



BOTSWANA'S HAPPINESS SCORE HITS NEW LOW

Botswana has slipped into the world's bottom five on the World Happiness Report ranking 143rd out of 147 (down from 142nd last year) now clustered with Zimbabwe, Malawi and Sierra Leone, while Afghanistan ranks last.



File Pic: PRESS PHOTO

CEDA Mum on Damning DCEC Report ➔ 10.

➔ 3.

Fake Drugs Probe Widens

Parliament committee moves to review rejected evidence as claims of counterfeit medicines linked to deaths raise fresh scrutiny.



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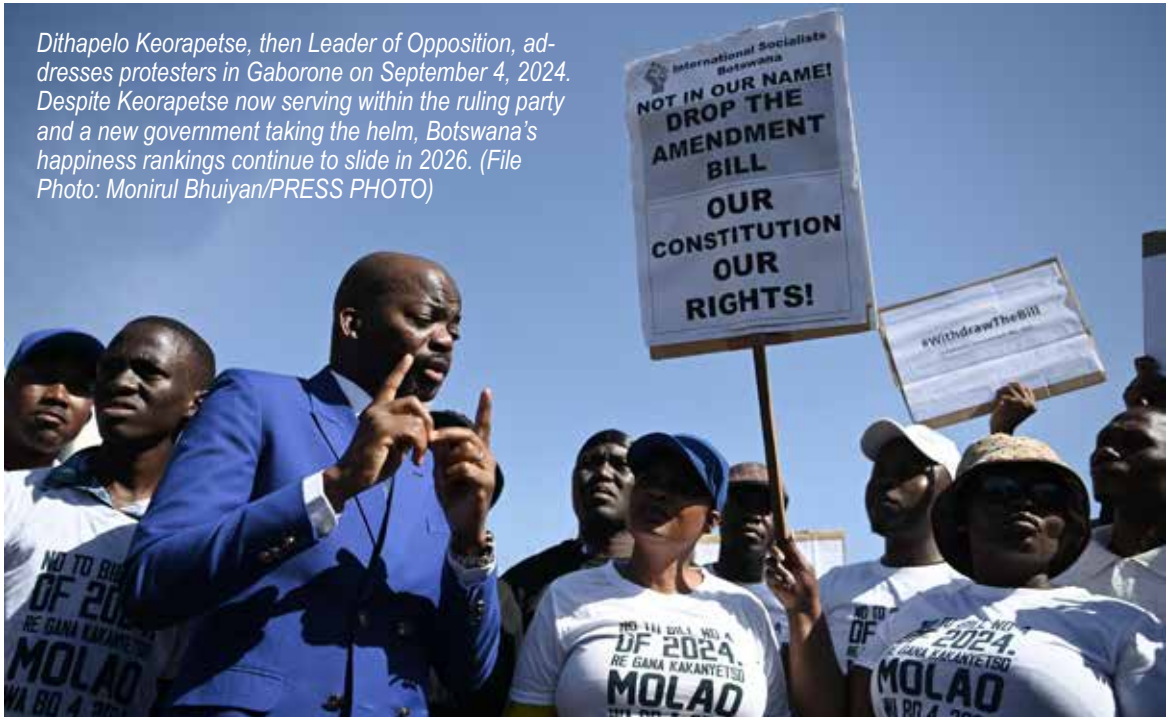
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Botswana's Happiness Score Hits New Low

The World Happiness Report's March release often passes quietly at home, but Botswana's latest result is hard to ignore: a 3.464/10 score, 143rd of 147, and a decade-long slide that now leaves the country among the world's least happy.



Dithapelo Keorapetse, then Leader of Opposition, addresses protesters in Gaborone on September 4, 2024. Despite Keorapetse now serving within the ruling party and a new government taking the helm, Botswana's happiness rankings continue to slide in 2026. (File Photo: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

GAZETTE REPORTER

It landed this month with little fanfare, but the latest World Happiness Report carries an uncomfortable message: Botswana is drifting close to the bottom of the global league table. That matters because “the pursuit of happiness is a fundamental human goal”, the United Nations General Assembly has said, urging countries to develop measures of wellbeing to help guide public policy, precisely because GDP alone does not capture how people experience daily life. **WHY THIS MATTERS** Released every March, the report is increasingly treated as more than a feel-good ranking:



a quick test of whether citizens believe life is improving, and a mirror held up to the lived reality behind official statistics. Compiled by the Wellbeing Research Centre at the University of Oxford in partnership with Gallup and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the 2026 report was released on

19 March. In it, Botswana is ranked 143rd out of 147 countries, down from 142nd last year, with a score of 3.464 out of 10 — placing it among the 10 least happy nations globally. **BOTTOM TEN** Botswana now sits in the bottom five alongside Zimbabwe (144), Malawi (145) and Sierra Leone (146), while Afghanistan (147) remains the least happy country in the world. At the top, Nordic countries dominate, with Finland ranked first again, followed by Iceland and Denmark.

Researchers say Botswana's decline reflects deeper structural pressures. The report links sharp drops in life evaluations to economic strain, declining trust in institutions and social instability. “Going from the largest to the smallest drops in life evaluations, these countries include Afghanistan, Malawi, Lebanon, Venezuela and Botswana,” it states. **HOW IT'S MEASURED** The rankings are based on how people evaluate their own lives. Using Gallup World Poll surveys, respondents rate where they stand on a ladder from 0 (worst possible life) to 10 (best possible life). (files.worldhappiness.report) The WHR then combines responses across the last three years to reduce random sampling error. The report's analysis then uses six broad “pillars” — income, health, social support, freedom, generosity and perceptions of corruption — to explain differences between countries. Director Jan-Emmanuel De Neve is quoted as saying the question is simple at its core. “At its core, the survey asks whether people are satisfied with how their lives are going,” he said. **SLIDE IN NUMBERS** Botswana's fall has been steep. The report notes that the country was ranked far higher in the mid-2010s (around 42nd in 2015), but has since slipped into the bottom tier — including 129th in 2020

and 132nd in 2023 — before dropping to 137th in 2024, 142nd last year and its lowest point so far in 2026. **WHAT'S DRIVING IT** The report highlights weaknesses across several of the six pillars, and warns that social connections cannot fully offset low trust in institutions and perceived corruption. In Botswana's case, concerns about governance, youth unemployment and the growing role of social media are increasingly being linked to declining wellbeing and a wider sense of frustration and pessimism.

“The pursuit of happiness is a fundamental human goal”

With more than 100,000 people surveyed globally each year, the report has become one of the most visible international measures of life evaluation, often used to compare how citizens are faring beyond economic growth alone. **WHAT NEXT** Despite Botswana's long reputation for political stability and economic progress, the latest results paint a worrying picture of a public struggling to maintain optimism. Without targeted interventions to improve livelihoods, strengthen institutions and rebuild trust, Botswana risks sliding even further down the global happiness scale.

BoMRA Slams Medicine Scare Claims

BoMRA dismisses Moswaane's claims on poor-quality medicines, insisting Botswana's drug supply is safe, tightly regulated and free of linked fatalities

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Botswana Medicines Regulatory Authority (BoMRA) has hit back at the Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Ignatius Moswaane, dismissing claims of widespread poor-quality medicines as misleading and not reflective of realities on the ground. In a public notice issued last Friday, BoMRA said the country's medicines remain under strict surveillance, with systems

in place to detect and remove any unsafe products. The Authority stressed that while isolated quality concerns do arise, as is standard in any regulated market, these are swiftly contained through recalls and enforcement measures. **MULTI LAYERED MONITORING** “Allegations of poor-quality or fake medicines are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly,” BoMRA said, but maintained that such claims should not be exaggerated to

suggest systemic failure. The regulator outlined a multi-layered monitoring system that includes risk-based inspections, spot checks across pharmacies and health facilities, and track-and-trace mechanisms along the supply chain. It also works closely with law enforcement to clamp down on non-compliant products. Addressing medicines cited in public debate, BoMRA clarified that only specific batches of products such as Dolowise 500 and Elymol Paracetamol were found to have defects and were immediately recalled and destroyed. Crucially, it emphasised that no dangerous cough syrups linked to fatalities elsewhere have been detected in Botswana.

“No deaths have been recorded in Botswana linked to any of the medicines in question.”

NO DEATHS In a pointed rebuttal to Moswaane's remarks, BoMRA underscored that, “no deaths have been recorded in Botswana linked to any of the medicines in

question,” directly challenging narratives that could trigger unnecessary panic. The Authority further highlighted its track record, revealing that 37 medical products have been recalled since 2019, evidence, it argues, of a system that is proactive, not failing. BoMRA also acknowledged past concerns around medical devices such as spinal cord stimulators but noted that regulatory controls have since been tightened, with no new complaints reported. With misinformation increasingly spreading online, BoMRA warned against amplifying unverified claims, urging both public officials and citizens to rely on factual, verified updates.

Fake Drugs Probe Widens

Parliament committee moves to review rejected evidence as claims of counterfeit medicines linked to deaths raise fresh scrutiny.

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Parliamentary Health Committee is preparing to summon the Ministry of Health to clarify allegations that fake medicines entered Botswana in 2022, reportedly administered to patients and linked to fatalities.

EVIDENCE REVIEW

Committee Chairperson, Phillimon Aron said the committee will formally request access to evidence submitted by the Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs Ignatius Moswaane, which was previously rejected by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Dithapelo Keorapetse for parliamentary discussion.

“The committee believes it is essential to independently review the evidence to assess its authenticity.”

Aron said the decision was driven by the seriousness of the claims and Moswaane’s persistence in raising the matter.

Moswaane has alleged that counterfeit medicines were imported into Botswana in 2022 and administered in healthcare facilities, resulting in adverse effects and linked to several fatalities. He further claimed that fake medicines were discovered stored in a clinic storeroom at Shoshong Clinic.

INDEPENDENT CHECK

“The committee believes it is essential to independently review the evidence to assess its authenticity and take an informed position,” Aron said.

“The Speaker analyzed the evidence alone before making a decision. It is therefore important for us, as the com-



Assistant Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs Ignatius Moswaane

mittee, to examine and evaluate it as well. If the evidence is verified, we will summon senior officials from the Ministry of Health to explain the circumstances surrounding these allegations.”

Aron added that the committee plans to formally approach Keorapetse to request access to the submitted material.

CLAIMS CONTESTED

Moswaane’s claims have been dismissed by the Botswana Medical Regulatory Authority, but he maintains that his evidence is credible.

He has called for a public hearing to establish the impact on affected patients and has threatened to report the authority to the World Health Organization for dismissing the allegations.



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VISA

UN Raises Botswana Red Flags

Botswana faces renewed scrutiny as the UN flags gaps in detention conditions, trafficking enforcement and refugee protections.

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana’s human rights record is under renewed international scrutiny after the United Nations Human Rights Committee flagged persistent shortcomings in detention conditions, human trafficking enforcement and refugee protections.

Presenting the Committee’s latest follow-up assessment, Special Rapporteur Yvonne Donders said Botswana had made some progress but warned that key concerns remain unresolved.

“As the Committee monitors States’ implementation of the Covenant over an eight-year cycle, it is important to continue monitoring and dialogue,” Donders said, adding that the follow-up process focuses on priority issues identified in earlier reviews.

The Committee has now decided to discontinue its follow-up procedure for Botswana alongside Cambodia and Ukraine, with a full update expected in the country’s next periodic report due in 2028 or 2029.

DETENTION CONDITIONS

While Botswana was commended for steps to align detention conditions with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, the Committee said the situation on the ground remains concerning.

“It remains concerned that detention conditions continue to be poor,” Donders noted, pointing to overcrowding and prison populations exceeding capacity.

The Committee also raised concern over lengthy pretrial detention, particularly the continued use of mandatory detention for serious offences such as murder and treason.

Foreign nationals and individuals deemed unfit to stand trial were identified as especially vulnerable, with reports indicating they often face prolonged periods in remand without resolution.

TRAFFICKING GAPS

Botswana received recognition for implementing the Anti-Human Trafficking Act and conducting awareness cam-

paigns, but the Committee stressed that enforcement remains weak.

“Further efforts are required to strengthen investigations and ensure accountability, as convictions reportedly remain rare,” Donders said.

The Committee also criticised the lack of publicly available data on child labour and limited information on access to shelters and support services for victims.

These gaps, it said, make it difficult to assess the true scale of the problem and the effectiveness of interventions.

“
Detention
conditions continue
to be poor
”

REFUGEE CONCERNS

The adoption of the Refugees Act 2024 was welcomed as a positive development, alongside improvements at the Dukwi Refugee Settlement.

However, the Committee said these reforms have yet to translate into meaningful change for many asylum seekers.

“It regretted that most refugees and asylum-seekers reportedly continued to be detained,” Donders said, reiterating earlier recommendations for alternatives to detention.

The continued reliance on detention, the Committee noted, raises concerns about Botswana’s compliance with international standards on the treatment of displaced persons.

PRESSURE BUILDS

The Committee urged Botswana to improve transparency by making legislative amendments affecting detainees publicly accessible.

It also encouraged the government to intensify efforts to address statelessness, including ratifying international conventions aimed at protecting affected populations.

Despite acknowledging progress in certain areas, the report signals that significant challenges remain, particularly in translating policy commitments into measurable improvements.

With the next review cycle already set, Botswana now faces growing pressure to demonstrate tangible progress on long-standing human rights concerns.



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BPF MPs' Expulsion Sparks Parliamentary Uncertainty

Internal party rift leaves ministers' parliamentary roles and committee memberships in limbo

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The expulsion of two Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF) Members of Parliament (MPs) who also serve as cabinet ministers has cast uncertainty over their parliamentary roles and party representation. The Speaker of the National Assembly, Dithapelo Keorapetse, was formally notified of the decision on Monday.

MPS EXPELLED AMID LEADERSHIP DISPUTE

The MPs, Nata/Gweta representative Lawrence Ookeditse and Serowe North's Baratiwa Mathoothe were expelled by the party this week. The move was confirmed by the Gaolatlhe Galebotswe faction, which called on the Speaker to act on the decision. This faction claims legitimate leadership over the party, in opposition to Ookeditse's faction, which also asserts authority.

“Analysts warn that the impasse could disrupt parliamentary business and weaken the party's influence.”

PARLIAMENTARY IMPLICATIONS

BPF spokesperson, Modiri Jojo Lucas told The Botswana Gazette in an interview that the notification is intended to clarify the MPs' position in Parliament. “They no longer represent the BPF,” Lucas said, warning that any parliamentary activity by the two ministers including debates or votes cannot be considered as reflecting the party's stance.

He emphasized that the Speaker must consider the expulsion in future cabinet reshuffles and committee appointments. The Galebotswe faction insists that seating arrangements and committee assignments reflect the updated BPF numbers, ensuring the expelled MPs neither sit with party members nor influence internal representation.

OOKEDITSE FACTION REJECTS EXPULSION

In contrast, the faction loyal to Ookeditse dismissed the expulsion letter as unconstitutional. Spokesperson Ogaufi Nthobelang told The Botswana Gazette that the interim committee lacks authority to notify the Speaker or confirm expulsions. “Only a committee elected by congress can take such decisions,” Nthobelang said, urging BPF members to ignore the claims.

DEEPENING PARTY DIVISIONS

The dispute highlights deepening internal divisions within the BPF and raises questions about the legitimacy of committee decisions. Until the matter is resolved,



Lawrence Ookeditse

the parliamentary status of Ookeditse and Mathoothe including their voting rights, committee memberships, and seating arrangements remains uncertain. Analysts warn that the impasse could disrupt parliamentary business and weaken the party's influence.

SPEAKER'S ROLE IN CLARIFYING STATUS

Reached for comment former deputy speaker Pono Moatlhodi supported the BPF's position, stating that Parliament must know the MPs' party status. “They entered Parliament through the BPF, therefore, the party has the right to manage and overrule them,” Moatlhodi said. He added that the Speaker has a duty to review the letter, call the expelled MPs to clarify their stance before announcing his decision.



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Terms and conditions apply. Persons under the age of eighteen (18) years cannot participate in this competition. This competition runs from 6 January 2026 to 6 June 2026.

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Tax Hike Looms

Vice President, Ndaba Gaolathe has underlined that in order to become a high income nation, Botswana must finance its development from within



BONGANI MALUNGA

A fresh wave of tax increases could be on the horizon as the Botswana government moves to tighten its fiscal grip and ramp up domestic revenue mobilisation. Vice President and Minister

of Finance, Ndaba Gaolathe, has signalled a decisive policy shift, underscoring the urgency for Botswana to finance its development agenda from internal resources rather than external borrowing. The push comes as the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) sets an am-

bitious revenue collection target of P65 billion in the 2026/2027 financial year, an aggressive leap aimed at closing the country's relatively low tax-to-GDP ratio of 13.4 percent.

TAX ADMINISTRATION ACT
Addressing the Tax Pitso in Gaborone last week, Gaolathe's remarks pointed the introduction of tax reforms in the coming financial cycle. The government is set to table a single unified piece of legislation, the Tax Administration Act, before Parliament in due course according to Gaolathe. "Botswana's tax-to-GDP ratio stands at approximately 13.4 percent, far below and significantly lower than the African average let alone comparable economies in our region. This means that we are not yet mobilising enough of our own national strength to finance the future we all aspire to. This reality underscores a simple but critical truth, that if we are to achieve our shared ambition of becoming a high income nation, we must increasingly finance our development from within," Gaolathe asserted. The development places businesses and consumers on alert, with social media commentators, the opposition and economists warning that any tax hikes could weigh on economic activity, particularly at a time when households are already grappling with rising costs of living. However, the government appears resolute, framing the

move as a necessary step toward long-term economic resilience and self-sufficiency.
DEEPENING PUBLIC DEBT
For his part, BURS Commissioner General, Phodiso Valashia stated that the projected P65 billion collection target will help fund infrastructure, social services and diversification efforts without deepening public debt.

“If we are to achieve our shared ambition of becoming a high income nation, we must increasingly finance our development from within.”

“This will finance about 75 percent of government expenditure and account for 80 percent of government revenue. In practical terms, the functioning of the government will depend largely on what is collected. What is collected will depend on what is declared and paid,” Valashia explained.

KAZUNGULA BRIDGE AUTHORITY

LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

REWARD US\$1750

Submit YOUR LOGO DESIGN to: records@kazungulabridgeproject.com with 'KBA Logo Competition' in the subject line.

CLOSING DATE 30TH MARCH 2026 @17:00HRS

For queries and clarifications, please contact: records@kazungulabridgeproject.com

KAZUNGULA BRIDGE AUTHORITY

The Kazungula Bridge Authority (KBA) is an International organization established by the Governments of the Republic of Zambia and the Republic of Botswana to manage and oversee the operations of the Kazungula Bridge Infrastructure located at the Zambia-Botswana border across the Zambezi River. KBA was established to ensure the efficient management, operation, and maintenance of this strategically important infrastructure, catalyze economic development and facilitate regional integration. The Kazungula Bridge Authority requires the services of creative designers to develop a logo that speaks to the mandate or any relatable aspects of the Authority. Graphic Designers are hereby invited to participate in the competition for the development of a logo for the Kazungula Bridge Authority. The logo competition is open to graphic design firms and individuals including students with graphic design skills in Botswana and Zambia.

LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

The following are the rules and guidelines for the competition.

1. Participants in this competition must be 18 years or older.

2. The design should be in high resolution colour;

3. The logo must be clear and distinctly identifiable for effective application on all materials, websites and other relevant platforms;

4. The logo should include the name of the Authority - Kazungula Bridge Authority;

5. A tagline can also be incorporated along with the symbol to enhance the impact of the symbol.

6. The design should be accompanied by a written description of its meaning and features;

7. Entrants are required to identify possible colours for the Authority;

8. The Authority reserves the right to subject the winning logo to necessary modification for its use.

9. Originality is a key requirement in the logo design.

10. Any material, graphics or other items prepared by and in the competition shall belong to, and remain the property of the Authority;

11. The Judges' decision is final and will not be open to any correspondence or appeal whatsoever.

12. Entrants in the competition should provide their names, email address, contact telephone numbers, certified copies of identity document.

13. The Authority reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend this competition without prior notice in the event of circumstances arising beyond its control that makes it necessary to do so

Mode of Submission

The logo design should be submitted in Windows compatible soft copy to records@kazungulabridgeproject.com with 'KBA Logo Competition' in the subject line.

Specifications

1. A single image file including both black and white and color versions of logo on a white background (no transparency), in either .gif, .ai, .psd or .png format, placed in a 400x600 pixel format with a resolution of 72 dpi.

2. A single image file including both black and white and color versions of logo on a white background (no transparency), in either .gif, .ai, .psd, or .png format, placed in a 400x600 pixel format with a resolution of 300 dpi.

3. A single multi-page pdf set for high resolution, containing the following in this order and with the following page restrictions:

a. Page 1: logo in color

b. Page 2: logo in black and white

c. Page 3&4: logo shown in use (eg. webpage, invitations, reports, letterheads, T-shirt...)

d. Page 5: documentation (summary description or explanation of logo symbolism, designers' intent)

e. Page 6: short biographic information of designer or studio

The logo should be able to work both in colour and black and white, be adaptable to different scales and different uses (e.g. webpages, e-mails, hard copy, projected image, posters.)

Reward

A Jury will select the winning logo, and the winner of the competition will receive a cash prize of US\$1750. The prize is as stated, and no other alternatives will be offered.

COPYRIGHT AND PATENTS

1. By entering this competition, the designer assigns the rights to Kazungula Bridge Authority to use each submission for promotion of the Authority. Unless a submission is selected as the winner, each designer retains all intellectual property considerations associated with their submission.

2. Entries should not violate any intellectual property, including, but not limited to patents, trademarks, and copyrights. By admitting their entry the designer certifies that the entry is original, created solely by entrant, and no other person or entity holds rights to the entry and its components.

3. In consideration for the prize money received, the winner agrees to transfer all applicable intellectual property considerations to Kazungula Bridge Authority for the promotion of the Authority.

4. The entrant is responsible for the contents of the advertisement which cannot include copyright protected material. The entrant must have the rights for all the texts and images used in the submitted work.

5. The entry must not benefit any company, organization, political party or official interest group by the use, for instance, of logos, brands, or representatives or corporations, parties or organizations.

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State Media Purge Sparks Outcry

Non-renewals and redeployments in state media raise fresh concerns over editorial independence and political interference.



PUBLIC NOTICE

BIUST TO INAUGURATE ITS SECOND CHANCELLOR

March 18, 2026

The Botswana International University of Science & Technology (BIUST) has the honour to announce the forthcoming inauguration of Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, President of the Republic of Botswana, as the Second Chancellor of the University. The inauguration underscores the strong collaboration between higher education, industry, and government in driving Botswana’s knowledge-based economy.

The historic ceremony is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 26 March 2026 at 07:30 at the BIUST Campus, Multipurpose Hall. Members of the public are urged to join the University in commemorating this historic occasion by following the live proceedings through the official University social media platforms: <https://www.facebook.com/biustbw> and YouTube@ BIUSTBW.

This auspicious occasion signifies a moment of profound institutional pride and national importance, reaffirming the University’s mandate in advancing scientific excellence, technological innovation, and human capital development in service of the Republic.

Issued by: Directorate of Communications & Public Relations
For media enquiries: Godfrey Kgopana
Acting Director, Public Relations & Communications
Tel: +267 4931073/74/76
Email: kgopanag@biust.ac.bw

About BIUST: The Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) was established by an Act of Parliament (Act CAP 57:05) in 2006 as a research-intensive University and the only specialized University in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM). BIUST is a transformative strategically positioned entity supposed to lead the country’s transition from a mineral-led to a knowledge-driven economy through undertaking cutting edge research in science, engineering, and technology. The “BIUST Transformative Strategy Plan 2023-28” is a vehicle and pathway through which this transition is to be realized. BIUST is renowned for its academic excellence, research programs, and commitment to innovation.



GAZETTE REPORTER

The government is facing growing criticism following reports that several journalists within state-owned media have been issued notices that their contracts will not be renewed in what insiders describe as a widening “purge” of the national broadcaster’s workforce.

Documents seen by this publication confirm that some employees under the Department of Broadcasting Services have received formal communication indicating the end of their contracts at the close of March 2026.

One such letter, signed by Director of Broadcasting Services Stephen Motlogelwa, informs a staff member that their employment “will come to an end on 31st March 2026 in accordance with the terms and conditions of your contract.”

CONTRACT CUTS

The notices come amid reports that the Ministry of State President has ordered the redeployment of journalists across government departments.

Sources indicate that at least a dozen employees could be reassigned to roles unrelated to media, a move that has raised concerns about the erosion of journalistic independence and professionalism within public media institutions.

Further information suggests that the Directorate of Public Service Management has been tasked with facilitating the transfers as soon as suitable vacancies are identified.

Insiders allege that those targeted for redeployment or non-renewal are individuals perceived as not aligning with certain internal expectations or directives.

POLITICAL CONCERNS

“These moves are not administrative they are political,” said a source familiar with developments who requested anonymity.

“There is a clear pattern emerging where editorial independence is being punished.”

The allegations have intensified debate over the extent to which state media institutions operate independently from political influence, particularly at a time when expectations for reform remain high.

Observers warn that actions perceived as punitive could undermine confidence in public broadcasters and weaken the credibility

of their reporting.
RECENT TENSIONS
The controversy unfolds against the backdrop of recent tensions within state media.

In a high-profile case, Radio Botswana 1 management was forced to reverse its decision to remove broadcaster Lets Montsoa from his popular show Masa a Sele following widespread public backlash.

“A career pivot is not merely a decision; it is a strategic repositioning of one’s professional value.”

His reinstatement was widely seen as a rare instance of public pressure influencing internal editorial decisions.

The incident highlighted the growing role of audience engagement in shaping outcomes within state-run platforms.

SYSTEMIC ISSUES

State media institutions including Daily News, RB1, RB2 and Botswana Television have in recent years faced persistent allegations of poor management practices.

Staff have cited delayed payments, favouritism, lack of career progression and weak accountability structures as ongoing challenges within the system.

There are also claims that some decisions within these institutions are influenced by internal rivalries and political considerations, further undermining morale among journalists.

PRESSURE BUILDS

It is understood that the current developments could have far-reaching implications for press freedom in Botswana under the Umbrella for Democratic Change government, which has positioned itself as human rights oriented.

“If journalists are removed or sidelined for perceived dissent, it creates a chilling effect across the newsroom,” one observer noted.

The developments are likely to intensify scrutiny of how state media institutions are managed and whether reforms promised under the current administration are being realised in practice.

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DATE OF SALE
TIME:
LOCATION
PLOT SIZE
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:

Gaone Ratsoma
Cell: 72199719
1st April 2026
1030hrs
Tribal Lot 1065, Tlokweng
1218m2
A three bed bedroomed house with 1x en-suite, bath and toilet, sitting room, fitted kitchen, single garage. Servant's quarter with toilet and shower, kitchenette, yard half paved, walled, electric fence and motorised gate

BIDDING START AT: P1,900,000.00



DEPUTY SHERIFF
CONTACT
DATE OF SALE
TIME:
LOCATION
PLOT SIZE
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:

Nonofa Dingalo
Cell: 71657100
27th March 2026
1030hrs
Lot 62047, Gaborone (Tsholofelo East)
741m2
A four bedroomed house, all ensuites, sitting room, TV Room, fitted kitchen, dinning room, toilet, double garage, servants's quarter, walled with electric fence and motorised gate.

BIDDING START AT: P1,190,000.00



DEPUTY SHERIFF
CONTACT
DATE OF SALE
TIME
LOCATION
PLOT SIZE
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:

Gaone Ratsoma
Cell: 72199719
30th March 2026
1430hrs
Lot 39070, Gaborone
413m2
A four bedroomed house, ensuites, 2x shower, 2x bath, guest toilet, servant's quarter fitted with wardrobe, shower and toilet, the yard is paved, walled with motorised gate

BIDDING START AT: P1,150,000.00



DEPUTY SHERIFF
CONTACT
DATE OF SALE
TIME
LOCATION
PLOT SIZE
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:

Nonofa Dingalo
Cell: 71657100
27th March 2026
1430hrs
Tribal Lot 5714, Mmopane
866m2
A multiresidential piece of land comprising of 5x 2 1/2 (two and half) houses, pitlatrine toilet and boundry wall

BIDDING START AT: P1,350,000.00



DEPUTY SHERIFF
CONTACT
DATE OF SALE
TIME
LOCATION
PLOT SIZE
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:

Bathusi Billy
Cell: 71607940
30th March 2026
1030hrs
Tribal Lot 12839, Tlokweng
1162m2
A four bedroomed house with master ensuite, main living room, dinning room, TV Room, fitted kitchen, separate toilet, separate bathroom, double garage, 2x Veranda, a separate servant's quarter with shower, toilet and kitchenette, the yard is paved, walled with electric fence and motorised gate.

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CEDA Mum on Damning DCEC Report



Agency silent as whistle blower allegations of corruption and governance failures surface

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA) has remained tight-lipped in the face of explosive corruption allegations contained in a whistleblower report reportedly submitted to the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC), raising eyebrows over the institution’s silence.

WHISTLEBLOWER REPORT

The report, submitted on 5 March 2026 by individuals identifying themselves as “Concerned Employees of CEDA,” details alleged corruption, governance

failures, and ethical misconduct within the agency. It calls for a full-scale investigation into CEDA’s operations under caretaker Chief Executive Officer, Khalala Mokefane.

Despite the seriousness of the allegations, CEDA has yet to issue a public statement addressing or refuting the claims. Observers warn that the agency’s silence could be interpreted as tacit confirmation, potentially eroding public trust.

DCEC TIGHT-LIPPED

Efforts to obtain comment from the DCEC proved unsuccessful, as the anti-corruption body declined to discuss the matter.

Responding to The Botswana Gazette enquiries DCEC spokesperson, Otshepheng Otladisa stated that they could neither “confirm nor deny” receipt of the report, even though a DCEC receipt stamp reportedly appears on the document. “Please be advised that in accordance with the provisions of Corruption and Economic Crime Act (CECA) the directorate is unable to comment or disclose any information relating to the matter.

The agency’s cautious stance leaves key questions unanswered, amid growing pressure for clarity on whether a formal investigation has been initiated.

INTERNAL MECHANISMS ‘FAILED’

According to the whistleblowers, the decision to approach the DCEC followed the failure of in-

ternal reporting channels to yield results.

“We have exhausted internal mechanisms available to us, including the official tip-off platform,” the report states.

The whistleblowers further allege possible interference at senior management level, raising concerns about governance within the institution. “We now have reasonable grounds to believe that our internal reports may have been intercepted or suppressed,” the report adds.

Observers warn that the agency’s silence could be interpreted as tacit confirmation, potentially eroding public trust.

CEDA RESPONDS

Responding to The Botswana Gazette enquiries, CEDA spokesperson, Disang Nage said the agency is not in a position to comment on the allegations at this stage.

“Kindly note that CEDA has not been furnished with any report and therefore we are not in a position to engage on the said allegations at the moment,” he said.



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UK Ban Sparks Beef Dispute

The UK's suspension of Botswana beef imports draws regional criticism, with experts warning it could undermine global disease-control systems.

GAZETTE REPORTER

The United Kingdom is facing criticism over its decision to suspend imports of fresh beef from Botswana, with regional experts questioning whether the move undermines globally recognised disease-control systems.

The suspension, introduced earlier this year, has sparked concern among Southern African veterinary authorities, particularly in neighbouring Namibia, where officials warn the decision could erode confidence in long-established livestock management frameworks.

According to reports, the Livestock and Livestock Products Board of Namibia has raised red flags over the UK's approach.

Its Executive for Quality Assurance, Dr Anja Boshoff-De Witt, defended Botswana's disease-control measures, arguing that the country's zoning system remains robust and effective.

"The zoning system in Botswana works well," Boshoff-De Witt said, adding that the UK's response was concerning. "It appears that these trading partners do not fully recognise or take into account Botswana's zoning controls."

ZONING SYSTEM

Botswana's zoning model, recognised by the World Organisation for Animal Health, is designed to isolate outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease within specific areas, allowing unaffected regions to continue exporting safely.

The system has long been a cornerstone of Botswana's beef export industry, enabling trade



continuity even during outbreaks in specific zones.

Despite this, the UK's Animal and Plant Health Agency issued a directive, OVS Note 2026/04, on 4 February 2026, temporarily halting imports of fresh bovine meat processed on or after 30 December 2025.

The restriction followed Botswana's notification of a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak confirmed on 29 January in Zone

6b, along with suspected cases in Zone 3c.

GLOBAL STANDARDS

Boshoff-De Witt questioned whether such actions signal a broader disregard for internationally accepted standards governing animal health and trade.

"If WOA-recognised zones are not being respected, then the question is why," she said.

"Are importing countries choosing not to conduct their

own audits?"

The concerns point to a potential disconnect between global frameworks designed to facilitate safe trade and the precautionary measures being adopted by importing countries.

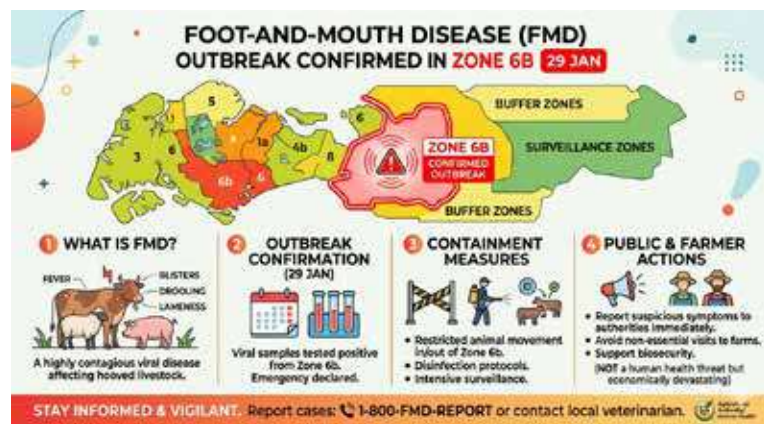
REGIONAL IMPACT

The issue is understood to carry wider regional implications.

Namibia, which maintains close disease-management coordination with Botswana, views its neighbour as a critical buffer in protecting its own livestock industry.

Experts warn that any loss of confidence in Botswana's systems could destabilise broader Southern African trade networks and disrupt cross-border disease control efforts.

Meanwhile, Namibia's Directorate of Veterinary Services has imposed its own temporary restrictions on the import and transit of cloven-hoofed animals and



related products from affected Botswana zones.

The move was described as a precautionary response following confirmed outbreaks reported through the World Animal Health Information System.

EXPORT PRESSURE

The UK's decision coincides with tightening controls in Europe.

The European Commission has also moved to suspend imports of fresh beef from parts of Botswana, particularly disease-control Zone 3c, after outbreaks were detected in the North-East District.

Botswana authorities, however, have downplayed fears of a complete export shutdown.

"The zoning system in Botswana works well"

Acting Minister of Lands and Agriculture Edwin Dikoloti dismissed reports of a blanket European Union ban, noting that shipments are still en route to European markets.

"There is a good number of containers on their way to the EU as we speak," he said, adding that the Botswana Meat Commission is ramping up slaughter volumes of EU-eligible cattle.

Officials say efforts are underway to fulfil export quotas to Norway by June, even as uncertainty continues to shape the outlook for Botswana's beef trade.

BDP MPs Backtrack on Pastors' Qualifications Law

Lawmakers call for review of legislation they once pushed through Parliament

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Members of Parliament from the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) are facing criticism after reversing their stance on a controversial 2022 law, now urging the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) government to review it as "unbiblical" and discriminatory.

ORIGINS OF THE LAW

The law, introduced through amendments to the Societies Act by then Minister of Labour and Home Affairs Annah Mokgethi, requires pastors, prophets, and other religious leaders to hold a three-year diploma in theology from a recognized institution to operate legally. At the time, BDP MPs defended the legislation as

necessary to curb the proliferation of churches, address commercialization of religion, and prevent financial abuses.

POLICY REVERSAL

Four years later, the same lawmakers are calling for the law's review, citing concerns similar to those previously raised by the opposition. The debate follows a parliamentary briefing by the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General (rtd) Pius Mokgware, which highlighted unease within BDP ranks.

BDP MPs SPEAK OUT

In an interview with The Botswana Gazette, Kgatleng East MP Mabuse Pule admitted that while the law may have been well-intentioned, it has proven problematic in practice. "Every law is made with justification,

and in this case it was the influx of foreign pastors coming into the country to open churches," said Pule. "However, the Act must now be reviewed because it is unfair to local pastors and limiting, while it appears to favor foreign pastors."

Pule suggested lowering the academic threshold to a certificate level to accommodate individuals with genuine spiritual callings.

Thamaga/Kumakwane MP Palelo Motaosane also criticized the law, saying some legislation backfires. "I have always been against this requirement for minimum qualifications for pastors," said Motaosane. "Spiritual gifts do not require academic qualifications. Even though it was brought by our party while in power, we are against it and

want the Act to be amended. We are currently working with other MPs to bring an amendment bill to Parliament."

"Spiritual gifts do not require academic qualifications. Even though it was brought by our party while in power, we are against it and want the Act to be amended."

FREEDOM OF WORSHIP CONCERNS

BDP MPs argue the law under-

mines freedom of worship and excludes those with legitimate spiritual callings but without formal qualifications concerns that were dismissed when the law was passed.

MINISTER PUSHBACK

Minister Mokgware expressed concern over the sudden shift, noting some MPs are only now questioning a law they helped enact. "Although the Act was reviewed in 2022, some MPs are only becoming aware of it now," he said, ruling out immediate changes and maintaining that the law remains vital for regulating the religious sector.

REGULATION STILL NECESSARY

"The purpose was to avoid the proliferation of churches. Churches have now evolved into businesses, and government has a responsibility to protect citizens," he added, emphasizing that all pastors should have basic training in leadership and governance.

Botswana's Rating Still Investment Grade

BPOPF plays down downgrade, says Botswana remains a low-risk borrower despite rising fiscal pressure.



BPOPF acting chief executive officer, Ms Kwenatle Otukile

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund (BPOPF) has reaffirmed confidence in the government's ability to meet its

repayment obligations on a P3 billion loan, despite a recent sovereign credit rating downgrade by S&P Global.

The downgrade reflects concerns

over Botswana's widening fiscal deficit and increased public spending, raising questions about borrowing costs and investor sentiment. However, BPOPF maintains that the country's underlying financial position remains stable.

INVESTMENT GRADE

Speaking at a press conference, BPOPF Chief Investment Officer, Tshephang Loeto stressed that Botswana retains its investment grade status, signalling low risk of default.

"We are aware of S&P downgrading Botswana's rating, the main thing to emphasize here is that Botswana's rating is still investment grade," Loeto said.

He added that this classification reflects Botswana's relative strength compared to other economies and continued credibility in global markets.

BORROWING PRESSURE

While the downgrade may lead to higher borrowing costs and tighter access to international capital, the Fund pointed to Botswana's track record of fiscal discipline as a stabilising factor.

BPOPF noted that the government's diversified revenue streams, including tax income and mineral

earnings, continue to support its capacity to service debt.

LOAN CONFIDENCE

The Fund described its exposure to government debt as secure, framing the P3 billion loan as a strategic, low-risk investment aligned with long-term returns for members.

Acting CEO, Kwenatle Otukile said the Fund remains within acceptable risk thresholds despite current fiscal pressures.

"We are aware of the downgrade, but Botswana remains investment grade."

"We understand the position that the government is currently in but we believe that the returns we have been able to make from the government since the inception of the Fund... are still within permissible thresholds," Otukile said.

Otukile added that lending to government continues to deliver value to members while maintaining prudent investment standards.

BPF Rift Deepens

Court ruling fails to settle leadership dispute as rival factions harden positions and reject reconciliation efforts.

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

Fresh divisions have surfaced within the Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF) after the Gaolathe Galebotswe faction rejected a reconciliation proposal from a rival camp led by Lawrence Ookeditse, following a recent High Court ruling.

COURT FALLOUT

The recent High Court ruling, which dismissed an application by the Ookeditse faction, has become a fresh point of contention between the two camps.

While the court declined to grant the interdict sought by the Ookeditse camp, it did not make a definitive pronouncement on which faction constitutes the legitimate leadership

of the BPF. Instead, the court found that the applicants had failed to establish a prima facie right to justify the urgent relief they were seeking.

This has resulted in differing interpretations, with each faction claiming the outcome strengthens its position.

REJECTED TALKS

The Galebotswe faction has dismissed the overtures contained in a letter from the Ookeditse camp proposing a meeting scheduled for this past Monday.

Speaking to The Botswana Gazette, Galebotswe faction spokesperson Modiri Jojo Lucas said they were unaware of any formal invitation, insisting there was "nothing official before them."

Lucas questioned the timing and relevance of the proposed reconciliation.

"We believe the party is intact and there is nothing to reconcile," he said. "If there was a need for reconciliation, it should have arisen after the 2025 elective congress that sparked divisions and animosity among members. We do not see any need now because nobody is fighting."

He further claimed that members had already begun returning to the Galebotswe faction following the High Court ruling, interpreting the judgment as a validation of their position.

COURT RESPECT

Lucas also urged the Ookeditse camp to respect the recent High Court decision.

"Just as we respected last year's court or-



der to stop using the party logo, the Ookeditse faction should also comply with the latest ruling," he said. "They should hand over party materials and stop using the logo."

ONGOING STANDOFF

Meanwhile, Ogaufi Nthobelang, spokesperson for the Ookeditse faction, confirmed that the Galebotswe camp had rejected the proposal.

"They declined the letter and refused to send a representative," Nthobelang said.

Nthobelang offered a different interpretation of the ruling, arguing that the court's decision did not settle the leadership dispute but merely addressed the urgency of the application.

He maintained that his faction remains committed to reconciliation but will now consult party members on the way forward should the rival camp continue to show no interest.

ICT Graduates' Petition Reaches Parley

Attention now turns to Tshere's ministry and whether it will move swiftly to address the concerns or risk further backlash from an increasingly frustrated and organised group of young professionals

BONGANI MALUNGA

Pressure is mounting on the Minister of Communication and Innovation, David Tshere, after Information and Communication Technology (ICT) graduates escalated their grievances to Parliament, demanding urgent intervention over what they describe as widespread unemployment and exploitation within the public sector.

The petition, brought before Parliament by the Member of Parliament for Nkange, Motlhaleemang Moalosi, highlights a deepening disconnect between the government's ambitious digital transformation agenda and the lived realities of trained ICT professionals who remain sidelined or confined to interim roles. The graduates argue that despite repeated pronouncements on e-government modernisation, cybersecurity resilience and digital innovation, the state continues to rely on short-term contracts and underpaid internships instead of creating sustainable employment pathways.

“Government ICT departments continue to operate with minimal permanent staff and overreliance on interns.”

OVERRELIANCE ON INTERNS
“Despite holding recognised qualifications and having completed government internship, many graduates who graduated as far back as 2009 still remain unemployed while government ICT departments continue to operate with minimal permanent staff and overreliance on interns,” the graduates stated.

The aggrieved graduates revealed that the petition is a result of the Ministry's failure to implement tangible implementation outcomes after a January 2025 meeting between ICT graduates and Minister Tshere and his permanent secretary where concerns and structured solutions were discussed.

According to the petitioners, the situation not only undermines morale among young professionals but also weakens the country's ability to build a competitive and secure digital economy.

EXPLOITATION
The graduates further allege that some

government departments have normalised the use of interns to perform critical functions without commensurate compensation or clear prospects for permanent employment. This, they argue, amounts to exploitation disguised as capacity building.

The petition calls for a comprehensive review of public sector hiring practices in ICT, including the establishment of structured career pathways, improved remuneration for entry-level professionals and a deliberate policy shift towards prioritising citizen employment in key digital roles.



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Tertiary Allowance Hike Hinges on Funding

The Ministry of Higher Education has set a conditional timeline of implementing an increase of tertiary allowance in the current financial year

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Ministry of Higher Education has announced plans to increase tertiary students' allowances within the current financial year, despite mounting financial pressures driven by weak loan recoveries and widening budget shortfalls.

The Minister of Higher Education, Prince Maele told Parliament on Monday that despite fiscal constraints, efforts are ongoing to secure funding, with the allowance increment still firmly on the agenda once resources permit.

“These fiscal limitations have also affected the Ministry’s ability to extend sponsorship for progression and re-sponsorships.”

BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS

“The Ministry had initially planned to increase students’ allowances to P2,500 in April 2026. However, this has not been possible due to prevailing budgetary constraints,” Maele told Parliament on Monday.

“These fiscal limitations have also affected the Ministry’s ability to extend sponsorship for progression and re-sponsorships. Notwithstanding these challenges, the Ministry is working tirelessly to increase students’ allowances this financial year as soon as funds are sourced.”

The financial strain is underscored by underperformance in student loan recoveries. Against a target of P20 million for the 2025/2026 financial year, the Ministry had only collected approximately P6.94 million, just 34 percent, by December 2025. Maele attributes this gap largely to high unemployment and persistent difficulties in tracking beneficiaries, particularly those employed in the private sector.

At the same time, the Ministry is grappling with a significant funding deficit in its student training budget. A previous shortfall of over P785 million in tuition fees from the 2024/2025 financial year has already been settled, but pressures remain. The Ministry now anticipates a staggering shortfall exceeding P1.12 billion for the current financial year, covering both semesters.

CONCERNS AMONG BENEFICIARIES

According to Maele, these constraints have also impacted the Ministry’s ability to extend sponsorships for continuing students and re-sponsorship opportunities, raising concerns among beneficiaries.

Despite the financial headwinds, the Ministry maintains that increasing student allowances remains a priority, positioning the move as critical to easing the cost of living burden on students while sustaining access to higher education.

Inside Air Botswana’s missed profitability target

Despite plans to steer the airline towards profitability by December 2025, gaps in execution and internal alignment impacted the overall outcome

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure has attributed Air Botswana’s failure to meet its December 2025 profitability target to human factor challenges, pointing to internal inefficiencies and operational lapses that undermined the national airline’s turnaround strategy.

The government had set an ambitious deadline for the state-owned carrier to achieve year-end profitability, following a directive by President Duma Boko as part of broader efforts to reduce reliance on government bailouts and reposition the airline as a commercially viable entity. However, the ministry now concedes that despite progress in certain areas, the target proved unattainable within the stipulated timeframe.

HUMAN FACTOR CONSTRAINTS

According to the ministry, issues related to workforce productivity, coordination across departments and adherence to operational procedures played a significant role in slowing down implementation of key reforms. These human factor constraints affected revenue optimisation.

The Assistant Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Keoagile Atamelang told Parliament last week that while structural and financial interventions had been introduced, including route rationalisation, cost-containment measures and efforts to improve fleet utilisation, the success of these initiatives ultimately depended on consistent execution at an operational level.

“Targeting profitability by December 2025 was not a far fetched dream, traffic data demonstrates that Botswana can be a logistics hub. We have airports that are capable of fulfilling that potential,”

Atamelang told Parliament.

STRATEGIES NOT REALISED

“It is neither daunting nor embarrassing for our government to project profitability. The only issue in achieving the target was the human factor input, some of the strategies were not realised,” the deputy minister remarked.

Air Botswana has in recent years faced persistent financial headwinds, including high operational costs, limited route networks and increased competition from regional carriers.

Despite the setback, the ministry maintains that the December 2025 target was not entirely missed without progress, emphasising that the airline has laid important groundwork for future growth. Atamelang indicated that renewed focus will now be placed on strengthening internal capacity, enhancing staff accountability and improving organisational culture to ensure that operational plans translate into measurable financial performance.



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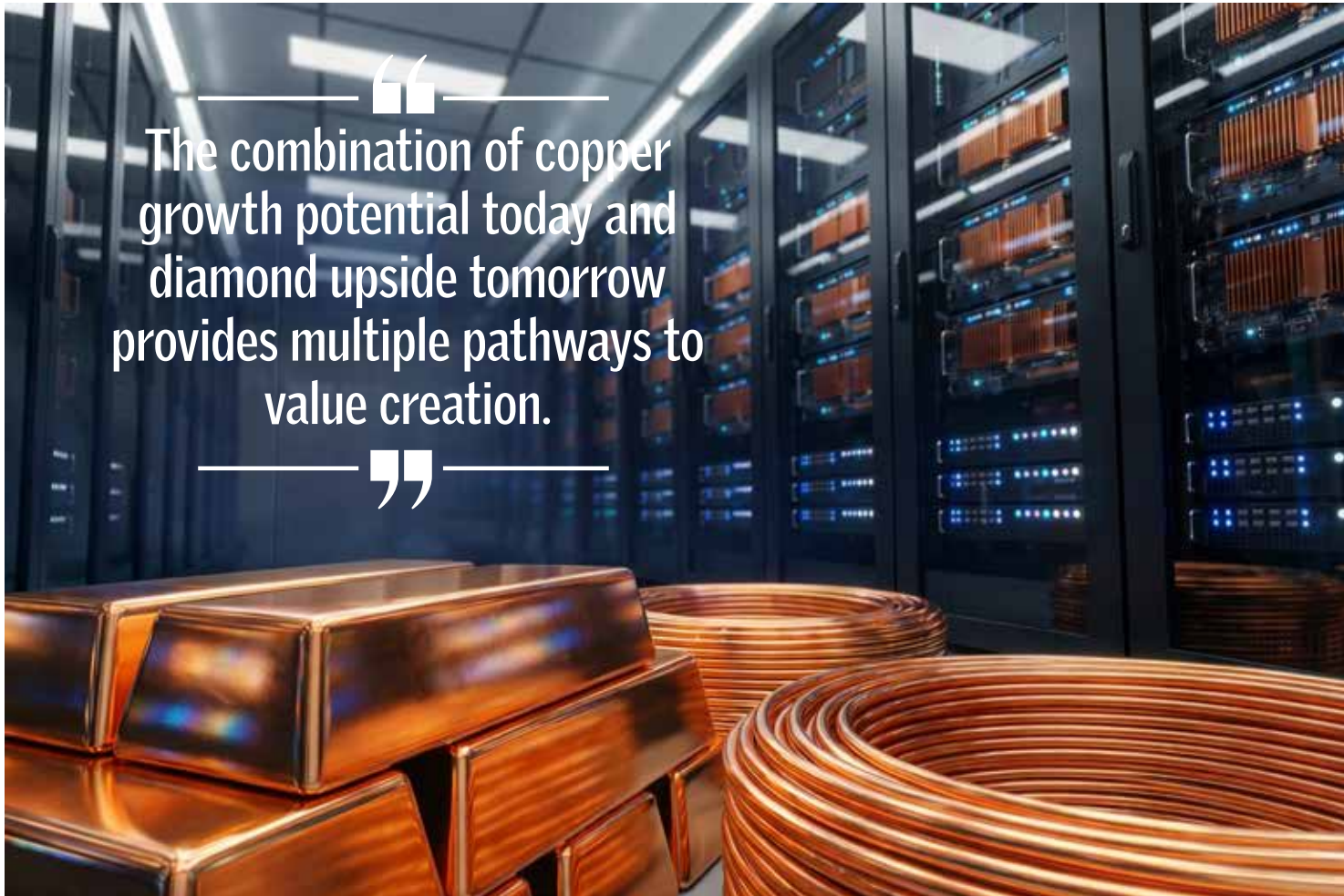
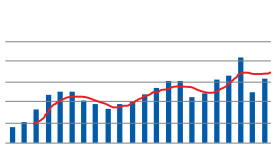
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“The combination of copper growth potential today and diamond upside tomorrow provides multiple pathways to value creation.”

Botswana Minerals Shifts Strategic Focus

AI-driven copper push signals pivot as diamond market weakens

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana Minerals Plc has reported what its chairman, John Teeling, described as “significant strategic progress” in repositioning the company toward copper and other critical minerals, while retaining its diamond assets for future value.

In its unaudited interim results for the six months ended December 31, 2025, the company detailed a shift anchored by the award of eight copper-focused prospecting licences in north-west Botswana. The licences cover about 7,000 square kilometres and are valid through December 2028.

AI EXPLORATION

The company attributed the licence awards to Artificial Intelligence-driven analysis of its privately held geoscientific database, built over two decades and spanning roughly 95,000 square kilometres. The dataset includes more than 375,000 line kilometres of airborne geophysics, ground surveys, soil sampling and drilling records.

During the review period, this database underwent advanced semantic AI analysis, yielding “multiple high-priority copper targets” in the Damaran Belt and identifying broader polymetallic potential across copper, nickel, zinc-lead-silver, platinum group metals and gold. The process also refined diamond targets, including previously unrecognised kimberlite anomalies.

“The award of the eight copper licences is the first tangible expression of this broader strategic repositioning,” Teeling said.

COPPER PIVOT

While diamonds remain central to the company’s identity, Botswana Minerals said it has redirected capital toward copper and critical minerals, citing prolonged weakness in the natural diamond market and the rise of lab-grown alternatives.

The company said it plans to conduct close-interval geophysical and geochemical surveys to advance AI-generated targets into drill-ready prospects. Discussions with potential joint venture partners are ongoing as interest in copper assets grows.

DIAMOND ASSETS

Despite the pivot, the company said its diamond portfolio remains intact. The KX36 project continues as a compliant resource, with ongoing optimisation studies and additional anomalies identified nearby.

AI analysis has also highlighted seven kimberlite anomalies, four already secured under licence. Follow-up work is being prioritised, particularly in the Jwaneng South-West region.

MARKET TRENDS

The company noted that the diamond industry remains in a cyclical downturn, with signs of stabilisation in manufacturing activity in India. At the same time, copper demand is strengthening, driven by electrification and renewable energy expansion.

FINANCIAL POSITION

Botswana Minerals remains pre-revenue, with spending focused on licence acquisition and preparatory exploration. The company said it is maintaining a lean cost base while seeking partner funding for drilling.

OUTLOOK AHEAD

Teeling said the company is entering a “pivotal period,” combining copper growth potential with long-term diamond upside.



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RDC Expands Solar, Profit Rises

Property group reports stronger earnings while scaling renewable energy footprint



GAZETTE REPORTER

RDC Property Group, a publicly listed company on the Botswana Stock Exchange, reported improved financial performance for the year ended December 31, 2025, alongside continued investment in sustainability initiatives, according to its latest financial results.

The company’s board chairman, An-

drew Bradley, said the group is integrating sustainability into its operations and investment strategy, with a growing focus on renewable energy and environmental management.

SOLAR GROWTH

Mr. Bradley said the group made “significant progress” in expanding its solar photovoltaic portfolio during the year under review.

As of December 2025, RDC operated 12 solar PV installations with a combined capacity of approximately 2.6 megawatt-peak. A further pipeline of projects is expected to add 2.46 megawatt-peak to capacity.

“These systems generated 2.34 million kilowatt-hours of renewable electricity during the year, offsetting approximately 2,183 tonnes of carbon emissions,” Mr. Bradley said, adding that this is “equivalent to the absorption rate of a mature forest of 36,000 trees.”

The company reported financial savings of approximately P2.51 million from reduced reliance on grid electricity. Solar generation now accounts for about 25 percent of electricity consumption at buildings where installations are operational.

“Solar generation now accounts for approximately 25 percent of electricity consumption at buildings where installations are operational, highlighting the growing contribution of renewable energy within the portfolio,” he said.

Beyond energy, RDC is also investing in water security infrastructure, waste management and recycling programs, and pursuing green building certifications.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

The group reported revenue of P600.9 million, a 5 percent increase from P571.8 million in 2024, driven by improved occupancy and rental growth.

Net property income rose 8 percent to P386.9 million, while profit from operations increased 16 percent to P474.2 million. The latter was supported by positive property revaluations of P134.8 million.

Profit before tax climbed to P263.4 million from P174.5 million, and profit for the year rose 53 percent to P236.8 million.

Mr. Bradley said the results “demonstrate the continued strengthening of the Group’s earnings profile.”

BALANCE SHEET

RDC said it continued to strengthen its balance sheet through operational cash generation and selective asset disposals.

The loan-to-value ratio improved to 37.68 percent from 41.72 percent, while net asset value excluding deferred taxation rose 8 percent to P3.17 per linked unit.

Total distributions to shareholders increased 42 percent to P87 million.

The overall portfolio value remained stable at approximately P5.97 billion, despite the disposal of non-core properties worth P216 million.

During the year, the company also implemented a bonus share issue at a ratio of one for every four linked units held, resulting in the issuance of 189,557,985 units. The shares were listed on July 25, 2025, and registered three days later.

The company said the move enhanced market liquidity and returned reserves to shareholders, effectively increasing market capitalization without reducing the share price and delivering a 25 percent return to unitholders.

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NBFI Growth Tests Regulation

Rapid expansion brings opportunity and rising systemic risk concerns

GAZETTE REPORTER

The global non-bank financial intermediation (NBFI) sector is expanding at a pace that is reshaping the structure of financial systems. According to the Financial Stability Board, the sector grew by 9.4 percent in 2024, roughly double the growth rate of the banking sector, and now accounts for about 51 percent of total global financial assets the second-highest share on record and comparable to pre-pandemic levels.

The report also highlights increasing interconnectedness across the global financial system, which has introduced structural vulnerabilities and heightened the risk of rapid transmission of financial shocks.

LOCAL PERFORMANCE

In Botswana, the trajectory mirrors glob-

al patterns. Data from the Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority shows that NBFIs accounted for approximately 54 percent of total financial system assets in 2023.

Total sector assets rose from P150 billion to P161 billion, reflecting 7 percent growth, largely driven by retirement funds. Capital and reserves increased from P10 billion to P13 billion, a 32 percent rise, while liabilities grew more moderately from P141 billion to P148 billion.

The expansion of retirement funds, insurance institutions and capital market activity has strengthened the sector's role in financial intermediation and long-term investment.

RIISING COMPLEXITY

Speaking at a recent industry gathering in Gaborone, Tumiso Ramotlopi who is

Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority (NBFIRA) Senior Risk Coordinator said the compliance landscape is evolving rapidly under both global and domestic pressures.

"At a macro level, global economic dynamics such as inflationary pressures, geopolitical tensions, cross-border financial flows, and technological disruption are influencing regulatory priorities across jurisdictions," she said.

"At a micro level, organizations are experiencing increasing operational complexity driven by digital transformation, increased cyber exposure, expanding financial products, and new technological platforms."

She added that these interlinkages create pathways for risks to spread more easily across sectors, raising the likelihood of

contagion within the domestic financial system.

TECH AND RISK

Regulatory priorities are also shifting toward environmental, social and governance compliance, as well as oversight of emerging technologies.

AI-driven compliance tools can detect unusual transaction patterns, automate regulatory reporting processes, and identify emerging financial crime risks more effectively than traditional manual systems.

Ramotlopi noted that artificial intelligence, machine learning, blockchain and advanced analytics are increasingly embedded in financial services, offering tools to improve compliance and risk monitoring.

"AI-driven compliance tools can detect unusual transaction patterns, automate regulatory reporting processes, and identify emerging financial crime risks more effectively than traditional manual systems," she said.

At the same time, she cautioned that innovation introduces new regulatory challenges, requiring appropriate governance structures, ethical safeguards and risk management frameworks.

S&P Cut Botswana Rating Amid Diamond Slump

Global agency flags prolonged diamond weakness, fiscal strain, and rising debt pressures despite investment-grade status

GAZETTE REPORTER

S&P Global Ratings has lowered Botswana's long-term foreign and local currency sovereign credit ratings from "BBB" to "BBB-," while also cutting short-term ratings from "A-2" to "A-3." The outlook remains negative.

Despite the downgrade, Botswana retains its investment-grade status. The agency said the move reflects expectations of "prolonged subdued global demand for diamonds," which continues to weigh on the country's economy and public finances.

ECONOMIC PRESSURES

According to S&P, weaker global demand and lower diamond prices are likely to reduce fiscal revenue and export earnings. "The fiscal pressures accumulated over recent years have been substantial," the agency stated, adding that prospects for meaningful fiscal consolidation remain limited.

With diamond revenue under strain

and ongoing spending needs, S&P projects continued large government deficits and a rise in net government debt. The negative outlook reflects persistent weakness in diamond markets, which is expected to challenge economic growth and fiscal stability.

The fiscal pressures accumulated over recent years have been substantial

STRUCTURAL FACTORS

S&P noted that Botswana's ratings are supported by a strong institutional

framework, which has enabled prudent management of natural resource wealth. The country also maintains a relatively strong net external asset position and a comparatively low, though rising, government debt burden.

However, the agency highlighted that Botswana's narrow, diamond-dependent economic base leaves it vulnerable to fiscal and external shocks, constraining the ratings.

S&P acknowledged government efforts to diversify the economy through National Development Plan 12 and the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme, with focus areas including agribusiness, healthcare, renewable energy and technology.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

S&P said the outlook could be revised to stable if economic growth, fiscal performance and external balances improve significantly, particularly through a sustained rebound in diamond markets and effective implementation of diversifica-

tion policies.

Conversely, continued weakness in diamond demand and fiscal pressures could lead to a further downgrade.

The agency emphasized that maintaining strong institutions and implementing structural reforms will be key to restoring fiscal sustainability and strengthening economic resilience over time.



Valashia Warns Compliance Key to Fiscal Stability

Improving collection, not raising rates, may determine how Botswana funds its development ambitions



Speaking at the inaugural Tax Pitso, Phodiso Valashia, acting commissioner-general of the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS), said the country must finance a significantly larger share of its development through domestic revenue.

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana’s effort to overhaul its tax system is increasingly focused on administration rather than legislation, as authorities confront growing pressure on public finances.

REVENUE PRESSURE

Speaking at the inaugural Tax Pitso, Phodiso Valashia, acting commissioner-general of the Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS), said the country must finance a significantly larger share of its development through domestic revenue.

“Botswana is faced with financing a significantly larger share of its development from domestic revenue,” Valashia said,

pointing to scepticism about taxation and concerns over fairness as barriers to compliance. “Both of these realities are valid, and both must be addressed together.”

Mineral revenues have become more volatile, while spending demands continue to rise. BURS has been assigned a collection target of about P65 billion in the coming financial year, expected to finance roughly 70 percent of government expenditure.

COMPLIANCE GAP

A central challenge remains the scale of economic activity outside the tax net. Botswana’s VAT gap is estimated at about 40 percent, meaning a substantial share of legally owed tax is not collected.

“The problem is not only the size of the economy but how much of it escapes the tax net,” Valashia said. “No system, no law and no institution can fully address this on their own. It requires a collective shift in how we, as a nation, engage with tax.”

He also acknowledged internal shortcomings within BURS, including delays, inconsistent decisions and weak system integration.

“These are not issues to be explained away. They are issues to be resolved,” he said, adding that trust in the tax authority is critical to improving performance.

REFORM STRATEGY

BURS plans to rely on digitalisation, data analytics and tighter controls to im-

prove compliance. Measures such as electronic VAT invoicing, real-time monitoring and stronger system integration are expected to underpin the reform programme.

At the same forum, Vice-President and Minister of Finance Ndaba Gaolathe said administrative reform must be accompanied by legislative changes. The current VAT system, he noted, was designed for a traditional economy and does not adequately capture digital and remote transactions.

“In practical terms, the functioning of government will depend largely on what is collected, and what is collected will depend largely on what is declared and paid.”

New legislation will extend VAT to digital services, simplify administration and consolidate tax procedures under a single framework. However, Gaolathe emphasised that legal reforms alone will not be sufficient.

“Tax systems do not succeed on legislation alone, they succeed on legitimacy,” he said.

Valashia underscored the broader stakes, linking revenue collection directly to government capacity.

“In practical terms, the functioning of government will depend largely on what is collected, and what is collected will depend largely on what is declared and paid,” he said.



Muslims in Gaborone gather at the Lekidi Football Ground to perform special Eid al-Fitr prayers marking the end of Ramadan, the month-long dawn-to-dusk fasting period, on 21 March 2026. (Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

Access Bank Names New Leaders



Kabo Gwafila



Omphemetse Dube

Appointments target risk control and client growth as bank sharpens strategy.

Access Bank Botswana has appointed two senior executives to lead its risk management and corporate banking functions, as it seeks to strengthen oversight and expand client offerings.

RISK FOCUS

Kabo Gwafila has been named Head of Risk, where he will oversee enterprise risk management and guide the bank’s risk framework. He previously served as Market Risk Manager at the bank and has experience in both local institutions and international markets, including a role in Qatar.

Gwafila holds a finance degree from the University of Botswana and professional certifications in risk and investment analysis, reflecting a technical background in liquidity, funding and capital management.

CLIENT GROWTH

Omphemetse Dube has been appointed Head

of Corporate and Institutional Banking, with responsibility for client growth, product development and business strategy. She brings more than 20 years of experience in corporate and investment banking across Botswana’s financial sector.

Her background includes portfolio management, business development and financial strategy, with qualifications from Botswana Accountancy College and additional leadership training.

The appointments come as banks face pressure to balance tighter risk controls with the need to deliver more tailored financial solutions to clients navigating a shifting economic environment.

“The appointment of Kabo Gwafila as Head of Risk and Omphemetse Dube as Head of Corporate and Institutional Banking reinforces the Bank’s commitment to sustainable growth, robust governance and market leadership.”

Shell Station Opens In Jwaneng

New site targets travel convenience and fuel access along a key cross-border route.

Vivo Energy Botswana has opened a new Shell service station in Jwaneng, expanding its national network to 83 sites as it targets growing demand along key transport corridors.

ROUTE ACCESS

For motorists, the development aims to reduce fuel stop uncertainty and improve access to services along a busy stretch of road. The facility offers fuel and lubricants, alongside convenience retail options through partnerships with Pick n Pay Go and KFC.

The site is part of broader efforts to strengthen infrastructure supporting mobility and long-distance travel, particularly in areas with increasing

economic activity.

LOCAL IMPACT

The project created jobs during construction and is expected to support ongoing employment at the station, contributing to local economic activity in Jwaneng.

The opening follows the recent launch of another Shell service station in Village, as the company continues to expand its retail footprint across Botswana.

“The location of this service station along a major transit route enhances convenience for residents and visitors alike, while supporting the broader tourism and trade ecosystem.”



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Career Pivots What You Really Need to Know

Career pivots are often framed as simple moves, but in reality they demand preparation, credibility, and precise timing.

MODIRI NLANDA – HR / PSI DIRECTOR, ORANGE BOTSWANA

The term “career pivot” has become ubiquitous in professional discourse across social media, within organisations, and in boardroom conversations. Pivot into tech. Pivot into leadership. Pivot into entrepreneurship. It is often framed as though a career were a swivel chair easily turned at will.

REALITY CHECK

The reality, however, is far more nuanced.

A career pivot is not merely a decision; it is a strategic repositioning of one’s professional value. It demands that the skills, credibility, and networks you have built remain relevant and transferable to the direction you intend to pursue. While some transitions may appear seamless from the outside, they are almost always underpinned by years of deliberate preparation, continuous learning, and carefully curated exposure.

LIMITED FLEXIBILITY

Importantly, not every career path lends itself easily to a pivot. As professionals advance deeper into specialised fields, leadership tracks, or specific sectors, the gravitational pull of expertise and experience becomes stronger. Lateral or transformative moves at this stage are rarely straightforward and often carry a degree of calculated risk.

KEY ENABLERS



Director, People and Social Impact Orange Botswana - Ms Modiri Nlanda

In practice, meaningful career pivots are typically anchored in three critical enablers:

1. Transferable credibility:

your experience must continue to solve relevant and tangible problems in a new context.

2. Deliberate preparation: this

includes acquiring new capabilities, expanding exposure, and pursuing stretch assignments, side projects, or governance roles.

3. Timing: the market, industry, or organisation must be receptive and able to recognise your value beyond your current role.

“A career pivot is not merely a decision; it is a strategic repositioning of one’s professional value.”

NOT REINVENTION

It is also important to recognise that a pivot does not always equate to a complete career reinvention. In many instances, it is about repositioning existing expertise into new applications. Leadership roles in adjacent industries, advisory positions, or entrepreneurial ventures often draw extensively on capabilities that have already been developed, albeit in different contexts.

BUILD DEPTH

This perspective is critical not only for emerging professionals and senior leaders, but also

for employees who may not yet be in pivot-ready positions. For many, the immediate priority should be to build depth, resilience, and credibility within their current roles through continuous learning, mentoring, and consistently delivering value. Career progression does not always require a change in direction; in many cases, it requires excellence in place.

CRITICAL QUESTION

The more pertinent question, therefore, is not whether it is “acceptable” to pivot, but rather: Are we intentionally building careers that expand our options or unintentionally narrowing them over time?

DISCIPLINED APPROACH

The answer to this question distinguishes career agility from stagnation. Pivots are seldom spontaneous; they are, more often, the result of foresight, intentionality, and disciplined preparation.

For young professionals, this underscores the importance of building transferable skills, strategic networks, and credible experience. For leaders, it serves as a reminder to cultivate talent beyond functional silos. And for all professionals, it reinforces the need to invest in depth, mastery, and adaptability so that when opportunities emerge, readiness is not in question.

A career pivot is not a trend or a buzzword. It is a deliberate, and at times demanding, strategic move. Understanding its realities is the first step toward executing it successfully or building a career that affords you the flexibility to consider it at all.

UB Drives Green Campus Push

Water recycling and solar projects aim to cut costs and ease resource pressure on campus.

The University of Botswana has launched a series of sustainability projects focused on reducing utility costs and improving resource efficiency, as part of its Green Campus Programme.

WATER SAVINGS

The recycling system is designed to reduce reliance on potable water, a key concern for institutions facing rising water costs and supply constraints. It is being developed through an international research collaboration involving the University of Botswana, the University of Johannesburg and a German partner institution.

The university has also introduced water-saving technologies in student residences, reporting a 57 percent reduction in consumption in its largest housing block.

ENERGY SHIFT

Renewable energy projects form another part of the programme. The first phase of a solar rollout is already generating 815 kilowatts of power, with a planned ground-mounted solar plant expected to add 4.7 megawatts.

Solar hot water systems are also being introduced in student accommodation, as the institution moves to reduce electricity demand.

Many of the projects are being delivered through public private partnerships, allowing the university to upgrade infrastructure without upfront capital spending while redirecting funds toward academic priorities.

“The initiative includes a large-scale wastewater recycling project expected to save the University up to P2.4 million per month while enabling UB to recycle up to 85 percent of its wastewater.”

University of Botswana

GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVE

Leading the Way in Sustainability

Solar Power

Phase 1: 815 kW Rooftop Solar

Phase 2: 4.7 MW Ground Solar Plant

Solar Hot Water Systems

Solar Heating for Student Residences

Wastewater Recycling

Recycling 85% of Campus Wastewater

Water Conservation

57% Water Savings in Residences

Public-Private Partnerships

PPP Projects, No Capital Cost to UB

Sustainability Research

Innovative Green Technologies

Towards Botswana's FIRST GREEN CAMPUS by 2027

Renewable Energy

Water & Waste Management

Climate Action & Education



Your Purpose Is Probably a Lie

Brand purpose sounds noble, but without real sacrifice, it's just performance. In Botswana and beyond, the brands that matter are the ones willing to pay the price for what they claim to stand for.

In today's business landscape, "brand purpose" is the ultimate status symbol. Companies are no longer content to simply sell products; they must have a "why." They are on a mission to save the planet, empower communities, or foster innovation. A noble purpose, we are told, is the key to winning the hearts and minds of modern consumers.

THE ILLUSION

But this obsession with purpose has created a dangerous illusion. We believe that having a good intention is enough. It is not. In fact, a noble purpose can become a brand's biggest liability if the organization and its customers are unwilling to pay the price it demands. This brings us to a critical and often ignored paradox: a purpose that costs you nothing is worth nothing to your customers. This is the Purpose Paradox. Authenticity is not measured by the nobility of your mission, but by the size of the sacrifice you are willing to make for it.

THE CASE

The Case Study: The Coach with the Perfect Purpose
The recent story of football manager Xabi Alonso and Real Madrid is a perfect illustration of this paradox. Alonso's brand is built on a powerful and clear purpose: to create a perfect, meritocratic, systematic winning machine. His "why" is to replace the chaos of individual ego with the beautiful logic of a flawless system. It's a purpose rooted in excellence, fairness, and intellectual rigor.

To achieve this purpose, however, requires a significant sacrifice from his "customers", the players. They must sacrifice their individual freedom, their creative impulses, and most importantly, their egos. They must agree that the system is the star, not them. For a team of young, hungry

players at a club like Bayer Leverkusen, this is a sacrifice they are willing to make. The promise of winning is worth the price of admission.

But at Real Madrid, a club of "Galacticos" who are global brands themselves, the price was too high. The players were not willing to sacrifice their status and ego for Alonso's purpose. They rejected the system, not because it was flawed, but because the cost to their own brand was too great. Alonso's purpose, as perfect as it was, failed because his customers refused to make the necessary sacrifice. The brand promise was vetoed by the customer's unwillingness to pay the price.

LOCAL LESSONS

The Botswana Context: Where Purpose Meets the Pavement

This isn't just a story about football; it's a lesson for every brand in Botswana. The Conservation Sacrifice: A safari lodge in the Okavango Delta has a stated purpose of "preserving the wilderness for future generations." This is a beautiful sentiment. But is it real? If the lodge continues to use loud, diesel-guzzling 4x4s because they are cheap and fights against stricter environmental regulations, its purpose is just a marketing slogan. A truly purpose-driven lodge would make the costly sacrifice of investing in a fleet of silent, expensive electric safari vehicles. That sacrifice is the only thing that makes the purpose authentic.

The Financial Inclusion Sacrifice: A major bank in Botswana claims its purpose is "to empower every Motswana." A noble goal. But if that bank lobbies against regulations that would cap bank fees, and designs its products to be most profitable for high-income earners, its purpose is a lie. A bank truly committed to that purpose would have to sacrifice potential profits by

creating genuinely low-cost accounts, investing in financial literacy for rural communities, and taking risks on small business loans. The willingness to sacrifice profit is the only proof of the purpose.

The Entrepreneurial Sacrifice: An organization like CEDA has the purpose of "building Botswana's next generation of entrepreneurs." This requires a huge sacrifice: the willingness to fail. To truly fulfill this purpose, CEDA must be willing to fund risky, innovative ideas that have a high chance of failure. If it only funds "safe" businesses to protect its own financial record, it is sacrificing its purpose for the sake of appearances. The willingness to accept and even

celebrate failure as part of the process is the only thing that makes its purpose real.

THE TEST

The Takeaway: Is Your Purpose a Compass or a Decoration?

For any business leader, the lesson is clear. A purpose statement is not a marketing tool. It is an operational tool. It is a filter for making hard decisions. Before you put your noble purpose on your website, ask yourself and your team a simple question: "What are we willing to give up to make this true?"

If the answer is "nothing," then your purpose is a dangerous liability. It is a promise you have no intention of keeping, and your customers, like the superstars at Real Madrid, will eventually see right through it.

Authentic brands are not built on the nobility of their intentions, but on the evidence of their sacrifices. Stop talking about your "why" and start showing what it costs you. That is the only purpose people will ever believe in.



The Brand Paradox is a weekly column by Manuel Veiruapi Ruhapo that explores the counterintuitive truths behind building great brands in Botswana and beyond. Manuel Ruhapo is the founder of Blacmarc Group, a brand strategy consultancy Agencies that helps businesses solve their most complex brand challenges.

Pelvic Health Africa's Silent Crisis

Ignored, misunderstood, and rarely discussed, pelvic health is quietly shaping lives, livelihoods, and dignity across Africa.

KABELO WAME AND DOUGLAS RASBASH

Across much of Africa, an entire domain of human health remains largely invisible, misunderstood, or simply never discussed: pelvic health. Pelvic health sits at the intersection of women's health, childbirth, ageing, dignity, productivity, and economic development. Importantly, pelvic health conditions affect both men and women. They include commonly overlooked issues such as pubic symphysis dysfunction and tailbone pain.

HIDDEN COSTS

Paying less attention to pelvic health conditions carries profound social and economic costs. Addressing it openly could be transformative, to both governments and the individual.

Simply put, the pelvis is the bony structure inside your hips, buttocks and pubic region. Pelvic health refers to the functioning of the pelvic floor muscles and organs, the bladder, uterus, vagina, prostate, and rectum, and the muscles and ligaments that support them. When these systems function well, individuals maintain continence, sexual health, reproductive function, and exercise. Pelvic dysfunction signs and symptoms range from incontinence to prolapse, sexual dysfunction, chronic pain and reduced mobility. Addressing pelvic floor dysfunction results in significant changes to quality of life and pain reporting.

WIDESPREAD ISSUE

In Africa, pelvic health problems are widespread but vastly underdiagnosed. They affect people across all life stages, from adolescents during sporting activities to aged adults.

Many pelvic health issues are related to childbirth. Many women have multiple pregnancies and births, limited access to skilled obstetric care, and insufficient ante and post natal care, to include rehabilitation. With limited research in this area to provide specific numbers, conditions such as pelvic organ prolapse and obstetric fistula still affect hundreds of thousands of women across the continent. Some think it is normal to leak urine post child birth and go on without seeking medical advice.

Pelvic health issues are not limited to childbirth. Men are also affected by prostate disorders, urinary dysfunction, and pelvic pain syndromes. Older adults face weakening pelvic muscles that lead to incontinence and reduced mobility, often forcing withdrawal from community life.

SOCIAL IMPACT

These are not merely medical conditions; they can become social tragedies. Women suffering from fistula, for example, may face stigma, isolation, and economic exclusion because of constant leakage and odour. Men lose confidence.

Shame and embarrassment to talk about intimate organs due to religion and socialisation may also contribute to limited engagement with health services. Geographic location also precipitates reduced follow



up care as most people live in rural areas and small farms.

Despite this knowledge gap, pelvic health education is rarely included in school curricula, public health messaging, or primary care training.

CULTURAL SILENCE

The silence surrounding this topic reflects powerful cultural dynamics. Discussions of bodily functions, sexuality, and reproductive anatomy are often considered taboo. Many people assume these conditions are a normal part of growing older and come to expect them. Health systems may reinforce this invisibility by focusing narrowly on diagnosis and surgical interventions, such as maternal survival or prostate assessments, while overlooking the long term quality of life that follows.

THIS SILENCE IS COSTLY.

Poor pelvic health reduces women's ability to work, farm, or run businesses. It can limit girls' participation in school sports, affect marital relationships, and create long term health burdens that strain

already stretched health systems. When half the population is quietly coping with preventable disability, the economic consequences are significant.

PATH TO CHANGE

The good news is that many pelvic health problems are preventable or treatable.

Interventions like education, improved obstetric care, early diagnosis, proper follow up services, have shown to be effective at addressing pelvic health issues. Countries that have introduced physiotherapy and gynecologists as part of maternal care have seen substantial reductions in incontinence and prolapse. Likewise, reviewing men post procedures like removal of the prostate help address subsequent issues.

Education is the starting point.

Pelvic health literacy could be introduced through three simple channels:

First, school health education should include basic anatomical

knowledge and muscle training awareness. Teaching girls and boys about the pelvic floor in adolescence removes stigma and builds lifelong good health habits.

Second, maternal healthcare programmes should include pelvic floor rehabilitation alongside antenatal and post natal care. Women routinely receive advice about breastfeeding and nutrition; they should also receive guidance on pelvic recovery after childbirth.

Third, community health campaigns can normalize conversation around pelvic health. When information is delivered through trusted channels, nurses, midwives, community leaders, taboos quickly dissolve.

Africa has already shown that culturally sensitive health education can change behaviour dramatically. The continent's successes in HIV awareness, malaria prevention, and maternal survival demonstrate what is possible when information is shared openly and systematically.

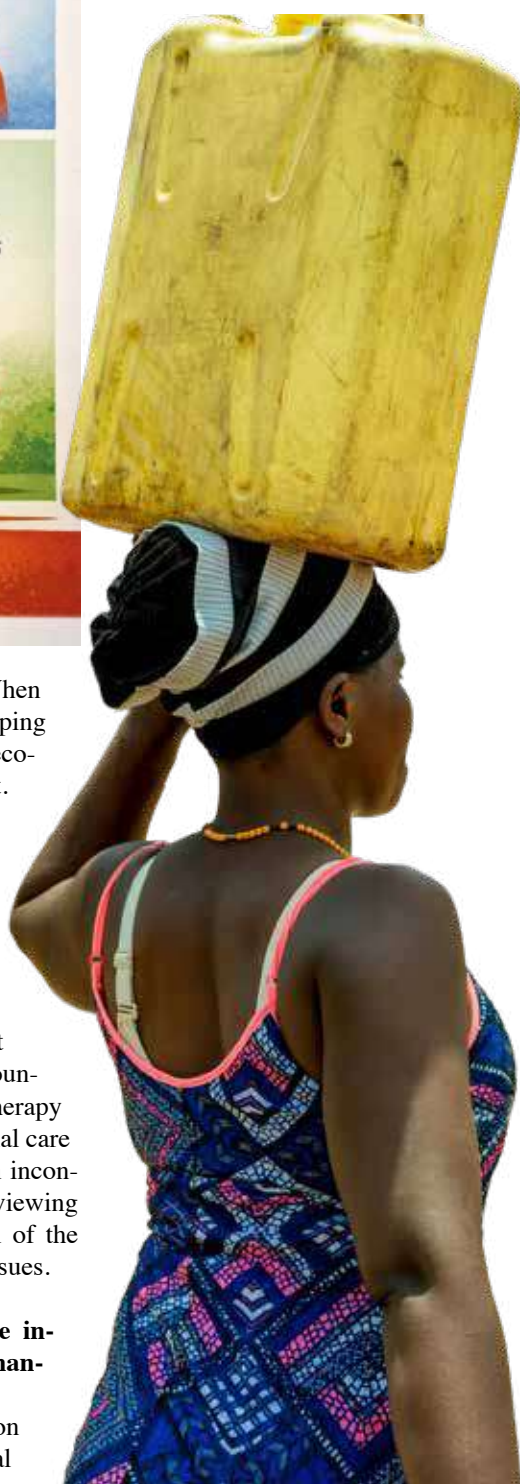
PELVIC HEALTH DESERVES THE SAME ATTENTION.

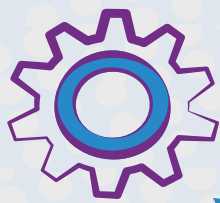
In an era when African governments are focusing on human capital development, women's empowerment, and labour productivity, ignoring pelvic health is no longer tenable. Healthy pelvic function is not merely a private medical matter; it is part of the infrastructure of human wellbeing.

A continent with the world's youngest population cannot afford to let millions of women suffer in silence from preventable conditions.

Pelvic health education is therefore not a luxury.

It is an African imperative. And a cost saving measure.





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THE ART OF THE AGED POUR

Under cloudy skies in Mokolodi, a quiet wine revolution unfolded—less about labels, more about true discovery, learning, community and letting time linger on the palate



“Older wines allow you to experience evolution,”

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The clouds hung low over Kasimba Boutique Hotel in Mokolodi, but inside the garden, time opened up.

“Drink Time Itself,” curated by Pheny Motlhagodi, wasn’t chasing sunshine, it was chasing something deeper. A slower rhythm. A softer kind of luxury. One where every sip from the 1990s and 2000s asked guests to pause, listen and



taste what years can do.

Welcome bubbles set the tone. Then came vintage tastings, drifting between artisan cheese boards and

delicate canapés. But this wasn’t about indulgence, it was immersion.

NO RULES, JUST DISCOVERY

“This was designed to slow things down to allow people to engage with wine more intentionally,” Motlhagodi explained to Time Out.

And there were no rules, just curiosity.

Guests moved freely between glasses, revisiting favourites, debating notes, building confidence with every pour. No rigid master-class energy. Just a living, breathing room of people learning together.

From first-timers to seasoned collectors, the mix was intentional and electric.

“Wine is not just consumed, but understood and shared,” he said.

THE TASTE OF YEARS

Vintage wines don’t perform they evolve.

Sourced from private cellars and select distributors, the bottles carried quiet histories. Fruit softened. Structure melted into balance. Complexity unfolded slowly, like a story refusing to be rushed.

“Older wines allow you to experience evolution,” Motlhagodi said. “These are things that can’t be fully explained; they need to be experienced.”

And so, guests weren’t just tasting they were time-travelling.

BREAKING THE MYTH OF STATUS

Forget the stiff rituals and silent intimidation often tied to wine culture. This was different.

Here, guests paired their

own cheeses courtesy of Parmalat, tested their own instincts, trusted their own palates. The experience wasn’t about getting it “right”, it was about getting involved.

“There is a real opportunity to make wine more inclusive and less intimidating,” Motlhagodi said.

The result? A space where wine felt human again.



“Wine is not just consumed, but understood and shared.”



A COMMUNITY IN THE MAKING

Beyond the rare bottles and trophy magnums available for purchase, something more lasting was being poured, a community.

This wasn’t a once-off moment. It’s the start of a movement: more gatherings, a wine membership club, and a growing culture rooted in access, education, and shared experience.

Because in a fast world obsessed with the next thing, “Drink Time Itself” offers a radical idea:

Slow down. Sip deeper. Stay with the moment.

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INSIDE NNUNU'S NO.1 MUSIC AWARD

Nnunu Ramogotsi's No.1 Music award isn't just a win, it's a powerful signal that Botswana's sound is no longer waiting to be heard. It's already leading

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Mochudi doesn't just make history, it hums it. At the Phuthadikobo Museum, something rare unfolded: a meeting of worlds. Jazz vocalist Nnunu Ramogotsi stood face-to-face with literary giant Alexander McCall Smith and somewhere between them, Botswana's creative identity found a new rhythm. The moment? A signed certificate awarding Nnunu with the No.1 Music award recognising her music and its cultural impact. The ceremony was framed as a tribute to Botswana's creative heritage.

WHEN A SONG BECOMES A STATEMENT

Nnunu's new music offering 'Sephonono' isn't just chasing charts, it's chasing truth. Rooted in jazz but

shaped by Botswana's oral traditions, her music carries the weight of memory and the urgency of now. Receiving the award, she didn't centre herself. She widened the frame.

“When our music and our stories are heard and valued, Botswana is heard and valued.”

“This honour is not only for me,” she said. “It is for Botswana, for the songs our elders carried, the stories our villages keep, and the



music our artists are sending out into the world.”

FROM PAGE TO PERFORMANCE

Mochudi already lives in global imagination through

The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, where Mma Ramotswe introduced the world to Botswana's quiet brilliance. The series lovingly sets the village as

the birthplace of the iconic Mma Ramotswe. Now, Nnunu is composing that same spirit into sound. Two storytellers. One country. Infinite resonance. She said: “When our music and our stories are heard and valued, Botswana is heard and valued.”

The celebration will now rise to a wider public milestone, the live launch of Sephonono on 30 April 2026 at Garden 45 in Ramotswa.

THE NO.1 ERA BEGINS

Nnunu confirmed that the celebration will now rise to a wider public milestone — the live launch of Sephonono on 30 April 2026 at Garden 45 in Ramotswa. McCall Smith urged fans to attend, the message is clear: this is not a niche celebration, it's a national one.

SECOND TIME, FULL CIRCLE



Magdeline Angel Modipane is crowned Miss Botswana 2026 during the grand finale in Gaborone on 21 March 2026, while Mosa Gontshwanetse and Michelle Meyer Bagoleng are named first and second princesses, respectively. (Pic: PRESS PHOTO)

She lost, she learned, she returned and this time, she didn't just wear the crown, she earned it. The newly crowned Miss Botswana, Magdeline Angel Modipane's victory is a masterclass in resilience, purpose and the art of the comeback

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

There's something electric about a comeback story, especially when the crown finally lands where the people always believed it belonged. Tonota native, Magdeline Angel Modipane's win as Miss Botswana 2026 wasn't just a victory lap; it was a rewrite. Last year, she flirted with the throne, finishing in the Top 5 while public

sentiment loudly crowned her in spirit. This year, she returned not louder, not flashier, but sharper and the universe aligned.

WHEN THE PEOPLE AND THE JUDGES AGREE

In a rare, almost poetic twist, the judges' decision echoed the public pulse. Modipane had already secured the Miss People's Choice title, fast-tracking her into the Top 5. But what followed wasn't just inevitability it was destiny dressed in composure. Alongside first Princess Mosa Gontshwanetse and second Princess Michelle Meyer Bagoleng, Modipane stood not just as a winner, but as proof that timing is everything.

She said: “The dream I've cradled in my heart for so long became my reality. I was crowned Miss Botswana 2026.”

TEARS, NOT SURPRISE

Forget the rehearsed gasps. When her name was called, Modipane didn't freeze—she felt. She cried. Unapologetically. Deeply. The kind of tears that don't ask for permission. This

wasn't shock; it was release. A dream deferred had finally exhaled.

“This journey has taught me that our deepest dreams are often on the other side of our greatest fears.”

“This journey has taught me that our deepest dreams are often on the other side of our greatest fears.”

BEAUTY WITH BRAINS, AND BACKBONE

When asked about Botswana's

energy future by the judges Modipane didn't fumble, she focused. Asking for a second reading, she delivered with clarity: solar energy as the path forward. It wasn't just an answer; it was intent. Thoughtful. Grounded. Ready.

A CROWN WITH CONSEQUENCE

But the real weight of her reign sits beyond the tiara. Her Beauty With a Purpose project, Tlhokomelo: Embracing the Neglected Child, is where her crown gets to work. Through education, guardianship, and life skills, Modipane is building something deeper than a legacy—she's building safety.

“This is so much bigger than a sash and a crown. It's a platform, a responsibility, and a chance to amplify the causes I hold so close to my heart,” she said.

MORE THAN A MOMENT

“This isn't just a title I wear; it's a promise I intend to keep,” she said and it lands. Because this isn't about winning. It's about returning, rising, and refusing to let the first “almost” be the final answer.

Second time isn't luck. It's intention, perfected. Modipane will be representing Botswana at the 74th Miss World Festival.

Gabs Reserves a Seat At the Long Table

After a dreamy, cinematic takeover of the Chobe River, the Long Table Experience is heading back to Gaborone, promising a new kind of magic where design, culture, and connection take centre stage



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Some dinners are forgettable. Others move you, literally. Between U & I's Long Table Experience has never played it safe, but its recent edition? It floated. Set against the cinematic beauty of the Chobe River near Chobe National Park, guests found themselves dining on water, surrounded by wildlife and a horizon dipped in gold.

WHEN THE WILD SETS THE TABLE

Imagine this: a long, elegantly styled table aboard a boat, drifting past the wildlife-rich edges of Kasane. Conversations unfolding as animals bask nearby, birds slice through the sky, and the river hums beneath you.

"The atmosphere was almost cinematic, with the environment doing much of the storytelling," founder and curator Uyapo Ketogetswe

told Time Out. This Chobe edition didn't just elevate dining, it reframed Botswana's tourism narrative, placing food, culture, and human connection right alongside its iconic wildlife.



NOW, THE CITY TAKES A SEAT

On May 2, 2026, the table returns to Gaborone and the story shifts. Out goes the wilderness. In comes the pulse of the city.

"In Gaborone, the story becomes more about people, culture and the evolving identity of the city itself," Ketogetswe explained.

Expect curated menus, bold design, and a sensory-driven atmosphere that transforms an urban space into something unexpected. The wild may be gone, but the sense of discovery? Still very much on the menu.

“

On May 2, 2026, the table returns to Gaborone and the story shifts. Out goes the wilderness. In comes the pulse of the city.

”

WHY WE'RE CRAVING CONNECTION

Here's the real twist: the food is only half the story.

At its core, the Long Table Experience is about strangers becoming something more — collaborators in a shared moment. In an age of screens and scrolls, sitting side by side, breaking bread, and actually talking feels almost radical.

MORE THAN A MEAL

With partners like Woolworths Botswana, Naledi Motors Francistown, and Bushtracks Safaris for the Chobe edition helping bring the vision to life, this isn't just an event — it's a blueprint for how Botswana experiences itself.

From riverbanks to city lights, one thing remains constant: the table. "One thing guests have learned about the Long Table Experience is that no two editions are ever the same," said Ketogetswe.

"We like to say that the location sets the stage, but the people around the table bring the experience to life. And that's what keeps guests coming back: the curiosity of discovering what the next table might look and feel like."



TIRED OF SHARING?

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to receive your weekly copy of The Botswana Gazette for free

Why Thari Hits Different

Evocative stage production, Thari turns up the volume on the quiet power of women and makes a compelling case for why this is the one show you cannot afford to miss

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

What does it mean to carry a nation? Not metaphorically. Not poetically. Literally.

It means showing up every day, unseen but essential. It means holding families together, shaping futures, and absorbing the weight of expectation without ever dropping the ball. And Thari dares to put that truth under a spotlight.

Brought to life by Mophato Dance Theatre, this all-women musical theatre production isn't just another date on the cultural calendar — it's a cultural correction. A reminder that the backbone of any nation is rarely the loudest voice in the room.

NOT JUST A SHOW

Through a seamless blend of music, movement, and storytelling, THARI reframes everyday womanhood as something epic.

The struggles. The triumphs. The invisible labour. It's all here, layered with Botswana-inspired artistry that feels both intimate and expansive.

“It is a heartfelt tribute to the mothers, daughters, sisters, and leaders who carry families, communities, and the nation forward.”

“Thari is an evocative stage production performed by an all-

women cast, exploring the lives, struggles, triumphs, and legacy of women,” event organiser, Kabelo Rapinyana told Time Out.

This is why it matters: because it names what we often overlook.

WHY YOU NEED TO SEE IT

Set for 26–28 March at the University of Botswana, Thari isn't just about watching — it's about feeling. Deeply.

You don't walk into this show for passive entertainment. You walk in for perspective. For recognition. For that rare moment when art mirrors life so clearly it's almost uncomfortable.

“It is a heartfelt tribute to the mothers, daughters, sisters, and leaders who carry families, communities, and the nation forward,” he said.

THE TAKEAWAY: THIS ONE STAYS WITH YOU

Some productions end when the curtain falls. Thari lingers. In conversations. In reflections. In the quiet realisation that the women around us have been carrying far more than we ever acknowledged.

For ticket purchases and enquiries, patrons can contact us 76956517 or 72984028. Ticket Prices: P450 Double and P250 Single.



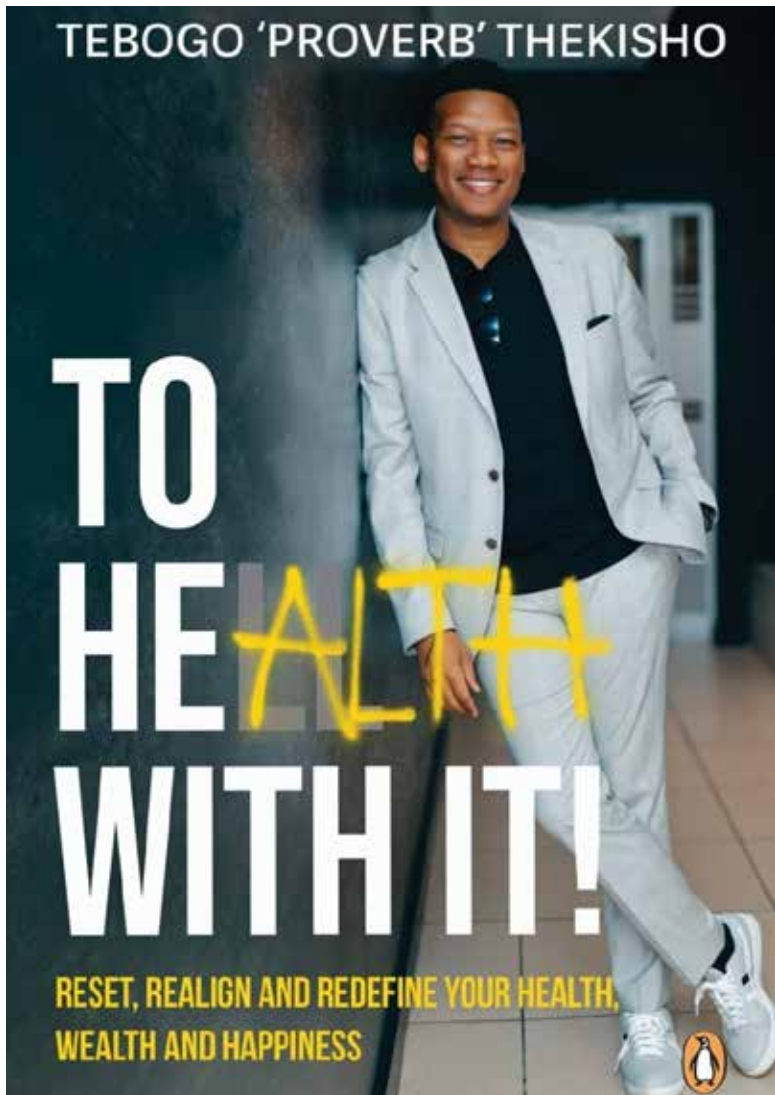
To Health With It! Headed to Gabs

South African media icon, ProVerb will be pulling up in Gaborone with a bold new blueprint for living well and it's deeper than green juice and gym selfies

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Gaborone, get ready — ProVerb is pulling up, not with a mic, but with a manifesto. On March 28, Court Five transforms into a hub of introspection and inspiration as the South African media icon brings his new book, To Health With It! Reset, Realign and Redefine Your Health, Wealth and Happiness to Botswana.

It's not just a launch, it's a cultural moment for a city increas-



ingly hungry for purpose-driven conversations.

ProVerb, once the steady voice behind Idols South Africa, is now remixing his narrative with To Health With It! a book that refuses to treat wellness like a trend. This is lived experience, sharpened by reinvention.

FROM FAME TO FRAMEWORK

ProVerb isn't selling perfection. He's offering perspective. The kind earned through navigating trauma, chasing financial freedom, and trading applause for alignment.

“I have spent years navigating the complexities of health, not just in my body, but in my mind, my career, my relationships, my finances and my purpose,” he said.

This isn't a celebrity wellness pivot. It's a blueprint — part memoir, part manual — stitched together with global insights and personal truths. The message is clear: neglect one area of your life, and the rest start to crack.

THE WELLNESS TRUTH BOMBS

At its core, To Health With It! is less about kale and more about clarity. ProVerb challenges the myth of balance as aesthetic, pushing instead for intentional living across every axis — mental, emotional, financial, spiritual.

He said: “There is no single formula for well-being, no one-size-fits-all approach that works for everyone.”

It's the kind of truth that lands heavy. Because in a world obsessed with perfect routines,

ProVerb is inviting readers to build their own. His philosophy is simple but sharp: when one part of your life slips, everything else feels it.

“I have spent years navigating the complexities of health, not just in my body, but in my mind, my career, my relationships, my finances and my purpose.”

MORE THAN A BOOK LAUNCH

Backed by a smooth sonic layer from DJ Khenzo and DJ Spinz, the afternoon promises conversation, connection and a chance to rethink everything from hustle culture to happiness.

At P350 — book included — the event isn't just a ticketed experience, it's an entry point into a new mindset.

Inside Stanbic Music 'n' Lifestyle Fest's Return



“The roadmap includes introducing international headline talent, transitioning to a two-day format and expanding regional audience pull.”

After a breakout debut, the Stanbic Music 'n' Lifestyle Festival returns with sharper edges, deeper intention, and a promise: this year, you're not just attending you're stepping inside the future of Botswana's urban culture



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Last year was the spark. This year? It's the fire. The Stanbic Bank Music 'n' Lifestyle Festival 2026 returns on April 25 at Royal Aria, riding the wave of a debut that proved Botswana is more than ready for a festival that thinks as hard as it vibes. Born out of strategy, not spontaneity, Stanbic Bank Botswana built this platform to do more than entertain, it's here to move culture and money in the same breath.

INSIDE THE EXPERIENCE

This isn't your typical festival sprawl. It's curated, calculated, and carefully cool. "The 2026 edition is anchored on the concept Where Urban Culture Lives," said Otsile Marole - Gaothuse, Marketing Manager Client Segments at Stanbic Bank Botswana. Inside, the festival breaks into distinct zones: a high-energy Main Stage, a buzzing Lifestyle Village, a future-facing Innovation Lounge, and a polished Corporate Corner. Each space feels like its own world, but together they form a cultural ecosystem. And yes, the Lifestyle Village

is bigger. Twenty-five vendors deep. More food, more fashion, more reasons to wander. **WHERE CULTURE MEETS CODE** Here's where things get futuristic. NFC-enabled wristbands mean no fumbling for cash. Real-time engagement tracking? That's happening too. This is a festival that understands its audience and measures the moment. But it's not all tech. Flavor Stage takeovers, Fashion-Art fusion showcases, and a Wine Lounge keep things sensory. Tangible. Delicious.



CREATIVES

While the headline act is still under wraps, the real power sits with the people building the experience. Local designers. Chefs. Artists. Performers. Entrepreneurs. They're not just filling space they are the space. This is where Botswana's creative economy gets a stage, a market, and a moment. **WHY THIS YEAR HITS HARDER** Because it's not just a sequel, it's an upgrade. She added: "It is a full-scale celebration of where urban culture lives, and it is not one to sit out." From expanded VIP and VVIP tiers to immersive brand activations and surprise cross-disciplinary collaborations, this edition is designed to keep you moving, discovering, and connecting. She added: "The roadmap includes introducing international headline talent, transitioning to a two-day format and expanding regional audience pull."

“It is a full-scale celebration of where urban culture lives, and it is not one to sit out.”

“The event continues to function as a commercial platform for Botswana's creative sector,” Marole - Gaothuse said. **THE REAL STARS: THE**



When A Michelin Star Touches Down

A Michelin-starred chef landed in Gaborone, and suddenly, it's not just about food — it's about dreams, global doors, and a new generation of chefs ready to plate their future

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Gaborone doesn't usually smell like Alsace. But for one day, it did — rich, buttery, precise. As part of Francophonie Month 2026, the Alliance Française de Gaborone brought Michelin-starred chef Hubert Maetz to the Gaborone College of Culinary Arts, turning a classroom into a global stage. Maetz is the owner of the Hosterie du Rosenmeer in Rosheim. Known for his cuisine



rooted in regional traditions and seasonal ingredients, he has represented French gastronomy in numerous international events and cultural initiatives. This wasn't just a workshop. It was a collision of worlds. **THE MASTERCLASS MOMENT** Aprons on, eyes locked, students leaned into every move. Maetz — joined by his son and collaborator Marc Friederich — wasn't just cooking; he was

translating a philosophy. Technique met storytelling. Precision met passion. On the menu? Fleischschnecke, a traditional Alsatian dish — unfamiliar in name, but instantly universal in its language: flavour. "The best way to express yourself is in a plate," said Friederich. **MORE THAN FOOD** According to Director of Alliance Française de Gaborone Anne-Charlotte Monneret, the mission runs deeper than taste. "French cuisine is not only about food, it is about culture, transmission and sharing knowledge." This is where the magic sits: in the exchange. In the quiet passing of skill from one generation to the next. In showing Botswana's young chefs that the world isn't out of reach, it's one plate away. **DREAMS, SERVED HOT** For students like Thato Mothibi, the experience wasn't just inspiring, it was activating. "What I learnt can take me far in the industry and in my career

especially that i also want to be a Michelin-starred chef. From here I am going for my one year attachment in the USA and when i come back I want to open a five star restaurant in Botswana," she told Time Out. That's the real takeaway. Not just the dish, but the direction. **FROM KITCHEN TO SCREEN** The day didn't end at the stove. Over at the Alliance Française de Gaborone, the story continued with a screening of À la Belle Étoile, a film about grit, ambition, and chasing culinary greatness. **TOUR STOPS** The visit was part of the "Tournée des Chefs 2026", a large regional initiative bringing renowned French chefs to several countries in Southern Africa in order to promote culinary knowledge, intercultural dialogue and professional exchanges. The tour includes stops in Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Eswatini and South Africa.

Don't Panic, It's Just a Wine List



That moment when the wine list lands feels like an exam you didn't study for. But ordering well isn't about knowing everything. It's about asking the right question.

The most dramatic thing in many restaurants is not the dessert menu. It's the moment the wine list lands on the table. Suddenly, confident adults who manage budgets, teams, and entire households begin behaving like they've been handed an exam paper. People stop making eye contact. Someone clears their throat. Someone else says, "Let's just get a bottle," as if speed will save them.

FEAR FACTOR

But if you've ever sat down, opened a wine list, and felt your confidence leave your body, I have good news: wine lists don't intimidate you. You intimidate

yourself. The list is just paper. What you need is not more wine knowledge. You need a simple way to order without regret, without pretending, and without turning dinner into a performance.

Let's start with the real problem. Most people don't fear wine. They fear looking wrong. They fear spending money and choosing badly. They fear the waiter knowing they don't know. And that fear leads to the two classic outcomes: either you order the "safe" wine you always order, or you choose by price and pray.

THE QUESTION

Here is the cheat code for dignity: ask one good question.

"What's drinking well by the glass right now?"

That's it. One sentence. It tells the restaurant you're open to guidance, it gives the server permission to help you, and it usu-

ally lands you in a wine the venue is actually proud of. It also keeps you from committing to a full bottle when you're still finding your mood.

Then, instead of asking for a grape variety like you're ordering tyres, tell them what you want the wine to feel like. Light and fresh. Smooth and soft. Bold and structured. Crisp and dry. When you describe the experience instead of the label, you get better matches and you sound like someone who knows what they like, because you do.

“Confidence is not knowing everything. It's knowing what to ask.”

PAIRING BASICS

Now pair it with your plate, not your anxiety.

If you're eating grilled meat, rich sauces, or anything that tastes like it had a serious conversation with fire, you want a wine with structure, something that won't disappear. If you're eating chicken, seafood, salads, or lighter dishes, you want brightness and freshness. If the table is mixed, pick a middle ground style: a juicy, medium-bodied red or a textured white that can move between dishes without fighting anyone.

SERVE RIGHT

And please, let's talk about temperature, because Botswana heat has a way of humiliating good wine.

If your red arrives warm enough to qualify as soup, don't suffer in silence. Asking for a quick chill isn't fussy. It's basic respect for the bottle. A few minutes in an ice bucket can bring the wine back to life. In the same way, if your white arrives so cold it tastes like nothing, let it sit for a few minutes. You're not being difficult. You're letting the wine show up properly.

The next fear people have is sending a bottle back. Many of us would rather drink something faulty than risk an awkward moment. But a faulty bottle is not a personal insult to the waiter, the restaurant, or the winemaker's ancestors. It's just a thing that happens. If a wine smells like damp cardboard, wet newspaper, or something simply off, say so politely and early. A good restaurant would rather replace a problem than have you quietly hate the entire experience.

TRY SOMETHING

Here's another confidence move: don't buy the wine you already know unless you actually want comfort. You came out to discover. Wine lists are one of the few places where you can try a new producer or region without taking a full retail gamble. Ask for a small taste if you're unsure. Many places will accommodate

it, especially if you're ordering a bottle.

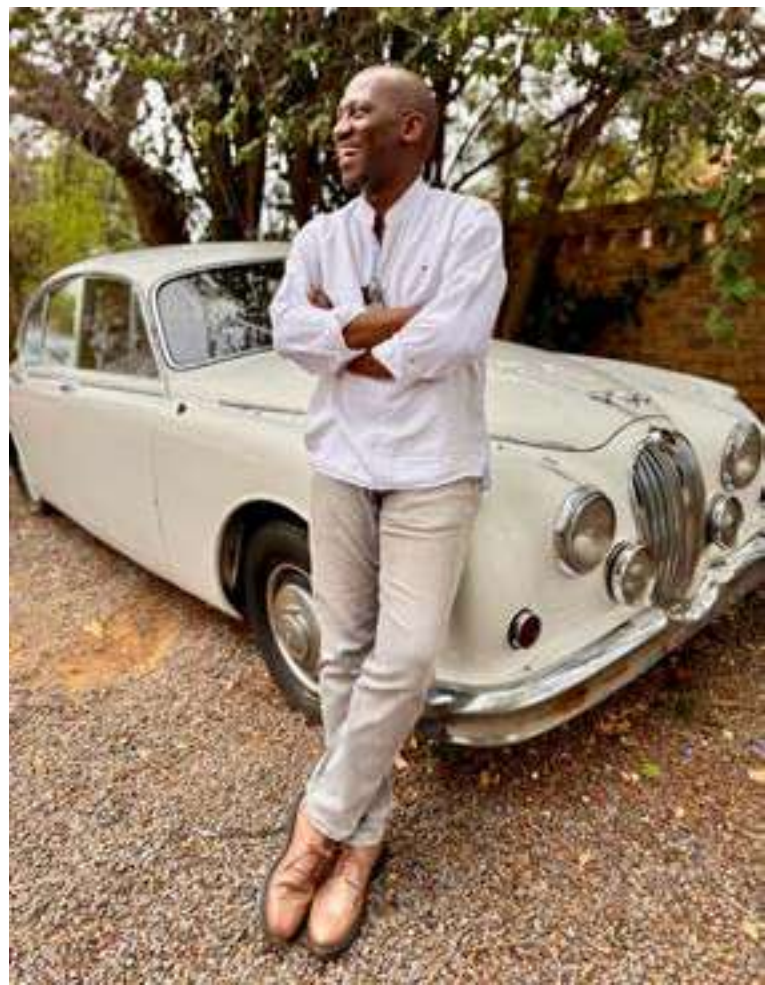
BIGGER PICTURE

Now, the part people forget: this isn't only about you.

This article is secretly about community. When consumers order better, restaurants respond with better lists. That's how cities level up. If diners keep buying only the same two brands because they're afraid, restaurants stock only the same two brands because they move. But when people start asking for interesting by the glass options, better service temperatures, and wines that match food, the market shifts. It becomes normal for venues to carry more variety. It becomes normal to drink thoughtfully. It becomes normal for wine culture to grow.

Which is exactly what we're trying to build in Botswana, not a wine scene for experts, but a wine community for people who enjoy life.

So next time you open a wine list, don't panic. Ask what's drinking well. Describe what you want the wine to feel like. Match it to the plate, not the price. Chill the red if it arrives cooking. Send it back if it's faulty. And remember: confidence is not knowing everything. Confidence is knowing what to ask.



Pheny Motthagodi — formally trained wine enthusiast (trained at the Cape Wine Academy); Chartered PR Practitioner (Chart.PR) with the Chartered Institute of Public Relations; and founder of a pan-African boutique PR, Influence & Reputation Management consultancy. Instagram: @phenyomothagodi.

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It is illegal to broadcast a lost Omang



EDWIN DUTA

Although well-intentioned, under Botswana’s Data Protection Act No. 18 of 2024, photographing and publicly sharing a lost Omang may constitute unlawful processing of personal data. We have all seen posts on Facebook and WhatsApp showing a lost National Identity Card, commonly known as an Omang. Captions often read: “Found this at the bus rank, please share to help find the owner.” The moment you photograph someone’s Omang and upload it to a public platform, you are engaging in the unauthorised processing of personal data.

THE ILLEGAL “DISPLAY”

An Omang contains highly sensitive personal information:

the owner’s full name, date of birth, gender, place of birth, and most importantly, their unique identity number, which falls within the definition of personal data under this Act. Displaying it publicly without the explicit consent of the owner or without a specific legal justification is considered a direct breach of privacy. In the eyes of the law, you are no longer a Good Samaritan; you are an ‘unregulated data controller’ mishandling sensitive information.

THE DANGER

By displaying an Omang online, you are not just reaching the owner; you are handing a complete identity profile to cybercriminals. With the details visible in a high-resolution photo, a fraudster can open bank accounts, apply for quick loans, or create fake digital personas all in the name of the unsuspecting victim. Even if the physical card is recovered, the digital exposure of the data may persist indefinitely through screenshots, cached copies, and shares.

GOVERNANCE FACTOR

For businesses, the risk is even higher. If a staff member finds an Omang on company premises and posts it to the company’s official social media page to locate the owner, the organisation can be held liable. Compliance with the Act is therefore essential. Organisations should have

a clear ‘Lost and Found’ policy that aligns with the Data Protection Act requirements. Instead of a public post, the policy should require surrendering the card to the nearest police station or the Department of Civil and National Registration. Even a well-intentioned post can trigger an investigation and administrative fines that may reach up to P50 million, depending on the severity of the breach.

WHAT DOES THE LAW REQUIRE?

The Data Protection Act requires that personal data be processed lawfully, fairly, transparently and for a legitimate purpose. Posting a lost ID fails to comply with the Act because the owner did not consent to have their ID broadcast to thousands of people. The ID was issued strictly for identification, not for public dissemination. To assist in locating the owner, only their name is necessary, not their ID number, birth date, and photograph.

THE PROFESSIONAL WAY TO HELP

If you find a lost Omang, the appropriate procedure is clear and straightforward; do not digitize the data, surrender the card to the nearest Police Station or Civil Registration Office. They have the secure databases required to contact the owner safely. If you must use social

media, simply post: “I have found a lost Omang belonging to (name of the owner), it has been handed over to (location) Police Station.” This helps the owner without exposing their personal information.

COMPLIANCE IS NOT OPTIONAL

In the new regulatory landscape of Botswana, ignorance is no longer a defence. Whether you are an individual or a large corporation, protecting the integrity of personal data is mandatory. Digital accountability begins with recognizing that a person’s identity is protected by law. It is not public property, nor is it ours to expose.

DATA PROTECTION POLICY AND DATA PROTECTION OFFICER

As an aside, the Data Protection Act mandates every organization to put strict safeguards regarding personal data and in

that regard, we can assist with crafting Data Protection Policies in line with the said Act. If you cannot afford a full-time DPO, when required to have one, we can act as your organization’s DPO on contract basis. That appointment saves you financially and administratively as it eliminates the burden which comes with employing a full-time employee. We can also assist with training your staff on the provisions of the Data Protection Act. Contacts: You may contact us at +267 759 336 30 or +267 393 9435 or tax7@aupracontax.co.bw. This article is general, and written advice or training is recommended if decisions are to be made. If you require to join our free IT WhatsApp groups or to know more about our services, please send us a text/WhatsApp on the number above.

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2.	IT Basics (Elementary MS Excel, Information security & avoiding scams in the workplace, Intro to MS Outlook & Power Point)	8 hours	Accredited
3.	Customer Care	8 hours	In progress
4.	Leadership & Supervisory Skills	8 hours	In progress
5.	Team Building	8 hours	In progress
6.	Mental Health in the Workplace	8 hours	In progress
7.	Financial Literacy	8 hours	In progress

For more information contact us on

Email: skills@aupracontax.co.bw; Tel: +267 3939 435; WhatsApp: +267 76 213 233.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

HELD AT GABORONE

In the matter between

BBS LIMITED

and

MOTHUSI DARLY MAKHIWA

CASE NO. CVHGB – 001840 - 22

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court on the 6th July 2023 the following immovable property of the above mentioned Defendant will be sold by means of public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff U J CHILISA** as follows:

DATE OF SALE

:

Friday 08th May 2026

VENUE

:

Tribal Lot 9507, Mogoditshane

TIME OF SALE

:

1030 Hours

TERMS OF SALE

:

All participating bidders are required to make an **UPFRONT** payment of BWP 10 000.00 directly to the undersigned Attorneys, refundable only to those who did not succeed in the sale. Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques will be accepted. The detailed conditions of sale are available for inspection at the undersigned Attorneys’ offices.

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : The Defendant’s rights, title and interest in a certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 9507, Mogoditshane, situated at Mogoditshane in the Kweneng Tribal Territory measuring 969 m² (Nine Hundred and Sixty Nine Square Metres) held under Notarial Deed of Cession of Lease No. MA 685/2010 dated 21st December 2010 made in favour of Mothusi Makhiwa, together with all the improvements thereon a sitting room, kitchen, living room, dinning room, two bed room, master bedroom with toilet with bathing room, bedroom, double garage, and swimming pool.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 16TH DAY OF MARCH 2026.

COLLINS CHILISA

CONSULTANTS

Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS

Plaintiff’s Attorneys

Plot 4858, Off Marakanelo Way

Extension 11

P O Box 45136

GABORONE

Deputy Sheriff U. J. Chilisa

[Cell No. 71594008]

APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF COVERING MORTGAGE BOND

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Covering Mortgage Bond No. FT 841/2010 dated the 2nd day of November 2010 passed by K & L HOLDINGS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED in favour of FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED in respect of the following property:

1.

CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING

:
:
:

piece of land being **Farm No.64- NQ** (Formerly Farm No.337)
in the Tati District of Botswana;
796.7360Ha (Seven Hundred and Ninety-Six Comma Seven Three Six Zero Hectares);
2.

CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING

:
:
:

piece of land being **Farm No.71- NQ** (Formerly Farm No.338)
in the Tati District of Botswana;
913.9919Ha (Nine Hundred and Thirteen Comma Nine Nine One Nine Hectares);
3.

CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING

:
:
:

piece of land being **Farm No.72- NQ** (Formerly Farm No.339)
in the Tati District of Botswana;
806.4003Ha (Eight Hundred and Six Comma Four Zero Zero Three Hectares);
- HELD UNDER

:

Deed of Transfer No. FT 742/2009 dated **27th day of August 2009**.

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds within twenty-one (21) days of the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 24th DAY OF MARCH, 2025.



M. MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plot No. 3936, Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN
Telephone: 2441616

APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of Deed of Transfer No. FT 742/2009 dated the 27th day of August 2009 registered in favour of K & L HOLDINGS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED in respect of the following property:

1.

CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING

:
:
:

piece of land being **Farm No.64- NQ** (Formerly Farm No.337)
in the Tati District of Botswana;
796.7360Ha (Seven Hundred and Ninety-Six Comma Seven Three Six Zero Hectares);
2.

CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING

:
:
:

piece of land being **Farm No.71- NQ** (Formerly Farm No.338)
in the Tati District of Botswana;
913.9919Ha (Nine Hundred and Thirteen Comma Nine Nine One Nine Hectares);
3.

CERTAIN SITUATE MEASURING SUBJECT

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:
:

piece of land being **Farm No.72- NQ** (Formerly Farm No.339)
in the Tati District of Botswana;
806.4003Ha (Eight Hundred and Six Comma Four Zero Zero Three Hectares);
to the conditions and reservations contained in the aforesaid Deed.

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds within twenty-one (21) days of the last publication of this notice.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 24th DAY OF MARCH, 2025.



M. MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plot No. 3936, Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN
Telephone: 2441616

SECHELE J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 498/25

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
And
LENITAME GASEITSIWE

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Lenitame Gaseitsiwe
Defendant
P.O Box 1 107
GABORONE

formerly residing at Plot 22712, Phase 4, Gaborone, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED claims:-

- a) Payment of the sum of **P76 414.40**;
- b) Interest at the rate of prime rate plus 4% per annum from 7th day of November 2025 to the date of payment;
- c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
- d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH, 2026



M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

MOGOMOTSI J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 512/25

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
(WESBANK DIVISION)
And
VIRENDRA NAYEE

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Virendra Nayee
Defendant
Private Bag 001
ORAPA

formerly residing at Teemane Flats, House No. 13, Orapa, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED claims:-

- a) Payment of the sum of **P110 180.45**;
- b) Interest at the rate of prime lending rate plus 0.50% per annum;
- c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
- d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH, 2026



M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
Master's Reference: ESHFT 000 217/25

IN THE ESTATE of the late **KAGISO SIX KESIILWE** who died at PHASE 1, BOBONONG in the Central Administration District of the Republic of Botswana on the **17th FEBRUARY 2025**.

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

Dated at Palapye this 24th March 2026.

Lebohang Kesiilwe, The Executrix, c/o K. SEGABO ATTORNEYS,
P. O Box 510, Palapye, Telephone No. 4923174

Oria Kesiilwe, The Executor, Private Bag F12, Francistown

MOESI J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 495/25

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
And
ATATA SEBAGA

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Atata Sebaga
Defendant
P.O Box 2311
MAUN

formerly residing at Sedie Ward, Maun, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED claims:-

- a) Payment of the sum of **P54 502.36**;
- b) Interest at the rate of 24.01% per annum from 7th day of November 2025 to the date of payment;
- c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
- d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH, 2026



M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

SECHELE J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 494/25

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
And
BOTSHELO TLOLANG

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Botshelo Tlolang
Defendant
P.O Box 41435
TLOKWENG

formerly residing at Plot 4793, Masetlheng Ward, Tlokweng, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED claims:-

- a) Payment of the sum of **P56 019.08**;
- b) Interest at the rate of 24.01% per annum from 7th day of November 2025 to the date of payment;
- c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
- d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH, 2026



M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

SECHELE J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 422/25

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED
And
URIAL VANZYL

PLAINTIFF
DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Urial Vanzyl
Defendant
P.O Box 89
METSIMOTLHABE

formerly residing at Sedie Ward, Maun, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED claims:-

- a) Payment of the sum of **P158 841.42**;
- b) Interest at the rate of 26.26% per annum from 15th day of July 2025 to the date of payment;
- c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
- d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER that if you fail to give such notice, judgment may be granted against you without further reference to you.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH, 2026



M MMOHE ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 3936,Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

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

In the matter between:
THREE PARTNERS RESORTS LIMITED
and
WHITE WIZZ (PTY) LTD T/A CAPELLO DEEPAK MAM

CASE NO. CVHGB – 00145 - 22

PLAINTIFF

1ST DEFENDANT
2ND DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that a sale in execution against Defendants will be held by **DEPUTY SHERIFF MESHACK MOSHABI** to the highest bidder as follows;

DATE : 27th April 2026
TIME OF SALE : 1100 Hours
PLACE OF SALE : Lot 20637, Block 3, Gaborone
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Developed piece of land being Lot 20637, Block 3 Industrial, Gaborone, with an industrial warehouse with a workshop, offices and ablutions within a paved and walled yard, measuring 1550m², held under Deed of Transfer No: 219/2022 made in favor of Kalahari Associates (Pty) Ltd.

Terms and Conditions : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheques.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 17TH MARCH 2026.

Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi
c/o Paul & Partners
Plot 54513, Unit 6
The Courtyard
P O Box 885 ABG
GABORONE [MN/cm/01552]
TEL: 71263198 / 71623026



PAUL & PARTNERS

INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME

(In terms of Section 8 (1) Of The Married Persons Property Act, 2014)

- KEAMOGETSWE MAITUMELO MATOMELA** who is married to **JORAM JORRY MATOMELA**, in community of property on the 20th day of October 2017 at Mochudi in the Kgatleng District, intends to make an application to the High Court of Botswana for leave to change her property regime to out of community.
- KEAMOGETSWE MAITUMELO MATOMELA** intends to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the three (3) weeks statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.
- Any person, creditor or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/or liabilities of **KEAMOGETSWE MAITUMELO MATOMELA** and **JORAM JORRY MATOMELA**'s estate, should they have objections to the proposed change of matrimonial property regime, should inform the Applicant's Attorneys, **WAME'S LEGAL CHAMBERS** in **GABORONE**, before the expiration of three (3) weeks period, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED IN GABORONE ON THIS 10th DAY OF MARCH 2026.

WAME'S LEGAL CHAMBERS
Applicant's Attorneys
205 Independence Avenue, 1st Floor
GABORONE

APPLICATION FOR LOST TITLE DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undermentioned intends applying for a certified copy of **DEED OF TRANSFER No. 307/1994** dated the **22ND** day of **MARCH 1994** passed in favour of **ROTRIC ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED** in respect of the following property, that is:

CERTAIN : Piece of Land being Portion 4 of the Farm No. 17-NO;
SITUATE : In the North East Administrative District;
MEASURING : 10,3575 Ha (Ten comma Three Five Seven Five Hectares)

All persons having objection to the issue of such copy are hereby required to lodge the same in writing with the Registrar of Deeds at **FRANCISTOWN** within **twenty one (21) days** from the second publication of this notice.

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS THE 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

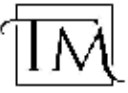
VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS,
Plot 4660, Ditau Street, Area G
P. O. Box 37, Francistown

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME

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

- BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** Lebotse Baliki Kgope and Keletso Grace Kgope, married in community of property on the 26th of September 2020 at Mochudi, wish to change their property regime to out of community of property.
- The parties intend to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the three (3) Weeks statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.
- Any person, creditor or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/or liabilities of the joint estate of the parties above,, should they have objections to the proposed change in the marriage property regime, **MUST** so inform the parties Attorneys, **TONY MATILO ATTORNEYS**, before the expiration of the said 3 weeks period, or make representations before **the High Court of Botswana** once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2026.



TONY MATILO ATTORNEYS

Plot 17335 Tshikitsane Road
Gaborone West Phase 1, Gaborone
Cell: 75746161/75746161
tony@tma.co.bw

BEFORE: BUSANG J.
**IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE**

In the matter between:
MMUSI JACOB RAMOSAKO
And
IVY COSCIONE
JIWA INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD

CASE NO. MAHGB -000998-21

Applicant

1st Respondent
2nd Respondent

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE NOTICE OF SET DOWN FOR TAXATION

TO: IVY COSCIONE
1st Respondent

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that the above matter is set down for Taxation of Bill of Costs against the above-mentioned 1st Respondent / Yourself at the above Honourable Court on **21st** day of **April 2026** at **09:00** hours.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2026

KATSE ATTORNEYS
2nd Respondent's Attorneys
Plot 21244 Village
P. O. Box 201018
GABORONE
Tel: 3903258

TO: THE REGISTRAR
High Court
Private Bag 01
LOBATSE

BEFORE BUSANG J.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE

In the matter between:
OPENSHOW MOJAKWE
And
SYCOR PROJECT T/A RETAIOLOGISTIX
BABOLOKI KOJANE

CASE NO. CVHGB-003534-25

PLAINTIFF

1ST DEFENDANT
2ND DEFENDANT

NOTICE FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: SYCOR PROJECT T/A RETAIOLOGISTIX, a company duly registered and incorporated in terms of the Company Laws of Botswana, whose registered office address and principal place of business is unknown to Plaintiff.

AND TO: BABOLOKI KOJANE, an adult male of full legal capacity, he is the director of the 1st Defendant. He is cited herein as being civilly liable in terms of Sections 130, 158 and 481 of the Companies Act (Chapter 42:01).

TAKE NOTICE THAT by the Writ of Summons issued out of Court, you have been called upon to give notice within (14) days after publication hereof, to the Registrar of Court and to the Plaintiff's Attorneys (at their below mentioned addresses) of your intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein the Plaintiff claims against you the following;
Payment in the sum of **P127,600.00**.
Interest on the sum foregoing at the rate of **10% a tempo morae** calculated from the date of judgment until the day of final payment;
Collection commission at the rate of **10%** on instalment payments towards the judgment debt;
Costs of suit on an attorney and own client scale;
Any further and alternative relief that this Honourable Court may find just.

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE FURTHER THAT if you fail to give such notice, judgement may be granted against you. Without further reference to you.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 24TH DAY OF MARCH 2026

MOKOPAKGOSI ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 546, Extension 4, Gaborone
P. O. Box 45287, Riverwalk
GABORONE
3960700/72723359

H/W NKAU
**IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT FOR THE GABORONE DISTRICT
HELD AT VILLAGE**

In the matter between:
KESEGOFETSE MALETE
and
THABO MOLAPISI

CASE NO. CCMVL-003268/25

Plaintiff

Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff **ONKEMETSE MEDUPE** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 10th April 2026
TIME OF : 10:30 am
VENUE : Broadhurst Police Station

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1 x 1 Motor Veichle Aud A3, Blue in Colour, Registration No B427 BRE.

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or Bank Transfer Only.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2026

JEREMIA ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 1126, Feitelberg Street
Town Centre
FRANCISTOWN
TEL:3972550/76650906

OFFICES TO LET KASANE

Two offices to LET each approximately 150 sq metres in brand new prestigious build on the Chobe River adjacent to Chobe Marina Lodge. Outstanding location and view on the river . Offices are fully airconditioned and come with their own kitchen and toilet facilities , parking and security . Contact number for interested parties is 71306428.

FARM WORKER WANTED

Preferably Motswana citizen , 35 years or older

Apply in writing to Mrs Dube P O Box 260 Francistown tel 71309652

Titans Seek Sponsors for Grand Slam Series

Club invites partners to support landmark softball tournament in Nata

SPORTS REPORTER

Titans Softball Club has made an open call to sponsors and stakeholders to come on board for the upcoming (during independence holidays)

Makgadikgadi Grand Slam Series, positioning the event as a unique platform for both sport development and brand visibility. Speaking in a telephone interview, Secretary General



Atlang Gabantese said while initial engagements with potential partners have begun, the club is widening its reach to attract more collaborators. “As Titans, we have begun engaging potential partners, but at this stage we are making an open call to sponsors and stakeholders who would like to be part of this softball tournament,” she said.

She added that the tournament presents an opportunity for businesses to align with a growing sporting initiative while gaining exposure. “The Makgadikgadi Grand Slam Series presents a valuable platform for brands to associate with sport development while contributing to a unique and growing event,” Gabantese noted.

RAISING TOURNAMENT STANDARDS

Beyond sponsorship, Titans aims to elevate the quality of local softball tournaments by focusing on key organisational and competitive elements. Gabantese emphasised that the club is committed to delivering a well-structured and professional event.

“As Titans, we are intentional about delivering a high-quality softball tournament that raises the bar locally,” she said.

She highlighted that the tournament will feature strong competition, quality playing facilities, and high officiating standards. Additionally, the club is prioritising player welfare, efficient scheduling, and overall event management.

“We are enhancing the experience through branding, media visibility, and fan engagement to create a complete and memorable softball event,” she added.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERS

Gabantese reiterated that Titans remains open to additional sponsors and collaborators, with multiple avenues for involvement available.

“There are a variety of opportunities available, including brand visibility, activations at the tournament, and digital promotion,” he said.

“We are also open to partnerships that enhance the overall experience of the event.” The tournament’s Nata location is also expected to add a distinctive dimension, combining sport with tourism and cultural experiences. According to Gabantese, the event programme will allow participants and spectators to enjoy both competitive softball and the local environment.

“We are making an open call to sponsors and stakeholders who would like to be part of this softball tournament.”

GROWING THE GAME

Titans believes the tournament will play a significant role in expanding softball’s reach in Botswana, particularly in underserved areas. “We see this tournament as an important step in growing softball beyond the traditional centres,” Gabantese said. “By hosting in Nata, we are bringing the sport closer to new communities and creating greater exposure.”

BUSANG JUDGE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT LOBATSE

In the matter between:
FEUNE (PTY) LTD
and
NATIVE OUTDOOR (PTY) LTD
MPHO BALOPI
CHEZDA CONSTANCE BALOPI

CASE NO. CVHGB-000895/23

Plaintiff

1st Defendant
2nd Defendant
3rd Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the Judgment granted by the Honourable Court, the following property will be sold by Public Auction by Deputy Sheriff **ONKEMETSE MEDUPE** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : 10th April 2026
TIME OF : 10:30 am
VENUE : Broadhurst Police Station

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : 1 x 1 Samsung 65” Smart Led Television; 1 x 10 Brown Seater Boardroom Table with Chairs; 1 x1 Brown Office Desk; 1 x 2 Black Office Chairs; 1 x 1 Cream Filing Cabinet; 1 x 3 Black Chair; 1 x 1 White Office Table; 1 x1 Imcc Desk Top 2 with 2 CP45; 1 x 1 White Desk; 1 x 3 Black Chairs; 1 x 1 White Office Table; 1 x 3 Brown Leather Chairs; 1 x 1 HP Printer; 1 x 1 Art Piece; 1 x 3 Vases; 1 x 2 Cabinets; 1 x 1 Apple Computer; 1 x 1 White Office Desk; 1 x 1 Brother Printer; 1 x 3 Black Office Chairs; 1 x 1 Logik Microwave; 1 x 1 Defy Bar Fridge; 1 x 2 Brown Reception Waiting Couches; 1 x 1 LG Television; 1 x 1 Reception Desk; 1 x 2 Red Reception Leather Couches; 1 x 1 Reception Desk; 1 x 1 HP Printer; 1 x 1 Kelvinator Fridge; 1 x LG Microwave; 1 x 2 Acer Lap Tops; 1 x 4 Brown Office Desks; 1 x 4 Brown Office Chairs; 1 x 1 Brown Office Desk; 1 x 1 Filing Cabinet; 1 x 2 Brown Office Chairs; 1 x 4 SX Imac Computer; 1 x 1 Recoh Printer; 1 x 1 HP Printer; 1 x 2 Art Piece; 1 x 1 HP Lap Top; 1 x 1 Phillips Printer, Nature CPN; 1 x 2 Brown Office Desks; 1 x 2 Office Chairs; 1 x 1 Samsung Monitor; 1 x 1 Filing Cabinet; 1 x 1 Work Station (with 1 x 6 Brown Tables, 1 x 4 Brown Office Chairs); 1 x 2 Office Chairs; 1 x 1 Mackbuck; 1 x 3 Mackbuck; 1 x 2 Filing Cabinets; 1 x 1 Ibi Master Binder; 1 x 2 Acer Lap Tops; 1 x 1 Ricoh Printer; 1 x 1 Photocopying Machine; 1 x 1 Book Shelf with Sliding Shelves; 1 Apple Computer; 1 x 1 Toshuba Printer; 1 x 2 Imac Computers; 1 x 4 Office Tables; 1 x 5 Brown Office Chairs; 1 x 1 Bar Fridge; 1 x White Toyota Etios Registration No. B277 BAA; 1 x 1 White Peugeot Boxer Registration No. B902 ASE; 1 x 1 White Toyota Dyna Registration No. B764 APB; 1 x 1 White Mahindra Registration No. B490 API; 1 x 1 Silver Polo Vivo Registration No. B273 AYH; 1 x 1 White 7.5 Ton Hilux Single Registration No. B176 AOD, 1 x 6 Billboards, 1 x 1 Billboards with two sides, 1 x 3 Billboards, 1 x 1 Billboards with two sides 1 x 2 Billboards with two sides, 1 x 1 Advertising Screen Billboard, 1 x 3 Advertising Billboards .

TERMS OF SALE : Cash or Bank Transfer Only.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2026



Malete Attorneys
ATTORNEYS, CONVEYANCERS & NOTARIES

MALETE ATTORNEYS
Plaintiff’s Attorneys
Plot 18573, Phase 2
(Opposite CBD)
GABORONE
TEL:3972550/76650906

ABSA Kids Marathon Gains National Momentum



Early activations draw 10,000 children as organizers build toward April 18 race day

GAZETTE REPORTER

The Absa Summer Kids Marathon campaign has begun with strong nationwide participation, as organizers report that approximately 10,000 children have already taken part in activation events ahead of the main race scheduled for 18 April 2026.

The activations, held in schools and community centers, are designed to introduce children to running through structured but accessible activities. Participants engaged in short-distance runs, drills, and interactive sessions aimed at fostering both fitness and

enjoyment.

“The response has exceeded our expectations,” said event coordinator Mogagi Madisa in a telephone interview. “We’ve seen incredible energy and commitment from children, parents, and educators alike. It’s clear that this initiative is resonating with communities.”

PROGRAM FOCUS

Organizers say the initiative extends beyond physical activity. The activation phase incorporates lessons on healthy living, teamwork, and goal-setting, positioning the program as both a sporting and developmental platform.

Parents and guardians have played a supporting role by encouraging participation and reinforcing habits outside organized sessions. Schools have also contributed by mobilizing students and promoting participation, helping sustain momentum across different communities.

EVENT OUTLOOK

Attention is now shifting to the main event, where organizers are targeting 2,000 young runners. Participation levels continue to rise as registration remains open, suggesting a potentially strong turnout on race day.

Organizers anticipate a competitive but inclusive atmosphere, with children from diverse backgrounds expected to take part. Final preparations are underway to ensure the event meets safety and organizational standards.

“The response has exceeded our expectations.”

The campaign’s early traction points to sustained interest in youth-focused fitness initiatives, with the upcoming marathon positioned as both a culmination of the activations and a standalone event.

Youth Bowlers Primed for South Africa Test

Botswana’s junior team intensifies preparations ahead of a key regional championships appearance

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana’s youth bowls team has undergone an intensive build-up ahead of the upcoming Bowls South Africa Junior National Championships, with the association implementing targeted training initiatives to sharpen competitiveness.

Vice President of the Botswana Bowling Association, Edwin Nyoka, revealed that a comprehensive weekend training camp held in Jwaneng brought together Under-15, Under-18 and Under-25 players. The camp focused on technical drills and performance enhancement.

“We organized a weekend training camp in Jwaneng where all the teams were drilled specifically to be taught skills and enhance performance,” Nyoka said.

He added that selected players were further encouraged to participate in major competitions to gain exposure. “Players were

encouraged to participate in the Majors to expose them to competitive bowling,” he noted, emphasizing that athletes were also assigned structured assessment programmes to track their time and progress on the green.

TRANSPARENT SELECTION PROCESS

On team selection, Nyoka highlighted a multi-layered and performance-based approach designed to ensure fairness and player development.

“Players are selected on performance, availability and appearance in competitive matches,” he explained.

He added that the training camp itself served as an additional platform for athletes to impress selectors. The association also relies on its annual national youth tournament to evaluate talent across different age groups.

“This allows us to measure players consistently while giving all young bowlers a fair opportunity



to showcase their abilities,” Nyoka said.

GROWTH THROUGH EXPOSURE

Nyoka stressed the importance of international competition in shaping Botswana’s next generation of bowlers, noting that such platforms are critical for both development and long-term sustainability of the sport.

“It exposes our youth to international competitions and makes

them ready to step in to represent their country,” he said.

Beyond individual growth, he added that youth participation raises the overall standard of the game locally. “It also helps in keeping the senior bowls on their toes to perform at their best.”

The association has received financial backing from the Botswana National Sports Commission to support both the training camp and the team’s travel, while

technical guidance has been provided by the national coach and development coordinators.

Looking ahead, Nyoka underscored the broader vision of expanding the sport nationwide. Increased international participation, he believes, will inspire more young people to take up bowls and support plans to establish clubs in new regions.



Botswana's 400m Depth Signals Relay Promise

Strong early-season 400m performances signal growing depth ahead of global showdown

TLOTLO KEBINAKGABO

With weeks remaining before Botswana hosts the World Athletics Relays from May 2–3, the country's men's 400m runners are beginning to deliver the kind of

performances that have increasingly defined their international presence.

Botswana's men's 4x400m relay team has, in recent years, emerged as a consistent contender. At last year's World Athletics Relays, the team secured bronze

in 2:58.27 despite not fielding what was widely considered its strongest lineup. Momentum carried into the global stage months later, when Botswana claimed victory in the men's 4x400m at the 2025 Tokyo World, edging the United States and South Af-

rica in a tightly contested finish to become the first African winners of the event.

SEASON OPENERS

Recent performances suggest that the country's depth in the 400m is strengthening further.

Lee Eppie, part of the gold medal-winning relay team at last year's World Athletics Championships, opened his season with a time of 44.53 seconds at the Ramotswa Twin Towers Classic Meet held in Francistown. Close behind was training partner and double world champion Collin Kebinatshipi, who clocked 44.55 seconds in his own season debut. Boitumelo Masilo followed in third with a season's best of 46.08 seconds.

Elsewhere, Justice Oratile recorded a personal best of 44.62 seconds at the Maseru International Meet in Lesotho. Letsile Tebogo also began his 400m campaign with a time of 45.93 seconds at the UJ Stadium during the Central Gauteng Athletics Provincial

Championships in South Africa.

DEPTH EMERGING

"I think it's straightforward, we are having more guys running more 44 seconds," said former national team athlete Keene Motukisi. "This has never happened before and the good thing is that they are running these times in Botswana and neighboring countries."

"We are having more guys running more 44 seconds."

Motukisi noted that several athletes are also consistently running in the 45-second range, reinforcing Botswana's growing competitiveness ahead of the World Relays. He added that performances are expected to improve as the season progresses.

UPCOMING EVENT

Meanwhile, Lefika Athletics Club is set to host the Lefika International Relays 2026 this weekend, with participation confirmed from about six African countries. The event is expected to serve as a preparatory platform ahead of the World Athletics Relays.

Bona Life Backs Junior Golfers

Insurer links sponsorship to long-term youth development strategy

GAZETTE REPORTER

A sponsorship by Bona Life Insurance Limited for Team Botswana at the ongoing All Africa Junior Golf Championship underscores a growing trend of private sector investment in youth development through sport.

The company is positioning its backing as part of a broader national development agenda, with a focus that extends beyond financial support. Executives say the initiative is designed to contribute to shaping future leaders by leveraging golf's emphasis on discipline, resilience and strategic thinking.

"Our motivation is rooted in

our commitment to community development and youth empowerment," said Chief Executive Officer Phatsimo Keakabetse in a telephone interview. "Supporting Team Botswana at the All Africa Junior Golf Championship is a natural extension of our belief that young people represent the future of this country."

TOURNAMENT SCOPE

Team Botswana competing in Kenya (from March 21 to 28) having fielded four boys and three girls selected by the Botswana Golf Union. The championship is widely regarded as a key development platform for junior golfers across Africa.

Ahead of the tournament, team captain Thomo Mokgatle high-



lighted the significance of representing the country on a continental stage.

"Being part of the team means a lot to us. We know that we are not just here for ourselves, but for our country, our supporters and everyone who believes in us," Mokgatle said.

He added that the team's focus will be on discipline and unity throughout the competition.

"We promise we are going to try

our hardest every single time we compete. We will work together to support each other and never give up, no matter how tough the challenges."

DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

Bona Life said its involvement reflects a deliberate strategy to invest in youth-focused initiatives with long-term impact. The company has previously supported grassroots efforts such as the Maruapula Loxion Golf Pro-

gramme, aimed at broadening access to the sport.

"Golf instils discipline, patience and strategic thinking—qualities that are essential both on and off the course," Keakabetse said. "By supporting these young athletes, we are investing not just in sport, but in the holistic development of future leaders."

She added that the company's citizen-owned structure informs its approach to partnerships and national development initiatives.

FUTURE PATHWAYS

According to Derrick Musa, the championship also provides pathways to international opportunities. Winners qualify for the Toyota Junior Golf World Cup in Japan, while standout players may enter the Africa Golf High Performance Programme.

"The All Africa Junior Team Championships is the ultimate stage for aspiring golfers on the continent," Musa said. "It provides the opportunity for our young golfers to compete against their peers and challenge themselves to reach greater heights."



The Botswana Gazette

SPORT

BACKPAGE
WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2026
SINCE 1984

Debswana Managing Director Andrew Maatla Motsomi (L) and Minister of Sport and Arts Jacob Kelebeng (R) unveil the title sponsorship for the World Athletics Relays Gaborone 2026 in Gaborone on 24 March 2026. Debswana announced a P16 million title sponsorship for the event. (Pic: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)



37.

BOTSWANA'S 400M DEPTH SIGNALS RELAY PROMISE

Strong early-season 400m performances signal growing depth ahead of global showdown

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