of the Master of Arts in Gender-Based Violence, Botswana's first specialised post-graduate programme dedicated to training professionals with advanced skills to combat GBV.

## Impactful projects

Already, the Centre has rolled out impactful projects, including a collaborative study with the Botswana Gender-Based Violence Prevention Centre (BGBVC) on GBV risk and protective factors, supported by the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI). It is also developing a national directory of GBV organisations, designed to empower survivors by improving access to services and strengthening coordination among stakeholders.

Looking to the future, BA ISAGO University plans to expand the Centre into a School of Gender and Human Rights, with broader programmes in rehabilitation, grief and trauma counselling, and the hosting of international conferences to place Botswana at the heart of global dialogue on GBV.

# Much Wastage Lies Behind Public Health Emergency - BDU

The Botswana Doctors' Union has called for improved monitoring and evaluation because much medication goes to waste when vast quantities of expired drugs have to be destroyed after overstocking at Central Medical Stores and in excessive prescriptions for patients

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

**T**he current acute shortage of drugs at public health facilities across the country is caused by wastage after overstocking at Central Medical Stores, the Botswana Doctors' Union has said.

Speaking in an interview with The Botswana Gazette in the midst of the Public Health State of Emergency, the president of BDU, Dr Kefilwe Selema, called on the government to curb such wastage of drugs.

He asserted that medication for several days is often prescribed for patients with minor ailments such as a light headache. "This is wastage because the patient will only use the prescription for a day and the rest goes to waste," he said.

## Root causes

Dr Selema said the ongoing distribution of drugs and other medical supplies should serve as a learning curve and an opportunity

**In 2010, the Auditor General reported that CMS had expired drugs covering the period from April 2010 to March 2018 with an estimated cost of over P26 million**

to identify the root causes of the shortages. He emphasised that to avoid unnecessary



stock depletion, prescriptions should align with the patient's actual needs, "not several days' supply".

He added that proper monitoring would allow the government to procure drugs based on real demand and ensure that they reach facilities where they are most needed.

## Monitoring and evaluation

He identified lack of proper monitoring and evaluation as another serious cause of the current shortages, saying Central Medical Stores (CMS) often stockpiles drugs that eventually expire and are destroyed.

Dr Selema noted that some patients, particularly those on ARVs, collect medication

from multiple facilities but do not use all of it, thus contributing to wastage.

In recent years, CMS has been criticised for stockpiling drugs that eventually expire and are destroyed after failing to reach health facilities on time.

## P46m expired drugs

In 2010, the Auditor General reported that CMS had expired drugs covering the period from April 2010 to March 2018 with an estimated cost of over P26 million.

Similarly, the Auditor General has reported that in 2007 CMS discarded more than P20 million worth of expired medical supplies.



# Saleshando Jr. Leads Student Protest Over Allowances

Students have threatened a boycott and shift to online classes if payment of their outstanding allowances is not made by 9 September

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Students will boycott physical classes if their outstanding allowances are not credited by 9 September, which is six days from today (Wednesday).

This ultimatum was communicated by Loago Saleshando who is the son of the leader of the Botswana Congress Party (BCP), Dumelang Saleshando - in a strongly worded letter addressed to the Deputy Executive Director of Academic Affairs at Botswana Accountancy College, Tebogo Magang, where the junior Saleshando is a student.

### Radical action

The Saleshando brief stated that all students registered for more than two weeks must receive their allowances by Tuesday 9 September or students will boycott physical classes.

However, Saleshando - who is also the student liaison officer of the Botswana Congress Party Youth League (BCPYL) - has emphasised that the threat is not intended to undermine the institution but to highlight the urgency of the matter.

“We have decided that now is the time for radical action,” he said. “We do not do this to upset the institution. Rather, we do this to demonstrate the urgency of this matter.”

### Some students shortchanged

Students say it is unfair to expect those who have not been paid or who have only received only P1,500 to attend classes. Saleshando queried: “What money will they use to come to school?”

He added that some students have been in the BAC database for over a month without receiving their stipends.

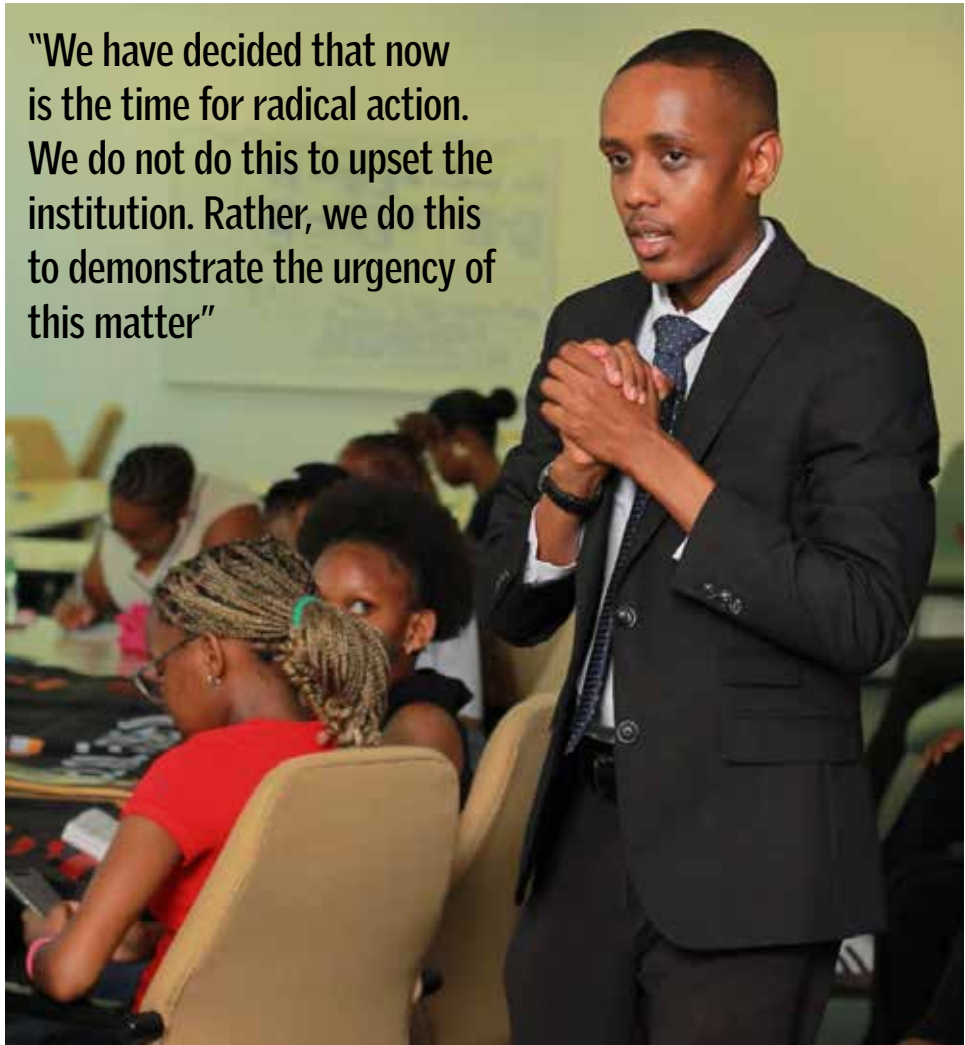
He has appealed to the institution’s management to provide academic materials online so that learning can continue while the grievances are addressed.

### Vocal

Since the change of government in Botswana, Saleshando Jr. has been vocal about student welfare.

He has been particularly critical of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) for failing to fulfil its promise of increasing student living allowances to P2,500 each per month.

“We have decided that now is the time for radical action. We do not do this to upset the institution. Rather, we do this to demonstrate the urgency of this matter”



Loago Saleshando Photo Credit: facebook/LoagoSaleshando

# Corruption and Economic Crime Act under review – DCEC

DCEC has embarked on a comprehensive review of the Corruption and Economic Crimes Act that is aimed at fortifying legal frameworks and enhancing Botswana’s anti-corruption architecture

BONGANI MALUNGA

A review of the Corruption and Economic Crimes Act (CECA) of 2013 to strengthen the legal framework of the agency and ensure its independence for stronger teeth to combat corruption is underway to ready for Parliament in November, the agency has announced.

Speaking at a media briefing in Gaborone recently, the Director General of DCEC, Botlhale Makgekgenene, said the review is necessary to ensure that reformed laws will help create a more transparent system that protects public

resource.

### Growing calls

The review is coming amid growing calls for stronger anti-corruption measures and is expected to propose updates that align the law with current economic and technological realities.

The first CECA was established in 1994 to pave the way for the formation of DCEC and amended in 2013.

According to the corruption-busting agency, the revised legislation will enhance its capacity to investigate and prosecute cases of economic crime and corruption.

### Modern-day corruption

“We need to strengthen our legal framework to adequately address the evolving and complex nature of modern-day corruption”

“The key objective of this exercise is to strengthen our legislative framework,” Makgekgenene stated. “We need to strengthen our legal framework to adequately address the evolving and com-

plex nature of modern-day corruption. “We envisage that through this review, the Act will be able to close the institutional and operational gaps that we currently contend with. It is our intention to have this Act presented or passed by Parliament in its November sitting.”

Meanwhile, from January to 21 August 2025, DCEC received over 650 corruption allegation leads, with nine politicians from the previous and current administrations implicated in some of the cases.

**650 leads and 9 politicians in 8 months**

Makgekgenene told journalist that in 2024, DCEC traced and identified proceeds of corruption in the form of properties and money and referred assets valued at P144 million to the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for instigation of asset recovery.

The figure is a significant increase from the P1.8 million in ill-gotten assets identified in the comparative period in 2023.

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## INVITATION TO TENDER

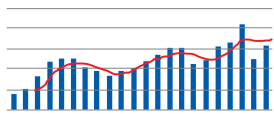
BOTSWANA ACCOUNTANCY COLLEGE	TENDER TENDERING PROCEDURES	T 1.1 TENDER NOTICE AND INVITATION TO TENDER
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Tender Ref No. BAC/HR/23/2025 | Closing Date : Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 11:30hrs  
**CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HIGH- PERFORMANCE CULTURE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME FOR BOTSWANA ACCOUNTANCY COLLEGE**

Tender Ref No. BAC/HR/22/2025 | Closing Date : Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 10:00hrs  
**CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO CARRY OUT BOTSWANA ACCOUNTANCY COLLEGE ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW EXERCISE**

For more details visit: <https://www.bac.ac.bw/tenders.php>





"The decision to draw \$10.0 million from the Standby Undertaking provided by our largest shareholder represents a prudent approach to maintaining our financial flexibility during the current period of ongoing UGP capital expenditures"

Photo Credit:Lucara Diamond

## Lucara Secures \$10m Shareholder Funding

The company has also announced notable diamond recoveries from Karowe Mine in August: a 1,019.85 carat non-gem diamond and a 37.42 carat near-gem pink Type IIa diamond

### GAZETTE REPORTER

Lucara Diamond Corp has drawn down \$10 million from a \$63 million limited shareholder standby undertaking provided by its largest shareholder, Nemesia S.à.r.l., to cover a funding shortfall in the Karowe underground project (UGP).

According to the company in a recent statement, Nemesia provided the standby facility in connection with Lucara's amended senior secured project financing debt package.

The arrangement has two components:

\$28 million to support liquidity shortfalls until completion of the UGP and \$35 million as a funding shortfall guarantee for the project's completion.

#### "Nemesia Consideration"

Lucara added that for every \$500,000 drawn under the facility, it will issue 7,500 common shares per month to Nemesia until the borrowed amounts are repaid.

These shares, referred to as the "Nemesia Consideration," will be settled on a quarterly basis.

Alongside the funding update, Lucara also announced significant recoveries from its 100 percent-owned Karowe Mine

in Botswana. In August 2025, the company recovered a 1,019.85 carat non-gem diamond through its Mega Diamond Recovery unit.

#### 9<sup>th</sup> stone over 1,000ct

The discovery marks the ninth diamond over 1,000 carats from Karowe and the third such recovery this year.

During the same month, Lucara also recovered a 37.42 carat near-gem pink Type IIa diamond.

Both stones were recovered from processing EM/PK(S)1 material, which is the focus of the underground expansion and

has produced some of the largest natural diamonds ever recorded.

William Lamb, Lucara's president and CEO, said the decision to access the facility was intended to maintain the company's financial flexibility as it continues to spend on the underground expansion.

#### World's most significant diamonds

"The decision to draw \$10.0 million from the Standby Undertaking provided by our largest shareholder represents a prudent approach to maintaining our financial flexibility during the current period of ongoing UGP capital expenditures," Lamb said.

"This funding mechanism demonstrates the continued confidence and unwavering support of our major shareholders in Lucara's long-term strategy and the exceptional value potential, including the ongoing recovery of the world's most significant diamonds from our Karowe Mine."

## Inflation Declined in Q2 of 2025

BoB attributes the decrease in inflation in the second quarter of 2025 to deceleration in the rate of annual price changes of the transport category

### GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana's headline inflation fell in the second quarter of 2025, averaging 2.1 percent compared to 3 percent in the same period in 2024, a report by the Bank of Botswana (BoB) shows.

According to the central bank's Monetary Policy Report: August 2025, domestic tradeables inflation rose from an average of 3.5 percent in the second quarter of 2024 to 4.6 percent in the second quarter of 2025.

The rise was attributed to a broad-based increase in food prices.

Imported tradeables inflation, however, fell from an average of 3.1 percent to 1 percent, mainly due to base effects linked to higher domestic fuel prices in 2024.

#### Headline slipped

Consequently, all tradeables inflation decreased from an average of 3.2 percent to 2 percent in the same period. Non-tradeables inflation also eased, dropping from 2.6 percent to 2.2 percent.

In July 2025, inflation across all major categories continued to decline. Domestic tradeables fell to 4 percent, non-tradeables to 0.3 percent, imported tradeables to 0.7 percent, and all tradeables to 1.6 percent.

Headline inflation slipped to 1.1 percent in July, down from 2 percent in June and significantly lower than the 3.7 percent recorded in July 2024.

#### Fuel and water

"The decrease in inflation in the second quarter of 2025 was mainly on account of

the deceleration in the rate of annual price changes of the transport category, emanating from the base effects associated with the increase in domestic fuel prices in 2024, as well as the decrease in water tariffs, which decreased inflation by 0.48 percentage points and 0.23 percentage points, respectively," the report states.

The report attributes the decline between June and July 2025 largely to the adjustment in electricity tariffs effected in July, which reduced headline inflation by 0.64 percentage points.

#### Below BoB's objective range

A slowdown in annual price changes for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Transport also contributed.

"Similarly, headline inflation decreased

from 2 percent in June to 1.1 percent in July 2025, remaining below the lower bound of the medium-term objective range of 3 – 6 percent," the report notes.

"The decrease in inflation was on account of subdued domestic demand amid the ongoing recession"

It highlights that non-tradeables inflation has generally been on a downward path since June 2022, mainly due to adjustments in some administered prices. Domestic tradeables inflation, on the other hand, has been rising since June 2024, reflecting persistent increases in domestic food prices.





Speaking in an interview on the sidelines of the Botswana Consumer Fair, Kemorwale emphasised that regulatory development must be balanced with accountability. "It is not enough to issue new licences or attract investment," he said. Photo Credit: Gambling Authority

# Kemorwale Calls For Safer Gambling

Acting CEO, Moruntshi Kemorwale: "It is not enough to issue new licences or attract investment. We must ensure that every step we take safeguards the public, particularly vulnerable groups"

## GAZETTE REPORTER

The focus of the Gambling Authority of Botswana (GAB) is now shifting towards ensuring the sustainability of the gambling sector that continues to expand, the Acting CEO of GAB, Moruntshi Kemorwale, has said.

Speaking in an interview on the sidelines of the Botswana Consumer Fair, Kemorwale emphasised that regulatory development must be balanced with accountability.

"It is not enough to issue new licences or attract investment," he said. "We must ensure that every step we take safeguards

the public, particularly vulnerable groups."

### Global best practices

However, he added, Botswana cannot regulate in isolation but must remain responsive to international developments.

He pointed to countries like Italy and the United Kingdom for embedding harm-reduction measures in their gambling frameworks.

Italy, Kemorwale said, recently approved 46 new online gambling licences that include automated alerts for compulsive behaviour and specific controls for young adults aged 18 to 24 as safeguards.

### Overexposure

"In the United Kingdom, regulators now require operators to allow customers to opt into specific forms of marketing, giving players more choice and protection from overexposure," he noted.

He added that the International Responsible Gambling Standards (IRGS), developed by the US National Council on Problem Gambling, recommend comprehensive approaches to regulation.

These include governance protocols, self-exclusion mechanisms, intervention strategies, and recovery services.

### Safer and more sustainable

"These examples show us that robust

regulation is not a brake on growth," said Kemorwale. "Infact, it's the foundation for long-term investor confidence and consumer trust."

As Botswana continues to roll out new gambling licences, the Acting CEO of GAB said this will be accompanied by a stronger framework for responsible gambling. "Our priority is to make gambling safer and more sustainable," he emphasised.

"We are looking at measures such as enhancing our self-exclusion programme, pre-commitment tools that allow players to set their own limits, and marketing controls that prevent overexposure."

### Automated monitoring systems

Kemorwale said GAB is also considering the implementation of automated behavioural monitoring systems to detect early signs of problem gambling.

To that end, partnerships with academic institutions like the University of Botswana will be expected to play a role in research and policy development.

Kemorwale stressed the importance of inclusive policy-making. "We will continue to engage with stakeholders, from health experts to operators and communities, to design policies that reflect both our national context and international standards," he said.

### Regional leader in ethical gambling

He stated that an abiding ambition of the Gambling Authority of Botswana is for Botswana to become a regional leader in ethical and transparent gambling regulation.

"With the right policies, we can create a regulatory environment where economic opportunity and social responsibility walk hand in hand," he said.

Looking ahead, Kemorwale said the Authority GAB remains committed to ensuring that growth in the industry aligns with the well-being of the public. "Responsible gambling is not a side programme, he said.

"It is the very foundation of our licence to operate as an industry. By putting people at the centre of our regulatory framework, we ensure that growth is not only possible but sustainable for generations to come."

# June Export Earnings Up 3%

Asia remained the largest market, receiving 61.6 percent of Botswana's exports

## GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana's export earnings increased by 3 percent in June 2025, rising from the revised May figure of P7.286 billion to P7.501 billion.

According to Statistics Botswana's International Merchandise Trade Statistics - June 2025, the growth was largely driven by diamond exports, which rose by 3.3 percent (P179.6 million) during the month.

Diamonds accounted for 75.6 percent of total exports, followed by copper at 14.1 percent and machinery and electrical equipment at 3.2 percent.

### Asia main export market

"Diamonds continue to dominate Botswana's export basket, maintaining their role as the primary source of foreign earnings," said the reporter.



According to Statistics Botswana's International Merchandise Trade Statistics - June 2025, the growth was largely driven by diamond exports, which rose by 3.3 percent (P179.6 million) during the month.

Asia remained the largest market, receiving 61.6 percent of Botswana's exports. Diamonds and copper were the main commodities, at 88.5 percent and 10.9 percent respectively.

The United Arab Emirates, India, and China were the top destinations within the region, accounting for 35.7 percent, 14.4 percent, and 6.8 percent of total exports respectively.

### China key for copper

The report noted that diamonds accounted for 99.5 percent of exports to the UAE and 99.3 percent to India. Copper was the dominant export to China, valued at P503.7 million or 98.9 percent of total shipments to that country.

The European Union received 17.1 percent of Botswana's exports, nearly all of which were diamonds (99.1 percent). Belgium was the leading destination within the bloc, taking 17 percent of total exports, all in diamonds.

Botswana's imports for June 2025 were valued at P6.7 billion. Fuel was the leading import category at 21.4 percent, followed by food, beverages and tobacco (16.4 percent), and machinery and electrical equipment (15.8 percent).

Chemicals and rubber products accounted for 10.5 percent (P706.1 million), while diamonds contributed 10.2 percent (P683.9 million).

### SACU key for imports

The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) supplied 71.4 percent of Botswana's imports (P4.8 billion). Fuel and food, beverages and tobacco accounted for 24.2 percent and 20.5 percent of SACU imports respectively.

South Africa remained the dominant source, accounting for 66 percent of total imports, followed by Namibia at 5.1 percent (P340.1 million).

Botswana also imported goods worth P918.4 million from Asia, representing 13.7 percent of total imports. Machinery and electrical equipment contributed 35.1 percent (P322.4 million), while diamonds made up 21.2 percent (P194.3 million).



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# Stanbic Bank Backs Manufacturing Growth

Stanbic Bank Botswana reaffirmed its role in driving Botswana's industrial transformation at the Local Manufacturing Summit 2025



"Manufacturing is central to Botswana's economic transformation."

## GAZETTE REPORTER

Stanbic Bank Botswana reinforced its commitment to Botswana's industrial transformation through active participation in the Local Manufacturing Summit 2025, held at the Gaborone Inter-

national Convention Centre (GICC).

Now in its second year of partnership with the Summit, the Bank played a central role in shaping discussions on the future of Botswana's manufacturing sector.

### Summit Theme and Focus

The Summit, themed "Accelerating Ac-

tion: Building Competitive and Sustainable Manufacturing for Botswana's Future," brought together government leaders, private sector players, financial institutions, academia, and entrepreneurs.

Deliberations focused on scaling local industry, unlocking opportunities under

the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), driving sustainability, and strengthening value chains.

### Stanbic Bank's Strategic Contribution

Acting Chief Executive of Stanbic Bank Botswana, Lebea Sephuma, said the Bank remains committed to supporting manufacturing growth.

"Manufacturing is central to Botswana's economic transformation. Stanbic Bank Botswana is committed to walking alongside local businesses through innovative financing solutions, strategic partnerships, and platforms such as the Accelerate Incubator and our Citizen Economic Empowerment Programme (CEEP). These initiatives are designed to help entrepreneurs grow sustainable enterprises that create jobs and position Botswana as a competitive force within the region," he said.

### Workshops and Panels

The Summit featured keynote addresses, interactive panel discussions, and technical workshops on industrial financing, technology adoption, sustainability, and public-private partnerships as tools for building a strong manufacturing base.

### Long-Term Commitment

In his closing remarks, Sephuma reiterated the Bank's long-term dedication to advancing Botswana's development agenda.

"The conversations here have highlighted the urgency of action. Stanbic Bank Botswana is dedicated to working with the government and industry partners to unlock growth, empower citizen-owned enterprises, and build industries that anchor Botswana's competitiveness and long-term self-reliance," he said.

The Local Manufacturing Summit has become one of Botswana's foremost industrial platforms, promoting collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and solutions for the future.

# BIHL Remains Optimistic Despite Economic Risks

CEO says Group is optimistic despite economic headwinds and public health sector risks that present heightened morbidity and mortality pressures

## GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana Insurance Holdings Limited (BIHL) has reported a 56 percent decline in Group operating profit to P117 million for the half year ended 30 June 2025, citing challenging economic conditions and volatility in financial markets.

However, it remains optimistic despite economic headwinds and public health sector risks that present heightened morbidity and mortality pressures.

According to Group CEO Catherine Lesetedi, policy retention remains a key risk as households adjust spending in difficult times.

### Profitable trading history

"The Group's core operations continue to be resilient and generate profits and positive cash flows, and this is expected to continue in the ensuing period," she noted in the report.

Lesetedi said directors had reviewed the Group's funding position and concluded

that it was adequate to support its requirements.

"Based on this review and considering the current financial position and profitable trading history, the directors are satisfied that the Group has adequate resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future," she said.

### Earnings up 129%

BIHL continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its abridged unaudited consolidated financial results.

Lesetedi said life operating profit decreased significantly compared to the prior period due to a lower investment service result, which was 3 percent of the previous period's level.

She said the performance of the net insurance service result remained flat, while asset management operating profit rose 6 percent on the back of increased assets under management.

Equity-accounted earnings rose by 129 percent, supported by the performance of Nico Group despite hyperinflation in its

"The Group's core operations continue to be resilient and generate profits and positive cash flows, and this is expected to continue in the ensuing period"



Photo Credit:BIHL

operating environment. However, results were negatively impacted by a P85 million impairment of an associate.

### Equity value

Group equity value rose to P4.8 billion from P4.66 billion in December 2024, allowing for dividend payments of P114 million during the reporting period.

Lesetedi said the increase was driven by higher value in force in the life business

and stronger net asset value, particularly at Nico Holdings PLC, though Letshego Africa Limited's value was impaired by P85 million.

The Group's reportable operating segments are life insurance, through Botswana Life Insurance Limited, and asset management, through Botswana Insurance Fund Management Limited and Bifm Unit Trusts.





The Orange Digital Center (ODC) has opened its doors to young people through holiday programmes designed to build digital skills. The Super Coders Vacation Camp and Canva Design Camp, which began last week and run until 5 September 2025, target children aged 9 to 17 years.

# Orange Digital Center Offers Free Tech Training

Orange Botswana has launched school holiday tech camps to equip young people with coding and design skills

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Orange Digital Center (ODC) has opened its doors to young people through holiday programmes designed to build digital skills. The Super Coders Vacation Camp and Canva Design Camp, which began last week and run until 5 September 2025, target children aged 9 to 17 years.

The camps provide participants with practical experience in coding and graphic design, aimed at offering skills that extend beyond recreational screen time.

### Coding and Design Skills

The Super Coders Camp focuses on Scratch Coding, introducing students to programming fundamentals through game creation. The Canva Design Camp teaches graphic design, guiding participants in developing personal branding kits and visual portfolios.

Orange Botswana said the camps are part of a broader strategy to prepare youth for the digital economy.

“Through these camps, we aim to empower the next generation of Batswana to not just consume technology, but to create it”

### Empowering Future Innovators

“Through these camps, we aim to empower the next generation of Batswana to not just consume technology, but to create it,” said Tebogo Nadisah, Orange Botswana Public Relations and Communications Manager. “The Orange Digital Center is more than a tech hub; it’s a space where young people gain real skills, build confidence, and see that their ideas can come to life.”

Advanced programmes in coding, design, and entrepreneurship will be offered to students who show aptitude and interest.

### Commitment to Equal Access

The training follows the For Good Connections programme held in June, which focused on responsible digital use and creating awareness around cyberbullying.

“Every child should have the opportunity to explore technology and design, regardless of background or financial means,” Nadisah said.

### Community Support Encouraged

Orange Botswana has encouraged parents, educators, and community leaders to support the initiative, highlighting the role of such programmes in preparing children for future-ready careers.

# RMB Convenes CEOs on Renewable Energy

Roundtable addresses pathways to low-carbon economy



First National Bank Botswana’s Corporate Investment Banking division, Rand Merchant Bank (RMB), has hosted a CEOs Roundtable on Renewable Energy, bringing together government, regulators, industry, and financiers to discuss Botswana’s transition to a low-carbon economy.

First National Bank Botswana’s Corporate Investment Banking division, Rand Merchant Bank (RMB), has hosted a CEOs Roundtable on Renewable Energy, bringing together government, regulators, industry, and financiers to discuss Botswana’s transition to a low-carbon economy.

“Sustainable development requires more than capital; it demands foresight, alignment, and the courage to lead.”

The event, held in Gaborone, focused on practical strategies to help the country achieve its energy mix target of 50 percent renewable generation by 2030. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Minerals and Energy, Botswana Power Corporation (BPC), the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority (BERA), multinational mining companies, independent power producers, and energy sector specialists.

### Focus on Financing and Partnerships

Discussions examined the role of public-private partnerships and innovative funding mechanisms in accelerating renewable energy projects. Delegates noted that

Botswana’s Just Energy Transition could require financing of between USD 1.1 billion and USD 1.4 billion. Blended finance instruments, they said, could reduce risk, attract private investment, and ensure equitable outcomes.

The roundtable also explored the potential of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) as a market tool for corporate decarbonisation, as well as monetising carbon credits to improve project viability in low-tariff environments. Lessons from Namibia’s electricity market reforms, particularly the unbundling of BPC, were discussed as a possible model for encouraging investor confidence.

### Industry Perspectives

FNB Botswana CEO Steven Lefentse Bogatsu told delegates that RMB had mobilised over P500 million in green investments locally and more than P1.3 billion regionally. He said the bank aimed to play an active role in supporting Botswana’s transition to cleaner energy.

RMB Botswana Director Harriet Mlalazi said the forum created an opportunity for government and private sector leaders to align on long-term goals. “Sustainable development requires more than capital; it demands foresight, alignment, and the courage to lead,” she said.

### Strategic Timing

Participants agreed that Botswana is at a strategic inflection point in its energy development, with an opportunity to leapfrog older energy models and build an inclusive, modern energy system. The forum underscored the importance of coordinated action to attract investment and strengthen energy resilience.





Photo Credit: Spot Angels

# Paying for Parking: The Missing Piece of Urban Transport Policy

In Botswana, every public debate on transport seems to revolve around roads: their poor condition, their expansion, or their endless congestion. What is rarely discussed is one of the quietest but most powerful determinants of how our cities function: parking policy

DR DOUGLAS RASBASH\*  
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

For too long, Botswana's urban centres have treated parking as a free good. Cars are scattered across pavements, squeezed into verges, or left all day in the most valuable commercial zones without any cost to the driver.

This is not efficiency; it is disorder. Worse still, it is a hidden subsidy that fuels private car dependence while undermining the principles of sustainable urban transport.

## Free Parking Is Not Free

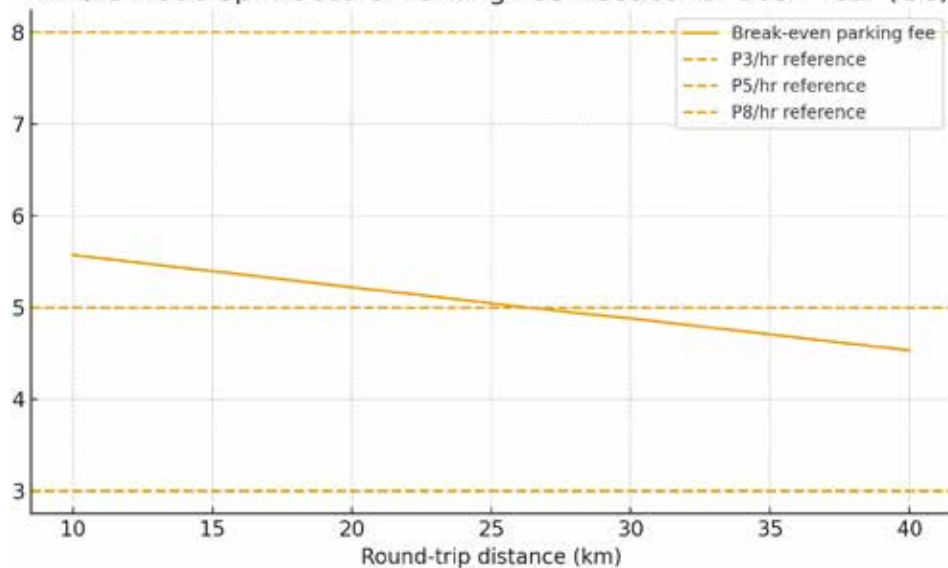
Every "free" space comes at a cost. Land in Gaborone's Central Business District is scarce and expensive, yet vast swathes of it are handed over to vehicles without charge. The opportunity cost is borne by taxpayers, businesses and non-drivers. What this amounts to is an indirect subsidy to private motorists — making car use appear artificially cheap and distorting demand away from public transport, walking and cycling.

## Paying for Parking as Policy

Introducing a fair system of paid parking is not about punishing drivers; it is about aligning incentives. In transport economics, when you underprice something, demand spirals out of control. Botswana already sees the effects: gridlock, pollution, and unsafe streets. Paid parking is a proven demand-management tool that keeps turnover high, ensures spaces are available for those who genuinely need them, and discourages unnecessary car trips.

Internationally, cities that have intro-

Where Mode Split Occurs: Parking Fee Needed for Bus = Car (GC)



duced rational parking charges have seen clear benefits: reduced congestion, improved air quality and revitalised public spaces. Closer to home, even smaller African municipalities are experimenting with smart meters, app-based payments and structured tariffs. There is no reason Botswana should lag behind.

## CASE STUDIES: BEFORE AND AFTER

### Nairobi, Kenya – From Chaos to Structure

For years, Nairobi's CBD was notorious for gridlock. Free and underpriced parking allowed commuters to occupy prime spaces all day. Shoppers and short-term visitors could find no room, while others circled endlessly searching for a spot. In 2014, the city introduced paid parking via mobile money. Turn-

over improved, congestion eased, and revenue rose to fund improvements.

### Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – Smart Parking in Action

Addis, facing pavement parking and unsafe streets, introduced automated smart parking in 2020. Modest charges plus digital enforcement discouraged long stays, reduced corruption, and quickly improved business access and traffic flow.

### Cape Town, South Africa – Linking Parking to Public Transport

Cape Town's solution was tiered fees: higher in the core, lower further out, integrated with the MyCiTi bus and cycling lanes. The results were higher retail turnover, reduced congestion, and more commuters using public transport.

### Gaborone Parking Dilemma

There is no comprehensive inventory of parking in Gaborone but in 2011, the World Bank-supported *Greater Gaborone Multimodal Transport Study* already warned that Gaborone's parking was unpriced and oversubscribed. The study documenting about 1,640 bays at the Main Mall, BBS Mall, African Mall and Old Industrial area, plus 200 on-street spaces along Queen's Road and Botswana Street.

The consultants showed that a modest fee of just P1 per hour could generate nearly half a million US dollars annually for the city. Yet nothing was done. The study did not cover the CBD, which has around 1,000 formal off-street bays within commercial developments plus another 1,000 improvised spaces on vacant building plots.

The Government Enclave accommodates roughly 2,000 off-street spaces on vacant ground, while formal parking in government developments provide a further 1,000. The Old Lobatse Road Commercial Strip has another 1000 off-street places, shopping malls like The Field another 1000. The city's universities and hospitals together contribute about 2,500 off-street bays.

In total, central Gaborone holds at least 10,000 formal and informal off-street parking spaces. And yet only one development — the Masa Centre, with 400 underground bays — actually charges for parking. The rest are free.

## The Economics of Parking in Botswana

At a modest charge of P5 per hour for six hours a day, 300 days per year, the foregone revenue is roughly P90 million annually in Gaborone alone. That is money that could be repairing roads, improving lighting, or subsidising bus services. But the true costs go beyond lost revenue. Free parking generates negative externalities:

- Congestion. On-street parking removes lane space, slows traffic, and forces drivers to circle for spaces, adding unnecessary kilometres.

- Artificial demand. Off-street spaces that are free encourage people to drive when they might otherwise take a bus, carpool or walk.

- Inequity. Public transport operators pay for their ranks and layovers. A bus moving 50 people must pay; a private car moving one person parks free.

- Environmental harm. More cars mean more emissions, more fuel imports, and higher climate vulnerability.

This is why economists call free parking a perverse subsidy: it makes cars look cheaper than they are while society pays the price in congestion, pollution and inefficiency.

## Parking Fees and Travel Demand

Free parking doesn't just fill spaces — it inflates car demand. Using the price elasticity of demand for parking (about -0.2 in the short run, -0.4 in the long run), we can see the impact clearly.

Take a commuter who drives 24 km round-trip daily. With fuel and operating costs of about P60, free parking makes car travel relatively inexpensive. But add a P5 per hour fee for an eight-hour day (P40 total) and the cost rises to P100 per day — a 67% increase in generalised cost. Demand would fall by roughly 13% in the short run and over 25% in the long run as commuters adjust.



From Page 21

One of the main objectives for charging parking fees is to induce a change of mode from car use to bus. *The Botswana Gazette* carried out a small study to determine what parking fees would induce a change in transport mode (Refer to the figure).

This is why economists call free parking a perverse subsidy: it makes cars look cheaper than they are while society pays the price in congestion, pollution and inefficiency

Now scale this to 60,000 cars entering Gaborone each day. A 10% drop in demand means 6,000 fewer cars daily in the short term while in the longer term a decrease of 25% would reduce demand for car travel by 15,000. This is not only major relief to congestion, but would enable expensive road investment to be deferred.

At the same time, parking revenues could exceed P1 billion annually. This is money that could transform urban mobility if reinvested into buses, sidewalks, cycling and smart traffic systems.

The conclusion is unavoidable: park-



ing fees are both a traffic management tool and a fiscal instrument. They correct a hidden subsidy, reduce congestion and generate resources for reinvestment.

Figure: Break-even Parking Fee vs. Commute Distance

**The Missing Link: A National Transport Policy**

All these arguments point to a deeper problem: Botswana still lacks a comprehensive, up-to-date National Transport Policy. Parking, bus reform, non-motorised transport, e-mobility, and road safety are all connected, but without a policy framework, they remain piecemeal. For example – a paid parking strategy must be part of a plan to improve public transport, be it road or rail. While it must be noted, too, that promoting public transport is very much part of the government’s intentions to reduce carbon emissions, for which funding is potentially available.

A transformative government must complete this policy as a matter of urgency, embedding paid parking as a central tool for sustainable urban transport. Without it, decisions are ad hoc and disjointed. With it, they become a credible lever for modernisation.

Urbanisation is accelerating, car ownership is climbing, and congestion is worsening. Yet parking in Botswana remains a free-for-all that benefits a few and burdens the many.

The introduction of parking fees should not be an afterthought or a cash grab. It must be a cornerstone of urban transport policy, transparently implemented, reinvested locally, and supported by a broader national strategy.

Nothing is free, including parking. The matter is whether government has the determination and understanding to fully apply the user pays principle to car users.

# TIRED OF SHARING?

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to receive your own weekly copy of The Botswana Gazette for Free





# A NIGHT OF JAZZ, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

Smoke Break Live Sessions with Grow to Black Collective

set of original melodies.  
**Spotlight on thriving music scene**

Recorded and produced by Bullsheap Creative Studios, the music series continues to spotlight Botswana's thriving music scene, presenting performances in their rawest, most resonant form. With each chap-

As always, Smoke Break Live Sessions was about more than music, rather it's about creating space for artistry and community to collide



As always, Smoke Break Live Sessions was about more than music, rather it's about creating space for artistry and community to collide.

This session was elevated by the collaboration of partners and friends who brought their own magic to the night. Wing It On fuelled the crowd with unforgettable dishes, Booh Events for their stunning décor, Un-

muted 267 amplified the story through thoughtful media coverage, Pinned Media captured every moment behind the lens, and Pumi Sounds ensured every note rang clear with world-class sound engineering.

The recording of the live session is set to premier on Bullsheap's YouTube channel ([www.youtube.com/@BullsheapBW](http://www.youtube.com/@BullsheapBW)) in October 2025.

GAZETTE REPORTER

On the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025, Smoke Break Live Sessions returned for its third instalment, transforming, their venue partner, The

Wild Tree Place into a haven of music and community. Headlining the evening was the remarkable jazz ensemble Grow to Black Collective, who delivered an unforgettable

ter, Smoke Break Live Sessions grows stronger as one of Botswana's most essential cultural platforms.

# NIGHT of REVIVAL

WITH PASTOR AT BOSHOFF

10 SEPT | 6:30PM | CRC BOTSWANA





that have long stunted the growth of the creative sector.

For Kola, the conference is coinciding with another pressing mission - Mophato Dance Theatre's upcoming appearance at the World Dance Festival in South Korea this month (September).

The conference - which is facilitated by Ismail Mohamed of UKZN's Centre for Creative Arts - aims to dismantle the barriers of fragmented networks and inconsistent funding that have long stunted the growth of the creative sector

# Andrew Kola at the Table of Visionaries

As the founder and director of Mophato Dance Theatre heads to Johannesburg to represent Botswana at the Southern African Producers & Artistic Directors Conference, Mophato Dance Theatre continues its urgent fundraising drive to secure their place at the World Dance Festival in South Korea this month

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The Founder and Director of Mophato Dance Theatre, Andrew Kola, will join creative leaders from across

Southern Africa at the Southern African Producers & Artistic Directors Conference (SAPAC) that is set for 5 to 7 September 2025 at the iconic Market Theatre in Johannesburg, South Af-

rica.

Themed “Unlocking Economic Growth in Southern Africa’s Creative Industry – A Producers and Artistic Directors’ Perspective,” the conference will explore how the arts can drive economic growth, create sustainable jobs, and expand cultural influence across the region and beyond.

Kola, known for powerful productions such as Pula, Inyaya, and Borwa, sees the conference as a chance to build networks that transcend borders.

**Cross-border collaboration**

“The conference will serve as a platform to explore how we can work together in our productions across the region,” he said in an interview.

“While some producers may have productions, they

may lack audiences or venues—and vice versa. This is our chance to explore those opportunities.”

He added that funding remains a central challenge, noting that cross-border collaboration could open pathways to more sustainable financial models for the arts.

Hosted by Alex Theatre Company & Academy in partnership with Project R and the Market Theatre Foundation, SAPACC will feature panel discussions on funding, audience development, cultural policy, and collaboration.

**Fragmented networks**

The conference - which is facilitated by Ismail Mohamed of UKZN’s Centre for Creative Arts - aims to dismantle the barriers of fragmented networks and inconsistent funding

Last month, the troupe staged a historic double bill of Borwa and Inyaya at Maitisong Theatre in Gaborone, an electrifying performance designed not only to celebrate Botswana’s storytelling power but also to raise funds for their international journey.

**Support for South Korea journey**

But despite the success of the Maitisong showcase, financial hurdles remain. “We are still on our journey to South Korea but we still need monetary pledges to realise our dream and showcase what Botswana can offer,” Kola said.

For Mophato, this is not simply about attending another festival. It is about lifting Botswana’s cultural identity onto a global stage and showing the world the depth of Southern African storytelling.

TIRED OF SHARING?







# MALANI JETS OFF TO UGANDA

Botswana's own Thapelo Malani is on the roster of Uganda's biggest comedy showcase this week, proving that humour knows no barriers and that local comedy is reaching new continental heights

GAZETTE REPORTER

**M**ajor Moves Comedy has announced that Thapelo Malani, one of Botswana's brightest comedic exports, will jet off to Kampala, Uganda for a show at The Marabou LaughFestival 2025 on 4 and 5 September.

Since making his debut at the Heavyweights International Comedy Festival, Malani – who hails from Maitengwe – has steadily become a household name in Botswana's comedy circles.

His humour blends sharp wit, playful self-deprecation, and fearless reflections on everyday absurdities. What sets him apart, however, is his resilience: despite Malani is visually impaired but has never let this circumstance dim his stage presence.

## A Continental Stage for Comedy

The Laughing Marabou-tork, Uganda's first fully-fledged comedy club, will host the festival, bringing together comedians from Botswana, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Founded by Timothy J. Nyanzi alongside celebrated Ugandan comics Hilary Okello, Cotilda Inapo, and Okello Okello, the club has quickly become a hub for comedy in East Africa.

Highlighting its importance, Emmy Award-winning Ugandan comedian Joseph Opio praised the initiative: "This is a great platform," he said. "I dearly wish a groundbreaking performance space like this existed when I was starting."

## Malani's Return to Kampala

For Malani, the festival marks a return to Uganda after his warmly received performance in Soroti. He expressed his excitement ahead of the journey.

"I am really looking forward to sharing the stage with talented comedians across the region," he said. "The world is ripe for Botswana comedy, and I am ready to fly the flag

high."

To ensure his accessibility and safety throughout the trip, Malani will travel with a companion. His journey is supported by the National Arts Council of Botswana, Major Moves Comedy, and his football team, Batanani Boys Social Club.

"The world is ripe for Botswana comedy, and I am ready to fly the flag high"

## Major Moves, Bigger Dreams

Malani's growing career is a testament to the platforms nurtured by Major Moves Comedy, which continues to champion Botswana's comedic talent both at home and abroad.

With Malani's inclusion at the Marabou LaughFestival, Botswana comedy is cementing its place in the continental conversation, proving that humour – like music and sport – is a universal language.

# Box 14: New Foodie and Chill Spot

Mogoditshane has just welcomed a fresh culinary and lifestyle hub with the launch of Box 14 Chisanyama & Lounge, a foodie spot rooted in heritage, flavour and community

GAZETTE REPORTER

**B**ox 14 Chisanyama & Lounge officially opened its doors to customers on Saturday 30 August at Fourways Junction Mall (next to Sefalana) in Mogoditshane, and is already creating buzz.

But this isn't just another eatery. This is a place steeped in local heritage.

Long before latter-day malls and restaurants, the people of Mogoditshane gathered at the kgotla to collect their letters and other mail from P. O. Box 14, which was the only post box serving the village and its environs.

Today, Box 14 revives that sense of community and spirit of togetherness, inviting people to gather once again, albeit not for letters but for food, music, and to

interface as a community.

## Flavour meets community

Owner Lebogang Okoye says Box 14 was born out of a simple but powerful idea: keeping the fun close to home. "We chose this location specifically to cater for people in the surrounding areas instead of always having to go into town to have fun," she explained to Time Out.

At its heart, Box 14 is all about chisanyama – boldly flavoured meats, shared sides, and a menu that encourages gathering around the table.

But it is more than just food. With the slogan "It's simply ko re blomang" and the playful hashtag #ReChillaDaar, the restaurant promises an experience where good eats meet good beats.

## Laid-back lounge experience

The space is curated to be



secure, relaxed and inviting. Whether you're catching a sports game, enjoying chilled music, or simply unwinding after a long week, Box 14 offers a vibe that Mogoditshane has long been waiting for.

The grand opening celebration set the tone, with local acts like Mr O 'Tshaba Tshutshu', Shaft, Lefatshe, Romeo, and Redondo lighting up the day – proving that Box 14 is as much about entertainment as it is about food.

Box 14 is more than a business – it's a community investment. With 22 staff members all natives of Mogoditshane, the restaurant is creating direct employment for local youth.

## 22-strong – all Mogo natives

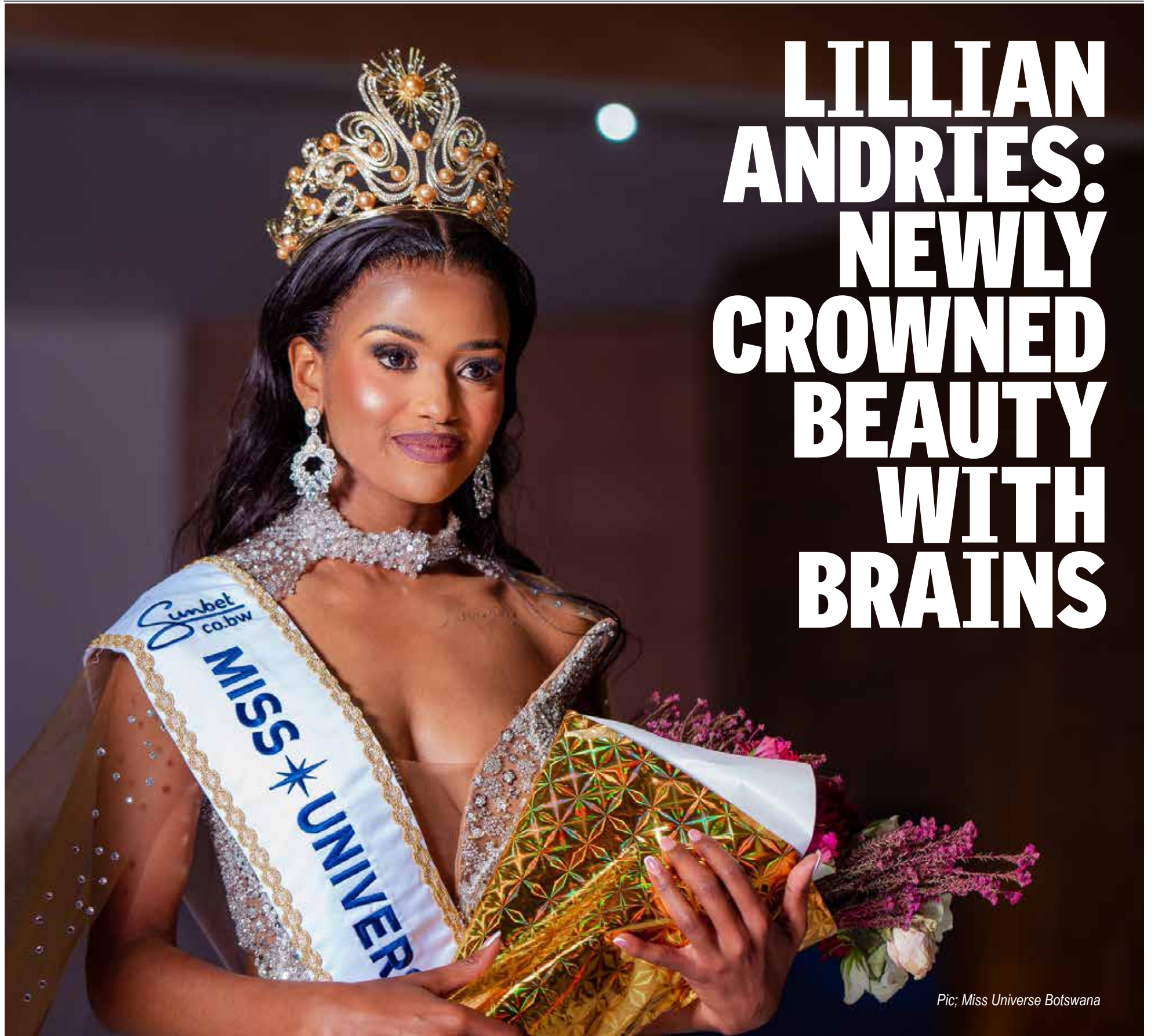
Even its fresh vegetables and ingredients are sourced from local suppliers, keeping the flavours authentic and the benefits circulating in the community.

It is this sense of purpose that sets Box 14 apart: a foodie destination where heritage, flavour and empowerment come together under one roof.

With its blend of chisanyama excellence, community spirit and chilled vibes, Box 14 has already carved out a unique identity on the local food scene.

As Mogoditshane embraces its newest foodie spot, one thing is clear: Box 14 is not just a restaurant but is where the community gathers to eat and redefine what it means to chill daar.





Pic; Miss Universe Botswana

# LILLIAN ANDRIES: NEWLY CROWNED BEAUTY WITH BRAINS

Newly crowned Miss Universe Botswana 2025, Lillian Andries, didn't just dazzle with her beauty but captivated the nation with a sharp, forward-thinking answer on Botswana's economic future, proving that the crown rests on a head filled with visionary intellect

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

**W**hen 30-year-old Lillian Andries of Ramotswa was crowned Miss Universe Botswana 2025 in Francistown over the weekend, the audience saw more than poise and elegance, they witnessed intellect wrapped in grace.

Asked how Botswana could use its special economic zones to diversify beyond diamonds and create jobs, Lillian's response set her apart.

"Botswana's reliance on diamonds has left other sectors as untapped markets," she said with confidence. "Investing in sectors like

agriculture through innovative practices will promote food security, self-sufficiency, and sustained economic growth.

## Intellect and vision

"It is important for Botswana to move from a natural resource-based economy to a knowledge-based economy that promotes innovation, skills development, research, and technology."

It was the kind of answer that reminded the nation - and the judges before her - that beauty alone does not win crowns. Intellect and vision do.

Lillian's triumph is more than a pageant story but a tale of resilience. At just 19,

she represented Botswana at Miss Grand International 2014 in Thailand. Although she returned home without a crown, she gained lessons and perspective that shaped her journey.

## A decade in the making

Adulthood, career and life's demands paused her pageant dream, but when Miss Universe revised its age limit, destiny seemed to reopen the door for her.

A geologist by profession, an entrepreneur, and a philanthropist, Lillian embodies the balance of intellect and service. She has actively engaged in charity initiatives through Moabi Charity and Courage Unleashed,

Asked how Botswana could use its special economic zones to diversify beyond diamonds and create jobs, Lillian's response set her apart

dedicating her time to student workshops, donations and free tuition.

Raised across Ramotswa,

Bokaa and Oodi, Lillian's story is grounded in the community. With her Zulu middle name of "Nom-pumelelo," which means "success," she carries her heritage with pride, framing her crown as more than a personal victory; it is a collective triumph for women who dream, wait, and rise again.

## On to the world stage

As she prepares to represent Botswana at the 74th Miss Universe Competition in Thailand in November 2025, Lillian brings with her not only the grace of the ramp but also a grounded vision for Botswana's future.

Her win signals a new era in pageantry - where the sparkle of the crown shines brighter when paired with the brilliance of ideas.



# Women with Disabilities Deserve a Seat at the Table

At the 2nd Women with Disabilities Conference in Gaborone, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs, Bridget John, asserted that women with disabilities face such intersecting layers of discrimination that dismantling the systemic barriers is urgent

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

**H**eld under the theme “Resilience & Strength: Celebrating the Resilience and Strength of Women with Disabilities,” Bridget John applauded women with disabilities for their courage, leadership and determination.

“We have witnessed remarkable courage, determination, and leadership of women with disabilities across this country and beyond,” she said.

She was speaking at the 2nd Women with Disabilities Conference in Gaborone recently. For John, the conference reaffirmed an important truth: women with disabilities are not passive survivors but active agents of change - entrepreneurs, innovators, caregivers, and leaders in their own right.

## A Hidden Crisis in Numbers

According to statistics from the Botswana demographic survey conducted in 2017 and the



Pic: Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs BW

2022 Population and Housing Census, 4.2% of Botswana's population lives with disabili-

ties, with women at 4.7% compared to men at 3.7%. Visual impairment accounted for near-

ly half of all cases, followed by leg and hearing impairments.

Yet, despite these numbers, women with disabilities remain underrepresented in decision-making positions, often facing intersecting layers of discrimination.

“These barriers have contributed to their reduced overall well-being,” John stressed, reminding policymakers that inclusivity is not about speaking on behalf of women with disabilities but about creating platforms for them to speak for themselves and influence decisions.

**The conference underscored a painful reality: women with disabilities face greater challenges than most, and their daily struggles remain invisible in mainstream dialogue**

## Policy Must Match Resilience

She urged the government and stakeholders to ensure that disability is integrated into all policies and initiatives, leveraging the Disability Act (2024). This includes:

- Strengthening inclusive education with assistive technologies;

- Enhancing employment opportunities through targeted training and employer incentives;

- Building stronger data systems aligned with SDGs and AU protocols; and

- Promoting awareness campaigns to reduce stigma and drive participation.

## Empowerment as a Right

The Ministry of Youth and Gender Affairs is also working to empower women economically, ensuring that capacity-building programmes like EnterprenHer directly benefit women with disabilities running small businesses.

“Economic empowerment is not only about funding - it is also about skills transfer so women can stand on their own,” said John.

She acknowledged the serious threat of gender-based violence (GBV), noting that the ongoing review of the National Policy on Gender and Development, as well as the National Strategy Towards Ending GBV, are critical in protecting women, particularly those with disabilities because they are often more vulnerable.

## Towards a National Conversation

The conference underscored a painful reality: women with disabilities face greater challenges than most, and their daily struggles remain invisible in mainstream dialogue. John called for a collective national conversation to surface these issues and create a society where women with disabilities live dignified, empowered lives.

“May we unite and tackle these issues together,” she said in closing.

# THE GABORONE MOTOR SHOW ROARS BACK

Celebrating 10 years of motoring excellence, the 2025 Gaborone Motor Show later this week will shift gears into its biggest edition yet in order to ensure innovation and entertainment for all

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

**T**he 2025 edition of the Gaborone Motor Show will be officially opened by the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Noah Salakae, at The Fields Mall in Gaborone on 5 September.

His presence will mark the start of Botswana's biggest automotive showcase - a stage where performance meets innovation and where the future of mobility takes centre stage.

“This is our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary,” said event host Christian Ernest at a press conference recently. “The event affords dealerships the platform to showcase the best they have to offer in order to influence consumer trends and maximise sales.”

## More than just cars

Over the past decade, the Gaborone Motor Show has cemented itself as Botswana's ultimate motoring festival, offering both serious car buyers and casual enthusiasts a front-row seat to automotive brilliance.

While the spotlight will shine on cars this year's Motor Show is about more than horsepower and glossy paint jobs.

There will be live DJ sets, lifestyle brand showcases and interactive family-friendly activities for an all-round entertainment experience

## A showcase of prestige

For two days - 5 and 6 September - The Fields Mall in Gaborone will transform into an automotive playground. Visitors will have the chance to explore the latest mod-



Pic: Gaborone Motorshow

els from top international brands while discovering the strength and creativity of Botswana's own automotive industry.

“This year's event is going to be an unforgettable experience,” Ernest said. “We've worked tirelessly to create a unique and ex-

citing show that truly captures the thrill of Botswana's automotive world.”

## Tickets and access

Advance tickets are already available for P100 through Webticket outlets at Spar and Choppies supermarkets nationwide.

With the stage set for one of the most dynamic motoring events that Botswana has ever seen, car enthusiasts and families alike have every reason to rev up their engines and join in the celebration.



# Wine Experience Soirée Set for Return

Annual event combines wine, food, and music

06 September 2025

TIME 2PM - 11PM

Wine Experience & Art Soiree

WINE AMBASSADOR  
BOIKANYO KGOSIDINTSI

TICKET INFO

P250 +6 Tasting Coupons

P800 Admits 2 + Bottle, 6 Tasting Coupons  
x2 Bottles Of Water & Snack

Tasting time: 2:30 - 5pm

Tickets available @ Spar - Webtickets & Delivery

GAME CITY MARQUEE

The Botswana  
GAZETTE

WINE  
DZYNÉ

For More Info WhatsApp +267 74 449 232

Right Of Admission Reserved . No Under 23 Allowed

The Wine Experience Soirée will return to Gaborone on 6 September 2025 at the Game City Marquee in Kgale, offering an evening of wine tasting, gourmet food, and live entertainment. The annual gathering has become a fixture for wine enthusiasts, food lovers, and lifestyle audiences in Botswana.

### Curated Tastings and Food Pairings

This year’s programme features curated wine tastings from international brands

including Fine Brands, Zonin, Duke Wines, and Nederburg, alongside local producers. Food will be presented in bite-sized portions by chefs and partners such as Rebel Cook and Parmalat.

Event director Elle Genheimer said the soirée is intended as “a celebration of taste, culture, and lifestyle,” add-

cal acts Shimboy, Osaka Sun, DJ Maths, Romeo, and Bryan Klaas, offering a mix of soulful and old-school music.

The evening will also feature Wine Ambassador Boikanyo Kgosi-dintsi of Wine By Dzyn, who will provide wine education sessions. The event is positioned as a blend of elegance, networking, and cultural appreciation, with organisers targeting Botswana’s corporate and lifestyle markets.

### Sponsors and Partners

Partners for the soirée include Sethunya, KaL-erato Holdings, Mint Productions, Parmalat, and The Botswana Gazette. Beverage partnerships are also in place to support the experience.

### Ticketing and Access

The event has built a reputation as a high-profile occasion attracting corporates, high-net-worth individuals, and young professionals. Tickets are available from Spar-Webtickets and Clicknpay.africa. Organisers note that capacity will be limited to maintain what they describe as an intimate atmosphere.

“Every sip, every bite, and every moment counts.”

ing that organisers aim to create an immersive experience where “every sip, every bite, and every moment counts.”

### Live Performances and Cultural Focus

Entertainment will include international DJ Lulo Cafe, as well as lo-

## NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME

(In Terms of Section 8 (1) of Married Persons Property Act, 2014)

1. **BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that, **COSMOS THOJANE & MONEI MONICA THOJANE** (Nee Mothupi) Married in community of property on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019 at Serowe, wish to change their property regime to “out of community of property”.
2. The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the prescribed three (3) weeks’ statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.
3. Any person, creditor, or debtor who may have an interest in the assets and or liabilities of the parties’ estates, should they have objection to the parties changing regime, are to inform the parties Attorneys at Portion 117, International Finance Park, Unit 6B, First Floor before the expiration of the said three (3) weeks period or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2025.

LEBURU LEGAL CONSULTANTS, Plot 117 Gaborone International Finance Park, Portion B First Floor, PO Box 46132 Village Plaza Gaborone  
Telephone: 3115281 cell: 73597019



# TIRED OF SHARING?



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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 673/24

In the matter between:  
**BANK GABORONE LIMITED**  
And  
**DINAH LUCKY**

**PLAINTIFF**  
  
**DEFENDANT**

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the right, title and interest to and in the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
**VENUE** : Tribal Lot 5978, Tatisiding  
**TIME** : 1400 Hours  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : The Defendant’s right, title and interest to and in certain piece of Land being Tribal Lot 5978, Tatisiding, measuring 1165m² (One Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Five Square Metres), held under Notarial Deed of Cession No. FT MA 230/2015 dated the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2015 and made in favour of **DINAH LUCKY**, together with developments thereon, being a walled yard consisting of a Four bedroomed house with Master ensuite, Bathroom and Toilet, Sitting room, dining room and a Two roomed Storeroom.

**TERMS OF SALE** : Cash or bank transfer only.

**CONDITIONS OF SALE** may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy’s Sheriff’s of-fices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone’s Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2025**

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS  
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown  
Telephone No. 241 3421

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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 324/24

In the matter between:  
**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
And  
**SEGAMETSI LEJAGE**

**Plaintiff**  
  
**Defendant**

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the right, title and interest to and in the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : 18<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
**VENUE** : Tribal Lot 333, Tatisiding  
**TIME** : 1000 Hours  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : The Defendant’s right, title and interest to and in certain piece of Land being Tribal Lot 333, Tatisiding, measuring 1000m² (One Thousand Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 1059/2019 dated the 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019 and made in favour of **SEGAMETSI LEJAGE** together with developments thereon, being a walled yard consisting of a Three bedroomed house with Master ensuite, bathroom/toilet, living room, dining room, kitchen, laundry room and a double door garage.

**TERMS OF SALE** : Cash or bank transfer only.

**CONDITIONS OF SALE** may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy’s Sheriff’s of-fices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone’s Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2025**

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS  
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown  
Telephone No. 241 3421

**NOTICE UNDER S.34 (1) OF THE TRIBAL LAND AMENDMENT ACT**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that the following transaction is proposed;

**1. PATIES**  
1.1 **TRANSFEROR** : **VINCENT MOLEFE**  
1.2 **TRANSFEE** : **O.S INDUSTRIAL PARK (PTY) LTD**

**2. DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND**

**CERTAIN** : a piece of land being an Intergrated Farm  
**SITUATE** : Mmatshipa, in the Bakgatla Tribal Area  
**MEASURING** : 2 Ha (Two hectors)

**WHICH PROPERTY** : is held under Agreement of grant of lease for a Business plot made in favour of **VINCENT MOLEFE**

**3. CONSIDERATION** : **P 1,300.000.00 (One Million Three Hundred Thousand Pula)**

All Botswana citizens interested in entering the similar transaction in respect of the above-named property shall be given priority notwithstanding the agreement reached by the above-mentioned parties regarding the proposed transaction.

Any person wising to object to the proposed transaction shall give notice of his intention to oppose and reasons thereof to Kgatleng Land Board within 30 days from the date of this notice.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 01<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2025.**

**LEBURU LEGAL CONSULTANTS**  
(Applicant’s Attorneys)  
Plot 117, Gaborone International Finance Park  
Unit 6B,First Floor  
P. O. Box 46132  
**GABORONE**  
**Tel: 3115281/73597019**

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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000299-24

In the matter between:  
**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
And  
**PATRICK MAGOLA**

**Plaintiff**  
  
**Defendant**

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auc-tion by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
**VENUE** : Lot 10538, Francistown  
**TIME** : 1000 Hours  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : Piece of Land being Lot 10538, Francistown Extension 17, measuring 432m² (Four Hundred and Thirty Two Square Metres), held under Deed of Transfer No. FT 794/2014 dated the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 2014 and made in favour of **PATRICK MAGOLA**, together with developments thereon, consisting of a Two Bedroom low cost house, Bathroom & Toilet, kitchen and sitting room, Two Bachelor Pads with kitchen, sitting room, toilet and bathroom.

**TERMS OF SALE** : Cash or bank transfer only.

**CONDITIONS OF SALE** may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy’s Sheriff’s offices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone’s Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2025**

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS  
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown  
Telephone No. 241 3421

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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000274-23

In the matter between:  
**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
And  
**DINKWETSI JENNIFER SMITH**

**Plaintiff**  
  
**Defendant**

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auc-tion by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
**VENUE** : Lot 10367, Francistown  
**TIME** : 1400 Hours  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : Piece of Land being Lot 10367, Francistown, measuring 675m² (Six Hun-dred and Seventy Five Square Metres), held under Deed of Transfer No. FT 267/2008 dated the 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2008 and made in favour of **DINKWETSE JENNIFER SMITH**, together with developments thereon, being a Three Bedroomed house with master ensuite, bathroom Toilet and open kitchen.

**TERMS OF SALE** : Cash or bank transfer only.

**CONDITIONS OF SALE** may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy’s Sheriff’s offices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone’s Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2025**

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS  
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown  
Telephone No. 241 3421

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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 137/2020

In the matter between:  
**ABSA BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
formerly **BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED**  
And  
**JUDAH CLEMENT SIYA**

**Plaintiff**  
  
**Defendant**

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the right, title and interest to and in the following immovable property of the Defendant will be sold by Public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Ookeditse Masolotate** to the highest bidder as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
**VENUE** : Tribal Lot 3836, Tati Siding  
**TIME** : 1000 Hours  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : The Defendant’s right, title and interest to and in certain piece of Land being Tribal Lot 3836, Tati Siding, measuring 1191m² (One Thousand One Hundred and Ninety One Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 185/2008 dated the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 2008 and made in favour of **JUDAH CLEMENT SIYA**, together with developments thereon, being a walled yard consist-ing of a Guest house/Lodge with 7 Lodging rooms, a Gazebo and a Swimming Pool.

**TERMS OF SALE** : Cash or bank transfer only.

**CONDITIONS OF SALE** may be inspected at the offices of the hereunder mentioned Deputy’s Sheriff’s of-fices at Lotsane Ward, Palapye, Gampone’s Complex, Next to Standard Chartered Bank, Palapye. He can be contacted at 74724543

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2025**

VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS  
Plot 4660, Area G, Ditau Street, P.O Box 37, Francistown  
Telephone No. 241 3421



TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

**D**iamond Trading Company Botswana (DTCB) has reaffirmed its partnership with the Botswana Swimming Sport Association (BSSA) as the national team leaves for the Zone IV Championships in Eswatini.

Speaking at the team send-off ceremony in Gaborone this week, DTCB Corporate Affairs Manager, MacDonald Motsele, said the company's relationship with swimming began in 2023.

"Then we sponsored the team to Israel with about P100,000," he recalled. "They did us proud, and that was the start of a relationship."

"Since our relationship with swimming started, we have seen most of the swimmers doing well ... We are impressed"

**Three-year partnership**

"A few months later, the leadership of swimming came back to us and requested to be part of a long-term athlete development programme that leads to the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics, and we said as DTCB, okay, let us start with a three-year partnership."

Under the agreement, DTCB will contribute P1 million annually for three years. "We started last year," he said, adding that the partnership has already shown results.

# DTCB REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR BSSA

Diamond Trading Company Botswana has reaffirmed its commitment as the national swimming team departs for Zone IV Championships in Eswatini



"Since our relationship with swimming started, we have seen most of the swimmers doing well. This is the second year, and we are still a committed partner. We are impressed."

**Team 18-strong**

The national swimming team, which consists of 18 athletes, will represent Botswana at the Zone IV Championships in Eswatini from 3 to 7 September 2025. The team is led by coaches Katlego Solomon and Carthage Sorinyane

and managed by Boikhutso Bakwena.

The swimmers are Amaru Ditlhogo, Khalil Sethi, Tema Modirelabangwe, Jerome Chilisa, Jape Chilisa, Gaamangwe Keitsile, Theo Morebodi, Mmoloki Ray-

mond, Maeva Morebobodi, Matipaishe Gondo, Kuda Pelaelo, Kimberly Ingwe, Lereuo Bakwena, Melodi Saleshando, Lame Thomba, Leano-Laone Monowe, Benco Van Rooyen and Yun-Shun Chang.

## Maloka, Rebatenne Win Great Kgatleng Titles

Top players shone at the third edition of the Phoenix-sponsored Great Kgatleng Table Tennis Tournament

GAZETTE REPORTER

**T**he third edition of the Great Kgatleng Table Tennis Tournament concluded in Mochudi with Bakang Maloka and Tshepiso Rebatenne emerging as senior champions.

**Senior Categories**

In the Men's Division, Maloka of BDF Table Tennis Club (TTC) defeated Smash Maniacs' Masa Lesole 3-1 in the final (9-11, 11-6, 11-4, 11-6). Thobo Matlhatsi of BDF TTC and Phakalane's Moathodi Bakwadi finished as



semi-finalists.

The Women's Title went to Rebatenne of Nhabe TTC, who

beat BDF TTC's Constance Kuswani 3-1 (11-8, 11-8, 5-11, 11-8). Semi-final places were taken by Sebongile Six of BDF TTC and Emmah Lelatisitswe of Nhabe TTC.

**Junior Divisions**

The Boys' Under 19 title was secured by Smash Maniacs' Re-neilwe Lekorwe, who beat Thato Kgongwana of the Bontleng/Ithuteng BTTA Project 3-0 (12-10, 11-5, 11-5). The semi-finalists were Maikano JSS player Lefa Tsiaka and Bontleng/Ithuteng's Gofaone Dzaka.

In the Girls' Category, Boitlamo Nkele of Bontleng/Ithuteng won 3-0 against teammate Carol David (11-3, 11-8, 11-4). Maikano's Masa Mothabani and Gabriella Tsiaka both reached the semi-finals.

**Cash Prizes**

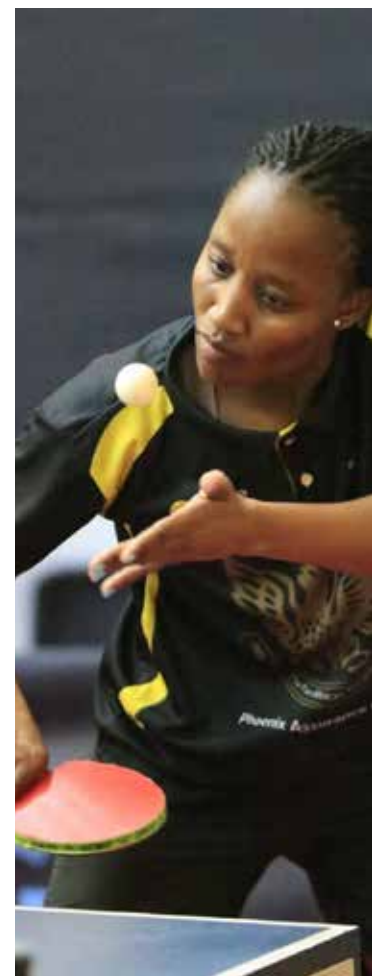
The winners shared cash prizes funded by Phoenix Assurance Botswana. Senior champions received P2,000 each, the runners-up P1,200 each, the semi-finalists P600 each.

In the junior categories, the champions took home P1,200 each, the runners-up P800 each, the semi-finalists P400 each.

**Development Focus**

The spokesperson of Botswana Table Tennis Association, Tshagofatso Malepa, said the event highlighted the growing base of young players.

"The tournament not only crowned champions but also showed the depth of talent emerging from school-based clubs and development projects," Malepa said.





# BNSC WARNS ATHLETES AGAINST DOPING

On the eve of the World Athletics Championships in Japan and the World Para Athletics Championships in India, BNSC has emphasised “hard work and sacrifice” as ingredients of victory and rectitude and upright conduct for the nation’s athletes as role models for young Batswana



(Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

The nation’s athletes have been warned against doping as they prepare for the World Athletics Championships and the World Para Athletics Championships.

Speaking at a joint send-off ceremony in Gaborone, the Acting CEO of the Botswana National

al Sports Commission (BNSC), Makuke Makuke, told the athletes that the temptation to take shortcuts through performance-enhancing drugs must be resisted.

**Tokyo and New Delhi**

The World Athletics Championships are scheduled for 13 to 21 September in Tokyo, Japan while the World Para Athletics Championships will take place

from 27 September to 5 October in New Delhi, India.

“Let me be clear: there is no place for doping in Botswana sports,” Makuke said. “Say no to performance-enhancing drugs. Say no to dishonour.”

He emphasised “hard work and sacrifice” for victory, not prohibited substances. “The true worth of a champion is not measured

only by medals but by integrity and character,” said Makuke.

**Models of rectitude**

He stressed the role of athletes as models of rectitude and upright conduct for many young Batswana.

“Whether you stand on the podium or not, the way you carry yourselves, the example you set, and the story you write will in-

spire generations to believe in hard work, perseverance, and ethical excellence,” he said.

For the first time, both able-bodied and para-athletes were sent off together. Makuke described the decision as symbolic of unity and inclusivity.

**Joint send-off**

“This joint send-off is more than symbolic,” he said. “It is a true reflection of the Botswana we strive for: a nation of inclusivity, unity, and shared excellence.

“Behind you stands an entire nation. We believe in you, we are proud of you, and we will be cheering with every stride, every throw, every finish,” he said.

Noting how the athletes carry the pride and hopes of the nation, Makuke said the upcoming championships are stepping stones towards bigger competitions, including the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

“They are opportunities to test your limits, to learn, and to inspire countless young Batswana who see their future reflected in you,” he said.

**The teams**

Botswana’s World Athletics Championships team includes Letsile Tebogo (100m, 200m), Oratile Nowe (800m), Lee Eppie and Bayapo Ndori (400m), as well as Collen Kebinatshipi, Leungo Scotch, Zibani Ngozi and Justice Oratile for the 4x400m relay.

Tshepiso Masalela and Kethobogile Haingura will enter the men’s 800m race while Kemorena Tisang and Victor Ntweng will compete in the 400m hurdles.

The team for the World Para Athletics Championships consists of Ronald Rich (200m, 400m T37), Edwin Masuge (400m T13), Tumo Masejane (400m T13), Lame Monamati (400m T12), Bose Mokgwati (400m T13), Katlego Matuto (400m T12), Onkamile Bankaetse and his guide (400m T11), and Gloria Majaga (400m T13).

# LOCAL BOWLERS TARGET MAFIKENG CUP

The tournament will see 51 Botswana players compete and sharpen their skills ahead of major international events

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

Botswana Bowling Association (BBA) has received an official invitation from Bowls South Africa (BSA) to participate in the Mafikeng Bowls Cup 2025 that is scheduled for 6 and 7 September in Mafikeng, South Africa.

The tournament will see 51 local players compete, providing a critical opportunity for Botswana’s bowlers to sharpen their skills ahead of major international

events.

“This invitation comes at an excellent time as part of our preparations for the 2026 Commonwealth and African States tournaments,” said Marea Modutlwa, vice president of BBA, in a telephone interview.

**Invaluable experience**

She emphasised that participation in such tournaments is crucial for maintaining match fitness and improving competitive performance.

National team players are required to spend eight to 10 hours a week on the green, conducting assessments and playing social matches at their clubs to remain match-ready.

Modutlwa noted that tournaments like Mafikeng offer invaluable experience that formal practice cannot replicate.

**High stakes**

Looking ahead, Botswana plans to send its national team to



a Quadrangular Tournament in George, South Africa in November as further preparation for the African States Tournament (AST) in Zambia in September 2026.

The AST will serve as a qualifier for the 2027 World Bowls (Outdoor) Championships, highlighting the high stakes for the national team.

“The World Championships were once open tournaments; now they are closed events, and countries must qualify first,” Modutlwa noted.





“Without taking anything from the players, we must also credit the chairman,” he said. “He is very passionate and resolute about this ladies’ team. Just like the men’s team, the women’s team players are employees, not volunteers. We try to avail all we can to them.” Photo Credit: ThePressPhoto

# Dedication and Support Powered GU Ladies to Victory

Gaborone United Ladies’ triumph in the CAF Women’s Champions League COSAFA Qualifiers is being hailed as the result of player dedication, strong leadership and long-term investment in women’s football

GAZETTE REPORTER

When Gaborone United Ladies goalkeeper Tlamele Pheresi stopped three penalties in the shootout against Zambia’s Zesco Ndola Girls, she etched her name into Botswana’s football history and the wider region.

But for team manager Owe Mmolawa, the victory echoed beyond the event of a single performance. It was the culmination of years of hard work, consistent support, and an evolving commitment to women’s football in Botswana.

Not least, the Chairman and financier



“This win is through the hard work and dedication that these ladies have put in,” Mmolawa said after the club lifted the trophy of the 2025 CAF Women’s Champions League COSAFA Qualifiers. Photo Credit: Gaborone United

“This win is through the hard work and dedication that these ladies have put in,” Mmolawa said after the club lifted the trophy of the 2025 CAF Women’s Champions League COSAFA Qualifiers.

“They deserve all the credit, and we are proud of the effort. It really makes us happy.”

Mmolawa also shone the spotlight on the Chairman and financier of Gaborone United, Nicholas Zackhem, whose long-term investment in women’s football has set the club apart in a region where resources are often scarce.

“Just like the men’s team, the women’s team players are employees, not volunteers. We try to avail all we can to them”

**The sponsors and the tech partner**

“Without taking anything from the players, we must also credit the chairman,” he said. “He is very passionate and resolute about this ladies’ team. Just like the men’s team, the women’s team players are employees, not volunteers. We try to avail all we can to them.”

That model of professionalising women’s football in Botswana appears to be paying dividends.

Buoyed by sponsors, Bank Gaborone and Sunbet and technical partner Zone Two Sportswear, Gaborone United now stand as Southern Africa’s representatives at the CAF Women’s Champions League finals later this year.

**The coaches and the fans**

Coach William Monene, who guided the squad through victories over Costa do Sol of Mozambique in the semifinals and Zesco Ndola in the final, used the triumph to call for broader recognition of the women’s game.

“My country doesn’t appreciate our efforts,” he told reporters, referring to Rwanda. “But I would still like to thank the players, members of the coaching staff, the fans, and COSAFA for giving us a platform to showcase our abilities.”

Speaking in the afterglow of the celebrations, Monene said his immediate priority is to ensure that his players rest before preparations for the continental finals begin.

For a team that has shown what vision, support and structure can achieve, the next stage represents both a challenge and an opportunity to push women’s football in Botswana to new heights.



**TIRED OF  
SHARING?**



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The Botswana Gazette  
**SPORT**

# BNSC WARNS ATHLETES AGAINST DOPING

On the eve of the World Athletics Championships in Japan and the World Para Athletics Championships in India, BNSC has emphasised "hard work and sacrifice" as ingredients of victory and rectitude and upright conduct for the nation's athletes as role models for young Batswana

**STORY ON  
PAGE 31**



Acting CEO of the Botswana National Sports Commission (BNSC), Makuke Makuke



## DEDICATION AND SUPPORT POWERED GU LADIES TO VICTORY

**STORY ON PAGE 32**