The Botswana GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2026 | SINCE 1984



Kgengwenyane Reveals Inner Game

CLICK WATCH



# THERE WILL BE NO SACRED COWS – DPP

Kgosietsile Ngakaagae signals sweeping prosecutions as forensic audit looms, warning ministers, senior officials and politically connected figures that decades of alleged abuse of public funds could soon face the courts

2.

Photo Credit: BWgovernment

## Khama Hails Progress in P100bn Scandal

4.



# BCP Moves to Scrap Lobby Lists

As factional tensions mount ahead of congress

5.



# DPP Targets Elite Corruption

## Declares "no sacred cows," vowing to pursue justice without fear or favour, warning that the office will not tolerate interference

**BONGANI MALUNGA**


(File Photo: Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

The Directorate of Public Prosecutions has declared open season on high-level corruption, warning that ministers, permanent secretaries, senior civil servants and politically connected figures who looted public funds over the past two decades will face prosecution.

Director of Public Prosecutions Kgosietsile Ngakaagae said no office bearer, past or present, will be spared as the state prepares to act on findings from the national forensic audit expected to expose misuse of public resources across government.

Ngakaagae made it clear that wealth, influence, rank or political connections will not protect anyone once evidence emerges, signalling what could become one of the most far-reaching anti-corruption offensives in Botswana's recent history.

> "Corruption cannot happen without insiders who open the door to abuse of power."

**20 YEARS**

He said the law allows the DPP to pursue corruption-related offences going back 20 years, placing multiple administrations under potential scrutiny.

"We are not going to discriminate against any administration, be it Duma Boko's, Mokgweetsi Masisi or Ian Khama. Whenever a crime was committed, if past or present administrators have overlooked it, we will take it up," Ngakaagae stated.

The remarks indicate that prosecutions could cut across political eras, potentially drawing former and current office bearers into court if wrongdoing is uncovered.

**ENABLING ABUSE OF POWER**

Ngakaagae also said corruption within the state often thrives through insiders who enable abuse of power and misuse of funds.

"When a former minister is in the dock, without breaching ethics, we will make sure it is a teaching moment for the whole country. There are people who open the door to corruption. It is the senior civil servants, directors, permanent secretaries, ministers and presidents. That is how corruption festers," the DPP Director explained.

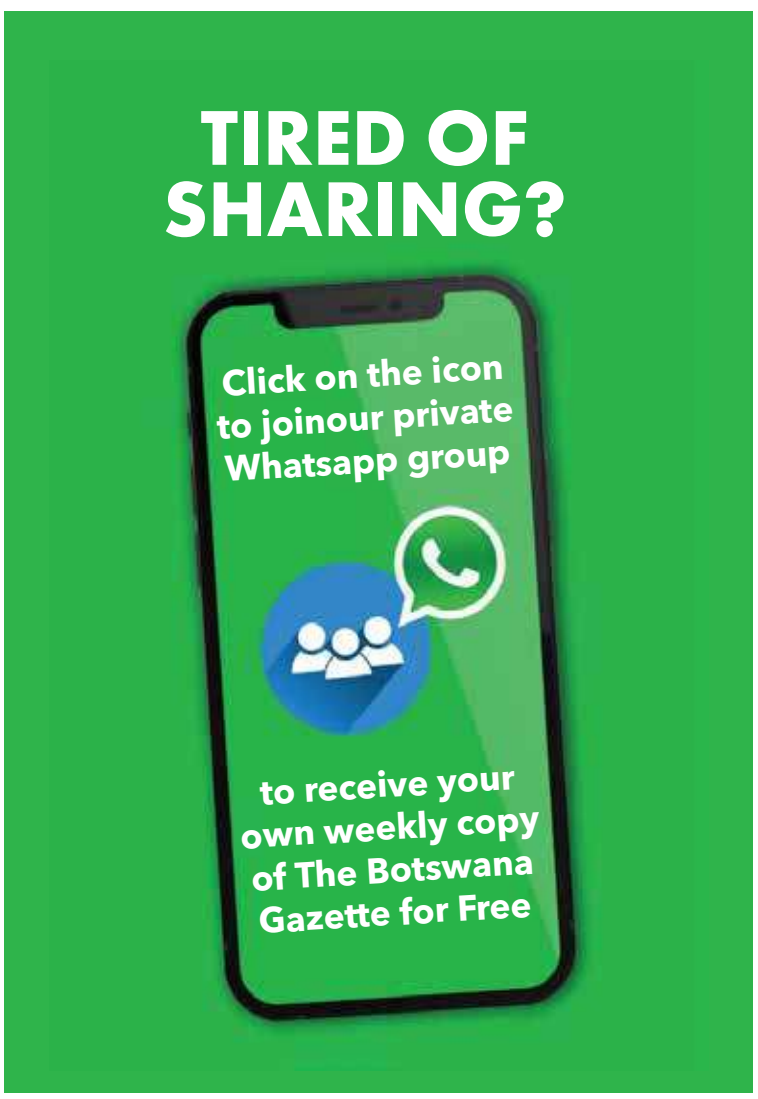
He further painted a grim picture of systemic failures within public institutions, arguing that theft of state resources cannot happen without cooperation from officials entrusted to safeguard the public purse.

> "The government enclave is a crime scene. That is the truth, that is where your money has gone."

**CRIME SCENE**

"The government enclave is a crime scene. That is the truth, that is where your money has gone. That is why we are prosecuting, they need to know. Private practice is able to steal from the government only with the permission of us as senior civil servants," he stressed.

The hard-hitting statements are likely to send shockwaves through Botswana's political and bureaucratic establishment, with attention now turning to the forensic audit and whether it triggers arrests, prosecutions and possible recovery of stolen funds.



# Grant Rollout Delayed to June



(Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

## Govt Moves Child Support Grant Rollout

**BONGANI MALUNGA**

The government has postponed the roll-out of the Child Support Grant from April 2026 to June 2026, citing ongoing administrative processes and system readiness activities. In an update issued by the Ministry of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, authorities said the delay is necessary to ensure the programme is implemented efficiently, transparently and without disruptions. The grant, which is expected to support families with young children, had initially been scheduled to commence in April next year. However, officials say more time is needed to finalise systems required for a seamless launch. Despite the postponement, the government assured the public that beneficiaries will not lose out financially, as payments will be backdated to cover April and May 2026.

> "Payments will be backdated to cover April and May 2026."

Members of the public have meanwhile been encouraged to continue registering children aged 12 months and below to ensure timely inclusion in the programme once it begins. The Child Support relief is for households facing increasing financial pressure, while also strengthening social protection efforts for vulnerable families across Botswana.

# Teachers Demand Exam Payments

## Teachers Revolt Over BEC Marking Payment Delays

**BONGANI MALUNGA**

A storm is brewing in Botswana's education sector as primary, junior and secondary school teachers who invigilated and marked the 2025 national examinations prepare to petition the Botswana Examinations Council over delayed payments and poor working conditions. The disgruntled educators say they fulfilled their examination duties months ago, yet many are still waiting to be paid, igniting frustration and anger across schools nationwide.

Teachers who worked during the 2025 examination cycle reportedly carried out invigilation and marking duties between October and December last year. However, despite the passage of several months, outstanding payments remain unpaid for many of those involved.

The delays have dealt a heavy blow to many educators who had counted on the extra income to ease financial pressure amid the rising cost of living. For some teachers, examination work provides a crucial supplementary source of income at a time when household expenses continue to climb.

Teachers say the prolonged silence and non-payment demonstrate a lack of appreciation for the vital role they played in safeguarding the credibility and smooth running of Botswana's national examinations

More than 700 invigilators and examiners have been affected by the delay, the disgruntled teachers are now expected to submit a formal petition today (Wednesday), demanding immediate payment of all ou

standing dues as well as improved working conditions for future examination assignments.



> "More than 700 invigilators and examiners have been affected."

The looming petition heaps pressure on the Botswana Examinations Council, which may now be forced to publicly address growing discontent from teachers who form the backbone of the country's examination system.

bac
Botswana School of Business Sciences

GABORONE CAMPUS
Plot 50661, Fairgrounds Office Park
Private bag 000319 Gaborone, Botswana
Tel: +267 395 3062 Fax: +267 390 41103

FRANCISTOWN CAMPUS
Plot 31403 Mofat Street
Private bag 137 Francistown, Botswana
Tel: +267 241 0558 Fax: +267 241 0534

VACANCY NOTICE




WE ARE HIRING

Closing Date: Thursday 30th April 2026

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT
(3 YEARS FIXED-TERM CONTRACT) TENABLE IN GABORONE

NETWORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER
(3 YEARS FIXED TERM CONTRACT) TENABLE IN GABORONE

LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER – INSURANCE
(3 YEARS FIXED TERM CONTRACT) TENABLE IN GABORONE

RADIOLOGIST - XAI PROJECT
(PART-TIME 6 MONTHS FIXED-TERM CONTRACT) TENABLE IN GABORONE

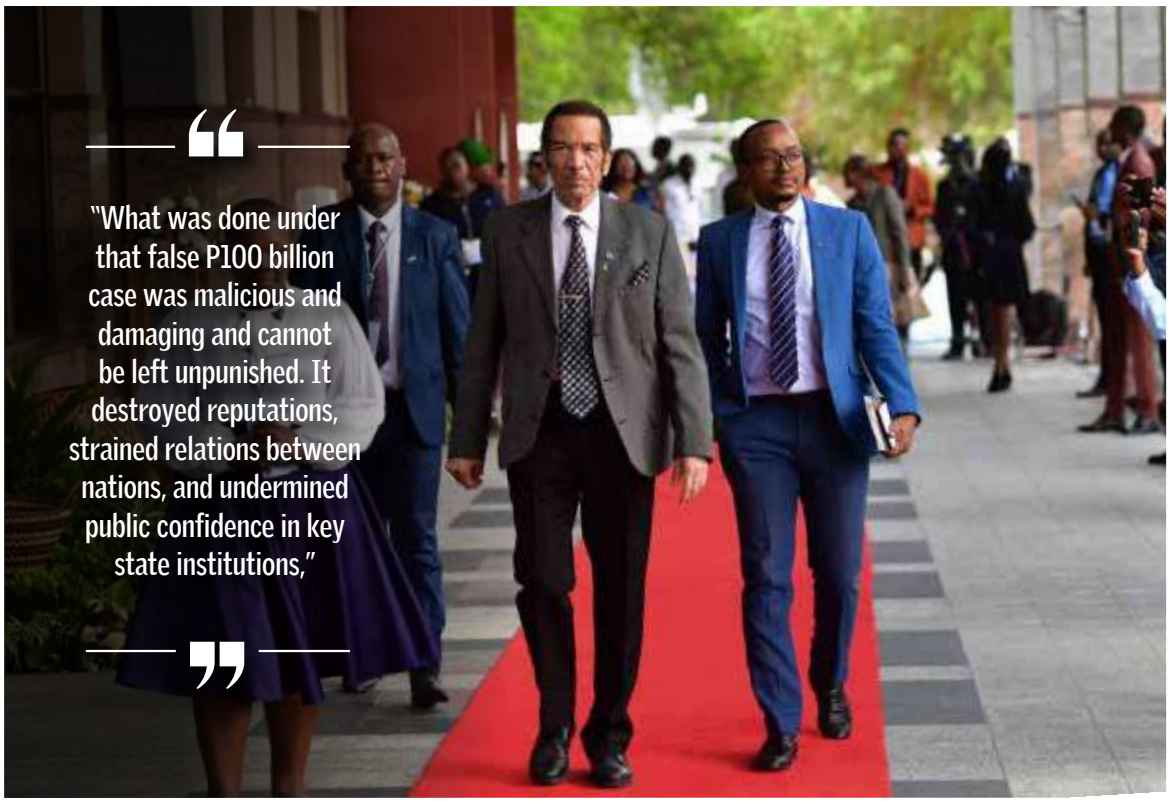
Application Procedure
To apply for any of the positions kindly log onto:
https://www.bac.ac.bw/vacancies.php
or Scan the QR Code

Botswana School of Business Sciences
www.bac.ac.bw

# Khama Hails Progress in P100bn Scandal

Former President Ian Khama has expressed satisfaction over renewed progress in the long-running P100 billion perjury case, after the DPP confirmed that a decision on prosecution will be made in the coming weeks

**GAZETTE REPORTER**




Former President Ian Khama has welcomed fresh developments in the long-running P100 billion saga, following confirmation that the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) will decide within weeks whether to proceed with prosecution in a perjury complaint he lodged.

Khama told The Botswana Gazette that he was elated by the latest progress, describing it as a long-awaited step toward accountability.

"I am pleased that there is finally movement on this matter. We have been waiting for a decision for a long time," he said.

Khama expressed frustration over delays, suggesting the matter could have been concluded a long-time ago were it not for "obstruction of justice by those involved and implicated."

**PERJURY COMPLAINT AGAINST INVESTIGATOR**

The case stems from a perjury complaint Khama filed in March 2021 against former Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) investigator Jako Hubona.

Khama accused Hubona of providing false evidence under oath in the controversial P100 billion case, which had implicated several high-profile figures including former intelligence chief Isaac Kgosi, intelligence officer Wilhelmina Maswabi, and South African businesswoman Bridgette Motsepe-Radebe.

**DISCREDITED SCANDAL**

The P100 billion, once touted as one of Botswana's biggest financial scandals, was later discredited by the courts, which found that key evidence underpinning the allegations had been fabricated. The claims had suggested that vast sums were siphoned from the Bank of Botswana into offshore accounts linked to the accused—assertions that ultimately collapsed under judicial scrutiny.

Khama has maintained that the damage caused by the allegations was far-reaching.

"What was done under that false P100 billion case was malicious and damaging and cannot be left unpunished. It destroyed reputations, strained relations between nations, and undermined public confidence in key state institutions," he said.

> "I am pleased that there is finally movement on this matter. We have been waiting for a decision for a long time."

**AWAITING DPP'S CALL**

The matter is now before the DPP, who is expected to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to prosecute.

Interestingly, the current DPP, Kgosietsile Ngakaagae, previously represented Hubona as his lawyer. He has since indicated that any potential conflict of interest will be managed appropriately, including referring the matter to the Attorney General or other relevant authorities if necessary.


## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

**MANAGER – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICE: VACANCY NO. 1/2026/2027**

**Job Summary**
The successful applicant will be expected to execute the corporate ICT strategy and policies, liaise with appropriate strategic partner organisations, both in the public and private sector. Should be capable of participating and providing IT services to meet service level demands of the Bureau.

**Key Performance Areas**
Development and implementation of a corporate IT strategy.
Development and implementation of corporate IT policies and procedures to ensure cost effective and efficient IT service delivery.
Identify and manage IT risks of BOBS
Actively participate in the implementation of Quality Management Systems

**Minimum Job Requirements**
Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or equivalent. Five (5) years post qualification experience in the field of information technology, at least three years of which should have been at a supervisory level and a valid driving licence.

**COMPETENCIES**
Analytical thinking and diagnostic skills
Corporate management skills
Strong communications and interpersonal skills
Initiative, Pro-active, decisive and assertive
Computer literacy is essential
Analytical thinking

**REMUNERATION**
BOBS offers competitive and attractive remuneration packages to the most suitable candidate.

**This position is offered on a five (5) year fixed contract term**.

A detailed CV, names of three referees and certified copies of certificates should accompany applications and be emailed to: recruitment@bobstandards.bw not later than **30th April 2026**. BOBS will enter into correspondence with shortlisted candidates only.

For any enquiries do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at Telephone Number: 3903200/3645564/3645561.

# BCP MOVES TO SCRAP LOBBY LISTS

## .. As factional tensions mount ahead of congress

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The Botswana Congress Party (BCP) is considering abolishing lobby lists ahead of its elective congress scheduled for the July holidays.

BCP Secretary General Goretetse Kekgonegile confirmed the development on Monday while addressing the media, saying discussions are underway within party structures to assess whether the long-standing practice should be discontinued.

> "The issue of lobby lists is under discussion. We are engaging within the party structures to determine whether we can do away with them."

He said lobby lists, though traditionally used as informal mobilisation platforms ahead of elective congresses, have increasingly been associated with internal divisions.

"The issue of lobby lists is under discussion. We are engaging within the party structures to determine whether we can do away with them," Kekgonegile said, adding that they often fuel factionalism that can undermine party unity and stability.



**EARLY LOBBY FORMATIONS EMERGE**

Although the party has not yet issued a formal writ of election, two lobby lists have already begun circulating, both reportedly aligned to incumbent BCP president Dumelang Saleshando.

One of the formations, Team Unity, is said to back Kgatleng West MP Dr Unity Dow for the vice presidency, while also proposing Sennye Obuseng for the position of chairperson.

The second lobby list reportedly supports Bobirwa MP Taolo Lucas, who is seeking to retain his position as vice president under Saleshando's leadership.

**INDEPENDENT OUTSIDE LOBBY STRUCTURES**

Meanwhile, Maun West MP Caterpillar Hikuama has emerged as the only declared candidate not aligned to any lobby list. He has announced his intention to contest for the party chairmanship independently.

In a recent statement, Hikuama said his decision to stay outside lobby formations was deliberate, positioning himself as a "bridge-builder" capable of working with any leadership outcome.

He argued that his stance reflects a broader commitment to party unity and signals a push for discipline and cohesion ahead of the congress.



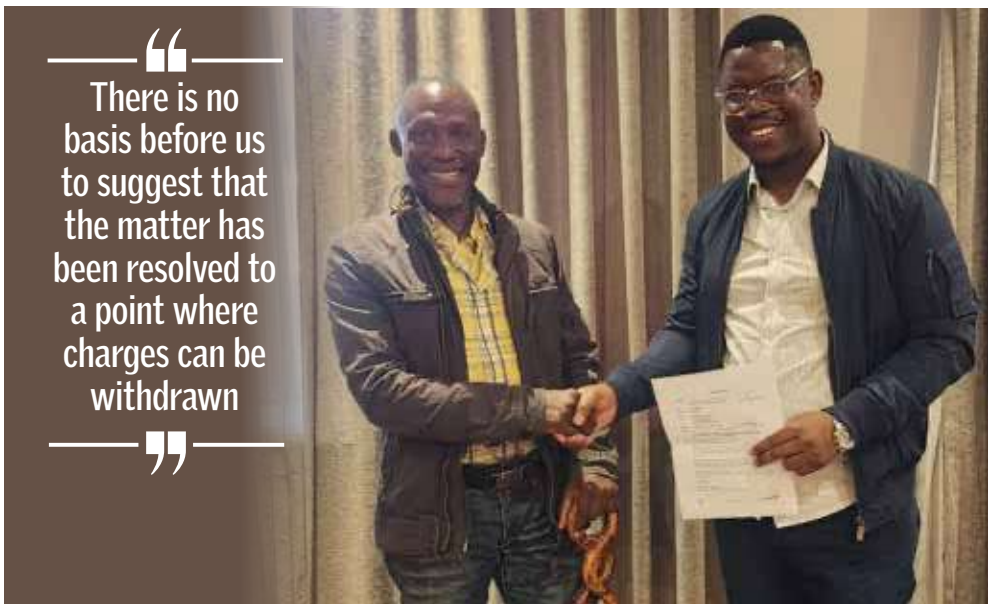
# Bakgatla Hopes Dashed as DPP Pursues Kgafela

## The DPP has hinted that government may have given Bakgatla the wrong impression after assuring them Kgafela's charges had been dropped, clarifying that the case remains active

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

What began as a moment of celebration for Bakgatla Ba Kgafela in December has quickly turned into uncertainty following a revelation by the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) that their paramount chief, Kgafela Kgafela II is still a wanted man.

The Bakgatla community a few months back expressed overwhelming joy and relief after the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs, Ketlhalefile Motshegwa, announced that all charges against their long self-imposed exile Kgosi, Kgafela II, had been dropped—seemingly clearing the way for his long-awaited return home.




**DPP CONTRADICTS MINISTER**

However, that optimism has been short-lived. Addressing a press conference this week, the DPP, Kgosietsile Ngakaagae clarified that the case against Kgafela has not been withdrawn.

The DPP stated that there is no evidence of reconciliation between the complainants and Kgafela, a key legal requirement in any move to drop charges in such matters.

"There is no basis before us to suggest that the matter has been resolved to a point where charges can be withdrawn," the DPP said, effectively casting doubt over the minister's earlier pronouncement.

**SHOCK AND CONFUSION**

Speaking to this publication, Kgafela's spokesperson, Lebogang Maname, said the development had come as a shock to the Bakgatla leadership.

"We are surprised by the state's position. The ministers responsible, for justice and local government, recently assured Bakgatla that all was well, that the matter had been resolved and that charges had been withdrawn," he said.

He said minister Ramaotwana further revealed that there was no specific complaint directly against Kgafela as an individual.

"We were told by Ramotwana that there is no particular complaint against Kgafela but his tribesmen. He was cited in his capacity as a traditional leader," he added.

**INSTITUTIONAL TENSIONS EMERGE**

The conflicting positions between the political leadership and the prosecutorial authority have once again exposed tensions and possible misalignment within government institutions.

Legal observers note that while ministers may make political pronouncements, the authority to withdraw criminal charges ultimately rests with the DPP, whose decisions are guided by law and evidence.

**UNCERTAIN PATH HOME**

Kgafela, who has lived in self-imposed exile for years, has long sought to return to Botswana, with his supporters viewing the December announcement as a breakthrough moment.

With the DPP now maintaining that the case remains active, his return appears uncertain once again, leaving the Bakgatla community in limbo.



# HIDDEN BILLS HAUNT GOVT

## The Ministry conceded it cannot rule out additional debts still sitting unsubmitted within ministries, leaving uncertainty over Botswana's true outstanding obligations

**BONGANI MALUNGA**

The Botswana government settled P1.19 billion in outstanding supplier payments within less than a month but has admitted it cannot fully account for all debts owed across ministries due to delayed and incomplete invoice submissions.

Responding in Parliament last week, the Ministry of Finance revealed that as of 31 October 2024, the Office of the Accountant General had 56 unpaid supplier payment instructions worth P1 195 442 112.09 on record. The Ministry said all those invoices were fully paid by 26 November 2024, effectively clearing the backlog that had formally reached Treasury systems.

**DELAYED INVOICES**

However, the government warned that the figure did not reflect the full extent of obligations across all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), as many invoices remain at source and are only captured once submitted for payment.

The Ministry acknowledged that some ministries delay sending invoices for long periods, disrupting cash flow planning and creating uncertainty around the true size of government arrears.

"Any figure reported by the Ministry of Finance represents only the value of invoices that are on hand and formally lodged within the payment system at that specific point in time , and not the full universe of obligations that may exist across Government," the Minister of Finance and Vice President, Ndaba Gaolathe explained.

"This explains why, despite repeated requests for full disclosure, the Ministry continues to face challenges in obtaining complete and timely information from all MDAs. The late submission of invoices, sometimes in significant volumes undermines accurate cash flow planning and creates the impression of fluctuating or increasing arrears, when in fact these may relate to historical obligations only now being brought forward," Gaolathe stressed.




**PRIVACY OBLIGATIONS**

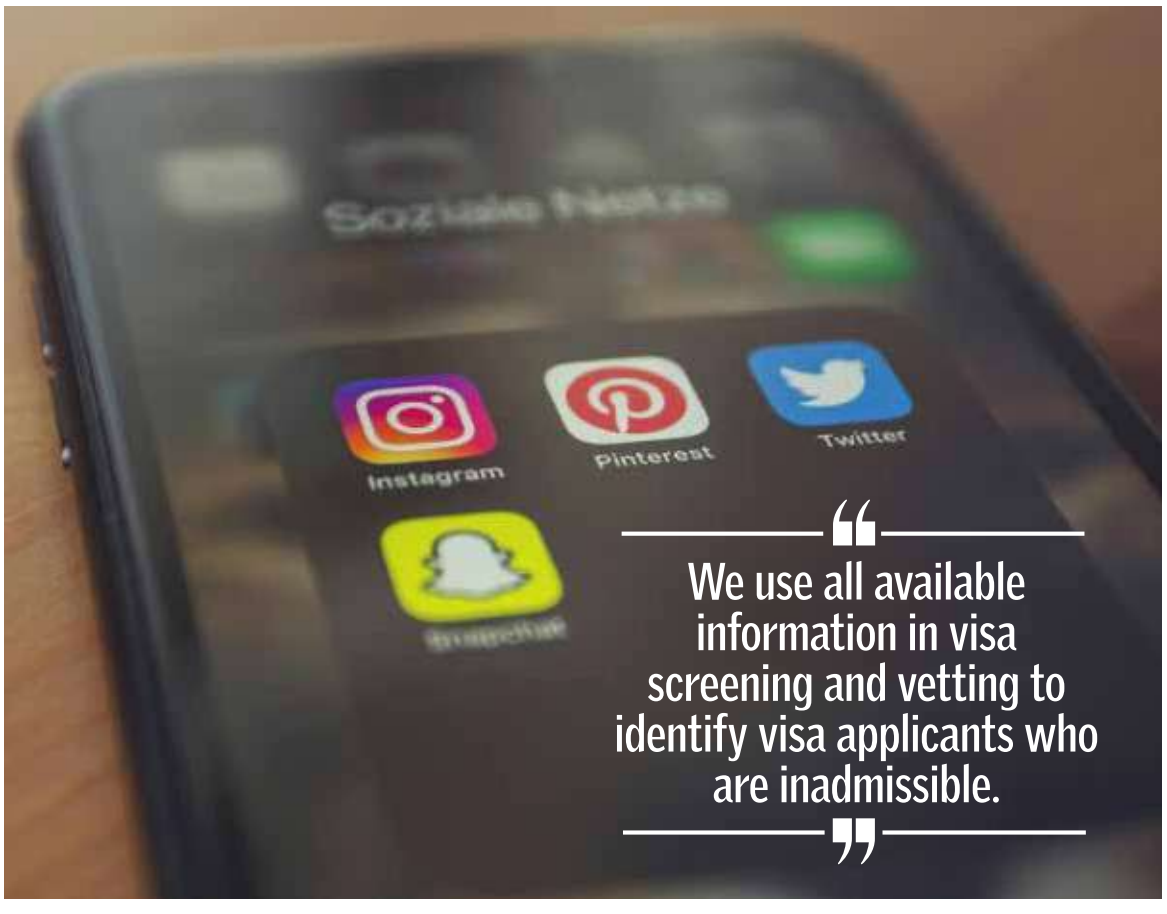
The Ministry said it cannot publicly release names of companies owed money or specific amounts, citing the Data Protection Act, commercial confidentiality and privacy obligations. To plug the gaps, government says it is rolling out an integrated e-Procurement system that will track commitments and invoices from procurement stage to final payment.

While Treasury records show no unpaid October 2024 invoices remain, the Ministry conceded it cannot rule out additional debts still sitting unsubmitted within ministries, leaving uncertainty over Botswana's true outstanding obligations.



# Batswana Enroute to US Face Social Media Vetting

## Batswana travelling to the United States will now face stricter visa requirements, including mandatory disclosure of social media accounts set to public for vetting




**GAZETTE REPORTER**

Batswana seeking to travel to the United States will now be required to disclose their social media history, and in some cases pay a visa bond of up to $15,000, following new measures announced by the United States Embassy in Botswana.

Information posted on the US Embassy's official platforms indicates that applicants for a wide range of non-immigrant visas will be required to adjust their social media accounts to "public" to facilitate vetting by US authorities. The directive applies to visa categories including student, work, exchange and fiancé visas.

"All individuals applying for nonimmigrant visas are instructed to adjust the privacy setting on all social media accounts to 'public' or 'open' to facilitate vetting necessary to establish their identity and admissibility to the United States under U.S. law," the embassy stated.

**EXPANDED SECURITY SCREENING FOR VISA APPLICANTS**

The move forms part of broader security measures by the United States Department of State, which says it is intensifying scrutiny of visa applicants globally.

"We use all available information in visa screening and vetting to identify visa applicants who are inadmissible… Every visa adjudication is a national security decision," the department said, adding that "a U.S. visa is a privilege, not a right."

**NEW BOND REQUIREMENT FOR VISITOR VISAS**

In a separate development, Botswana has been included among 39 countries affected by new entry restrictions and financial requirements taking effect from January 1, 2026.

Under the policy, Batswana applying for B1/B2 visitor visas—typically for business or tourism—must post a refundable bond of up to $15,000 before a visa can be issued.

The US Embassy says applicants will be informed during their consular interview whether they qualify and how to pay the bond, while warning against using third-party services or making payments before official instructions are issued.

**POLITICAL CONCERN OVER NEW RESTRICTIONS**

The developments have sparked concern in Botswana, with the Botswana Democratic Party calling for urgent clarification from government.

In a statement, the party said the measures have "caused confusion among Batswana" and demanded transparency on the circumstances behind the US decision.

The BDP has also urged the Minister of International Relations, Phenyo Butale, to brief the nation, warning that "silence risks creating uncertainty and undermining Botswana's international reputation."

**SHIFT IN TRAVEL SCRUTINY**

It is understood that the new requirements signal a significant tightening of travel conditions for Batswana, who now face increased scrutiny not only of their documentation, but also of their digital footprint, as Washington sharpens its immigration controls in the name of national security.

BUAN
BOTSWANA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Inspiring Sustainable Growth

**TENDER NOTICE and INVITATION TO TENDER**

**Tender BUAN 16/2025 Supply, Installation and Configuration of the Private Automatic Branch Exchange (PABX) System for the Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) for a Duration of Three (3) Years**

1. Sealed Tender offers are invited for Tender BUAN 16/2025 For the Supply, Installation and Configuration of the Private Automatic Branch Exchange (PABX) System for the Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) for a Duration of Three (3) Years
2. Procurement Method is: **Open Domestic bidding method.**
3. Tenderers who are domiciled in Botswana must, in order to be considered for the award of the contract, be registered with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority in the following categories:
   **Code 118 – Telecommunications Services**
   **Sub Code – 05 – Installation and Maintenance of Telecommunications Equipment and Systems**
4. The tender is reserved for 100% Citizens or Citizens Contractors as stated under Section 76 (2) of the Public Procurement Act.
5. Preference margins will be applied to qualifying bidders in line with the prescribed Preference scheme below:
   **a) Economic Diversification Drive (EDD) Initiative CAB 11 (A) of 2011 and the**
   **b) Local Procurement Scheme (LPS) where applicable**
6. Tender Documents will be available with effect from **22nd April 2026 to 12th May 2026 at a Non- Refundable fee of P200.00**

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

   Purchase of tender documents shall be made through electronic fund transfer or deposit made to BUAN account (banking details below) only. The proof of payment must be sent to purchasing@buan.ac.bw with a request for the tender document to be sent via email.

   **Documents shall be emailed during working hours between 0830 hours and 1600 hrs.**

   BUAN Banking Details:
   **Beneficiary Name: Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) Account No: 0100150424100**
   **Bank: Standard Chartered Bank Branch: Mall Branch Code: 662167**
   **Swift Code: SCHBBWGXXXX**
   **Reference: TENDER NUMBER AND COMPANY NAME.**
7. Queries or clarifications relating to the issuance of these documents may be addressed in writing not later than seven (7) days before the tender closing date to **Manager, Procurement and Supply at: Tel number: 3650 294 /177 / 385/182**
8. The closing date for receipt of sealed tender offers is **12th May 2026 at 1100 hours** at the following physical address:
   Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Content Farm, Sebele, Office No 1
   Block 304, Gaborone
9. The Bid Submission Method is: **One (1) Envelope Submission Method** in which a tenderer's financial and technical offers are submitted together in one sealed envelope.
10. Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing, the University is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender offer, nor incur expenses in the preparation thereof.

www.buan.ac.bw info@buan.ac.bw




# Dumela
## It's Time to Shine

Scan QR code to
Buy tickets Now

2 - 3 May 2026
Watch Live on Btv

DEBSWANA
WORLD ATHLETICS
RELAYS
Gaborone 26

OKAVANGO
DIAMOND
COMPANY

OFFICIAL EVENT SUPPORTER

# Tautona Lodge, BCL Billions Missing

## A new Auditor General report has uncovered misclassified multibillion-pula transactions linked to BCL and Tautona Lodge

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

Fresh revelations in a newly released Government Annual Statements of Accounts have exposed serious gaps in government bookkeeping, with high-value transactions linked to BCL and Tautona Lodge failing to properly reflect in official records.

In a qualified audit opinion, Auditor General Keneilwe Senyarelo flagged multiple inconsistencies, raising concerns over transparency, accountability and the integrity of government financial reporting.




**BILLION-PULA INVESTMENT CLASSIFICATION QUESTIONED**

At the centre of the findings is a P2.27 billion figure recorded as investments from Special Funds, which the Auditor General says is misstated. The report reveals that P900.5 million paid to the liquidator of BCL was incorrectly classified as an investment.

"There is no evidence for this as an investment as stated in my report for financial years ended 31 March 2020, 2021 and 2022," Senyarelo said.

The audit further exposes unclear and potentially irregular transactions linked to BCL, including P211.9 million paid as an advance for liquidation expenses without clear repayment terms.

The report notes the funds were issued "for which there are no clear repayment terms," raising concerns about recoverability and financial controls.

**MISSING STATE-OWNED ENTITIES RAISE RED FLAGS**

In another major concern, Tautona Lodge (Pty) Ltd—valued at P58.4 million—was completely omitted from the government's Statement of Assets Held in Commercial Undertakings, despite being wholly owned by the state.

Also missing from the same statement was Debt Participation Capital Funding Limited, pointing to gaps in the reporting of government-owned entities.

"The following commercial undertakings wholly owned by Government were omitted from the statement," the report states, listing Tautona Lodge and other entities.

**WEAK DOCUMENTATION IN SPECIAL FUNDS MANAGEMENT**

Further weaknesses were identified in the management of special funds. The Debt Participation Special Fund, with a balance of P9.1 million, could not be verified due to missing documentation.

"Most documents were not availed for audit," Senyarelo said.

The audit also flagged P885.5 million in advance accounts, including P673.5 million linked to the purchase of De Beers shares, which has yet to be properly recorded in an appropriate account despite payment having been made.

**CASH MANAGEMENT PRESSURES HIGHLIGHTED**

Beyond misstatements and omissions, the report draws attention to government cash management challenges. As at March 2023, the Government Investment Account recorded a credit balance of P15.28 billion, resulting in a net overdraft position of P14.23 billion.

While the Auditor General did not modify the audit opinion on this matter, she stressed its significance.

"Given the magnitude of the amount involved, the matter is significant in the context of Government cash management and treasury operations."

**CONCERNS OVER FINANCIAL CONTROLS**

Under Botswana law, the Accountant General is responsible for ensuring that financial statements are properly prepared and free from material misstatements. However, the audit underscores weaknesses in internal controls and financial oversight.

Senyarelo warned that misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if they could influence economic decision-making by users of the financial statements.

Geoflux

# VACANCIES

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

## DEPUTY ENGINEER OF RECORD

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

**Qualification and Experience**

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

**Responsibilities:**

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

Demonstrated trach record in working with operational mining, project and supply chain teams.

## CLERK OF WORKS – SOUTH

**Qualifications and Experience:**

- Higher National Diploma (HND) in Electrical Engineering with **at least 2 years** post qualification experience up to 66 kV or,
- Diploma in Electrical Engineering with at least 3 years post qualification experience up to 66 kV or,
- NCC in Electrical Engineering with **at least 5 years** post qualification experience up to 66 kV.
- Industry experiences in construction monitoring of BPC projects. Competitive remuneration commensurate with experience and drive is offered.

**Required Competence Areas:**

- Registration with Professional Engineering Institution (ERB) and BIE or equivalent.
- Team player.
- Construction Monitoring skills.
- Expected areas of delivery shall be; Electrical Power Systems, Building Services Electrical Engineering, and Infrastructure Development.
- Experience in construction supervision of Power Distribution Works.

**Geoflux offers:**

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

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

Applications with traceable references must be submitted not later than **4th May 2026** to the address below.

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

The Human Resource Manager
P. O. Box 2403 AAD Poso House Gaborone

Or email to:
info@geoflux.co.bw/rmooketsi@geoflux.co.bw

# Zone 3C Farmers, Govt Clash Over Vaccination

## Zone 3C farmers are demanding urgent clarification from the Minister of Lands and Agriculture over a decision to vaccinate livestock in an area with no detected Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak

**SESUPO RANTSIMAKO**

Zone 3C farmers have called on the Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Edwin Dikoloti to urgently clarify the rationale behind the decision to vaccinate livestock in the area, despite no Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak having been detected.

Farmers say the move has left them uncertain about the implications for their livestock status, market access and overall livelihoods.

**"IN THE DARK"**

Speaking in an interview with The Botswana Gazette, Zone 3C Farmers Committee chairman Tlhabologo Kalichi, who represents farmers around Maitengwe and surrounding areas, said the community is seeking urgent answers from government.

"We are demanding clarity about the consequences of vaccinating unaffected livestock. Once we get clarity, we will take a stand on the decision taken by government. For now we don't have any position; we are just in the dark, and that is why we are demanding clarity from the minister," said Kalichi.

He said a meeting scheduled for the 24th of this month is expected to provide answers, after which farmers hope to take a collective position on the way forward.

Kalichi further noted that since the FMD outbreak in Zone 3B earlier this year, farmers in Zone 3C have been left with several unanswered questions, saying their concerns have not been adequately addressed by the ministry.

**POLITICAL CONCERNS OVER "ECONOMIC IMPACT"**

The issue has also attracted political attention, with Area Member of Parliament Motlhaleemang Moalosi calling on the minister to suspend the vaccination exercise pending broader consultation with stakeholders.

In a letter to the minister, Moalosi described the vaccination programme as "technically flawed, scientifically inconsistent and carrying a sentence of economic doom" for affected farmers.

He warned that Zone 3C is currently classified as a green zone, and said any vaccination exercise could result in an automatic downgrade to a red zone status.

"This classification will instantly collapse livestock value and strip farmers of their livelihoods," Moalosi stated.

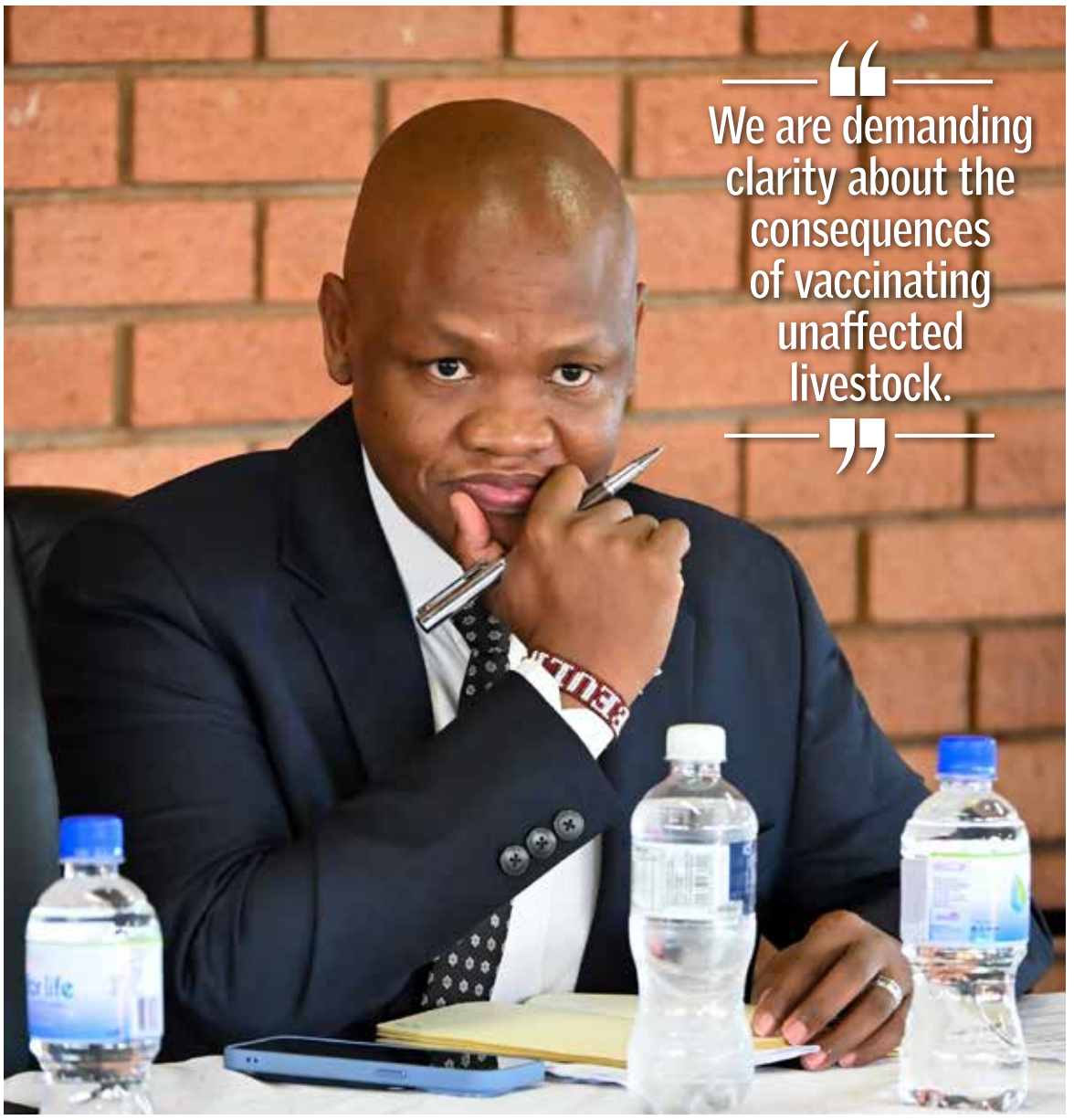
**CALLS FOR PREVENTIVE MEASURES OVER VACCINATION**

Moalosi argued that government should prioritise preventive interventions rather than what he termed reactive measures, urging authorities to strengthen border biosecurity instead.

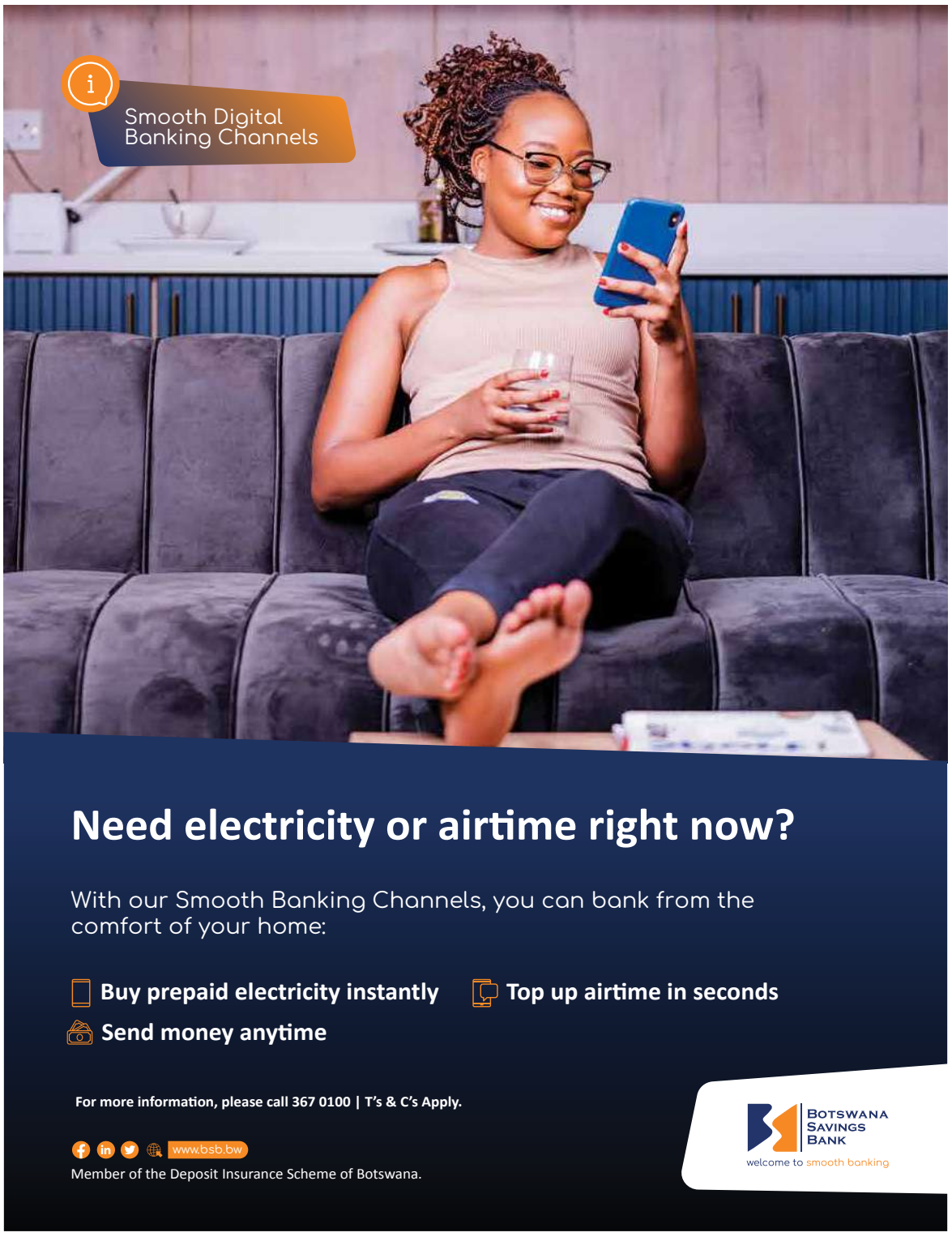
"The government should immediately repair cordon fences, increase patrol resources to maintain the integrity of the current green status and strengthen biosecurity measures along the entire transboundary border," he said.

**AWAITING MINISTERIAL RESPONSE**

As pressure mounts from both farmers and political leaders, attention now turns to the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture for a response, with stakeholders warning that the decision could have far-reaching implications for livestock trade and rural livelihoods in Zone 3C.




Zone 3C farmers have called on the Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Edwin Dikoloti to urgently clarify the rationale behind the decision to vaccinate livestock in the area, despite no Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak having been detected.



# New Public Pay Structure Collapses

## ..As wage crisis deepens




**GAZETTE REPORTER**

A long-anticipated public service remuneration reform has effectively stalled, with five cooperating trade unions warning that the new salary structure process is "collapsing" amid delays, failed negotiations and a sharp erosion of workers' purchasing power.

The unions—BTU, BOPEU, BONU, BOSETU and BDU, operating under the 5+1 Cooperating Trade Unions (5CTU)—say public servants have suffered an accumulated 9.3% decline in real wages, which they attribute to the absence of salary adjustments during the 2025/26 financial year.

In an update issued by 5CTU Coordinator Thabiso Mhlauli, the unions expressed frustration over what they describe as government's failure to advance implementation of the AB Consulting remuneration policy and salary structure.

"We sincerely apologise for the time our members have had to wait in what is undeniably a challenging economic climate," Mhlauli stated, adding that despite repeated engagements, progress has been slow, leading to delays in related negotiations.

The unions say the situation has left public servants increasingly vulnerable as inflation continues to outpace earnings, effectively reducing take-home value across the public sector.

**KEY NEGOTIATIONS AT STANDSTILL**

According to the unions, key negotiations expected earlier this year have stalled, with the employer yet to present counter-proposals on critical issues.

On health sector conditions of service, the unions say they have already submitted a formal position paper but are still awaiting a response.

"We have formally submitted a position paper outlining the unions' stance on health sector conditions of service. Negotiations were due to commence on this matter, but we are still awaiting a counter-proposal from the Employer," the statement reads.

**DEADLINES SET FOR SALARY STRUCTURE PROPOSAL**

The unions are now pushing for urgent movement on the new remuneration framework, calling on government to table a proposed public service salary structure by 20 April 2026.

"We have formally requested that the Employer provides a proposed Public Service Salary Structure by 20th April 2026," Mhlauli said.

They have further proposed dedicated negotiation sessions on 27 and 28 April 2026 to fast-track implementation discussions.

**PRESSURE MOUNTS OVER COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS**

On cost-of-living pressures, the unions have also demanded immediate intervention, submitting a position paper on 17 April 2026 calling for inflation-related salary adjustments.

"The Employer has been requested to submit a counter proposal by 30th April 2026. We have proposed that negotiations regarding this adjustment commence on 5th and 8th May 2026," Mhlauli said.

> "We have formally requested that the Employer provides a proposed Public Service Salary Structure by 20th April 2026."

**RISING RISK OF INDUSTRIAL TENSION**

It is understood that continued delays could deepen industrial tensions in the public sector, particularly as workers feel the strain of rising living costs without corresponding wage increases.

The unions maintain they remain open to engagement but insist that urgency is critical.

"We are committed to keeping all members informed about the ongoing developments and engagements with the Employer as they unfold," Mhlauli said.



# DPP Bleeds Legal Talent

## The DPP faces challenges in retaining top legal talent, raising concerns over the long term effectiveness of Botswana's prosecution system

**BONGANI MALUNGA**




The Directorate of Public Prosecutions is facing a deepening staff retention crisis after a wave of resignations over the past six months, with prosecutors increasingly abandoning the public service for better-paying opportunities in private practice or other government departments.

DPP Director Kgosietsile Ngakaagae has disclosed that the institution has been losing an average of at least four employees every month since he assumed office six months ago, highlighting growing pressure within one of the country's most critical justice institutions.

**STEADY EXODUS**

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday, Ngakaagae narrated how the steady exodus is driven largely by frustration over uncompetitive remuneration packages, with many skilled legal professionals choosing to cross into private firms where salaries and career incentives are significantly stronger.

"Recently, the Directorate has been suffering a great attrition with many applying to join other government departments or simply resigning for private practice. Of late I have been receiving resignations at a rate of, at the very least, four per month," Ngakaagae revealed.

**GREENER PASTURES**

'That's how bad the situation is. People want to leave for greener pastures because the government doesn't look green anymore. In my first six months in office I have had to confront this grave attrition," the DPP Director added.

The resignations threaten to weaken the DPP's capacity to prosecute criminal matters efficiently, potentially worsening case backlogs and slowing the delivery of justice at a time when the courts are already under pressure.

> "Of late I have been receiving resignations at a rate of, at the very least, four per month."

The latest revelations are likely to intensify scrutiny on government pay structures within key public institutions, particularly in sectors where specialised professionals can easily transition into the private market.

**GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION**

While the DPP faces mounting challenges in retaining top legal talent, Ngakaagae further revealed that the government has recently cushioned the blow by creating more posts to enhance their capacity. According to the DPP Director, the government heeded the institution's call by creating 17 prosecutorial posts that have since been filled in recent months.

AFRICA LIGHTHOUSE CAPITAL

**Job Vacancy Advert**

**Graduate Trainee/Analyst Position**

Africa Lighthouse Capital (ALC) is the premier partner for investing in Africa, with a reputation for excellence and the application of world-class investment standards. ALC creates wealth through sustained value creation and is defined by ambition, integrity, and a high-performance culture, bringing together some of the brightest minds in private equity and finance. We are seeking an exceptional professional to join us as a Graduate Trainee/Analyst.

This role covers ownership of key workstreams across the full investment lifecycle, leading financial analysis, executing transactions end-to-end and working directly with portfolio company management teams on value creation initiatives. This is a high-impact role for a highly driven professional ready to accelerate their career in a private equity environment, having built their foundations in finance, investments or a similar analytical environment.

**Key Responsibilities**

- Examine and assess economic and market trends, earnings prospects, financial statements and various other indicators and factors to determine suitable investment structures and decisions.
- Contribute to development of potential investment themes, identify attractive investment targets, build sector knowledge and networks.
- Contribute to preparation of investment proposals for presentation to the Investment Committee for consideration.
- Support development of complex financial models for assessing financial viability and returns of investment opportunities, indicating financial performance, transaction structure, investment instruments, and industry comparisons.

**Qualifications and Experience**

- 1–2 years of experience in a relevant field with a Degree in Finance, Accounting, Economics, Mathematics/Actuarial Science or related discipline.
- Skills in Risk Management, Investment Analysis, Financial Modelling, Financial Results Interpretation/Analysis.
- Proven track record of managing multiple workstreams under time pressure.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills with experience presenting to senior audiences.

**Applications should be sent to:** info@africalighthouse.com: Deadline 7th May 2026

*We are an equal opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees. Only shortlisted candidates will be responded to.*


MUSIC
-N-
LIFESTYLE
FESTIVAL
FOOD • ART • FASHION
WHERE URBAN CULTURE LIVES
MAS MUSIQ • EZRA NEETHINGS & KTM CHOIR ENSEMBLE
OSKIDO • BOOGIE SID & THE TRIBAL FUSION ORCHESTRA
NIA PEARL • SIPHO HOTSTIX MABUSE • DATO SEIKO
XDUPPY • CHARMA GAL & CULTURE SPEARS • NDINGO JOHWA
NEO PLAYED IT • BASHO VISION • ROMEO • KHEBAH • CHENG
CHRISPIN THE DRUMMER & TABONA MSK • OAK THE CHAMP
HOSTS THULI TOOLS • T.H.A.B.O • MC THEO
SAT 25 APR
ROYAL ARIA, TLOKWENG
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WEBTICKETS. 20% DISCOUNT TO ALL STANBIC BANK CARDHOLDERS.
webtickets
18+




MUSIC
-N-
LIFESTYLE
FESTIVAL
FOOD • ART • FASHION
WHERE URBAN CULTURE LIVES
SAT 25 APR
ROYAL ARIA, TLOKWENG
VIP EXPERIENCE
P3,500
DESIGNATED ACCESS GATE
ACCESS TAG
3 FOOD SERVINGS
BAR TAB: P1,500
CASH BAR
DEDICATED CAR PARKING
SHUTTLE SERVICE
SEATING
HOSTESSES
SECURITY
WIFI
GENERAL
PHASE 1
(LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE)
P250 SINGLE
P450 DOUBLE
PHASE 2
P300 SINGLE
P500 DOUBLE
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WEBTICKETS. 20% DISCOUNT TO ALL STANBIC BANK CARDHOLDERS.
webtickets
18+
Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana

The Botswana Gazette
BUSINESS NEWS

CLICK HERE
To Join our private Whatsapp Goup



# Ntsima Urges Value Chain Shift

## Calls for stronger local sourcing, market access and industrial collaboration to boost competitiveness




> "Strong value chains are built through deliberate collaboration."

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

Botswana must move away from fragmented production systems and toward integrated value chains, the Minister of Trade and Entrepreneurship, Tiroeaone Ntsima, said at a recent Botswana Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BEMA) networking session.

"This includes strengthening local sourcing of inputs, expanding access to regional and international markets and promoting industrial clusters for collaboration and innovation," he said. "We are actively advancing sector-specific strategies in key industries such as agro-processing, textiles, pharmaceuticals, and mineral beneficiation."

The remarks come as policymakers emphasize structural changes aimed at improving competitiveness and linking domestic firms more effectively to broader markets.

**MARKET ACCESS**

Ntsima described market access as a national priority, outlining a multi-pronged approach focused on regional integration and export readiness.

"As the government, our approach focuses on leveraging regional platforms such as SADC and the African Continental Free Trade Area, enhancing export readiness through improved standards, branding, and certification and improving trade infrastructure, logistics, and border efficiency," he said.

He added that these efforts are intended to position Botswana-based businesses to compete internationally, particularly in sectors identified as strategic for growth.

**BUSINESS CONNECTIVITY**

The minister also highlighted the importance of business-to-business linkages, describing platforms like the BEMA session as an opportunity to move beyond informal engagement.

"These efforts are aimed at positioning Botswana businesses to compete effectively on the global stage," he said. "The importance of business connectivity. This platform should go beyond networking—it must drive meaningful partnerships."

He encouraged participants to use such forums to identify local suppliers and distributors, form strategic partnerships and explore opportunities for expansion into new markets.

**POLICY COMMITMENT**

Ntsima said strong value chains depend on sustained collaboration between government and the private sector.

"Strong value chains are built through deliberate collaboration," he said, noting that the government remains committed to strengthening engagement with the private sector, accelerating reforms to improve ease of doing business and ensuring policies deliver tangible outcomes.

He reiterated the government's willingness to work alongside businesses to support economic growth and transformation.

"We stand ready to work alongside you in driving Botswana's economic growth," he said. "Botswana's future will be shaped by businesses that are connected, competitive, and forward-looking. Let us use this moment not as a constraint, but as a catalyst for transformation."

# Botswana's Inflation Edges Up Slightly

## Transport and food costs drive modest national increase in March

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

Botswana's annual inflation rate rose to 4.2 percent in March 2026, up by 0.2 of a percentage point from 4.0 percent recorded in February, according to the latest Consumer Price Index report released by Statistics Botswana.

**KEY DRIVERS**

The report identifies Transport as the largest contributor to the annual inflation rate, accounting for 1.7 percentage points. Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages, alongside Miscellaneous Goods and Services, each contributed 0.9 of a percentage point.

**REGIONAL TRENDS**

"Between February and March 2026, inflation rates showed modest increases across all regions," the report states.

Inflation in Cities and Towns rose by 0.3 of a percentage point, from 3.7 percent in February to 4.0 percent in March. Rural Villages recorded a similar increase, rising from 4.3 percent to 4.6 percent. Urban Villages saw a smaller uptick of 0.1 of a percentage point, moving from 4.1 percent to 4.2 percent.

Index Movement

The national Consumer Price Index increased by 0.4 percent, from 140.8 in February to 141.4 in March 2026.

Urban Villages recorded a 0.5 percent rise, with the index moving from 141.1 to 141.8. Cities and Towns rose by 0.4 percent to 140.6, while Rural Villages also increased by 0.4 percent to reach 142.1.

**FOOD PRICES**

"The group indices progressed at a stable pace between February and March 2026, recording changes of less than 1.0 percent," the report reads.

The Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages group index rose by 0.9 percent, from 159.2 to 160.6. This increase was driven by higher prices across several components, including Fruits, which rose by 5.3 percent, Meat (Fresh, Chilled and Frozen) at 1.7 percent, Vegetables at 1.6 percent, and Food Not Elsewhere Classified at 1.3 percent.

**OTHER GROUPS**

The Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco index increased by 0.9 percent, from 156.2 to 157.6, supported by gains in Tobacco at 1.2 percent and Alcoholic Beverages at 0.9 percent.

The Health group index rose by 0.5 percent to 117.5, driven by a 1.4 percent increase in Medical Products, Appliances and Equipment.

**TRADEABLES RISE**

"In March 2026, the All-Tradeables index grew by 0.6 percent, from 150.8 in February to 151.7 in March," the report states.

Domestic Tradeables increased by 0.8 percent, while Imported Tradeables rose by 0.5 percent. The Non-Tradeables Index recorded a smaller rise of 0.2 percent.

> "Between February and March 2026, inflation rates showed modest increases across all regions."

The All-Tradeables inflation rate reached 6.5 percent in March, up from 6.3 percent in February. Domestic Tradeables inflation rose from 5.9 percent to 6.4 percent, while Imported Tradeables increased to 6.6 percent from 6.4 percent.

The Non-Tradeables inflation rate remained unchanged at 0.6 percent.

# Giyani Boosts Kanye Manganese Project Funding

## Additional funding advances demonstration work and delays feasibility study timeline



**Giyani Metals Corp, the developer of the K.Hill Battery-Grade Manganese Project in Kanye, Botswana, has entered into an addendum to its existing convertible loan facility agreements with the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa increasing available funding and adjusting project timelines.**

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

Giyani Metals Corp, the developer of the K.Hill Battery-Grade Manganese Project in Kanye, Botswana, has entered into an addendum to its existing convertible loan facility agreements with the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa increasing available funding and adjusting project timelines.

**LOAN INCREASE**

The addendum provides for an increase of ZAR29.9 million to the loan facility extended to Giyani's wholly owned subsidiary, Giyani Metals South Africa Proprietary Limited. The funds were drawn down on March 9, 2026, and received on March 12, 2026.

Following the amendment, the total loan facility amount has risen to ZAR264,275,000, while the maximum combined loan facility under IDC agreements now stands at ZAR329,900,000.

**PLANT OPERATIONS**

According to the company, the additional funding enabled continued operation of its Demonstration Plant in Johannesburg, South Africa. This has resulted in the production of high purity manganese sulphate monohydrate (HPMSM), which is being prepared for analysis by potential offtakers.

"The continued operation of the Demonstration Plant has confirmed demonstration plant scale reagent consumptions and at a large scale, has contributed to our operating knowledge of the crystallizers and purge management," the company said in a statement.

The company added that the data collected from these operations will be incorporated into its definitive feasibility study (DFS) for the K.Hill project.

**TIMELINE CHANGES**

As a result of the extended plant operations and additional data collection, the DFS is now expected to be completed during the second quarter of 2026. The Demonstration Plant Completion Deadline Date has also been extended to June 30, 2026, although the company indicated it does not intend to recommence plant operations.

Under the revised terms, Giyani has provided not less than ZAR40,000,000 in funding to its subsidiaries to support completion of the DFS. The addendum also grants additional security over certain project assets and information in favour of the IDC.

In addition, subject to applicable securities laws and stock exchange approvals, the IDC may nominate one director to the board of Giyani if it holds more than 10 percent of the company's issued and outstanding common shares following any loan conversion.

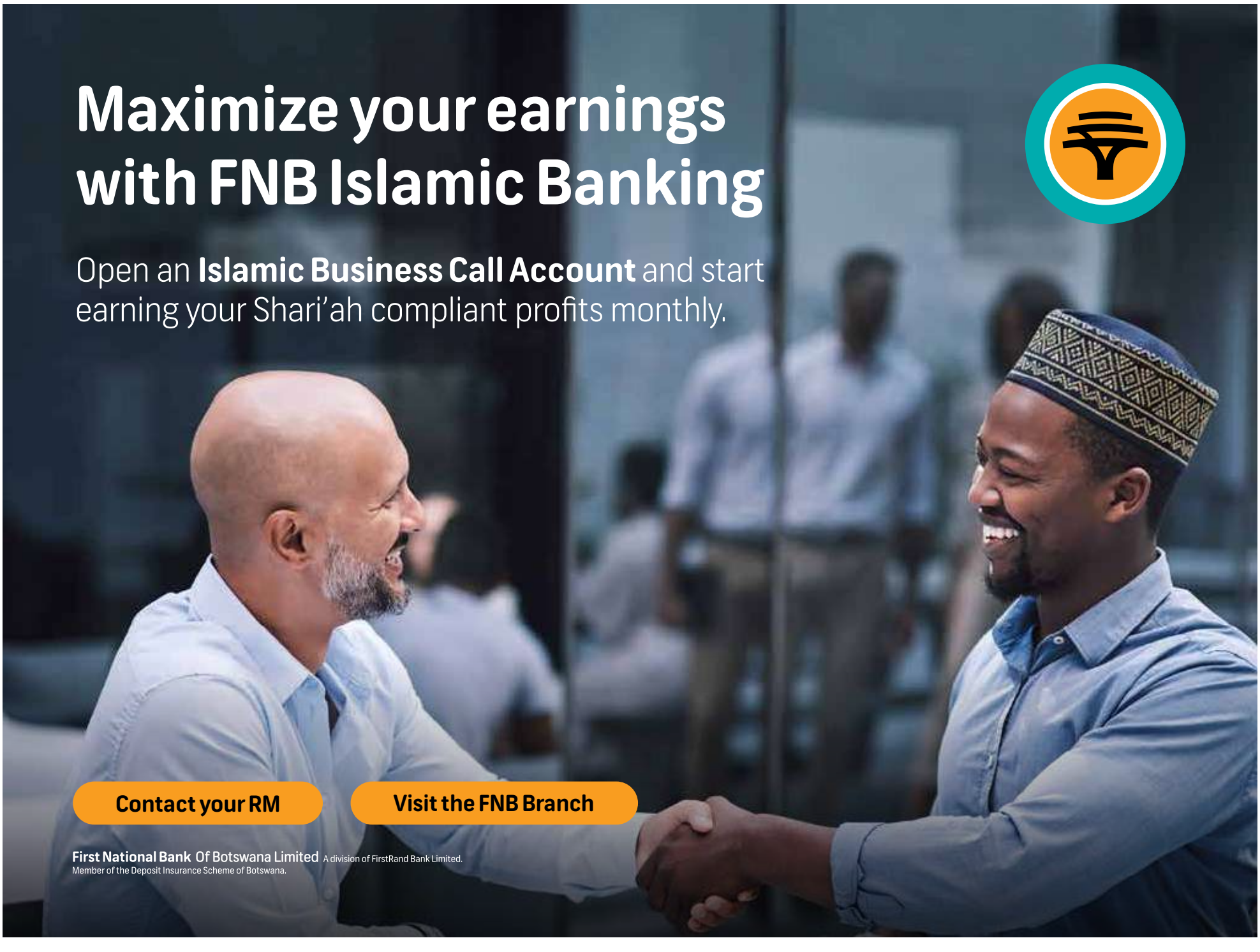
The addendum remains subject to final acceptance from the TSX Venture Exchange.

Nigel Robinson, interim executive chair of the company, said the additional operational work had contributed to the revised timeline. "We would like to thank the IDC for being such a supportive partner of Giyani," he said.

"We look forward to announcing these results to the market as soon as they become available which will enable Giyani to ramp up towards securing offtake agreements and advance project financing discussions," he added.

The latest amendment follows an earlier addendum signed on September 1, 2025, which updated project development timelines and funding requirements. That agreement included a provision for the company to raise an additional ZAR38,000,000 by September 30, 2026, to support pre-construction activities. The company said this timeline and funding requirement are currently under discussion and may be revised after completion of the DFS.

Pull Quote: "The continued operation of the Demonstration Plant has confirmed demonstration plant scale reagent consumptions."



# InnoLEAD Explores Inner Game

## Oabona Kgengwenyane recounts struggle, resilience and mental strength behind African business journeys

GAZETTE REPORTER

At the launch of InnoLEAD: Unpacking the Inner Game of African Entrepreneurship, Oabona Michael Kgengwenyane described a deeply personal and professional motivation behind the book. Drawing from 25 years of consulting experience, he said the project was shaped by both accumulated knowledge and a gap he encountered across African bookstores.

"The inspiration for the book is really first the experience and the knowledge that I had amassed after 25 years of consulting," he said, noting a lack of "authentic Afrocentric books" that capture African business realities.

The book blends multiple genres, including elements of autobiography, history and thriller-style storytelling. Kgengwenyane maps his own journey, beginning with childhood struggles in a household marked by hardship. "It's not the end of the world," he said. "Struggles and suffering can be fodder for your growth."

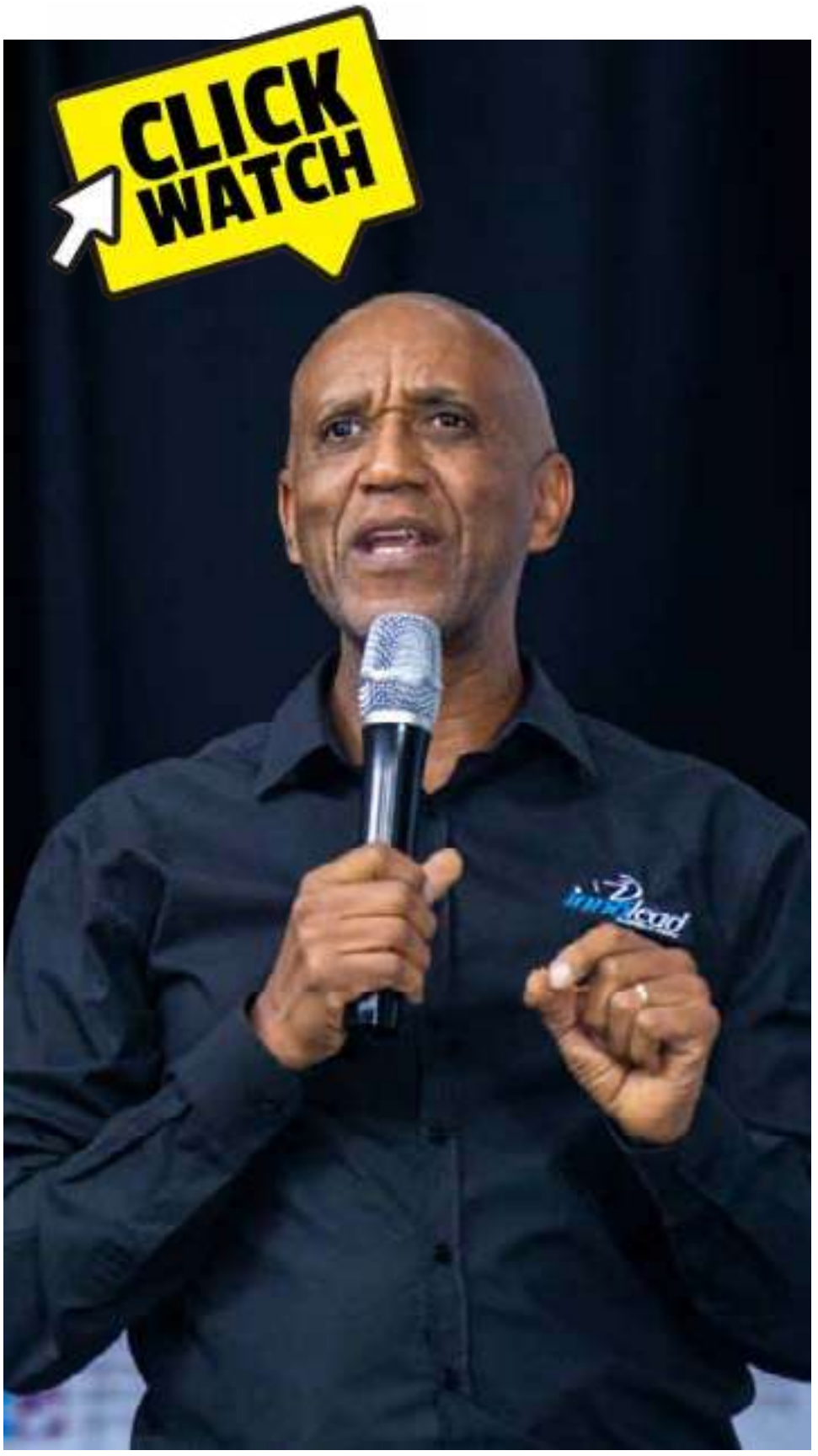
**BUILDING CHARACTER**

Beyond personal history, the book highlights formative activities that shaped his resilience. Kgengwenyane points to his involvement in extracurricular pursuits, including being a Boy Scout, a breakdancer and a tennis player.

"I was a Boy Scout… I was a breakdancer… I was also a tennis player," he said, encouraging young people to engage in clubs and sports as a way to build character.

These experiences, he argues, are essential preparation for entrepreneurship, particularly within African contexts. He described entrepreneurship as inherently difficult, noting that only 5 percent of the global population qualifies as true entrepreneurs.

"In Africa, it's even worse because of the environment in which we operate," he said, citing corruption, bureaucracy and systemic barriers. "Even if you are committed… the system does not necessarily accept it."




At the launch of InnoLEAD: Unpacking the Inner Game of African Entrepreneurship, Oabona Michael Kgengwenyane described a deeply personal and professional motivation behind the book.

Botswana, he added, is "really, really tough," partly due to its small market size.

**MENTAL FRAMEWORK**

A central theme of the book is mental resilience. Kgengwenyane said his recent research highlighted widespread mental health struggles affecting both young people and entrepreneurs.

"I find that young people are struggling mentally, even older people are struggling," he said, adding that entrepreneurial pressures can intensify these challenges.

> "Struggles and suffering can be fodder for your growth."

To address this, he introduces the "J-REP" or Joy Rep formula, a framework designed to help individuals cultivate sustainable happiness. The model draws from established research, including the PERMA model from the University of Pennsylvania, while incorporating African philosophical elements such as Ubuntu.

"I try to Africanize it," he said, positioning the framework as both practical and rooted in local context.

**INNER GAME**

The title InnoLEAD reflects both his business journey and a broader concept of internal leadership. The subtitle, The Inner Game, underscores what he described as a deeply personal process.

"Happiness is an inside job," Kgengwenyane said. "We all have what I call an internal operating system… that we have to dig into."

He emphasized that individuals must actively choose their outlook, regardless of external conditions. "You have to make a choice to say I'll be a happy person," he said.

The book also includes reflective sections, allowing readers to document their own insights after each chapter.

bac
Botswana School of Business Sciences

Procurement Plan 2026/27

**Botswana School of Business Sciences** is pleased to announce the release of the 2026/2027 Annual Procurement Plan in accordance with the **Public Procurement Act of 2021, Section 71 (1b).**

The public is invited to visit our website https://shorturl.at/rWu5v for more information and stay updated on procurement opportunities.




Botswana School of Business Sciences
www.bac.ac.bw

# KBL Sales Volumes Drop

## Sechaba Holdings reports higher earnings even as beverage volumes fall across its key associates, highlighting a year shaped by cost pressures and operational shifts




GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana's leading manufacturer and distributor of clear beers, traditional African beverages and soft drinks, Kgalagadi Breweries Limited (KBL), recorded a 9 percent decline in sales volumes for the year ended 31 December 2025, according to financial results released by Sechaba Holdings Limited (SBHL).

SBHL holds a 49.9 percent shareholding in KBL and an equal 49.9 percent stake in Coca-Cola Beverages Botswana (Pty) Ltd (CCBB), making its financial performance closely tied to the two associates.

CCBB also reported lower volumes, declining by 7 percent from 1,323.2 hectolitres (HL) to 1,230.1 HL. Combined volumes across both entities fell by 8 percent, from 3,000.6 HL to 2,756.0 HL.

CCBB operates in the manufacturing, importation, distribution and marketing of soft drinks, purified water and other non-alcoholic beverages in Botswana.

**MIXED PERFORMANCE**

Despite the drop in volumes, KBL reported improved profitability during the period.

"KBL recorded improved profitability compared to the prior year, mainly attributable to operational efficiencies, reduced administrative expenses, and a favourable product mix," the company said in its results.

In contrast, CCBB's financial performance weakened significantly. The company's profit after tax declined by 40 percent, reflecting rising operational costs.

"CCBB's profit after tax declined by 40 percent, mainly due to higher operating costs including maintenance, fuel, utilities and increased provisions for credit losses," the results state.

**PROFIT GROWTH**

At group level, SBHL posted a 19 percent increase in net profit after tax. The growth was largely driven by a 17 percent rise in the share of profit from associates, which increased from P338.6 million to P396.2 million.

"This performance was realised despite reduced volumes across both associates," the company said.

The group added that it ended the financial year with sufficient liquidity to meet its financial obligations.

"SBHL closed the year on a strong financial footing, maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet its financial obligations," the results read.

**OUTLOOK AHEAD**

Looking forward, the company indicated that its approach to capital allocation and the relatively stable demand for beverages are expected to support future performance.

The group said it is positioned to navigate current challenges and benefit from improving economic conditions.



# A Country With No Compass?

Botswana has plans, strategies, and vision in abundance but lacks the one thing that truly shapes economies: a binding policy. As growth stalls and pressures mount, Douglas Rasbash argues that six critical pillars must move from fragmented ideas into a single, disciplined economic framework.




**DOUGLAS RASBASH**

Botswana does not lack plans. It does not lack visions. It does not lack strategies. What it lacks quietly but profoundly is an economic policy. This is not semantics. Plans, like national development plans, describe intent, budgets set out resources needed to implement them, but a policy determines behaviour and behaviour is what shapes economies. For decades, Botswana relied on a factor model that worked: resource led growth, fiscal prudence, and state led investment. Diamonds financed development. Government allocated capital. Stability built confidence. But that model is now under strain. Growth is uneven, diversification is limited, and the link between investment and outcomes is weak. Moreover, unemployment is very high, fiscal buffers are diminished and credit rating is tumbling. Time is running out.

Into this space, six powerful ideas emerge: the green economy, decoupling, public sector reform, development policy, public private balance, and regulation. Each is valid. Each is necessary. But none is embedded in a binding policy framework. They exist as fragments, not as a system.

**GREEN ECONOMY SHIFT**

Start with the green economy. Botswana has committed internationally under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It speaks of sustainability, renewable energy, and resilience. Yet carbon is not treated as an economic constraint. Investments proceed without rigorous climate screening. Energy markets remain partially defined, particularly around private generation, wheeling, and eMobility. Our five yearly Nationally Determined Contribution statement to the United Nations that sets out our strategies for mitigation and adaptation is ignored domestically. The result is contradiction: a green narrative without green discipline. A true green economic policy would impose limits. It would require every major project to quantify emissions, resource use, and climate resilience. It would influence pricing, taxation, and infrastructure decisions. It would turn sustainability from aspiration into obligation.

> Growth without discipline is no longer sustainable

**DECOUPLING GROWTH MODEL**

Closely linked is decoupling, the idea that growth must be separated from resource consumption. This is not environmental idealism, it is economic realism. Botswana's current growth model remains energy and import intensive. Transport inefficiencies, spatial sprawl, and rising fuel dependence all point to a system where growth costs too much. While talking about sustainability, Botswana actually consumes more but produces less, its success measured by energy produced, kilometres of roads constructed, numbers of graduates and even by the number of regulations issued rather than what outcomes they achieve. Decoupling changes the metric of success. It asks not how much we produce, but how efficiently we produce it. It demands that government track energy intensity, water use, and import dependency as core economic indicators. It shifts investment away from expansion toward efficiency. Without this shift, growth will remain fragile and expensive.

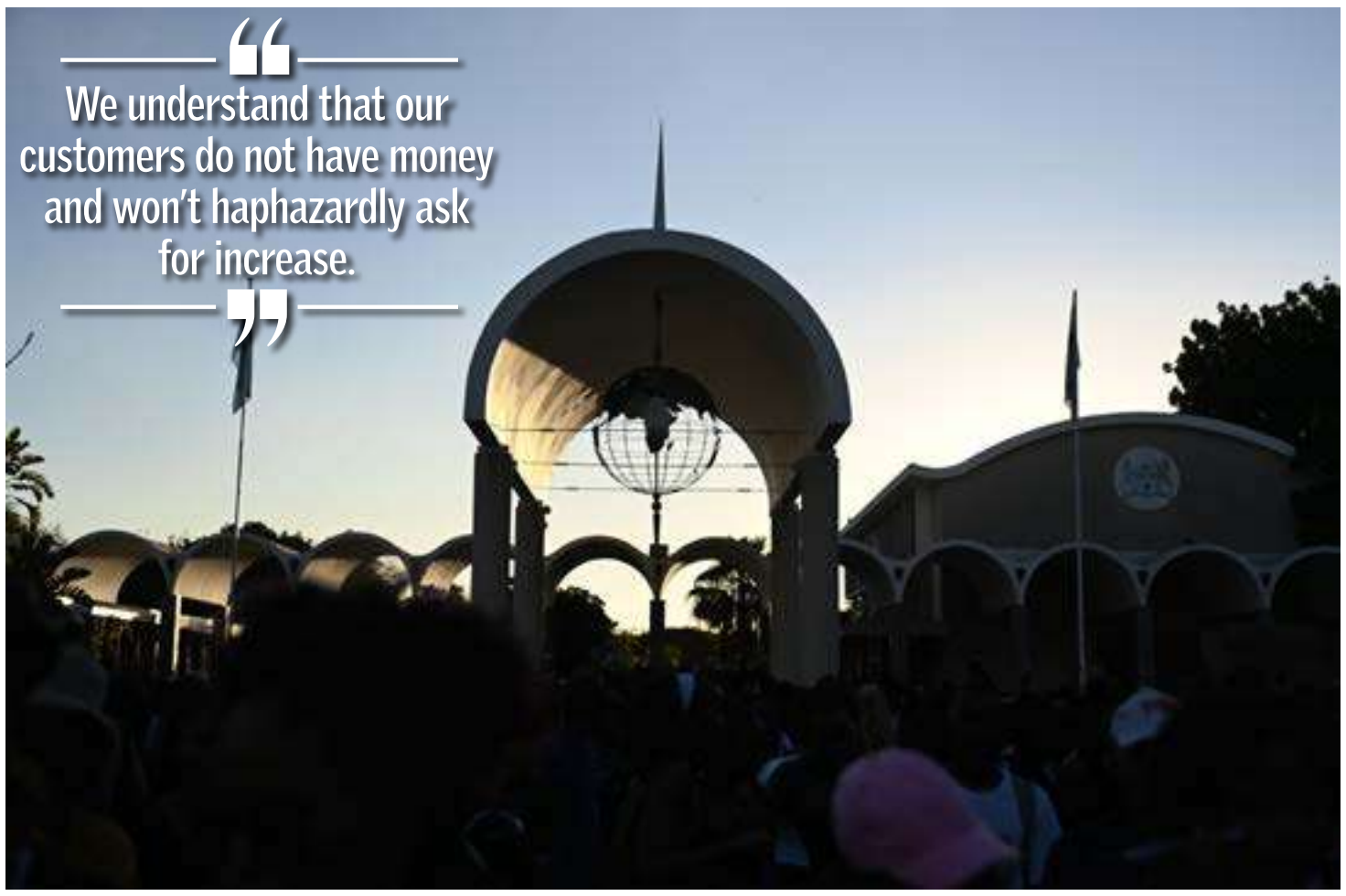
PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM

From a surfeit of regulations to the third pillar is the public sector, particularly state owned enterprises. Botswana's SOEs operate without a clear economic doctrine. They are commercial, strategic, and developmental simultaneously. This ambiguity weakens performance and obscures accountability. A policy framework would define roles. Some SOEs would compete commercially. Others would deliver essential services under strict cost recovery models. Some might act as temporary catalysts for development. But all could operate under a single Ministry for state enterprises with

To Page 21



From Page 20




clear mandates, measurable targets, and hard budget constraints. Without this, inefficiency becomes systemic, not exceptional.

**DISCIPLINED DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

The fourth pillar is development policy, the mechanism that should align capital with outcomes. Botswana has long pursued diversification and job creation. Yet investment decisions are not consistently tied to measurable results. Large projects proceed without clear evidence of employment impact, export potential, or productivity gains. Moreover, projects are rarely evaluated after completion to determine whether goals have been met. A genuine development policy would impose discipline. Public funds would be allocated where they generate jobs, expand exports, or increase efficiency. Private capital would be actively mobilised through structured partnerships. Sector priorities would be explicit. Outcomes would be measured rigorously.

**PUBLIC PRIVATE BALANCE**

This leads directly to the fifth pillar: public private balance. During its genesis a new nation is inevitably government led. But Botswana's economy still leans heavily on the state whether through direct investment, SOEs, or policy signalling. The private sector, while present, is not fully empowered as the primary engine of growth. In one sense the Botswana Economic Transformation Programme is an admission of excessive government, that something very special was needed to unlock the log jams that big government created. A coherent policy would rebalance this relationship. Government would shift from being a participant in markets to being a designer of them. It must right size, align to economic prerequisites, open doors and crowd in private capital, not displace it. The private sector needs to lead the way.

**SMART REGULATION FRAMEWORK**

Closely tied to this is regulation, the sixth pillar, and one often misunderstood. Regulation is not about control, it is about clarity. Markets function when rules are predictable, transparent, and enforced. In Botswana, regulation has become burdensome, and while gaps and inconsistencies exist, less but more effective regulation is needed. Governments can unintentionally kill emerging markets and job creation with good intentions. A proper framework would lower barriers to entry, enable innovation, ensure fair competition, and protect long term public interests. Without such clarity, investment hesitates and innovation stalls.

Finally, all of this converges on a central challenge: full employment in the age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Automation, digitalisation, and artificial intelligence are reshaping labour markets globally. For Botswana, the risk is not just unemployment, but structural exclusion where growth occurs without jobs. Policy must respond directly. It must prioritise sectors that are labour absorbing, digitally enabled, and globally competitive. It must align education and skills with future demand. It must support entrepreneurship and the export of services. And critically, it must recognise that employment will not emerge automatically from growth, it must be designed into the system.

> Employment will not emerge from growth. It must be designed.

What emerges from these six pillars is a clear picture. Botswana does not lack ideas. It lacks integration. Each pillar exists in isolation, without a unifying framework that governs how decisions are made and how resources are allocated. The consequence is an economy where intentions are strong, but outcomes are inconsistent. The solution is not another plan. It is a doctrine, a binding economic policy that connects these pillars into a single system. Produce more with less. Operate within environmental limits. Use public institutions efficiently. Empower the private sector. Regulate with clarity. And design for full employment in a changing technological landscape.

Until such a framework exists, Botswana will continue to invest heavily, but not always effectively. It will continue to pursue diversification, but with limited success. And it will continue to face the future with ambition but without a coherent economic compass. That is the real policy gap. And closing it may be the most important reform of all.



# Is customer satisfaction a real differentiator?

In a market where everyone is trying to please everyone, brands risk becoming invisible. This column unpacks why customer satisfaction alone is no longer enough and why true growth lies in standing out, not fitting in.




MANUEL VEIRUAPI RUHAPO, FOUNDER, BLACMARC GROUP

**THE EXPERIENCE PARADOX**

In a market saturated with choices, the pursuit of universal appeal can lead to obscurity. This is "The Experience Paradox", where the drive for customer satisfaction, while commendable, can obscure true drivers of sustainable growth. While satisfaction is important, it is no longer sufficient. The market has evolved, redefining valuable customer interaction.

This column explores The Experience Paradox, examining why a singular focus on customer satisfaction can be a strategic misstep. We will discuss how brands, particularly within Botswana, can move beyond generic contentment to cultivate "meaningful differentiation", the true catalyst for lasting success in today's experience economy.

**SATISFACTION VS DIFFERENCE**

The core of The Experience Paradox in branding lies in a fundamental disconnect: customer satisfaction scores may be rising, yet the competitive landscape remains volatile. Experiences account for a significant portion of brand perceptions. However, many customer experience programs remain fixated on satisfaction metrics. While these provide valuable snapshots, they often fail to capture the broader strategic picture. The strongest predictor of growth is not merely how satisfied customers feel, but how "distinctive" they find the overall experience.

Meaningful Difference is the convergence of two critical elements: meeting genuine customer needs and doing so in ways competitors do not. It is not about superficial novelty, but crafting experiences both inherently valuable and uniquely attributable to the brand. This distinction is vital: satisfaction can be replicated, but genuine differentiation creates an inimitable competitive advantage.

**BOTSWANA'S COMPETITIVE REALITY**

The Experience Paradox is clearly evident within Botswana's dynamic economic landscape. Businesses face the challenge of distinguishing themselves in a competitive market. The inclination to appeal to everyone, often driven by perceived limitations of a 2.6 million-strong population, can lead to homogenization, where brands become indistinguishable in their pursuit of broad satisfaction.

Consider the traditional banking sector in Botswana. For years, institutions focused on reliable and secure services. Customer satisfaction surveys might show respectable scores. However, these institutions faced increasing pressure from more agile competitors. Digital payment platforms and fintech startups offered distinctive experiences through unparalleled convenience, speed, and user-friendly interfaces. Traditional banks, by focusing on broad, satisfactory experience, risked becoming generic, struggling to articulate

> "Satisfaction can be copied. Differentiation cannot."

a unique value proposition beyond their legacy.

**DIFFERENTIATION IN TOURISM**

In tourism, certain safari operators in Botswana exemplify meaningful differentiation. While many lodges offer luxury, some have carved distinctive niches by embracing sustainability and empowering local communities. Beyond standard luxury, these operators differentiate themselves through unique staffing models, strong local procurement practices, and deep commitments to environmental conservation. These elements create experiences that are not just satisfactory, but profoundly meaningful and unique, attracting discerning clientele willing to pay a premium for values-driven travel.

**RETAIL AND ACCESSIBILITY**

To Page 23




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. Contact me on : manuel.ruhapo@blacmarc.co.bw/ruhapo@gmail.comContact me on: manuel.ruhapo@blacmarc.co.bw/ruhapo@gmail.com

From Page 22




In retail, a well-known homegrown grocery chain provides another compelling example. While other retailers compete on product range, this local player has strategically focused on delivering value and accessibility across Botswana. Its experience is built around affordability, convenience, and a deep understanding of local consumer needs. By expanding into underserved communities and offering competitive pricing on essentials, it has created a distinctive experience centered on being the most accessible and affordable option for many Batswana.

**DEFINING WHO YOU ARE FOR**

These examples illustrate that in Botswana, brands that thrive define who they are not for, sharpening their focus on who they are for, and delivering an experience that is not just good, but genuinely unique and memorable.

**WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU**

For the Public: As consumers, recognizing The Experience Paradox empowers you to make more informed choices. The brands you connect with most deeply often stand for something clear and offer an experience that feels genuinely distinctive, rather than just generically pleasant. Seek out businesses that not only meet your basic needs but also surprise, delight, or align with your values in unique ways.

**A SHIFT FOR MARKETERS**

For Marketing Professionals: The era of optimizing solely for satisfaction is over. Your mandate now extends to cultivating meaningful differentiation within every facet of the customer journey. This requires understanding not just what customers want, but how your brand can deliver it in a way no competitor can easily replicate. Embrace competitive benchmarking that assesses distinctiveness, not just satisfaction, to uncover opportunities for true market leadership.

**STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE**

For Executives: For leaders, The Experience Paradox presents a strategic imperative. Prioritizing meaningful difference is no longer a marketing luxury but a fundamental driver of sustainable growth and market leadership. It demands fostering a culture that champions innovation in experience design over incremental gains in satisfaction scores. This involves allocating resources to initiatives that create unique value, empowering teams to experiment with distinctive customer touchpoints, and integrating metrics that measure differentiation alongside traditional satisfaction

> "The brands that win are not the most liked, but the most distinct."

In the pursuit of customer loyalty, universal satisfaction can be a deceptive siren song. The Experience Paradox teaches that true growth stems not from merely pleasing everyone, but from daring to be different. Brands that flourish courageously define their unique value, craft experiences that resonate deeply, and stand out amidst satisfactory sameness. The future belongs to those who create unforgettable, distinctive experiences, transforming customers from content individuals into passionate advocates. The question for every business is no longer, 'Are our customers satisfied?' but rather, 'Are our experiences meaningfully different?'



The Botswana Gazette
TIME OUT
THE BOTSWANA GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2026

# Mmammidi's Recipe for Reinvention

From the heat of Gaborone's food stalls to the heart of Francistown's women, Mmammidi is plating something deeper than meals, she's serving truth, courage, and connection at her event, Her Story

**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

By the time the lunch rush fades in Gaborone, Tshepiso Marumo better known as Mmammidi to those who know her hustle has already done one kind of feeding. But it's what she's plating next that's drawing a different kind of crowd: a space where women tell the truth about their lives, loudly and without apology.

> "Storytelling has power because it reminds women that they are not alone."

Her event, Her Story: Empowerment Experience, now heads to Francistown this May 09, carrying with it the echoes of a successful Gaborone debut and a hunger that goes beyond food.

**THE POWER OF "IF SHE DID IT"**

For Mmammidi, storytelling isn't soft, it's seismic.

"The power of, 'if she did it then i can'. If she survived then i surely should," she told Time Out.

This is the heartbeat of Her Story: lived experiences as education. Not glossy success stories, but raw, unfinished journeys. Women stepping up, not because they have it all figured out, but because they dared to begin.

She said: "Storytelling has power because it reminds women that they are not alone."

And in that reminder, something shifts. Silence cracks. Shame loosens. Courage becomes contagious.

**BEYOND GABORONE, INTO THE NORTH**

Taking the movement to Francistown isn't just expansion, it's intention.

"The first Her Story in Gaborone taught us that women are hungry for spaces where they can be honest, vulnerable and empowered at the same time," Mmammidi reflected.

This edition promises depth: more practical tools, sharper conversations, and intentional networking. A lineup featuring Theo Olopeng, Kelly Makoti, Quin of Laughter, and others will bring layered perspectives, stories stitched with resilience, risk, and reinvention.

"The women who speak on our stage are not perfect,they are real people who have faced life, made difficult decisions, and found strength in their journeys. That authenticity creates a powerful connection with the audience."

**NOT JUST AN EVENT**

Mmammidi is clear: this isn't another motivational talk shop.

"Her Story is a platform for transformation. It is built on lived experiences, not just motivational speeches."

The magic lies in its honesty. No perfection, no pedestal just real women, real choices, real consequences. And in that authenticity, connection becomes currency.

**WHAT WOMEN TAKE HOME**

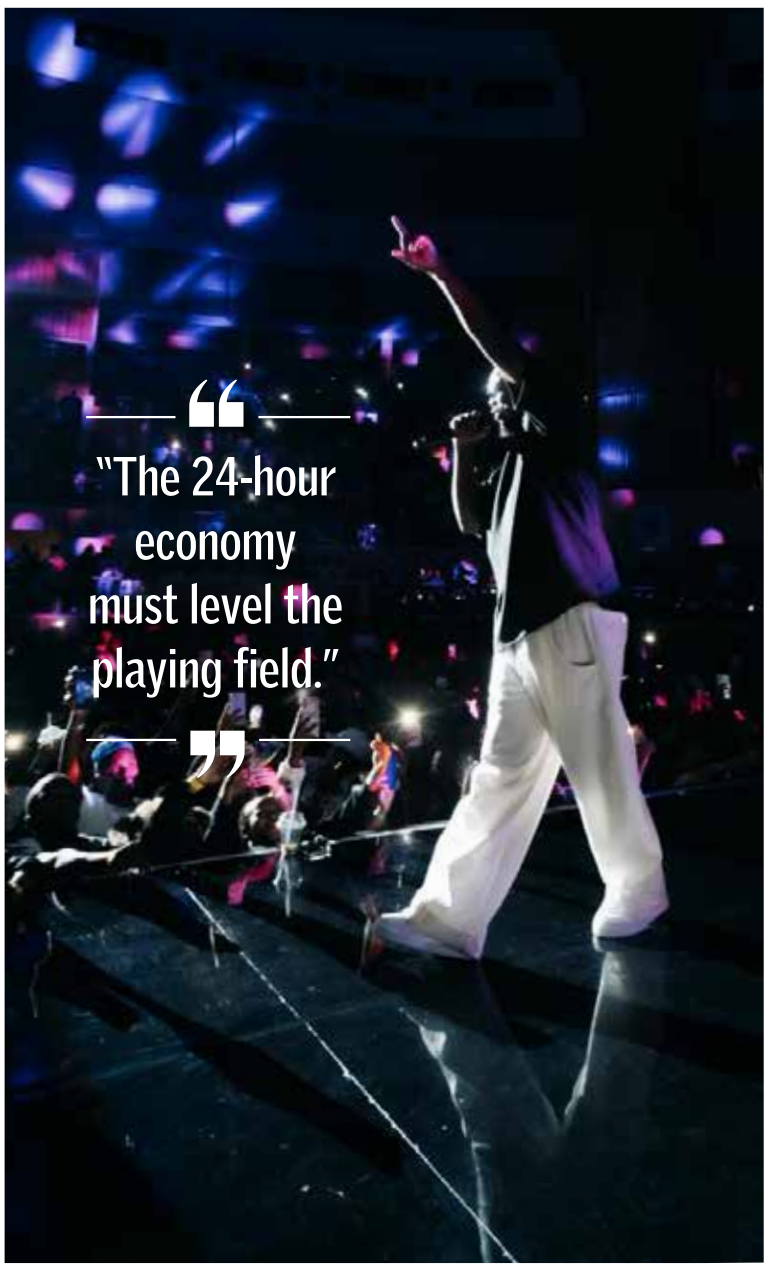
If Mmammidi has her way, attendees won't just leave inspired, they'll leave activated.

"We want women to walk away with courage to start that business, rebuild their confidence, pursue opportunities," she said.

Because in the end, Her Story isn't about the stage. It's about what happens after the applause, when a woman decides, quietly but firmly, that her story is not over.

# Inside Botswana's Nightlife Tug of War

Botswana's push for a 24-hour economy is turning nightlife into a battlefield, where bars thrive, clubs and events struggle, and creatives are caught in the crossfire




**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

The country is flirting with a nightlife revolution. But behind the glow of neon lights and the promise of endless vibes, industry insiders are asking a harder question: who really benefits when the party never stops?

This is in response to the proposed extension of liquor trading hours from 08:00 to 06:00,

and the broader policy direction toward a 24-hour economy. Following the Easter 2026 pilot, Government had indicated an intention to accelerate permanent implementation.

**BARS WIN, CLUBS BLEED**

For Gilbert PP Seagile, the answer isn't pretty.

"We believe that there wasn't a research done on the Easter pilot because it is not true that it was a success," he said, pushing back against government optimism.

Also speaking on behalf of the Botswana Night Clubs and Bar Association Seagile said extended hours didn't grow the pie, they simply sliced it differently. Cheaper neighbourhood bars became magnets, while nightclubs burdened by higher compliance costs watched their crowds disappear.

The result? Empty dance floors, declining ticket sales, and some venues shutting doors for good.

**THE DEATH OF THE EVENT ECONOMY**

For creatives, the shift hits harder. The Botswana Entertainment Promoters Association (BEPA) in a recent statement states that the economics of entertainment are quietly collapsing.

"We are not against 24 hours we are saying involve us, industry players so that we shape it in a way that will benefit the entire industry."

Why buy a ticket to a curated show when a bar down the road offers free music all night?

The result: fewer events, shrinking paydays, and an industry drifting into informality. DJs, choirs, technical crews, once part of a structured ecosystem are being squeezed out of sustainable work.

"This dynamic effectively collapses the commercial viability of events," BEPA said.

BEPA and allied creative industry associations also registered their strongest objection to the recent declaration that the Easter pilot of the 24-hour economy was a success.

"This assertion has been made without the presentation of any credible,verifiable, or independently assessed data, and stands in direct contradiction to the realities experienced across the creative and entertainment sectors, as well as indications emerging from law enforcement and public service systems."

**A 24-HOUR ECONOMY**

Seagile said they aren't against the idea. In fact, he's clear: "We are not against 24 hours we are saying involve us, industry players so that we shape it in a way that will benefit the entire industry."

But the current model, critics argue, ignores a basic truth, bars and nightclubs don't play by the same rules. Clubs pay more, employ more, and invest more. Yet under uniform trading hours, they compete on uneven ground.

"The 24-hour economy must level the playing field," Seagile said.

**LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD**

The call now is simple but urgent: rethink the rollout. Industry voices want data, consultation, and a framework that protects both economic growth and creative survival.

Because if Botswana gets this wrong, the 24-hour economy won't just change nightlife, it might quietly dismantle it.

# Unpacking Ms Abbey's Latest Drop

Songbird, Ms Abbey's new drop Like Dis isn't chasing a moment, it is the moment, wrapped in confidence, freedom, and a refusal to play small

**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

Some songs are engineered. Others just happen. Like Dis belongs to the latter, the kind that arrives when the mood is right and the energy refuses to be ignored.

"Honestly, Like Dis came from a moment of just feeling good, confident, free, and in my element," Ms Abbey told Time Out.

You can hear that immediacy. No hesitation. No second-guessing. Just vibe.

**BREAKING THE RULEBOOK**

For this release, Ms Abbey isn't interested in rigid formulas or overproduced perfection. She's leaning into instinct.

"The song is all about energy, confidence, and just living in the moment… I wanted to keep things a bit more fun and less structured, just letting the music breathe," she explained.

It's a subtle rebellion. A decision to trust feeling over format and let the sound stretch out, loosen up, and live.

**STEPPING INTO HERSELF**

Beyond the beat, Like Dis is a timestamp of personal evolution.

"It reflects growth… I'm more sure of myself, more intentional, and more comfortable taking risks," she said.




This is Ms Abbey in transition, not chasing identity, but defining it.

**CHEMISTRY IN MOTION**

Teaming up with Veezo View wasn't just a feature call, it was a creative alignment.

"He really understands the vibe I was going for. I chose to work with him because of his versatility and energy. He brought a different flavour to the track and pushed me to step out of my comfort zone creatively," she said.

The result is a track that feels layered without trying too hard, effortless, but intentional.

**THE CONFIDENCE CONVERSATION**

At its core, Like Dis is bigger than sound. It's a statement.

"I want it to start a conversation around confidence and self-expression just being unapologetically yourself," she said.

"It's really about owning your vibe and not overthinking it."

It's a simple idea, but in a world of constant comparison, it lands like a quiet revolution.

**DIAMONDS IN THE MAKING**

If this single is a glimpse, then her upcoming body of work titled, Diamonds Are Forever is shaping up to be a full-bodied reflection of Botswana's beauty—its lifestyle, its culture and how we show up.

She said: "Like Dis reflects that confidence in how people dress and carry themselves, while Bells touches on our wedding culture and celebrations."

The project is creatively directed by Jordan Moozy and fully produced by Fella On The Beat, so it's a very intentional and cohesive body of work.

# Why The Nebula Infestation is Timely

In a world obsessed with looking okay, artist Diablo Santana forces a confrontation with what's not turning anxiety, social pressure, and identity into something people can't scroll past

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

There's a quiet kind of chaos brewing this April in Gaborone, the kind that doesn't shout, but lingers.

At Alliance Française de Gaborone, local artist Diablo Santana is cracking open the psyche with The Nebula Infestation, a solo exhibition that trades comfort for confrontation. The exhibition opened on April 21, is free and open to the public.

**BLACK INK, RAW TRUTH**

Forget colour therapy, Santana works in stark black ink, carving out the emotional undercurrents we're trained to suppress. Anxiety. Self-doubt. Social pressure. The messy, unfiltered stuff.

His lines don't just sketch, they press. They insist. They stay.

At the centre of this visual storm is the "Nebula Snake," a slithering symbol of intrusive thoughts that refuses to be ignored. It coils through the exhibition like a recurring whisper you can't quite silence. It gives a powerful visual form to the invisible challenges of modern life.

**WHEN ART STOPS PRETENDING**

This isn't an exhibition that hands people answers. It doesn't wrap things up neatly or offer easy healing. Instead, it opens a door and leaves people to decide whether they're brave enough to walk through.

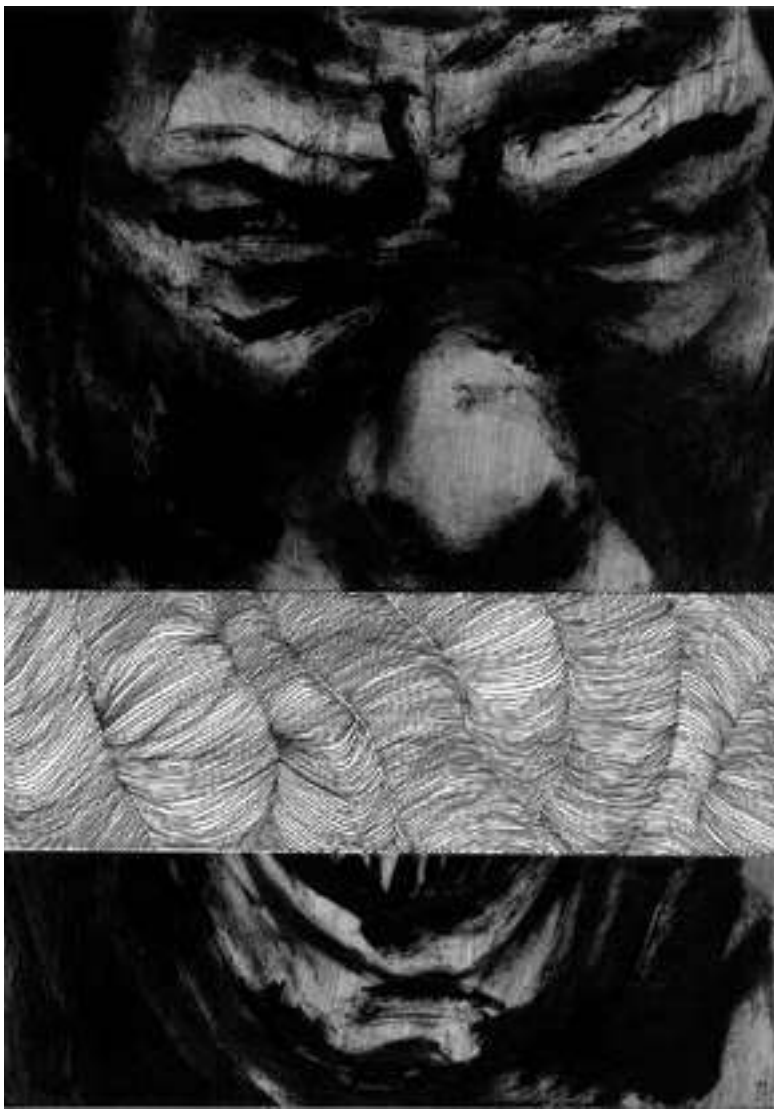
With works ranging from intimate, detailed drawings to large-scale immersive pieces, Santana mirrors the way mental struggles operate: sometimes subtle, sometimes all-consuming.

> As conversations around mental health gain urgency, especially among young people, The Nebula Infestation lands right on time.

**BREAKING THE POLISHED SURFACE**

As conversations around mental health gain urgency, especially among young people, The Nebula Infestation lands right on time. Not as a solution, but as a disruption.

A reminder that beneath curated lives and polished exteriors, there's often a quieter, more complicated reality.



**A PLATFORM WITH PURPOSE**

By hosting the exhibition, the Alliance Française continues to sharpen its edge as a cultural disruptor, one that gives local artists room to say the unsaid.

"We are committed to supporting artists who engage with real societal questions," said director Anne-Charlotte Monneret. "This exhibition speaks directly to themes that resonate strongly with young people today."

**FACE YOUR OWN NEBULA**

Running until 12 May, the exhibition invites viewers to step into Santana's world, but not expect to leave untouched.

Because somewhere between the ink and the silence, they might recognise their own thoughts staring back.

# Meet the Trio Skateboarding Across Africa

Three skaters. One continent. A journey powered by grit, kindness, and a dream to build Africa's biggest skatepark

**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

Some people cross Africa by plane. Others by bus. But Jason Vanporppal and his crew? They chose wheels that demand balance, bruises, and belief. From Kampala, Uganda to Cape Town, South Africa this trio is not just chasing distance, they're chasing impact.

Vanporppal, from Los Angeles, rolls alongside Isaac Huston and Ephraim Ssekiziyivu, both from Uganda, on a mission that sounds almost cinematic: skate approximately 6437 km

across Africa and build the continent's biggest skatepark. But beneath the audacity is something quieter, a deep respect for the communities they meet.

"Our mission is to build the biggest Skatepark in Africa and to help the youth all over the continent," Vanporppal said in an interview.

**THE AFRICA YOU DON'T SEE ON SCREENS**

Forget the headlines and half-told stories. Africa, they say, is rewriting itself in real time beneath their wheels.

"Africa has revealed to me so many different things… The number one thing is the kindness, the joy that everyone has," he reflected. "There is fear that people still have if they're not from Africa… something that can be far enough from the truth."




Every push forward dismantles a stereotype. Every stop becomes a lesson in generosity.

**MUD, GRIT, AND GLORY**

Not every stretch has been poetic. Tanzania tested them, hard.

"Tanzania was the hardest route, we believe we took a difficult route, skateboarding and mud and long stretch of dirt roads. It was definitely unforgiving," he admits. "Those moments may have been bad but they were the best memories for us to share."



Pain, it turns out, makes for the best stories.

**BOTSWANA: WHERE THE HEART STAYS**

If the road has been tough, Botswana has been tender.

"Botswana has been amazing. And people are super nice. We love it here," Vanporppal said, almost beaming through his words.

The memories? They're not just of roads and the scenery, but of people — school kids, shared meals and unexpected invitations.

He said, "The main thing we will remember for the rest of our lives is the impact that the people of Botswana have had on us."

BEYOND THE FINISH LINE

Cape Town is close now. But this isn't an ending, it's a blueprint.

The dream is bigger than one park, one country, one ride. It's about giving young people something to hold onto, something that keeps them moving forward, literally and metaphorically.

**UNEXPECTED TURN**

This week, the trio was expected to roll into South Africa, but the journey has taken an unexpected logistical turn.

"The two guys had to fly back to Uganda because they need to apply for their visas, then meet me back up. As a US citizen, I'm able to go into South Africa visa-free, so I will be pushing to Johannesburg solo, heading towards Lobatse and entering the border from there, going towards Zeerust. I will meet them in Johannesburg," Vanporppal explained.

Because even when the crew splits and the road gets lonelier, the mission doesn't slow down, it just finds a new line forward, one push at a time.

# PACERS Launches New Jazz Festival




New lifestyle event combines music, hospitality, and curated social experiences

GABORONE – PACERS Experiential Events has announced the inaugural edition of JAZZ@ PACERS, scheduled for 25 April 2026. This launch introduces a sophisticated jazz and soul-focused lifestyle event to the local cultural calendar, aiming to redefine the boutique festival experience.

Programme Details

The festival is expected to attract more than 4,000 attendees, running from midday until late at the organiser's bespoke indoor and outdoor venue. The programme seamlessly blends live performances with high-end social and corporate activation spaces, designed to foster networking and relaxation in a premium environment.

> "Our goal is to harmonise world-class music with premium social experiences for our patrons."

The line-up features acclaimed regional acts including Kelly Khumalo, Simphiwe Dana, Mahotella Queens, Ami Faku, and Mafikizolo. These icons will perform alongside celebrated local artists such as Lister Boleseng, Kearoma Rantao, and Lizibo, ensuring a rich blend of regional heritage and local talent.

A Vision for Lifestyle Entertainment

Speaking at a media briefing on 17 April, Director Mpho Leonard noted that the initiative aims to provide a more structured and elevated platform for entertainment in the region. By focusing on "experiential" elements, the organisers hope to move beyond the standard concert format to offer a holistic lifestyle experience.

"Our goal is to harmonise world-class music with premium social experiences for our patrons."

# Keabetswe: A Cut Above the Rest

A 25-year-old culinary student slices her way onto Africa's biggest stage proving that patience, precision, and pure discipline can turn quiet talent into continental triumph


Pic Credit; Boswa Culinary Institute of Botswana

**GOSEGO MOTSUMI**

Some chefs chase fire. Keabetswe Eldah Dithwane chases the blade.

At just 25, the Malwelwe born culinary student didn't just represent Botswana at the Ladha Za Africa competition in Kenya, she carved her name into it. Walking away with the Best Knife Skills award, she delivered a masterclass in a craft where millimetres matter and hesitation costs everything.

Her journey isn't loud or flashy. It's sharp. Intentional. Built on repetition and resilience.

**THE ART OF THE BLADE**

Knife skills are the unsung language of the kitchen—silent, exacting, unforgiving. For Keabetswe, they became her signature.

"She is attentive, consistent, and genuinely passionate about her craft," said Boswa Culinary Institute Principal, Kewame Zwelibanzi in an interview. "What stands out most is her attention to detail, she takes the time to refine even the smallest elements of her work."

That obsession with detail didn't happen overnight. At Boswa, knife skills aren't taught, they're lived. Students slice, dice, and repeat until precision becomes instinct. It's less about speed, more about control.

**FROM SECOND PLACE TO CENTER STAGE**

Keabetswe wasn't the first pick. She was second.

But when opportunity knocked, she didn't hesitate, she was ready.

After competing internally at Boswa and earning her place in an elite training group, she honed her skills both in the classroom and at Xigera Safari Lodge in the Okavango Delta. When her moment came to represent Botswana in Kenya, she stepped in with quiet confidence and left with continental recognition.

> Walking away with the Best Knife Skills award, she delivered a masterclass in a craft where millimetres matter and hesitation costs everything.

**BUILDING CHEFS, NOT MOMENTS**

Boswa's philosophy is simple: build from the ground up. Technical foundations. Relentless consistency. Real world exposure.

The result? Chefs who don't just compete, they belong.

"This achievement reflects the hard work of the student as well as the strength of the training behind her," Zwelibanzi noted, positioning Boswa as a rising force in Africa's culinary scene.

**THE LONG GAME**

Keabetswe's story isn't about instant glory. It's about staying ready.

"Growth takes time… what matters is dedication, attention to detail, and the willingness to keep learning every step of the way."

That mindset is what carried her from a small village in Kweneng to an international stage and soon, to an industry attachment in the United States.





Brutal Fruit in Botswana has officially joined The Pink Table, where women come together to laugh louder, connect deeper, and celebrate each other in the most beautiful way. Think great energy, real conversations, and unforgettable moments - all in one space.



# A WORKING WINE WARDROBE




A wine fridge is nice. A system is better. Build a 12-bottle setup that actually works for Botswana heat and real life.

Botswana is not a "leave it on the counter" wine country. If you've ever stored a bottle next to the toaster, don't worry, many of us were raised by chaos. But heat is the quiet villain of wine. It doesn't announce itself. It just slowly turns good bottles into tired bottles, and then you think you "don't like that wine" when really the wine had been sweating for weeks.

> "A home cellar isn't a museum. It's a working wardrobe."

**HEAT PROBLEM**

The good news is you don't need a wine fridge, a cellar, or a bunker under your house to drink well. You just need a simple system, a small, rotating home "cellar" that is built for living, not collecting.

**MINDSET SHIFT**

Here's the mindset shift. A home cellar isn't a museum. It's a working wardrobe. You're not storing trophies. You're keeping the right bottles on hand for the life you actually live. Hot afternoons, unexpected guests, braais, takeaways, birthdays, heartbreaks, and those random Tuesdays that need a small upgrade.




**STORAGE FIRST**

Start with storage, because in Botswana, storage is half the wine

Pick the coolest, darkest, most stable place you have. Low cupboards beat high shelves. A closet beats a kitchen counter. A box on the floor in a spare room beats a sunny wine rack doing a photoshoot on the wall. You're trying to protect the wine from heat spikes and light. In our heat, a cool corner is more valuable than a fancy label.

**WORKING CELLAR**

Now, the "12-bottle working cellar" idea.

Not twelve bottles of the same thing. Not twelve bottles you're saving for "a special day". Twelve bottles that cover your life, and that you replace as you drink them. Think of it as categories rather than brands. If you keep these categories stocked, you'll always have a smart answer to the question, "What are we opening?"

> "In Botswana, a cool corner beats a fancy label."

**ESSENTIAL PICKS**

You want a crisp white that loves heat, something you can chill properly and drink without a speech. This is your poolside, after-work, "let's start light" bottle. Then you want a textured white for roast chicken nights, creamy pasta, or anything with butter and garlic. This is the bottle that teaches people that white wine can be serious without being heavy.

You need bubbles for "I'm not waiting for a wedding." Sparkling wine is one of the most useful bottles to keep at home because it fits almost any moment.

> "Wine is meant to be enjoyed, not completed like a task."

Celebrations, snacks, visitors, or just a quiet reset. It's also the easiest way to make an ordinary day feel like you planned something.

**RED REALITY**

You then need a chillable red, the kind of bottle that still tastes good when served slightly cool, because Botswana doesn't always respect red wine temperatures. This is your Sunday bottle, your "we're having food, but not a formal dinner" bottle, your bridge between red lovers and heat reality.

You need one structured red for steak, braai nights, and any meal that comes with smoke and confidence. This is the bottle with backbone. The one that doesn't disappear next to meat, and that makes people sit up a little straighter after the first sip.

**SWEET EDGE**

And yes, you need something sweet, not because you have a sweet tooth, but because sweet wine is a cheat code with dessert, blue cheese, and fruit. It's also one of the easiest ways to impress guests without overspending, because most people don't keep sweet wine at home, and they always remember it when you serve it well.

**DISCOVERY SLOT**

Then you reserve a couple of slots for wildcards. Discovery bottles. The ones you pick up because you've never tried that grape, that region, that producer. This is how you build a palate and a wine life without turning into someone who only drinks one thing forever. You drink the wildcard, you decide whether it stays in rotation, and you move on. That's not indecision, that's education.

**NO PRESSURE**

Now, the most important home-cellar rule. Don't open a bottle and feel socially obliged to finish it. That is not wine culture. That is stress.

If you're drinking with one or two people, use the fridge. Yes, even for red. A lightly chilled red will survive a night in the fridge, and it's far better than forcing yourself to "polish it off" for the sake of closure. Wine is meant to be enjoyed, not completed like a task.

**QUIET LUXURY**

The point of this whole system is to make wine a habit, not a flex. When you build a small working cellar, you stop treating wine like a luxury item that only appears for guests. You start treating it like part of living well, quietly, consistently, and with just enough intention to keep it beautiful.

**FINAL NOTE**

And that's how a wine community grows. One home at a time, one bottle at a time, one person realising they don't need to be an expert to drink properly.

Because the truth is simple. A home cellar isn't a museum. It's a working wardrobe. And in Botswana, a cool corner is more valuable than a fancy label.



*Phenyo Motlhagodi — 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: @phenyomotlhagodi.*

# Unsolicited Direct Marketing: A Call for Data Protection Awareness



EDWIN DUTA
LEAD IT CONSULTANT, OPRACON IT SPECIALISTS

Unsolicited direct marketing has quietly become a daily reality for many people in Botswana. From persistent SMS promotions to unexpected phone calls offering loans, insurance, or mobile services, individuals are increasingly being targeted without their prior consent. What is particularly concerning is not just the volume of these communications, but the lack of transparency surrounding how personal data especially phone numbers is obtained and used.

No "opt-out" mechanism

For many, the experience is frustratingly familiar: a message arrives promoting a product or service from a company you have never interacted with, and there is no clear explanation of how they accessed your contact details. Even more troubling is the absence of a straightforward "opt-out" mechanism, leaving recipients with little control over whether these communications continue. This raises serious questions about privacy, consent, and accountability in the digital age.

The Data Protection Act No. 18 of 2024 was enacted to address precisely these kinds of concerns. The law is designed to regulate how personal data is collected, processed, stored, and shared. At its core, the Act emphasizes that personal data belongs to the individual being the data subject and not to the organizations that collect it. As such, it establishes clear principles that must be followed by those handling personal information.

Lawful Processing and Consent

One of the fundamental requirements of the Act is that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently. This means that organizations should not collect or use personal information without a valid legal basis, such as the explicit consent of the individual. In the context of direct marketing, this implies that companies should only send promotional messages to individuals who have agreed to receive them.

The Act also grants important rights to data subjects. These include the right to be informed about how their data is being used, to access their personal data, to correct inaccurate information, and the right to object to the processing of their data for direct marketing purposes.

However, the current reality suggests a gap between what the law requires and what is happening on the ground. Many marketing messages received by individuals in Botswana do not include an option to 'opt out', nor do they identify the source of the data. This lack of compliance undermines the very purpose of the Data Protection Act and erodes public trust.

The Act also provides for enforcement mechanisms, including administrative fines up to 50 million pula for non-compliance. These fines are intended not only to punish wrongdoing but also to encourage a culture of compliance and respect for privacy.

Despite this, enforcement remains a critical challenge. Without consistent monitoring and action by regulatory authorities, non-compliant practices may continue unchecked. At the same time, there is a need for greater public awareness.

Data Protection Policy and Data Protection Officer

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 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. 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 numbers above.

opracon
IT SPECIALISTS
Consulting & Training




STAFF SECONDMENTS + BUSINESS – RELATED TRAINING & SCARCE SKILLS SOLICITING

At Opracon Skills & Academy we help companies with staff secondments, business related training, soliciting for scarce skills within and outside the borders as well as general recruitment as stated below:

SECONDMENTS

We second experienced and trained Tax, IT, HR and Data Protection Officers.

BUSINESS–RELATED TRAINING

Choose from our BQA as well as other courses and equip your staff members through training:

***General courses:*** Team Building(16hrs), Supervisory and Leadership Skills(8hrs), Customer Care(8hrs), Mental Health in the Workplace(8hrs) & Defensive Driving(16hrs).

- ***HR (Accredited):*** HR Fundamentals(16hrs), HR Summit(16hrs), Labour & PAYE Update(8hrs)
- ***Tax (Accredited):*** Tax Basics(8hrs), Corporate Taxes(8hrs), Advanced Taxation(16hrs) & Tax for Financial Services providers(16hrs)
- ***IT: (Accredited):*** IT Basics (Excel & intro to MS outlook, Word & PowerPoint-8hrs) & IT Related Laws (Data Protection Act, etc-8hrs)

RECRUITMENT + SCARCE SKILLS

We help organisations to source for skills inside and outside Botswana as well as conducting the actual recruitment processes.

skills@aupracontax.co.bw +267 3939 435 +267 76 213 233

opracon
TAX SPECIALISTS
Consulting . Training . Compliance

ADVANCED TAXATION
( 3 NEW TAX BILLS )



11 & 12 JUNE 2026 | 08:30 TO 16:30 | OASIS MOTEL (TLOKWENG)

Jonathan Hore
Managing Tax Consltant

The Ministry of Finance gazetted the Income Tax Bill no 36 of 2025, the Value Added Tax Bill no 39 of 2025 and the Tax Administration Bill no 38 of 2025 on the 15th of December 2025. The Bills were passed by Parliament in April 2026 and are expected to be effective as from 1 July 2026.

Opracon Tax Specialists brings you a 2-day Taxation workshop where the following will be thoroughly discussed:

Income Tax Bill no.36 of 2025: This Bill will annihilate and re-enact the current Income Tax Act CAP 52:01. Some of the many changes brought about by this bill include the following; Increase in Pay As You Earn, Personal Income Tax and Company Income Taxes, introduction of new Withholding taxes such as on international transporters of goods and passengers and on insurance premiums, changes to the livestock tax, changing the way capital allowances are calculated and denying a deduction of all expenses subject to Withholding taxes in certain circumstances.

Value Added Tax Bill no.39 of 2025: The Bill seeks to re-enact the current VAT Act CAP 50:03 and introduces among many others, the following changes; tweaking the VAT refund process, relaxation of the VAT registration regime to boost economic activity, introduction of reverse VAT and VAT on remote services.

The Tax Administration Bill no.38 of 2025: This Bill will introduce harmonized law administering tax collections, assessments, objections as well as registration of tax agents

**Meet the facilitator**

Jonathan Hore has over 27 years practical experience in Tax and Customs matters acquired from working in Canada, Botswana and Zimbabwe. He holds various Tax-related qualifications including Advanced Tax & Customs Procedures (ZIMRA) as well as Advanced VAT (UNISA). Jonathan has facilitated over 100 Tax seminars in Botswana over a period of 14 years. Along with his team at Opracon Tax Specialists, he has served 15 Botswana Stock Exchange listed entities, 7 local commercial banks, 2 statutory banks and South Africa's largest law firm, among other clients.

**Bookings:** Email: tax12@aupracontax.co.bw cc: finance@aupracontax.co.bw, tax1@aupracontax.co.bw Tel: +267 3939 435/ +267 71 614 524

Investment
P5,990.00 (VAT Incl)

*Note This training is HRDC accredited. | CPD certificates will be issued.*

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

**Case No: CVHFT-000 639/19**

In the matter between:
**STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED** **Plaintiff**
and
**DOREEN KELEBOGILE SOKWE** **Defendant**

## NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION – IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that pursuant to a writ of execution issued out of the above Honourable Court in the above matter, the following property of the Defendants will be sold by public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff BATHUSI BILLY** or an Auctioneer duly appointed by the Deputy Sheriff.

**DATE OF SALE** : Friday, 22nd May 2026;
**VENUE** : Tribal Lot 5946, Tatisiding;
**TIME OF SALE** : 1100 hours;

**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD** : a certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 5946, Tatisiding, situated at Tatisiding in the Tati Tribal Area, measuring 1073 m² (One Thousand and Seventy Three Square Metres), which property is held under Notarial Deed of Cession of Lease No. FT MA 214/2011 registered in favour of **DOREEN KELEBOGILE SOKWE** dated the 21st October 2011, with some developments thereon being two (2) bedroomed house, sitting room, kitchen, toilet and bathroom, screen wall, electric fence, ceramic tile, water and electric available.

**TERMS OF SALE** : strictly Cash or Electronic Fund Transfer, otherwise detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's Attorneys' offices or the Deputy Sheriff's office.

**DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 20TH MARCH 2026.**

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

**COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS**
**Plaintiff's Attorneys, Plot 400**
**Moffat Street, P.O. Box 484**
**Tel. 2412761, FRANCISTOWN**
**Deputy Sheriff Bathusi Billy**
**Cell No. 71607940/74777581**

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

**CASE NO. CVHGB - 000449 - 20**

In the matter between
**STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED** **Plaintiff**
and
**MOHUBELE SUPPLIERS (PTY) LTD** **1st Defendant**
**ONTLAMETSE GOMOTSANYANG KEBOHULA** **2nd Defendant**

## NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court on the 07th July 2020 the following immovable property of the abovementioned 2nd Defendant will be sold by means of public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff N. Ookame** as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : Monday 25 May 2026.
**VENUE** : Tribal Lot 562, Metsimotlhabe
**TIME OF SALE** : 1000 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 2nd Defendant's title rights and interest in a certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 562, Metsimotlhabe situate in the Bakwena Tribal Territory, measuring 900m² (Nine Hundred Square Metres) which property is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Grant of Lease No. TL 94/2014 dated the 23rd January 2014 together with all the improvements thereon being a Screen wall, sliding gate, 2 bedroomed house, fitted kitchen, bathroom, kitchen, and another 4 bedroomed house, master en-suite, study room, bathroom, toilet, dinning room.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2026.**

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

**COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 4858, Lecha Close
Off Marakanelo Way
Extension 11
P O Box 45136
**GABORONE**
Deputy Sheriff N Ookame
[Cell No. 72879169/77435503]

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

**CASE NO. CVHGB - 003911 - 24**

In the matter between
**STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED** **Plaintiff**
and
**JOYCE MOTHUPI** **Defendant**

## NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court on the 20th March 2025 the following immovable property of the abovementioned Defendant will be sold by means of public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff U. Chilisa** as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : Friday 22nd May 2026
**VENUE** : Lot 20721, Palapye
**TIME OF SALE** : 1000 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 title rights and interest in a certain piece of land being Lot 20721, Palapye, situate at Palapye in the Bamangwato Tribal Territory measuring 1 204m² (One Thousand Two Hundred and Four Square Metres) held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 221/2013 registered in favour of Joyce Mercy Mothupi dated 8th day of April 2013, together with developments therein, being 3 single storey residential blocks with 2*1 bedroom units, an outbuilding, outdoor toilet and 2 carports within a paved and walled yard.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2026.**

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

**COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 4858, Lecha Close
Off Marakanelo Way
Extension 11
P O Box 45136
**GABORONE**
Deputy Sheriff U J CHILISA
[Cell No. 71594008/74770666]

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

**CASE NO. CVHGB - 003424 - 23**

In the matter between
**STANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED** **Plaintiff**
and
**BONNIE BONNO THABOLO** **Defendant**

## NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a Judgment granted by the above Honourable Court on the 24th May 2024 the following immovable property of the abovementioned Defendant will be sold by means of public auction to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff O. Mothibi** as follows:

**DATE OF SALE** : Friday 22nd May 2026
**VENUE** : Lot 26467 Gaborone
**TIME OF SALE** : 1400 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 title rights and interest in a certain piece of land being Lot 26467, Gaborone situate at Gaborone West measuring 493m² (Four Hundred and Ninety Three Square Metres) held under Deed of transfer No. 1378/2007 dated 12th July 2007 made in favour of Bonnie Bonno Thabolo together with developments therein, being a master ensuite, two bedroom 1 fitted, bathroom (toilet & shower), sitting room, dinning room, valenda plus bachelor pad, paved with electric fence.

**DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL 2026.**

COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS
Attorneys • Notaries • Conveyancers

**COLLINS CHILISA CONSULTANTS**
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 4858, Lecha Close
Off Marakanelo Way
Extension 11
P O Box 45136
**GABORONE**
Deputy Sheriff O. Mothibi
[Cell No. 72234419/77636760]

GAZETTE REPORTER




# Relays Shine with Botswana Diamonds

## As Gaborone prepares for the World Athletics Relays 2026, Botswana fuses sport, identity, and natural diamonds into a bold global statement

There are moments when a nation steps forward and introduces itself anew. Not loudly, not with bluster, but with quiet confidence and clarity of purpose. Botswana is approaching one of those moments.

As the country readies itself to host the Debswana World Athletics Relays Gaborone 2026, the narrative being shaped is about far more than baton exchanges and split times. It is about identity, legacy, and the deliberate telling of a national story—one polished, much like the diamonds it will soon place at the centre of the global sporting stage.

**A STAGE SET**

Speaking at the unveiling of the relays medals, President Duma Boko positioned the event as something larger than hosting rights.

"Botswana is not merely hosting; it is presenting itself," he suggested, framing the relays as both opportunity and declaration.

Each of the 120 medals to be awarded will contain a Botswana diamond, cut and polished locally. It is a first in global athletics—an intervention of geology into sport, of national resource into global recognition.

"These are real, natural diamonds, formed in the bellies of the soils of this country," Boko said, anchoring the symbolism in origin and authenticity. "Not some fake, not some contrived, synthetic artificiality and mimicry."

In that distinction lies the intent: Botswana is not borrowing symbolism; it is exporting substance.

**BEYOND SHINE**

The Okavango Diamond Company's P10 million sponsorship signals more than corporate backing. It reflects a broader philosophy in which natural resources are not simply extracted, but translated into national expression.

"Each one is a tangible expression of our nation's contribution to the world," Boko said of the medals, adding that they represent "a place, a people, and a story shaped by time, responsibility, and vision."

He said as athletes stand on podiums in Gaborone, they will not only receive medals—they will carry fragments of Botswana's geological and cultural identity onto the global stage.

**SHARED EFFORT**

Minister of Sport and Arts Jacob Kelebeng extended the narrative beyond symbolism, grounding it in institutional collaboration.

"For decades, these institutions have contributed far beyond their core mandate," he said, referencing partners such as Debswana, DTCB, Lucara, KGK, MDCB, and Brand Botswana.

Their investment, he noted, has helped build infrastructure and develop sport and arts ecosystems across the country. A flagship example is the "Re Ba Bona" programme, which has nurtured grassroots talent and produced elite athletes who now compete internationally.

Sport, in this framing, is not incidental. It is engineered, supported, and strategically developed.

**NATIONAL MOMENT**

The government has also secured national broadcast rights, ensuring universal access.

"This ensures that every Motswana will have the opportunity to witness this global event," Kelebeng said, reinforcing the idea that the relays belong not only to athletes and organisers, but to the nation itself.

The event, scheduled for 2–3 May 2026, will transform Gaborone into a global athletics hub, positioning Botswana's capital—Diamond City—as both host and symbol.

As Kelebeng concluded, Botswana moves forward "with boldness and confidence," carrying the same qualities it attributes to its diamonds: precision, endurance, and value under pressure.

**CLOSING IMAGE**

When the starting gun fires, attention will be on speed, baton changes, and split-second execution. But beneath that, Botswana will be doing something slower, more deliberate: telling the world who it is, in its own voice, on its own terms.

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

**CASE NO: CVHGB -002048-18**

In the matter between:
**BAEMEDI LEEME PULE** **Plaintiff**
And
**MATLHOGONOLO BOITSHWARELO** **Defendant**

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that pursuant to Court Order of this Honourable Court dated 27th June 2019 the following immovable property of the above mentioned Defendant will be sold in execution to the highest bidder by **Deputy Sheriff D. P. Gabobakwe** in the manner hereinafter set out;

**DATE OF SALE** : 18th June 2026;
**TIME** : 10:00 a.m;
**VENUE** : Tribal Lot 5658, Mmopane;
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD :** Certain Piece of Land being Tribal Lot 5658, Mmopane in the Bakwena Tribal Territory measuring 855 $m^2$, held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 405/2015 dated 17th March 2015 made in favour of Matlhogonolo Boitshwarelo together with the developments thereon being an incomplete 3 bedroomed house up to roof level.

**TERMS OF SALE** : Bank Transfer No Cash will be accepted

**DATED AT GABORONE THIS 15TH DAY OF APRIL 2026.**

**DEPUTY SHERIFF DITIRO PRIGER GABOBAKWE (73900288 / 72901534) C/o KATSE ATTORNEYS (3903258) Plaintiff's Attorneys, Plot No. 21244, P. O. Box 201018 GABORONE.**

**FIRST AND FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT**

**IN THE ESTATE OF THE LATE NICOLAS JOACHIM ALBERTS: ESHFT 00553-25** who died at **PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA** on the **19th day of JANUARY 2024.** The First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account in the above Estate will lie open for inspection at the Chambers of the Assistant Registrar and Master of the High Court at Francistown for a period of Twenty One (21) days from the date of the second publication hereof.

**DATED** at **FRANCISTOWN** on this **23rd** day of **MARCH 2026**

**THE EXECUTOR TESTAMENTARY**
**C/O VAN NIEKERK ATTORNEYS,**
Plot 4660, Ditau Street, PO Box 37, **FRANCISTOWN.**



# ORANGE FA CUP ENTERS LAST 8

Gaborone derby headlines blockbuster quarterfinal lineup as rivals clash and contenders emerge in race for semifinal spots

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

The Orange FA Cup has reached the quarterfinal stage, with a mouthwatering Gaborone derby between Gaborone United and Township Rollers set to headline the last-eight fixtures.

**DERBY SHOWDOWN**

The clash between the two capital giants is expected to dominate attention, given the history and intensity associated with the fixture. Both sides progressed with contrasting performances, setting up what promises to be a fiercely contested encounter.

Elsewhere, defending champions Jwaneng Galaxy will face Jwaneng Young Stars in an all-Jwaneng battle, while Orapa United take on Lokgwabe United. Black Lions FC will square off against Mochudi Centre Chiefs in another intriguing tie.

Venues and dates for the quarterfinal matches were yet to be confirmed at the time of publication.

**PENALTY DRAMA**

The road to the last eight delivered high tension, with several matches decided via penalty shootouts. Black Lions FC edged Morupule Wanderers 7-6 after a goalless draw, while Jwaneng Young Stars triumphed 8-7 over TAFIC FC in another closely fought contest.

**CHAMPIONS ADVANCE**

Defending champions Jwaneng Galaxy underlined their credentials with a hard-fought 2-1 away win over Nico United, maintaining their push for a third title.

Township Rollers, on the other hand, delivered one of the most dominant performances of the round, thrashing Calendar Stars 7-0 to send a strong warning to their rivals.

**STATEMENT WINS**

Lokgwabe United continued their impressive run with a 2-1 victory over Flamingo Santos, while Gaborone United secured a narrow but vital 1-0 win against Sua Flamingoes.

Mochudi Centre Chiefs also made a bold statement, cruising to a 4-0 victory over First Division North side Enesia to comfortably book their place in the quarterfinals.

> With rivalries intensifying and form peaking at the right time, the Orange FA Cup quarterfinals are poised to deliver thrilling encounters as teams battle for a place in the semifinals.

With rivalries intensifying and form peaking at the right time, the Orange FA Cup quarterfinals are poised to deliver thrilling encounters as teams battle for a place in the semifinals.

# ABSA Kids Marathon Sees Record Growth

Over 2,000 participants highlight rising youth fitness momentum

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

The fifth edition of the ABSA Summer Kids Marathon marked a significant step forward in both scale and execution, according to co-organizer Moagi Madisa. Held over the weekend, the event drew more than 2,000 participants, reflecting steady growth and increased community engagement.

Among the key developments was the introduction of winner's trophies for the 5.5km race, specifically recognizing top performers in the 13–16 age category for both boys and girls. Madisa described this as a deliberate effort to reward excellence and inspire young athletes.

"This was an important step in rewarding excellence and motivating young athletes to push their limits," he said.

Organizers also enhanced race logistics, including the addition of more structured water points along the route to improve hydration and safety. Route management was refined to ensure smoother movement and better supervision, while the broader event experience was expanded to include more family-oriented activities.

**PARTICIPATION GROWTH**

Madisa attributed the strong turnout to sustained community trust and targeted outreach efforts. Over time, the marathon has built relationships with schools, parents and local communities, positioning it as a key event on the youth calendar.

"This year in particular, the improvements we introduced—such as better safety measures, water points, and incentives like




trophies—made the event more appealing," he said.

He added that social media campaigns and direct engagement with schools played a critical role in boosting participation. Word-of-mouth recommendations from previous participants and parents also contributed significantly, reinforcing the event's reputation.

**YOUTH IMPACT**

Beyond participation numbers, the marathon is designed to promote healthier lifestyles among young people in Botswana. Madisa said the initiative encourages children to view physical activity as both enjoyable and rewarding, countering increasingly sedentary habits.

"By participating, children not only improve their physical fitness but also develop discipline, resilience, and confidence," he said.

The addition of competitive elements, including the 5.5km trophies, aims to foster goal-setting and healthy competition. Organizers see this as part of a broader effort to build a culture that prioritizes fitness and wellness from an early age.

**LOGISTICAL CHALLENGES**

The event's rapid growth brought operational challenges, particularly in managing large numbers of participants. Coordination across registration, crowd control, route safety and hydration required extensive planning.

"Ensuring that every participant had a safe and enjoyable experience was our top priority," Madisa said.

To address these demands, organizers increased the number of water points and deployed additional marshals and support staff. Collaboration with partners and volunteers also proved essential in maintaining order and safety throughout the event.

**FUTURE PLANS**

Looking ahead, organizers plan to expand the marathon's reach beyond its current location to include more regions across Botswana. Additional race categories, improved prize structures and further enhancements to logistics are also under consideration.

"Our long-term vision is to establish the ABSA Summer Kids Marathon as a flagship youth sporting event in Botswana," Madisa said.

# Global Stars Headline FNB Golden Grand Prix

Olympic champions and international sprint stars are confirmed for the FNB Botswana Golden Grand Prix, while top local athletes including Letsile Tebogo and Collen Kebinatshipi are yet to confirm participation

**GAZETTE REPORTER**




This year's FNB Botswana Golden Grand Prix has attracted leading athletes from across the world, including Olympic champions and elite sprinters, the meet spokesperson Calistus Kolantsho said.

Among those confirmed are women's 200 meters Olympic champion Gabby Thomas, Africa's fastest man over 100 meters Ferdinand Omanyala, Canadian sprinter Andre De Grasse and 400 meters hurdles specialist Dalilah Muhammad.

By the time of the interview, Botswana's top athletes — Letsile Tebogo, Collen Kebinatshipi and Bayapo Ndori — had yet to confirm participation. Kolantsho said negotiations were ongoing.

**RECENT PERFORMANCES**

Thomas, the American sprint standout, arrives after winning 200 meters gold at the Paris 2024 Olympics. She recently competed at the Addis Ababa Grand Prix, securing a 100 meters and 200 meters double despite challenging conditions. She had skipped the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo due to an Achilles tendon injury that affected much of her previous season.

Omanyala also competed in Addis Ababa, where he won the 100 meters in 9.98 seconds, marking his first sub-10-second performance in 20 months.

De Grasse, a seven-time Olympic medalist, remains one of Canada's most decorated athletes. He is the 2020 Olympic champion in the 200 meters and has multiple silver and bronze medals across 100 meters, 200 meters and relay events. He also secured gold as part of Canada's 4 × 100 meters relay team at the 2024 Summer Olympics.

Muhammad, the 2016 Olympic champion in the 400 meters hurdles, holds a personal best of 51.58 seconds and won silver at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

**ARRIVAL PLANS**

Kolantsho said most athletes are expected to begin arriving on Wednesday to allow time for acclimatization.

"Most of them will start arriving on Wednesday (today)," he said. "This is because they will be seeking to acclimatize ahead of the race."

He added that Thomas and Omanyala would arrive later.

"But the likes of Thomas and Omanyala will arrive on the 25th because on Friday, April 24 they will compete at the 2026 Absa Kip Keino Classic in Kenya at the Nyayo National Stadium," he said.

**EVENT LOGISTICS**

Kolantsho said preparations for the meet are progressing as organizers aim to deliver a high-quality event, particularly with the stadium now ready and accredited.

> "Most of them will start arriving on Wednesday (today)."

"We are working with the Debswana World Athletics Relays local organizing committee," he said. "We signed a MoU with them… they will pay for some things like allowances for officials and feeding for all the staff at the stadium."

He added that new logistical measures have been introduced.

"No car will be parked at the stadium," he said. "All will be parked at the Gaborone Senior School grounds… shuttles to the stadium will be provided."

# BOFINET, BTCL POWER WORLD RELAYS CONNECTIVITY

Botswana activates high-capacity digital infrastructure, positioning Gaborone for seamless global broadcast delivery and international sporting visibility through state-backed connectivity investment

**GAZETTE REPORTER**

Botswana's Ministry of Communications and Innovation (MCI) says the country's digital infrastructure is ready to support the World Athletics Relays Gaborone 2026 through a joint sponsorship by Botswana Fibre Networks (BoFiNet) and Botswana Telecommunications Corporation Limited (BTCL).

The two state-owned companies, designated as official connectivity partners, will provide high-capacity internet services and international broadcast support in coordination with the Local Organising Committee.

BTCL has committed in-kind connectivity solutions and cash sponsorship valued at more than P3,000,000. Its contribution includes high-speed Wi-Fi at the National Stadium and University of Botswana Stadium, public Wi-Fi access, mobile connectivity for athletes and officials, and a cash component of P500,000.

BoFiNet will deliver a dedicated 10Gbps internet connection, alongside fibre infrastructure and structured cabling at the National Stadium and associated venues. The total value of its support is stated at over P830,000.

**DIGITAL CAPACITY**

The Ministry said the partnership reflects Botswana's broader push to position itself as a regional hub for digital infrastructure and innovation, while demonstrating capacity to host international events requiring resilient connectivity systems.




Acting Minister of Communications and Innovation Shawn Ntlhaile said the deployment extends beyond the event itself.

"The infrastructure we deploy and the expertise we contribute will leave a lasting capability that strengthens our local ICT sector and builds capacity for future international events," he said.

He added that Botswana's digital ecosystem includes the Digital Delta Data Centre, described as a Tier III Up-Time certified facility operated by BoFiNet.

"I can assure you that BOFINET and BTCL are committed, through MCI, to play a critical role in ensuring that the infrastructure requirements meet international resilience and compliance standards," Ntlhaile said.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

The ministry has urged citizens and businesses to support the event by purchasing tickets and attending the relays scheduled for May 2 to 3, 2026, at the National Stadium.

Tickets are available at selected BTCL outlets including Game City, Main Mall, Airport Junction, Bodiba Mall and Megaleng, as well as at the Ministry of Sports and Arts in the central business district.

"We are honoured by this opportunity to ensure that the world witnesses Botswana's excellence through a lens of reliable, high-speed connectivity," Ntlhaile said.

TIRED OF SHARING?




BACKPAGE
WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL 2026
SINCE 1984

The Botswana Gazette
SPORT

# GLOBAL STARS HEADLINE FNB GOLDEN GRAND PRIX

33.

Olympic champions and international sprint stars are confirmed for the FNB Botswana Golden Grand Prix, while top local athletes including Letsile Tebogo and Collen Kebinatshipi are yet to confirm participation



# ABSA KIDS MARATHON SEES RECORD GROWTH

32.