The Botswana
GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2026 | SINCE 1984



29. Giving Shekgaladi a Literary Voice

BOTSWANA TOPS GLOBAL DEBT SURGE RANKING-IMF

New IMF data places Botswana at the top of the global debt surge ranking, raising fresh concerns over public finances and future repayment pressures.



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3.

Govt Failing to Unmask FB Fake Accounts

The government has conceded that it is unable to unmask fake Facebook accounts, a position that experts say is misleading, as internet activity leaves digital footprints that can be traced by investigators equipped with the appropriate tools



Botswana Tops Global Debt Surge Ranking-IMF



BONGANI MALUNGA

Botswana has been ranked as the country with the fastest-growing debt surge in the world, according to new International Monetary Fund (IMF) data released on Monday, placing renewed scrutiny on the country's public finances and raising difficult questions about what the mounting debt bill could ultimately mean for ordinary households.

The IMF data shows that Botswana recorded the largest increase globally in government debt as a share of the economy over the past quarter century. According to the IMF figures, Botswana's debt position moved from a net asset position of approximately negative 121.9 percent of GDP in 2001 to projected gross government debt of about 45.2 percent of GDP in 2026, a swing of roughly 167 percentage and the steepest deterioration recorded internationally.

The finding marks a dramatic shift for a country that for decades was regarded as one of Africa's most disciplined economies, praised internationally for cautious borrowing, healthy foreign reserves and prudent use of diamond revenues. Today, however, the picture is changing.

BORROWING TO SUSTAIN EXPENDITURE

Botswana's public debt has climbed to approximately P90.03 billion as government increasingly turns to borrowing to sustain expenditure, finance infrastructure, support development commitments and absorb revenue pressures linked to slower economic growth and a prolonged downturn in the global diamond market.

In March Parliament approved a P6.3 billion loan through the Standard Chartered Bank Loan Bill aimed at rescuing the national budget and addressing the backlog of government debt. Recent fiscal projections have already acknowledged that debt levels are expected to continue rising in the coming years.

REPAYMENTS

As debt rises, interest repayments will do likewise. More government income will be diverted toward servicing loans instead of financing public services and development programmes. For ordinary citizens, the consequences may not be immediate but they can become difficult to avoid over time.

If fiscal pressure intensifies, government may eventually have fewer options available beyond raising revenue and reducing expenditure. That could translate into higher taxes, adjustments to VAT or levies, slower public sector expansion, delayed infrastructure projects and tighter spending across government departments.

> Recent fiscal projections have already acknowledged that debt levels are expected to continue rising in the coming years.

Families could feel the pressure indirectly through rising living costs, fewer government support programmes, reduced public investment and weaker job creation prospects.

PAINFUL ADJUSTMENTS

The government has already indicated that remaining within previous borrowing limits would require painful adjustments. Budget projections earlier this year forecast debt rising beyond Botswana's historical statutory ceiling of 40 percent of GDP, with opposition parties arguing that aggressive spending cuts could create deeper economic risks in the short term.

Diamonds in the Rough as Workers Revolt

Diamond workers set to launch a nationwide campaign for higher wages and greater benefits from diamond wealth, arguing that the industry continues to generate billions while employees remain poor

GAZETTE REPORTER

Diamond workers are set to launch labour campaigns across Botswana's mining value chain, accusing the industry of generating immense wealth while leaving many of the workers who create that value trapped in poverty.

The Botswana Diamond Workers Union (BDWU) has revealed plans to roll out a nationwide campaign under the theme "Diamonds for Development, Decent Work and Dignity for All Workers", aimed at pushing for higher wages, stronger labour protections, improved localisation of jobs, and greater accountability in the management of the country's diamond resources.

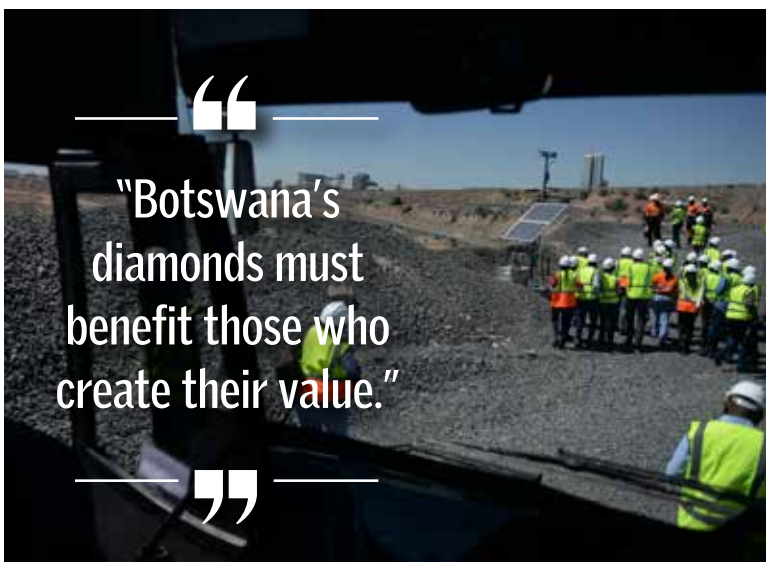
The campaign comes amid growing frustration among workers employed in diamond cutting, polishing, sorting and processing companies, many of whom reportedly earn between P1,900 and P3,000 per month despite operating in an industry widely regarded as the backbone of Botswana's economy.

In a concept note launching the initiative, the union argues that while diamonds have generated billions of pula for national development, many workers continue to face economic hardship, retrenchments, unfair dismissals, workplace intimidation and limited opportunities for advancement.

"DISCONNECT BETWEEN WEALTH AND WORKERS" – UNION

BDWU National Chairperson Dominic Mapoka said the campaign seeks to confront what he described as a widening gap between the wealth generated by diamonds and the living conditions of workers.

"Botswana's diamonds must benefit those who create their value. Every worker deserves fair wages, decent work, dignity, protection and a meaningful share in the country's natural wealth," Mapoka said.



He said the union is demanding a review of wage structures across the diamond processing sector, arguing that current salaries are no longer sufficient in the face of rising living costs affecting households.

Mapoka added that workers are increasingly questioning how an industry that has transformed Botswana's economic fortunes continues to leave many employees struggling to make ends meet.

PUSH FOR LIVING WAGE

The campaign also calls for the introduction of a "living wage", alongside stronger protections against retrenchments and unfair dismissals.

The union further plans to scrutinise skills development programmes and localisation commitments, arguing that citizen workers often remain stuck in low-level positions despite long-standing promises that diamond beneficiation would create skilled employment opportunities for Batswana.

It also seeks to highlight alleged discrimination, victimisation and intimidation in workplaces, while calling for stronger grievance-handling mechanisms.

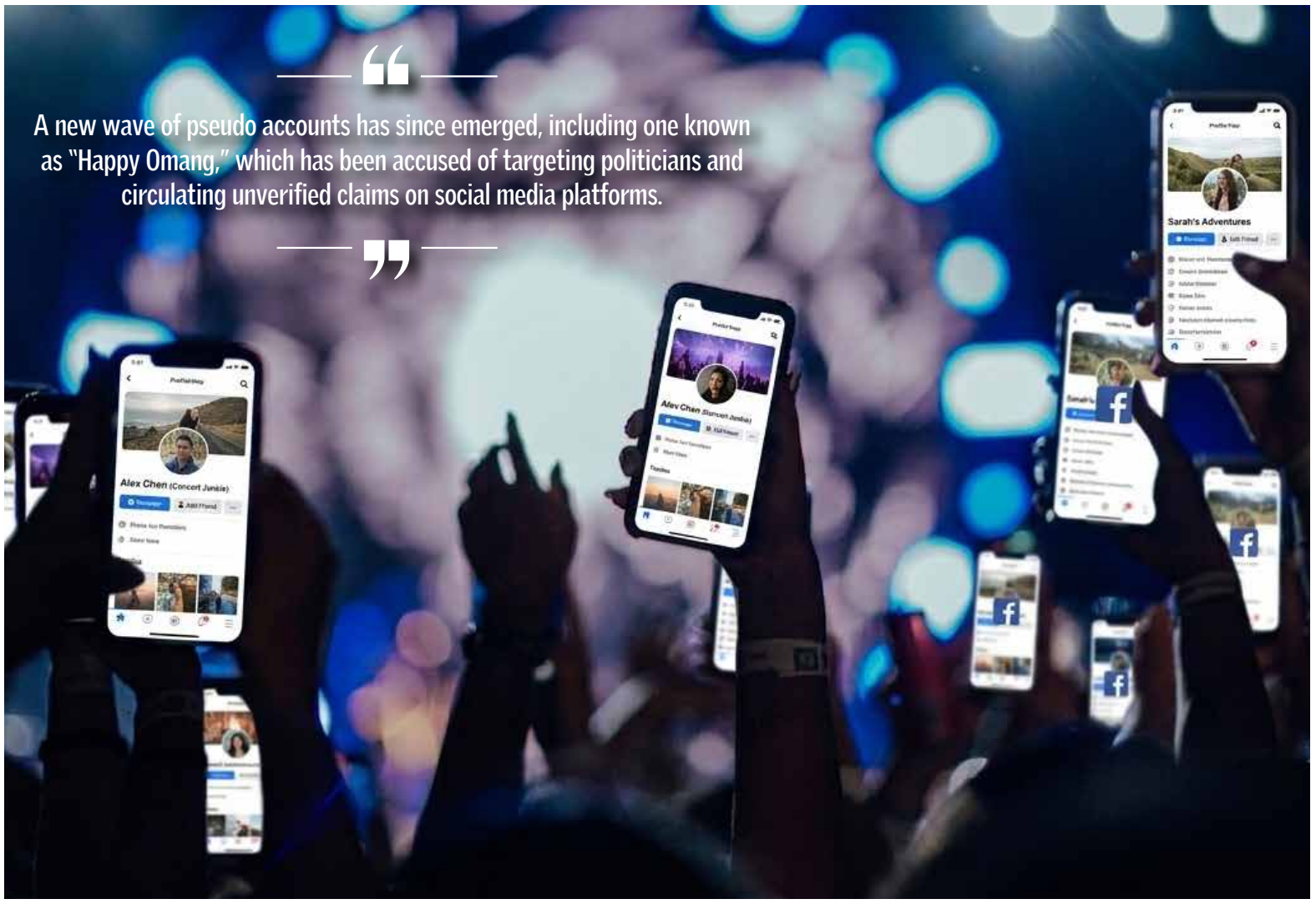
RESOURCE GOVERNANCE UNDER SCRUTINY

The BDWU has also linked workers' welfare to broader questions of natural resource governance, arguing that diamond wealth should play a more direct role in poverty reduction, job creation and improved living standards.

Among its demands are greater transparency and accountability throughout the diamond value chain, as well as increased worker participation in policy discussions affecting the sector.

NATIONWIDE CONSULTATIONS PLANNED

The union says it will engage workers through nationwide consultations, workplace meetings, petitions, media campaigns and policy dialogue forums involving government, Members of Parliament, diamond companies and civil society organisations.



Govt Failing to Unmask FB Fake Accounts

The government has conceded that it is unable to unmask fake Facebook accounts, a position that experts say is misleading, as internet activity leaves digital footprints that can be traced by investigators equipped with the appropriate tools

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The government has admitted its inability to trace fake Facebook accounts that are tormenting citizens, laying bare significant gaps in the country's digital enforcement and cybercrime response capacity.

Appearing before the Standing Committee on Government Assurance under the Ministry of State President, Defence and Security, Acting Permanent Secretary Jeremiah Makgwa acknowledged that law enforcement agencies are struggling to clamp down on anonymous online accounts that target individuals and disseminate harmful content.

Makgwa said investigators often encounter challenges in tracing the origin of such accounts, making it difficult to identify and prosecute those responsible. He added that digital footprints are frequently concealed or routed through complex technological systems that complicate investigations.

AWAITING FULL IMPLEMENTATION

According to Makgwa, enforcement efforts remain constrained because key provisions of the proposed Cybersecurity Act, 2025, and related cybercrime enforcement mechanisms are not yet fully operational.

He said authorities are currently relying on existing legislation, including the Cybercrime and Computer Related Crimes Act, 2018, while awaiting the rollout of stronger enforcement tools and investigative capabilities.

FRANCE MUSEVENI PRECEDENT

The challenge of anonymous social media accounts is not new. During the previous administration, concerns were raised over a controversial anonymous account known as "France Museveni," which allegedly published sensitive and damaging information about public figures and government officials.

Despite reports being lodged with law enforcement agencies, the identity of the individual or individuals behind the account was never publicly established, and the account remained active for an extended period.

NEW ACCOUNTS EMERGE

Although the France Museveni account disappeared following the 2024 General Election, concerns over anonymous online activity have persisted.

A new wave of pseudo accounts has since emerged, including one known as "Happy Omang," which has been accused of targeting politicians and circulating unverified claims on social media platforms.

EXPERTS DISAGREE

Makgwa's remarks appear to contrast with views previously expressed by Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) senior cybersecurity architect, Dr Trust Mapoka.

In an interview with *The Botswana Gazette* earlier this year, Mapoka argued that no one is truly anonymous online because internet activity leaves digital footprints that can be traced by investigators equipped with the appropriate tools.

> Enforcement efforts remain constrained because key provisions of the proposed Cybersecurity Act, 2025, and related cybercrime enforcement mechanisms are not yet fully operational.

CALLS FOR STRONGER ENFORCEMENT

The Acting PS maintains that strengthening both legal and technical capacity remains critical to combating anonymous online harassment, misinformation, and reputational attacks.

Makgwa hopes that the full implementation of the Cybersecurity Act and related enforcement measures will improve Botswana's ability to investigate cybercrime and hold perpetrators accountable.





The National Director of the Miss Universe Botswana organization Safie Sekgwa along Miss Universe Botswana 2026 Dabilo Moses briefing the media in Gaborone. Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO

Convicted Motswana Loses Right to Practise in Scotland

A Motswana man convicted of murdering his wife in Scotland has now lost his professional career permanently

BONGANI MALUNGA

A Motswana social care worker convicted of murdering his wife in Scotland has now been permanently removed from the country's professional register, ending his ability to legally work in Scotland's social services sector when he becomes eligible for parole after 21 years.

Mompati Dodo Isaacs was struck off by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC), the body responsible for regulating social service professionals in Scotland last week, following his conviction for the 2024 murder of his wife, Keotshepile Naso Isaacs.

> Isaacs was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison with a minimum of 21 years in September last year after an Edinburgh court heard that he repeatedly stabbed his wife.

FOUND GUILTY

Isaacs was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison with a minimum of 21 years in September last year after an Edinburgh court heard that he repeatedly stabbed his wife on the head, neck and body during an attack at their home in North Berwick on New Year's Day in 2024.

According to media reports in Scotland, the regulator announced that Isaacs' name had been removed from the register last Thursday following the murder conviction.

STRUCK OFF

The decision means he can no longer practise as a registered social care worker in Scotland. According to records cited by the regulator, Isaacs had been employed in the social care sector since 2019, with his place of employment listed as London.

Under Scottish professional rules, workers accused or convicted of serious offences are entitled to appear before a "fitness to practise" panel, a process used to determine whether they remain suitable to work in the profession.

However, according to Scottish news outlet The Daily Record, Isaacs reportedly did not respond to the regulator's invitation to participate in the process. In his absence, the SSSC proceeded with disciplinary action and imposed the most severe sanction available, permanent removal from the register.

BUAN
BOTSWANA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Inspiring Sustainable Growth

DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR – FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

The Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN), was established through Act of Parliament no.12 of 2015, which transformed the Botswana College of Agriculture into a University. The institution seeks to become a vibrant world-class University that will enable the transformation of the agricultural and natural resources sectors by producing competitive high caliber graduates.

BUAN is seeking a visionary and transformational Deputy Vice Chancellor - Finance and Administration; to shape the financial and administrative future of the Institution, drive excellence across operations, governance and strategic growth by ensuring the highest standards of accountability and performance, on a fixed-term contract of five (5) years tenable at their main campus in Sebele,Gaborone.

JOB PURPOSE

As a member of the Executive leadership team and reporting to the Vice Chancellor, the incumbent will be responsible for providing strategic leadership and oversight of the University's financial, human resource and administrative functions. This includes the formulation and implementation of policies, plans and systems that ensure effective management of resources, sound governance, and operational efficiency. The role also entails guiding the overall direction of financial planning, human resources and administrative services to support the University's mission, vision and strategic objectives.

THE JOB

The successful candidate will be entrusted with leading and executing the following:
- Providing strategic leadership in financial and administrative policy development and implementation.
- Overseeing financial management (budgeting, accounting, procurement, resource allocation) with full compliance.
- Advising the Vice Chancellor and University Council on financial and administrative matters.
- Leading the University's financial strategy to ensure sustainability and alignment with its mission.
- Supervising administrative divisions (HR, estates, IT, and support services).
- Driving operational excellence through performance management, innovation, and continuous improvement.
- Ensuring governance, transparency, and compliance in all operations.
- Fostering accountability and service delivery to support academic and research excellence.
- Representing the University in financial and administrative engagements with external stakeholders.
- Leading and mentoring teams, promoting ethical leadership and professional growth.

THE PERSON

The right candidate must possess the following:
- A Master's Degree in Accounting / Finance / Human Resource or related field, plus, a recognised professional qualification and membership of an internationally recognised professional institution, together with BICA registration.
- At least five (5) years post qualification experience at Executive Management level.
- Extensive knowledge of University systems and understanding of the tertiary education.
- Experiential knowledge of corporate governance, finance and administration.
- Ability to stimulate and promote innovation and creativity among staff.

COMPETENCIES
- Strategy Creation
- Business Acumen
- Corporate Governance
- Integrity

The University offers competitive compensation packages commensurate with qualifications, skills and experience.

To apply in confidence, please visit **www.peopleconnections.co.bw.** Applicants should submit a Cover Letter, Detailed Curriculum Vitae, and Academic Certificates. **Application documents should be in PDF format and merged.**

Closing Date: 23 June 2026

For enquiries: Contact 3975917 / 3915503

PEOPLE CONNECTIONS
connecting people and business

Winter Power Cuts Unlikely

Government says Botswana may avoid major winter load shedding as Morupule B stabilises and new solar capacity comes on stream.

BONGANI MALUNGA

Botswana is unlikely to experience major electricity disruptions during the peak winter season this year, with government officials expressing growing confidence in the country's improving power generation capacity.

The Ministry of Minerals and Energy says the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) is not expected to introduce a large-scale load shedding schedule for the June–July winter period, marking a significant shift from recent years when electricity shortages became a seasonal reality.

Winter has traditionally placed added pressure on the national grid as electricity demand spikes during peak consumption periods, particularly between 6am and 10am and again from 6pm to 10pm. To manage demand and prevent widespread outages, BPC has frequently resorted to rotational load shedding.

OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS

Much of the country's electricity challenges have been linked to operational problems at the Morupule B Power Station, where recurring technical failures and underperformance of generation units have repeatedly disrupted supply and forced reliance on imports and scheduled power cuts.

However, the ministry says recent progress in stabilising multiple generation units at Morupule has improved domestic electricity output and strengthened confidence in the reliability of supply heading into the colder months.

The cautious optimism follows an incident in April when BPC announced temporary load shedding from 21 to 24 April after a power outage triggered the shutdown of Unit 1 at Morupule B.

LOAD SHEDDING MAY BECOME HISTORY

Appearing before the Government Assurance Committee on Tuesday, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Minerals and Energy, Donald Gaetsaloe, said the country's long-running load shedding cycle may soon become history.

"Load shedding has been caused by the underperformance of Morupule B. With the remedial action that is largely complete and the coming on stream of the 100 MW PB solar stations at Jwaneng and Mmadinare, we expect loads shedding to be a thing of the past," Gaetsaloe told the parliamentary committee.

Gaetsaloe said government interventions to restore generation reliability and diversify the country's energy mix are beginning to show results.

NET EXPORTER OF POWER

"We are gradually seeing a situation where we will not have load shedding going forward and Botswana will then be in a position to be a net exporter of power," he added.

The remarks signal a potentially major turning point for Botswana's energy sector, with government now placing hopes on both the recovery of Morupule B and additional solar generation capacity to reduce dependence on emergency measures and imported electricity.



standard chartered

Annual General Meeting Notice

For the year ended at 31st December 2025

Notice is hereby given that the 51st Annual General Meeting of the members of Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited will be held on Tuesday 30th June 2026 at Plot 1124-30, Queens Road, 5th Floor, Standard Chartered House, Main Mall, Gaborone at 15:00 hours for the following purposes:

1 To consider and approve, by way of a special resolution, the amendment of the Constitution of the Company in terms of the draft Constitution tabled before the meeting and made available for inspection by shareholders, as more fully disclosed in the Circular.
2 To receive, consider and approve the Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025, together with the Auditor's reports therein.
3 To re-elect the following Directors who retire by rotation and in accordance with Section 66 of the Constitution, and who being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. The Directors brief resumes are attached to this notice and set out at pages 33 and 35 of the report.
3.1 Jerry Kweku Boi Bedu – Addo
3.2 Mpho Judith Dimbungu
4 To confirm and ratify the appointment of Director Tally Tshekiso as an Independent Non-Executive Director effective 3rd October 2025.Mr Tally Tshekiso's resume is attached to this notice and set out at page 35 of the report.
5 To confirm and ratify the Directors remuneration report and the remuneration paid to the Directors for the year ending 31st December 2025 and to approve the proposed Directors remuneration for the ensuing year.
6 To confirm and ratify the remuneration of the auditors, Ernst & Young Botswana for the year ended 31st December 2025.
7 To confirm and ratify the appointment of the auditors Ernst & Young Botswana and to authorise the Board to determine the external auditor's remuneration for the ensuing year.
8 To receive and consider questions and or comments from the shareholders.

Notes:

Any member entitled to attend and vote, is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and speak and, on a poll, vote in his/her stand. The person so appointed needs not be a member. The instrument appointing such a proxy should be forwarded to reach the Secretary, at Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited, Head Office, Plot 1124-30, Queens Road, 5th Floor, Standard House, The Mall, P O Box 496, Gaborone, alternatively via e-mail at **bwinvestorrelations@sc.com** not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report, proposed Constitution and supporting documentation are available for download at **www.sc.com/bw.**

By order of the Board

Luzibo Benza
Company Secretary

MoH Monitoring Ebola Screening Refusals



Health ministry confirms isolated resistance to Ebola screening at the Tlokweng Border, says situation is under control with awareness efforts ongoing

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Ministry of Health has confirmed that it has encountered instances of travellers refusing to undergo Ebola screening at the Tlokweng Border Post, although they insist the cases remain isolated and are being closely monitored.

The development follows concerns raised by the Tlokweng District Council, that some travellers entering Botswana have resisted screening measures introduced as part of the country's heightened disease surveillance efforts.

The Tlokweng Border Post remains one of Botswana's busiest entry points and plays a critical role in cross-border movement between Botswana and neighbouring countries. With concerns over the spread of Ebola in parts of the continent, local health officials have intensified screening procedures at points of entry to strengthen early detection and protect public health.

LIMITED UNDERSTANDING

Speaking in an interview with The Botswana Gazette, Ministry of Health spokesperson Christopher Nyanga said most of the resistance appears to stem from limited understanding of the screening process rather than deliberate refusal.

"We are aware of reports that a small number of travellers may not have cooperated well with Ebola screening officials at points of entry since the screening started a few days ago. While these incidents are in the minority, the Ministry of Health is monitoring the situation closely. Our teams are reviewing the circumstances of each report and coordinating with port health officers, border authorities, and other partner agencies to ensure screening procedures are clear, consistently applied, and respected," Nyanga told this publication.

PUBLIC AWARENESS VITAL

Nyanga explained that initial assessments indicate that communication and public awareness remain central to improving compliance.

"Our preliminary findings indicate that some travellers were not aware of the screening and did not understand what it entailed. However, when explained to them, most travellers have been very understanding and cooperative. Most now understand that these are necessary screenings that are altogether non invasive," the ministry's spokesperson added.

ENGAGING TRAVELLERS

The ministry says maintaining public confidence while enforcing health protocols remains a priority and emphasised that screening measures are intended to safeguard both travellers and communities. Nyanga said the ministry will continue engaging travellers and raising awareness as border health surveillance continues.

> "Our preliminary findings indicate that some travellers were not aware of the screening and did not understand what it entailed."

"Further, we encourage all travellers to follow the guidance of health authorities. The Ministry will keep the public informed of any changes to screening procedures as the situation evolves."

Botswana Denies Tanker Registration

Botswana has distanced itself from reports involving a crude oil tanker in the Arabian Gulf, saying the vessel was not registered under its authority despite displaying its national flag

The Ministry of International Relations has responded to reports that a Botswana-flagged crude oil tanker was disabled by the United States military in the Arabian Gulf while reportedly en route to an Iranian port.

According to the ministry, Botswana neither registers nor operates sea-going cargo vessels and has no ship registry under which such a vessel could legally sail.

BOTSWANA REJECTS CLAIMS

In a statement, the ministry said any vessel claiming Botswana nationality without valid registration is operating unlawfully.

"Any vessels purporting to sail under the Botswana flag are engaged in unlawful activity and are not entitled to recognition by other states or entities," the ministry said.

CONCERNS OVER FLAG FRAUD

The ministry condemned the use of so-called "flags of convenience", which it said had enabled individuals involved in international maritime fraud to misuse Botswana's national symbols.

Botswana has duly reported incidents of fraudulent ship registrations to the International Maritime Organization, noting that the country does not maintain a registry for sea-going cargo vessels.

STATUS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW

The ministry said international maritime law determines a vessel's nationality through valid registration rather than the flag it displays.

"Therefore, a vessel falsely claiming Botswana nationality does not enjoy recognition under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and may be treated as stateless," the statement said.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES

The ministry also addressed the broader diplomatic context surrounding the incident.

It stated that the matter does not affect relations between Botswana and the United States, adding that bilateral ties remain intact despite reports surrounding the vessel.

bac
Botswana School of Business Sciences

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Private Bag 137 Francistown, Botswana
Tel: +267 241 0558 Fax: +267 241 0534

INVITATION TO TENDER

BOTSWANA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SCIENCES	TENDER TENDERING PROCEDURES	T 1.1 TENDER NOTICE AND INVITATION TO TENDER

Tender Ref No. BAC/ICT/04/2026-2027 | **Closing Date**: Monday 22nd June 2026 at 10:00hrs
SUPPLY OF DESKTOPS, MACBOOKS, LAPTOPS AND PROJECTORS TO BOTSWANA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SCIENCES (BAC)

Tender Ref No. BAC/ICT/06/2026-2027 | **Closing Date**: Tuesday 23rd June 2026 at 10:00hrs
IMPLEMENTATION OF SAGE-ERP FOR BOTSWANA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SCIENCES - BAC (SAGE INTACCT AND SAGE 300 PEOPLE)

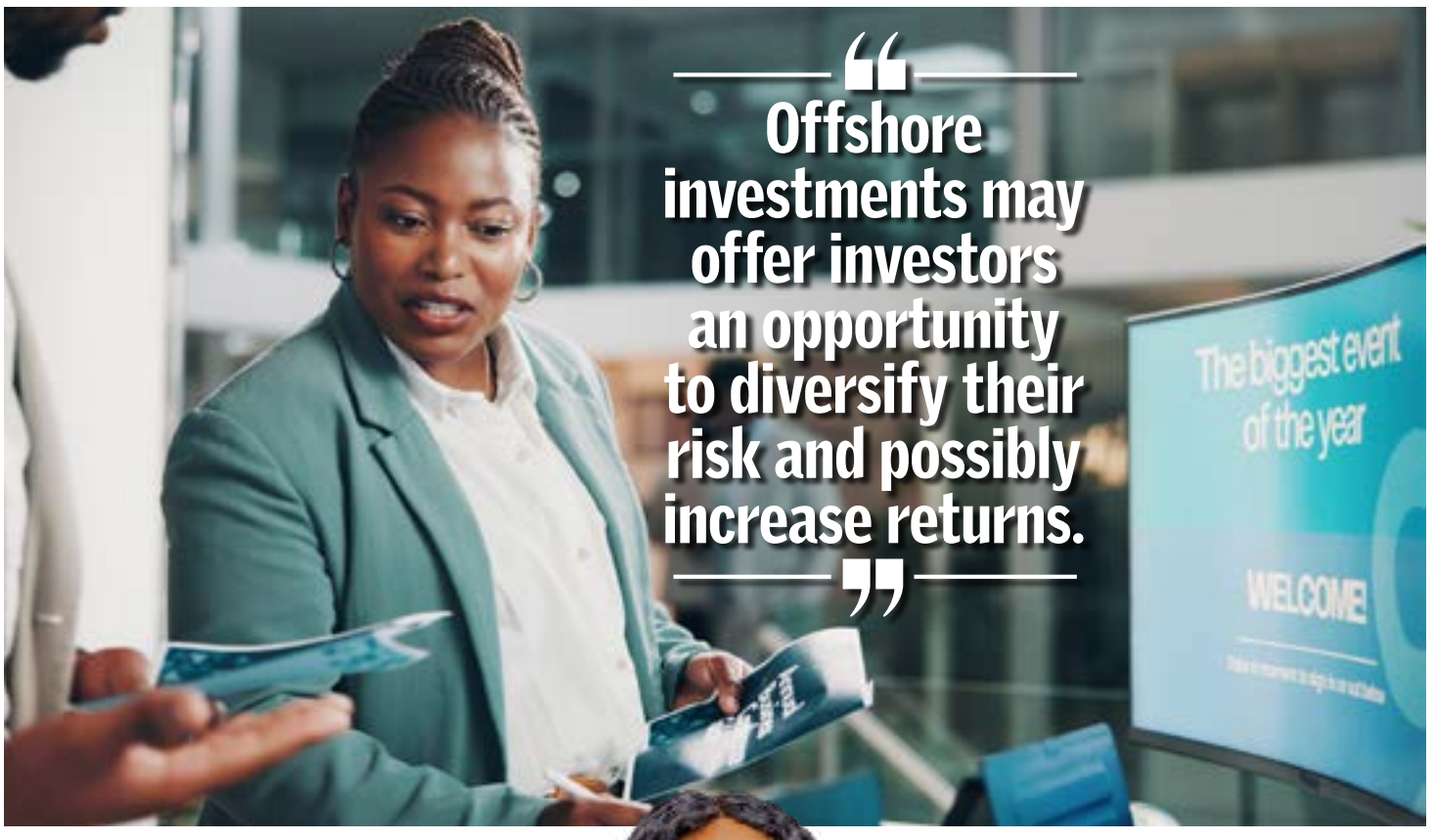
Tender Ref No. BAC/OSIP/10/2026-2027 | **Closing Date**: Wednesday 24th June 2026 at 10:00hrs
PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT OF A 5 YEAR (2027-2031) STRATEGY FOR BOTSWANA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SCIENCES (BAC)

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

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

Is Your Money Losing Power?

In uncertain times, rising prices can quietly erode the value of savings. Tshepang Seisa says offshore investments may offer Batswana a way to protect purchasing power, diversify risk and make money work differently in a volatile global economy.



LEATILE ZACHARIAH

As households continue to feel the pressure of rising prices, offshore investments are being presented as one way for Batswana to cushion themselves against imported inflation, currency pressure and global market uncertainty.

Tshepang Seisa, Head of Capital Markets Products and Solutions at Standard Chartered Botswana, says the global economic picture has shifted significantly since earlier conversations about market volatility, with the Middle East conflict now feeding into oil prices, supply chains and the cost of living in Botswana and the wider region.



TSHEPANG SEISA: HEAD, CAPITAL MARKETS PRODUCTS AND SOLUTIONS

"Every time prices rise, your money works a little less hard for you."

GLOBAL SHOCKS

According to Seisa, recent geopolitical tensions have had a direct impact on petroleum prices, even for countries that are not involved in the conflict.

She says the disruption has affected oil supply, with higher oil prices contributing to imported inflation, rising food prices and slower global economic growth.

"Unfortunately that tension is feeding into our economy in Botswana and in Southern Africa," she says.

The concern for ordinary consumers is that when fuel prices rise, the effects do not remain confined to the pump. Transport, food, basic goods and services can all become more expensive, gradually weakening the purchasing power of household income and savings.

OFFSHORE OPTIONS

Seisa says offshore investments may offer investors an opportunity to diversify their risk and possibly increase returns by gaining exposure to assets outside Botswana.

These investments can include exposure to equities, foreign currency bonds, mutual funds and fixed income securities. The broader idea is to give investors access to markets and currencies that may behave differently from the domestic economy.

She notes that Standard Chartered Bank's Global Market Outlook for 2026 describes the current environment as a "fragile equilibrium," meaning opportunities for growth still exist, but risks remain.

Those risks include the same geopolitical tensions and market disruptions that are currently affecting inflation and global economic performance.

PROTECTING VALUE

For Botswana based investors, one of the key attractions of offshore investment is the potential to earn returns in foreign currency.

Seisa says offshore investments, by their nature, pay investors back in foreign currency. This can become important when exchange rate movements and inflation, place pressure on the pula value of savings.

She points to the Central Bank of Botswana's December 2025 revision of the exchange rate framework, saying it signalled willingness to pay slightly more for foreign currency that investors or customers may want to sell back to local banks.

"When you receive more pula, it means that it is going to be a natural hedge against inflation and will add to your disposable income," she says.

KNOW YOUR RISK

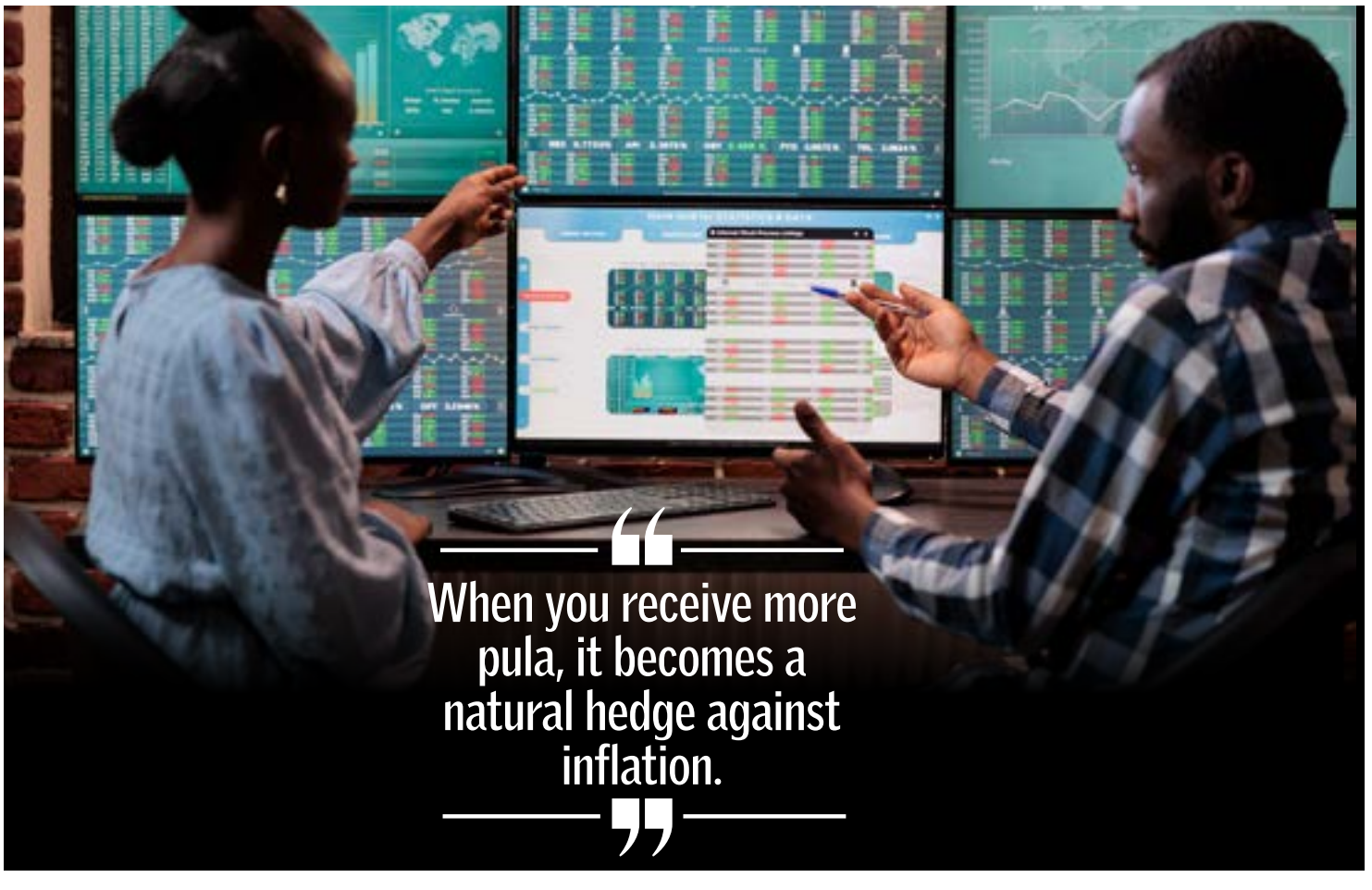
However, Seisa says investors should not rush into offshore investments without first understanding their own risk appetite.

She advises investors to complete a customer investment profile on the SC Mobile App , which can help identify suitable products based on personal financial goals and tolerance for risk.

She says investors should consider global diversification, yield opportunities, investments linked to gold, and the movement of oil prices before making decisions.

At a time when every Pula counts, making informed investment choices matters more than ever. For Batswana willing to look beyond local borders, offshore investments may offer not just protection against uncertainty, but a smarter path to preserving and growing wealth over time.

To learn more about offshore investments, email wealthmanagement.botswana@sc.com.



Hirschfeld Laid To Rest

Botswana's first Motswana Police Commissioner is remembered as a pioneer who shaped post independence policing, opened the service to women and helped build the Botswana Police Service into a national institution.



GAZETTE REPORTER

POLICE PIONEER

Former Botswana Police Service Commissioner Simon Adolf Hirschfeld was laid to rest in Gaborone yesterday, ending a life of public service that placed him at the centre of Botswana's post independence policing history.

Hirschfeld, who died on 3 June 2026, served as Commissioner of Police for 24 years from 1971 to 1995. DailyNews reported that President Duma Boko described him at a memorial service in Mogoditshane as a visionary who helped build the institution that became the Botswana Police Service.

ENDURING LEGACY

Boko said Hirschfeld had engraved his name in history through the foundational work he did in building post independence law enforcement. He said the professionalism, patriotism and commitment to service that remain hallmarks of the BPS stand among the enduring monuments to his life's work.

> "The professionalism, patriotism, and commitment to service that remain hallmarks of the BPS stand among the enduring monuments to his life's work."
> Source: President Duma Boko, quoted by DailyNews

Police Commissioner Dinah Marathe also paid tribute to Hirschfeld for taking the decision to recruit women police officers in the 1970s, a move DailyNews said culminated in her becoming Botswana's first woman Police Commissioner in 2024.

WOMEN IN POLICING

Former Deputy Commissioner Norman Moleboge, who served under Hirschfeld before succeeding him, said Hirschfeld pioneered professional policing in partnership with communities. Former minister Daniel Kwelagobe said Hirschfeld championed the construction of police stations countrywide and was behind the establishment of the Botswana Police College.

News&All, citing a government statement issued by Minister for State President, Defence and Security Moeti Mohwasa, reported that Hirschfeld's policing career began on 1 May 1956 when he joined the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police as a constable.

NATIONAL SERVICE

Government said he became the first Motswana Commissioner of Police in 1971 at the age of 36, marking a milestone in the localisation of leadership within Botswana's security sector after independence. His service earned him several honours, including the Botswana Police Medal for Meritorious Service, the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and the Distinguished Service Order.

SOURCES

DailyNews, "Hirschfeld pioneer of Botswana Law Enforcement", 8 June 2026: https://dailynews.gov.bw/news-detail/91742

News&All Botswana, "Government Announces Passing of Former Police Commissioner Simon Hirschfeld", 4 June 2026: https://na.co.bw/government-announces-passing-of-former-police-commissioner-simon-hirschfeld/

> As we mourn his passing, let us also celebrate a life that contributed significantly to the safety, stability and development of our country."
> Source: Minister Moeti Caesar Mohwasa, quoted by News&All

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www.northatlantic.bw

Job Vacancy

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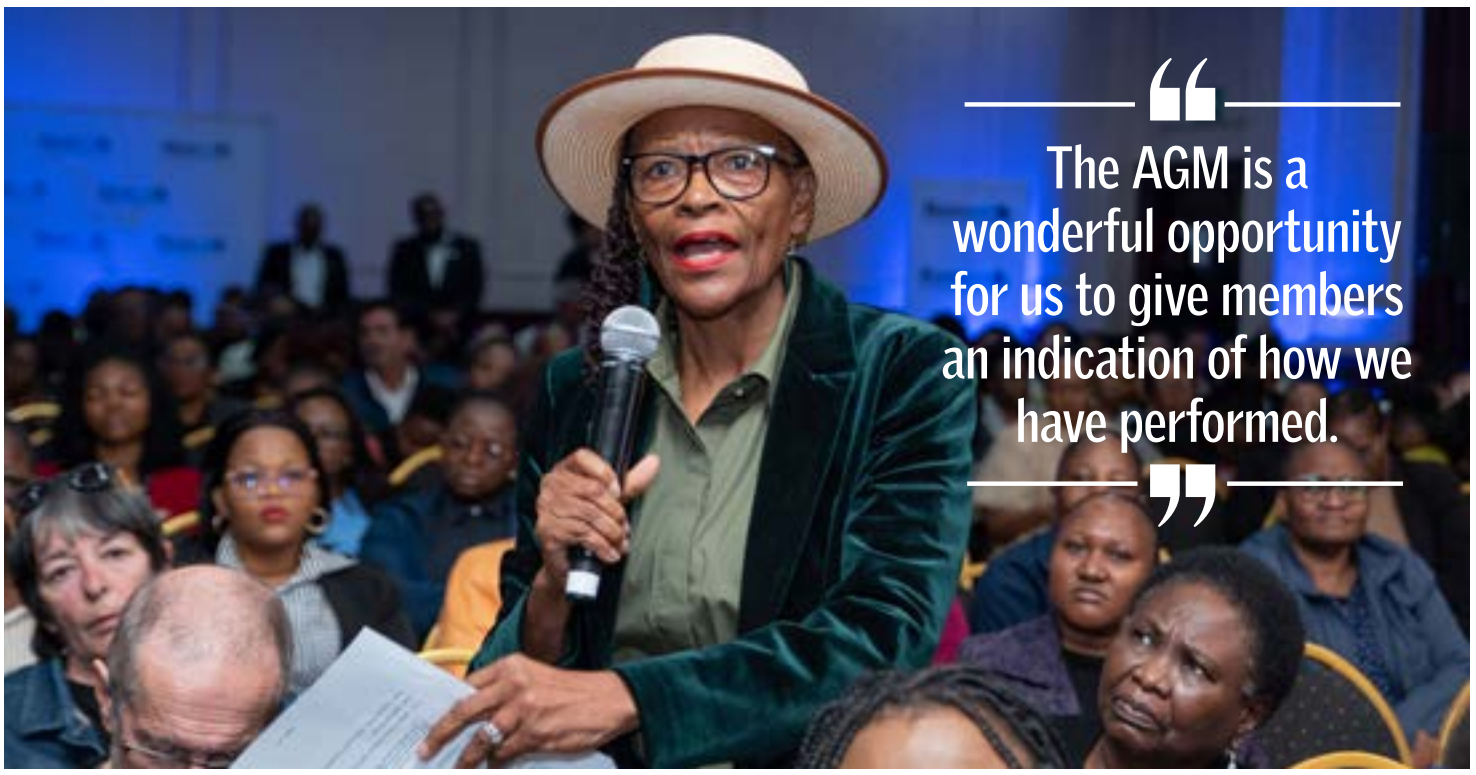
"Your Voice Is Heard" - Bomaid

Bomaid's customer engagement programme continues in Maun this week, giving customers direct access to the medical aid society's services, products and support channels. The engagements also build momentum for the Community Health Day on June 20, where the public is invited to take part in health and wellness activities.



LEATILE ZACHARIAH

Bomaid says its upcoming Annual General Meeting will give members an opportunity to assess the fund's performance, understand its direction, and engage with the society's work around wellness, prevention and digital support.

As Bomaid prepares for its Annual General Meeting, the medical aid society says its countrywide engagements are intended to help members arrive better informed about issues that will shape the formal business of the meeting.

Bomaid CEO Moraki Mokgosana said the AGM remains a platform for accountability because it gives members an opportunity to assess the fund's performance, governance structures and decisions affecting the society.

"Our customers are obviously our shareholders, our biggest stakeholder," Mokgosana said. "It's very important for them to understand what's going on within our medical aid."

AGM PREPARATIONS

Ahead of the AGM, Bomaid has been engaging members in Palapye, Francistown, Maun and Gaborone. Mokgosana said the engagements allow the society to update members on products, pricing, service developments and broader operational matters.

He said the intention is for the AGM to focus on the main business of the day, including financial performance, governance, board representation and member decision making.

"The AGM is a wonderful opportunity for us to give our customers, in this particular case we call them members because now they're the shareholders, an indication of how we have performed," he said.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Mokgosana said the engagements also give members room to raise questions and give feedback outside the formal structure of the AGM. He said Bomaid has learnt that members respond better when information is unpacked practically.

The society is also using the engagements to explain its wider direction as a modern medical aid, including wellness, prevention and digital support through the Thrive with Bomaid app.

WELLNESS CONTEXT

According to Mokgosana, medical aid should not only be associated with illness, hospitalisation and claims. He said members are being encouraged to take greater interest in everyday health decisions that may affect long-term outcomes.

"A lot of times we think of health and wellness as being binary. It's either you're sick or you're healthy," he said. "But being healthy or being well is actually a journey."

He said this includes physical, mental and emotional wellbeing, as well as small habits such as walking more, sleeping better and drinking water.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

Mokgosana drew from his own experience, saying he is borderline hypertensive and has discussed with his doctor whether lifestyle changes could delay medication.

"Most times I've been lucky. I've come back and he said, okay, that's fine. You're safe now. Just keep doing whatever you're doing," he said.

MEMBER CONFIDENCE

As Bomaid heads towards the AGM, Mokgosana said members should take comfort that the fund remains focused on stability, accountability and service.

"What we would like our members to do is take comfort that they're still in the right place, that their funds are well taken care of, their voice is heard, and their concerns are taken on board," he said.





GOVT PLANS FUND FOR RETURNING BODIES FROM ABROAD

Government considers a repatriation fund to help families struggling to bring home deceased Batswana from abroad



BONGANI MALUNGA

The Ministry of International Relations has proposed the establishment of a national repatriation fund or dedicated policy to assist families facing the overwhelming cost of bringing home deceased Batswana from abroad.

The proposal comes amid growing concern over the financial burden placed on grieving families, many of whom are forced into emergency fundraising campaigns to cover the cost of transporting bodies back to Botswana. Repatriation expenses frequently exceed P100 000 depending on the country involved, funeral arrangements and administrative requirements.

Botswana currently does not have a standing government policy that guarantees repatriation assistance for citizens who die outside the country. Authorities have instead consistently encouraged Batswana travelling, studying, working or living abroad to obtain insurance policies that include emergency evacuation and body repatriation cover.

REPATRIATION FRAMEWORK

Appearing before the Government Assurances Committee on Monday, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of International Relations Thuso Ramodimoosi acknowledged the pressure these costs place on families and indicated that a repatriation framework could help reduce the burden.

"If only we had a fund whereby we would be able to repatriate the corpses. We currently do not have that facility, that's why we always engage the deceased's families to assist in making such arrangements," said Ramodimoosi. The discussion comes against the backdrop of several highly publicised cases that exposed the emotional and financial strain of returning loved ones home.

RECENT CASES

One of the most widely followed cases was that of Keotshepile Naso Isaacs, whose body had to be repatriated to Botswana after she was murdered in Scotland in January 2024. Faced with substantial transportation and funeral-related expenses, her family, supported by members of the public and well-wishers, raised more than P100 000 to bring her body back home. She was eventually laid to rest in her home village of Otse in February 2024.

Another case that captured public attention involved Ireland-based Motswana Jakana Segaiso, who passed away in Letterkenny after battling a rare form of blood cancer. His host family launched a fundraising campaign seeking €10 000 to cover repatriation costs and return his remains to Botswana.

> Botswana currently does not have a standing government policy that guarantees repatriation assistance for citizens who die outside the country.

If successful, the ministry's proposal would establish a structured safety net for citizens living abroad, particularly as migration for work, education and opportunities continue to increase.

BPF Slams Motshegwa Over Palapye Council Row

The BPF has accused Minister Motshegwa of interfering in Palapye Council affairs after a no-confidence vote that led to the removal of UDC chairman

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The newly elected Palapye District Council chairman and Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF) councilor David Ikanyeng has launched a scathing attack on the Minister of Local Government and Traditional Affairs Ketlhalefile Motshegwa following the suspension of council and committee meetings in the wake of a motion of no confidence that removed former council chairman and Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) councilor Kabo Ketshogile from office.

FALLOUT FROM NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE

The minister recently ordered the suspension of council and committee meetings, citing the council's alleged failure to effectively discharge its statutory responsibilities and uphold the standards of governance expected of a local authority.

The suspension followed a dramatic political showdown within the council in which BPF councilors successfully tabled a motion of no confidence against Ketshogile, resulting in his removal from the chairmanship.

QUESTIONS OVER SUSPENSION

Speaking in an interview with The Botswana Gazette, Ikanyeng rejected the minister's intervention, arguing that the decision lacks a clear legal or procedural basis and appears to have been taken to advance individual interests rather than those of the council and the residents it serves.

He said councilors were surprised by the minister's decision because no compelling reasons had been provided to justify the suspension of the council's operations.



(Pic:Monirul Bhuiyan/PRESS PHOTO)

NO COMPLAINT LODGED

Ikanyeng questioned why the minister chose to intervene in the affairs of the council when there had been no formal complaint regarding the conduct of the no-confidence proceedings that led to Ketshogile's removal.

According to Ikanyeng, the motion of no confidence was tabled and debated in full compliance with the council's Standing Orders, with all prescribed procedures observed throughout the process.

"The process was conducted in accordance with the Standing Orders," Ikanyeng said. "We followed every procedure required by the rules governing council business."

CLAIMS OF INTERFERENCE

Ikanyeng further argued that the suspension raises concerns about undue political interference in the operations of local authorities.

He said councilors are struggling to understand the rationale behind the minister's decision, particularly given that no one has challenged the legality of the proceedings that resulted in Ketshogile's removal.

COUNCIL AUTONOMY AT STAKE

The BPF councilor maintained that elected representatives should be allowed to carry out their duties without unnecessary interference, provided they operate within established legal and procedural frameworks.

He warned that actions perceived as interference risk undermining the independence of local government institutions and the democratic processes through which councilors exercise their mandate.

LEGAL ACTION NOT RULED OUT

Ikanyeng has not ruled out pursuing legal action if councilors do not receive satisfactory answers regarding the minister's decision to suspend council and committee meetings.



Kgafela Asks Boko For King Status

Bakgatla leader Kgosi Kgafela II has thrown President Duma Boko a diplomatic and constitutional curve ball, requesting appointment as Botswana's envoy to South Africa while also seeking recognition as a king under Botswana law, with attendant immunities similar to those of presidents and monarchs

GAZETTE REPORTER

Self-exiled Bakgatla Paramount Chief Kgosi Kgafela II has written to President Duma Boko requesting to be appointed Botswana's High Commissioner to South Africa, while also pushing for formal recognition of his status as a king.

In a letter addressed to President Boko seen by this publication, Kgafela argues that such an appointment would not only address his long-standing security concerns but also strengthen Botswana's diplomatic standing in South Africa.

The exiled traditional leader, who has spent years living in South Africa, told Boko that he was uniquely positioned to represent Botswana due to his dual connection to both countries.

"I am asking that you appoint me as the Botswana High Commissioner to South Africa immediately to alleviate my security issue," Kgafela wrote.

He further argued that his position as a South African citizen and leader of what he described as "the wealthiest tribe in Southern Africa" made him the ideal candidate for the diplomatic post.

"There is no candidate better suited to be the face of Botswana in South Africa," he stated.

KING STATUS

Beyond the diplomatic appointment, Kgafela's request ventures into even more politically sensitive territory.

He urged President Boko to introduce subsidiary legislation formally recognising his customary status as Kgosikgolo, which he says is equivalent to that of a king.

According to Kgafela, such legislation should explicitly confer upon him immunities ordinarily associated with monarchs and heads of state.

"That status carries with it all the necessary immunities attached to Kings and Presidents all over the world," he wrote.

The request revives a long-running dispute over the legal recognition of the title Kgosikgolo within Botswana's legal framework.

CHALLENGING PAST COURT FINDINGS

Kgafela referenced a 2012 court judgment that reportedly held that the office of Kgosikgolo does not exist under Botswana law.

However, he contends that subsequent developments in South Africa have undermined that position.

The Bakgatla leader claimed that South African courts and a judicial commission of inquiry had either directly or indirectly rejected the Botswana judgment, describing it as "bad law."

He argued that legislative intervention by the Boko administration would remove uncertainty created by past court rulings and previous government decisions that stripped him of official recognition.

Kgafela further maintained that such recognition would align Botswana's treatment of traditional leadership with practices in South Africa, where customary law enjoys constitutional protection.

PATHWAY TO RETURN

Perhaps most significantly, Kgafela indicated that the proposed measures would pave the way for his return to Botswana after years of self-imposed exile.

"As soon as these two measures are in place, I will arrive in Botswana in a glorious ceremony long awaited," he told the President.

His remarks suggest that formal recognition and diplomatic appointment are viewed by him as some of the prerequisites to return home.

POLITICAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposals place the Boko administration in a delicate position.

Appointment of a serving traditional leader as Botswana's chief diplomat in South Africa would be unprecedented, while legislative recognition of a royal status carrying presidential-style immunities could trigger constitutional and political challenges.

It remains unclear whether President Boko or his administration has responded to the proposals contained in the letter.

For now, Kgafela's overture presents the new government with a complex political and legal challenge that could reshape the long-running standoff between the Bakgatla leader and the Botswana state.

HARD TO PLEASE

Insiders are said to have warned President Boko to brace for a potentially difficult engagement with Kgafela, marked by complex demands that could test the limits of state protocol and political accommodation, as has been the case in his interactions with previous administrations.

Govt Pursues Diplomatic Routes to Save Molapisi

Botswana remains hopeful diplomacy can spare Lesedi Molapisi from execution as talks with Bangladesh continue alongside appeals

BONGANI MALUNGA

The Botswana government says it remains cautiously optimistic that diplomatic engagement with Bangladesh could lead to an amicable resolution in the case of Lesedi Molapisi, a Motswana woman currently on death row after being convicted of drug trafficking.

Government officials say discussions remain active but insist that any intervention must carefully balance Botswana's desire to secure clemency with respect for Bangladesh's legal system and judicial independence.

Appearing before the Government Assurance Committee on Monday, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of International Relations, Thuso Ramodimoosi, confirmed that the Minister of International Relations Dr. Phenyo Butale has intensified diplomatic engagements with Bangladeshi authorities.

ACTIVE TALKS

"We are in talks but we also need to respect the judicial processes and laws of that particular country where she is being held. Diplomatically speaking, the minister has engaged his counterpart and he has also held talks with other Bangladesh government officials. There are ongoing efforts to see how an amicable agreement can be reached while respecting the sovereignty and judicial processes of that country. We are very hopeful," Ramodimoosi said.

The case has become one of Botswana's most closely watched international legal matters, drawing public attention and renewed debate around the government's responsibility to support citizens facing severe penalties abroad.

Molapisi's ordeal began on January 23, 2022, as she was arrested at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka allegedly in possession of more than three kilograms of heroin in her luggage upon her arrival from South Africa via Doha.

SENTENCED TO DEATH

After spending more than two years in detention as her case moved through the courts, Molapisi was sentenced to death by a court in Dhaka in May 2024 under Bangladesh's stringent anti-narcotics legislation, which permits capital punishment for certain drug trafficking offences.

Over the course of the case, repeated claims circulated on social media alleging that her execution had already been carried out. However, Botswana authorities and diplomatic officials have consistently dismissed those reports as false, maintaining that Molapisi remains alive as legal and diplomatic efforts continue.

According to multiple international reports, the execution has yet to proceed primarily because an appeal challenging both the conviction and the death sentence remains before the Bangladeshi courts. More reports have further suggested that periods of political instability in Bangladesh have slowed progress on execution-related processes.

CLEMENCY

Ramodimoosi could not publicly outline what form an amicable solution could take but diplomatic options in such cases can include clemency requests, sentence commutation or humanitarian interventions pursued through bilateral engagement.

The outcome of the talks may determine whether diplomacy can alter the course of one of Botswana's most high-profile overseas criminal cases in recent years.

Boko Retains P8M Canadian Election Lobbyist

President Duma Boko has retained a Canadian lobbying firm that supported his election campaign, according to a US Department of Justice filing, which shows that Dickens & Madson continues to work with him under previous retainer payments

GAZETTE REPORTER

President Duma Boko has retained the services of a Canadian lobbying firm that worked to support his election campaign, according to information recently submitted to the United States Department of Justice under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA).

The filing indicates that Dickens & Madson (D&M) "continues to work with Mr. Duma Boko in support of his presidency" after previously undertaking activities "in Botswana, South Africa and the United Kingdom in support of his election as President of Botswana."

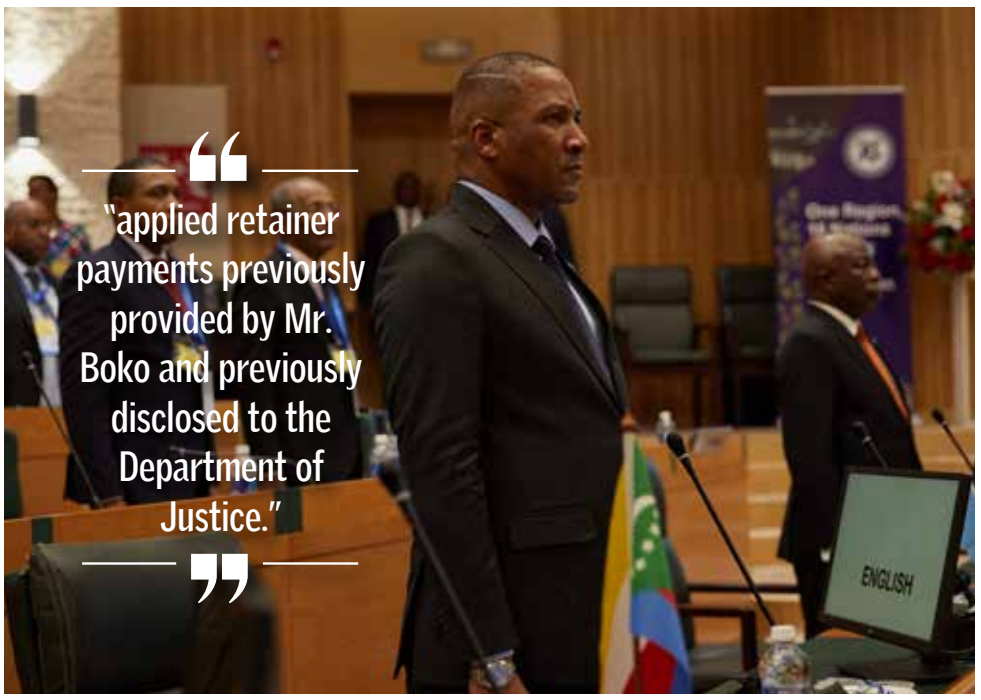
NO DIRECT US-FOCUSED ACTIVITY REPORTED

According to the disclosure, all of the firm's activities on behalf of Boko have taken place outside the United States, with the filing stressing that "none of those activities have been directed at the United States."

It further states that D&M "has not prepared, disseminated or caused the dissemination of informational materials in the United States in connection with this foreign principal."

FUNDING THROUGH PRIOR RETAINER

The submission also outlines that during the reporting period, the firm did not receive new payments from Boko. Instead, it states that D&M "did not receive any contributions, income, or money, either as compensation or otherwise, from Mr. Boko."



Rather, the firm reportedly "applied retainer payments previously provided by Mr. Boko and previously disclosed to the Department of Justice."

It adds that no additional expenditures were made during the period, stating that the firm "did not disburse or expend monies in connection with activity on behalf of Mr. Duma Boko in this reporting period," with all work conducted remotely from Canada.

EARLIER LOBBYING AGREEMENT REVEALED

The latest disclosure follows earlier filings in 2024 that revealed Boko had entered into a lobbying agreement with Dickens & Madson to support what was described as his international engagement strategy.

The agreement, signed on 10 July 2024 between Boko and D&M president Ari Ben-Menashe, was reportedly valued at about P8 million over 12 months. Reports at the time indicated that the firm had already received an initial US$50,000 retainer.

PRE-ELECTION ENGAGEMENT

Documents submitted to the US Department of Justice on 8 August 2024 showed that the arrangement was disclosed in compliance with FARA requirements, just days before the UDC launched its 2024 general election manifesto in Gaborone.

Under the contract, the firm was tasked with conducting lobbying activities targeting contacts within the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom, aimed at supporting Boko's bid for the presidency.

At the time, Boko was quoted as saying: "I am reaching out to international organisations and governments, seeking to secure the integrity of the (2024) elections and stop the fraudulent IEC from pulling off the fraud of 2019."

> "Reports at the time indicated that the firm had already received an initial US$50,000 retainer."

RELATIONSHIP CONTINUES AFTER ELECTION

The newly submitted filing now indicates that the relationship between Boko and Dickens & Madson has continued beyond the election period, with the firm stating that it "continues to work with Mr. Duma Boko in support of his presidency."

Job-Scammed Batswana Feared Trapped in Ukraine War

Government says five young citizens may have been lured with promises of lucrative jobs before being deployed to conflict zones

SESUPO RANTSIMAKO

The government is engaging diplomatic channels to trace five young Batswana who are believed to have been misled through false job promises and subsequently deployed to the frontlines of the ongoing Russia–Ukraine war.

Appearing before the Government Assurance Committee this week, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of International Relations, Thuso Ramodimoosi, revealed that authorities are investigating the disappearance of the five citizens amid concerns that they may have fallen victim to international recruitment schemes targeting unemployed youth.

Ramodimoosi said the ministry is engaging authorities in both Russia and Ukraine through diplomatic channels in an effort to trace the missing individuals and verify their status.

WORKING WITH SECURITY AGENCIES

According to the Permanent Secretary, the ministry is also working closely with the Botswana Police Service (BPS) and the Botswana Defence Force (BDF), with the assistance of Interpol, to establish the whereabouts of the affected citizens.

Ramodimoosi told the committee that rising unemployment has made some Batswana vulnerable to exploitation by foreign recruitment networks that promise attractive employment opportunities abroad.

LURED BY PROMISES OF JOBS

He said preliminary information suggests that some individuals are being enticed with offers of well-paying jobs, only to discover after arrival that they are expected to participate in military operations linked to the Russia-Ukraine war.

> "The Ministry of International Relations says efforts to locate the five missing citizens remain ongoing."

The revelations have raised concerns about the safety of Batswana seeking employment opportunities overseas and the growing threat posed by transnational recruitment syndicates operating across borders.

CONCERNS OVER YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

The Ministry of International Relations says efforts to locate the five missing citizens remain ongoing.

Ramodimoosi assured lawmakers that government agencies are coordinating their efforts and maintaining communication with relevant authorities in both countries as investigations continue.

CAUTION TO JOB SEEKERS

While details surrounding the identities of the missing individuals and the circumstances of their travel remain unclear, officials say every available diplomatic and security mechanism is being utilized to determine their whereabouts.

The development is likely to renew calls for job seekers to exercise caution when responding to overseas employment offers, particularly those advertised through informal channels.

GROWING THREAT OF RECRUITMENT SCAMS

Authorities have previously warned that international criminal networks often target vulnerable job seekers with promises of lucrative employment, only for victims to find themselves in dangerous or exploitative situations.

Government is expected to provide further updates as investigations progress and more information becomes available regarding the fate of the five missing Batswana.

GOVT MONETISES BORDER ACCESS

New visa fee structure increasing charges for foreign students, tourists, business travellers and tour operators have been introduced to boost public finances

GAZETTE REPORTER

The government has introduced a sweeping new visa fee structure that will see foreign students, tourists, business travellers and tour operators paying significantly more to enter and operate in the country.

The move is understood to be aimed at boosting government revenues, but it has raised concerns about Botswana's attractiveness as an education and tourism destination.

The new charges were introduced through the Immigration (Visa) (Amendment) Regulations, 2026, published recently and signed by the Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Major General (Rtd) Pius Mokgware.

STUDENTS FACE NEW VISA COSTS

For the first time, foreign students will be required to pay dedicated visa fees depending on their level of study and frequency of travel. Undergraduate students will pay P300 for a single-entry visa and P500 for a multiple-entry visa, while graduate students will be charged P700 for a single-entry visa and P1,000 for a multiple-entry visa.

The regulations also impose a P2,500 multiple-entry visa fee valid for up to three years for tour operators and transporters, directly affecting businesses that facilitate cross-border tourism and travel.

> The changes form part of a broader overhaul of Botswana's visa regime, with business travellers facing some of the steepest charges.

BUSINESS TRAVELLERS FACE HIGHER CHARGES

The changes form part of a broader overhaul of Botswana's visa regime, with business travellers facing some of the steepest charges. A single-entry business visa will now cost P1,000, while a multiple-entry visa valid for six months to one year will cost P2,000.

TOURISTS AND VISITORS ALSO AFFECTED

Tourists will pay P500 for a single-entry visa valid for up to one month and P1,000 for a multiple-entry visa valid for up to three months. The revised fee schedule also introduces charges for investors, visitors, transit passengers and emergency visa applicants, significantly widening the scope of immigration revenue collection.

While the government has not publicly explained the rationale behind the revised fees, the measures come as Botswana continues to search for new sources of non-diamond revenue amid persistent fiscal pressures and slowing economic growth.

EDUCATION SECTOR MAY FEEL THE IMPACT

The introduction of study visa charges is expected to be closely watched by tertiary institutions that rely on foreign enrolments from across the region. Universities and colleges have increasingly marketed Botswana as a stable and accessible education hub within Southern Africa, but the added costs could influence student decisions, particularly among those from lower-income countries.

TOURISM INDUSTRY ON ALERT

The tourism industry may also be monitoring the impact of the new regulations. Botswana has positioned itself as a premium tourism destination, attracting visitors through its wildlife, conservation credentials and high-value tourism model.

For tour operators and transport companies that routinely move visitors across regional borders, the new P2,500 visa fee introduces an additional operational cost that may ultimately be passed on to customers.

WIDE-RANGING IMMIGRATION OVERHAUL

The regulations took effect upon publication and represent one of the most comprehensive revisions to Botswana's visa fee structure in recent years, affecting international students, tourists, investors, transporters and business executives seeking entry into the country.

Stanbic Bank

21 DAY NOTICE

Stanbic Bank is hereby issuing a 21-Day notice of its intention to review bank charges on its Tariff Guide.

The changes in the tariff will take effect from the 1st **July 2026.**

Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana



	Pricing (BWP)
Transactional Account Maintanance Charges	
Maintanace Fee: Pay As You Go	
Private Banking Current Account	219.69
Executive/Gold	81.71
Salaried Standard/Silver	69.84
Transact Plus Embedded Funeral Pan account	40.19
TransactPlus/Blue	15.15
Business current account	111.14
Business Transact Plus	37.89
Maintanance Fee: Bundled	
Private Banking	298.59
Executive/Gold	172.26
Salaried Standard/Silver	111.14
Youth Account 0 - 24 Years	
Over the Counter Cash Withdrawals	0.00
Encashment Fee	0.00
Service Fee	0.00
Balance Enquiry	0.00
Exchange of Notes/Coins Over the Counter	0.00
Maintenance Fee	10.99
Accessibility Facilitation Charges	
ATM Charges (Personal)	
ATM cash withdrawal (Own ATM)	4.20
ATM cash withdrawal (other banks ATM)	6.91
ATM cash withdrawal (international)	23.83
ATM cash deposit	0.30% of deposit amount (free up to P1 000.00)
Cash Deposit Machine	0.43% of deposit amount (free up to P1 000.00)
ATM card replacement/Additional Card Issued	58.91
Lost card protection insurance	0.00
ATM's bill payment	4.05
Additional card issued	0.00
Balance enquiry	1.76
Buy pre-paid airtime	0.00
International Acquiring Fee	42.60
Manual Transfers (Personal)	
Interaccount transfer (own account within Stanbic)	11.72
Interaccount transfer (to 3rd Party within Stanbic)	11.34
Interaccount transfer (Foreign currency accounts)	46.11
Interaccount transfer (third party account -local bank)	21.32
Statements (Personal)	
Monthly bank statements	
Interim bank statements	9.54
Interim bank statements (Foreign currency accounts)	8.05
Copies of historical bank statements (per page)	30.55
Copies of deposit slips (per page)	33.14
Over The Counter Transaction Charge (Personal)	
Over The Counter Cash Deposits (Personal)	
Over-the-counter cash deposit	0.44% of the deposit amount
Over-the-counter cash deposits (Foreign currency accounts)	0.47% of the deposit amount
Bulk deposit charge	0.44% of the deposit amount
Over The Counter Cash Withdrawals (Personal)	
Encashment fee	1.19%
-Min	6.62
-Max	28.81
Service Fee	1.32%
-Min	4.45
-Max	16.94
Exchange of notes/coins over-the-counter	1.82%
Min	8.84
Max	600.77
Accessibility Facilitation Charges (Business)	
Atm Charges (Business)	
ATM cash withdrawal (Own ATM)	4.36
ATM cash withdrawal (other banks ATM)	6.91
ATM cash withdrawal (international)	23.47
ATM cash deposit	0.47% of deposit amount
Cash Deposit Machine	0.47% of deposit amount
ATM card replacement / Additional Card Issued	59.64
Lost card protection insurance	Free
ATM's bill payment	4.30
Additional card issued	

	Pricing (BWP)
Balance enquiry	1.76
Buy pre-paid airtime	Free
International Acquiring Fee	42.60
Manual Transfers - (Business)	
Interaccount transfer (own account within Stanbic)	12.51
Interaccount transfer (to 3rd Party within Stanbic)	12.30
Interaccount transfer (Foreign currency accounts)	46.11
Interaccount transfer (third party account -local bank)	22.80
STATEMENTS (Business)	
Monthly bank statements	Free
Interim bank statements	8.78
Copies of historical bank statements (per page)	32.60
-less than 6 months (per sheet)	
-more than 6 months (per sheet)	
Interim bank statements (Foreign currency accounts)	9.07
Copies of old bank statements (Foreign Currency) per sheet	32.60
Deposit Slips (Business)	
Copies of deposit slips	
-less than 6 months	33.14
-more than 6 months	75.58
Foreign Currency Transactions (Personal)	
ZAR Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.44%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	1.20%
Min	8.92
Max	38.76
Over the counter statement request	10.84
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	13.96
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	24.61
Local SWIFT bank transfer	143.06
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	110.94
- Max	633.89
USD Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.44%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	1.20%
Min	0.48
Max	2.07
Over the counter statement request	0.60
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	0.74
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	1.31
Local SWIFT bank transfer	7.64
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	5.92
- Max	33.83
GBP Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.44%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	1.20%
Min	0.38
Max	1.64
Over the counter statement request	0.46
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	0.59
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	1.04
Local SWIFT bank transfer	6.04
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	4.69
- Max	26.78
EURO Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.45%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	1.20%
Min	0.44
Max	1.91
Over the counter statement request	0.55
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	0.69
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	1.21
Local SWIFT bank transfer	7.05
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	5.55
- Max	31.69
FOREIGN CURRENCY ACCOUNTS (Personal)	
Amendments (incoming SWIFT transfers)	161.02
Amendments (outgoing SWIFT transfers)	81.25

	Pricing (BWP)
Foreign Currency Transactions (Business)	
ZAR Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.50%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	0.93%
Min	9.04
Max	39.38
Over the counter Interim statement request	12.21
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	13.96
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	24.61
Local SWIFT bank transfer	143.06
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	110.94
- Max	633.89
USD Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.50%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	0.93%
Min	0.49
Max	54.71
Over the counter Interim statement request	0.67
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	0.76
For DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	1.31
Local SWIFT bank transfer	7.64
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	6.10
- Max	34.82
GBP Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.50%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	0.93%
Min	0.39
Max	41.25
Over the counter Interim statement request	0.53
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	0.60
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	1.04
Local SWIFT bank transfer	6.04
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	4.75
- Max	27.14
EURO Account	
Over-the-counter cash deposits	0.51%
Over the counter cash withdrawal	0.93%
Min	0.46
Max	49.50
Over the counter Interim statement request	0.62
RTGS_Transaction	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	0.70
For DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	1,21
Local SWIFT bank transfer	7.05
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	5.63
- Max	32.18
Foreign currency accounts (Personal)	
Amendments (incoming SWIFT transfers)	170.68
Amendments (outgoing SWIFT transfers)	86.12
Over the Counter Cash Deposits (Business)	
Over-the-counter cash deposit	0.50%
Over-the-counter cash deposits (Foreign currency accounts)	0.50%
Bulk deposit charge	0.50%
Over the counter cash withdrawals (Business)	
Encashment fee	0.62%
-Min	6.73
-Max	721.00
Service Fee	1.32%
-Min	4.82
-Max	18.97
Exchange of notes/coins over-the-counter	1.82%
Min	8.84
Max	600.77
Balance enquiry over-the-counter	Free
POINT OF SALE (ACQUIRING/USAGE) - Business	
POS installation	610.95
Monthly terminal rental	
-Min	123.69
-Max	299.47
Commission rate	
-Min	277.82
-Max	5.56%
Status reports – obtaining and issuing	Free
Communications/GPRS fee	292.68
Point of Sale (local) - Own	1.63

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	Pricing (BWP)
Point of Sale (local) - Other banks	1.66
Point of Sale (international) – Own	7.89
Point of sale (international) – Other banks machine	7.41
E-Commerce Hosting Fee	413.65
Set Up of New Users	Free
Subsequent Training of New Users	Free
POINT OF SALE (ACQUIRING/USAGE) - (Personal)	
Point of Sale (local) - Own	1.44
Point of Sale (local) - Other banks	1.44
Point of Sale (international) – Own	7.34
Point of sale (international) – Other banks machine	7.57
E-Commerce Hosting Fee	0.00
Internet Banking (Personal)	
Balance enquiry single account	0.00
Balance enquiry multiple account	0.00
Statement request	0.00
Cheque book request	0.00
Utility bill payment	3.37
Stamped Statement Request	11.86
Account Confirmation Letter	11.40
Account Transfers	
-To own account in Stanbic	0.00
-To third party in Stanbic	3.36
-To other banks	3.36
-Cross boarder	3.38
Credit card payments	3.36
Email Alert	0.00
Foreign Currency transfers	
-To own account in Stanbic	0.00
-To third party in Stanbic	0.00
-To other banks	0.00
Outward telegraphic transfers	0.00
-Min	55.46
-Max	360.17
Instant Money (Personal & Business)	
Instant Money service charge	11.11
Business Online (Business)	
Installation and Training	294.49
Monthly fee - Corporate	286.45
Local Transfers & Collections:	
-To own account within Stanbic	0.00
-To third party accounts within bank	6.02
-To accounts in other banks	8.16
Foreign Currency transfers:	
- To own account	0.00
- To third party accounts within the bank	0.00
- To other banks	0.00
Direct Debit	6.02
Security Token Fee	174.47
Direct Debit Unpaid Fee	382.84
Host to Host Setup Fee	14131.68
Authent Consolidated Payments (Business)	
To other banks	7.67
To Stanbic	5.86
Internet Banking (Business)	
Sign-up/registration	Free
Monthly fee - Corporate	51.50
Balance enquiry single account	0.00
Balance enquiry multiple account	0.00
Stamped Statement Request	7.47
Bank Confirmation Letter	6.91
Utility bill payment	4.08
Account transfers -To own account in Stanbic	3.62
Account transfers -To third party in Stanbic	4.30
Account transfers -To other banks	4.78
Account transfers-Cross boarder	0.00
Credit card payments	0.00
Email Alert	0.30
Foreign Currency transfers-To own account in Stanbic	4.22
Foreign Currency transfers-To third party in Stanbic	4.47
Foreign Currency transfers-To other banks	4.94
Outward telegraphic transfers	0.36%
-Min	55.56
-Max	360.17
BCB Platform	
Stamped Statement Request	7.69
Bank Confirmation Letter	6.91
Cellphone Banking (USSD) - (Personal & Business)	
Subscription	0.00
Transfer between own accounts:	
-Within Stanbic	3.28
-To other banks	5.36
Payment to third party accounts (within Stanbic)	3.28
Buy pre-paid airtime	0.00
Mini Statement (Last 10 transactions)	2.31
Balance Enquiry	1.15
Make payments – Utilities/bills	3.85
My Updates / SMS Alerts Fee - Fee is aggregated and collected monthly	0.25
Instant Money Wallet	
Registration	Free
Check Balance	Free
View statement	Free
Cash-In (Individuals & Merchants)	0.45 per P100
Wallet to Bank Account -Self	0.00
Wallet to Bank Account-Other Stanbic	3.13
Wallet to Bank Account-Other Banks	10.00
Purchase of Electricity	2.86
Purchase of WUC	2.86
Purchase of Airtime	0.00
Payment for Television subscription	2.86
P2P (Wallet to Wallet)	3.76
Bulk Disbursement (EOL) per transaction	6.30
Bulk Disbursement (BOL) per transaction	8.18
Alerts	0.24 per SMS
QR Payments	
0-40	0.00
101-200	0.00
201-500	0.00
501-700	0.00
701-1000	0.00
Split Bill	0.00
Cash Out at ATM-First Withdrawal	Free
Cash Out at ATM-2	4.27
CASH OUT at Agents	
25.00 – 125.00	6.65
125.01 – 250.00	6.65
250.01 – 500.00	11.71
500.01 – 1 000.00	27.17
1 001.01 – 2 000.00	29.27
2 000.01 – 3 000.00	52.18
3 000.01 – 4 000.00	52.18
4 000.01 – 5 000.00	62.09
5 000.01 – 6 000.00	70.25
6 000.01 – 7 000.00	81.95
7 000.01 – 8 000.00	93.66
8 000.01 – 9 000.00	105.37
9 000.01 – 10 000.00	117.08
Card Application/Card Replacement	56.00
ATM Withdrawal (Stanbic)/Own	5.71
ATM Withdrawal (Non Stanbic)/Other	9.39
ATM Withdrawal International	32.40
POS Local	1.40
POS Swiping International	3.50
Online Payment (Local)	2.80
Balance Enquiries (Local)	Free
Balance Enquiries (International)	Free
Mini Statements	Free
Frequent User Bundle	180.00
Investment/Intermediation Charges	
Term Deposits (Personal & Business)	
Charge for breaking a term deposit	(Amount to be withdrawn x 1% x number of days left to maturity)/365
Minimum Penalty Interest charge	251.98
Maximum Penalty Interest charge	Total Accrued Interest
Savings Accounts (Personal)	
"Monthly maintenance fee (Except Koketso) "	6.51
Koketso Savings Penalty Charge	88.35
Lending And Overdraft Services	
All Lending Facilities (Personal)	
Early Repayment Quotation Request	25.75
Early repayment penalty	30 days interest
Loan Rescheduling Fee	121.78
TransUnion Enquiry	7.25
CRB Enquiry	23.69
Salary Advance	
Processing/Arrangement	58.00
Facility fee	6%
Penalty on overdue balance	10%
Unsecured Personal Loan (Personal)	
Processing/Arrangement	1.32%
- Min	576.08
- Max	1214.72
Insurance administration	22.33
Vehicle and Asset Finance: (Personal)	
Processing/Arrangement	1.30%
- Min	746.34
- Max	11779.75
Insurance administration	8.91
Term Loans (Personal)	
Processing/Arrangement	1.30%
- Min	647.89
- Max	3239.42
Insurance administration	9.48
Home loans (and Building loans) - Personal	
Processing/Arrangement	1.33%
- Min	704.08
- Max	9593.88
Overdrafts: - Personal	
Authorised facility arrangement	1.31%
- Min	543.31
- Max	17669.62
Excess availment	Prime +15%
Unauthorised facility	37.88
All Lending Solutions (Business)	
CRB Enquiry	23.69
TransUnion Enquiry	27.64
Loan Rescheduling Fee	154.50
Unutilised Facility Penalty	0.52%
- Min	515.00
- Max	0.52%
Early repayment penalty	No Maximum
Vehicle and Asset Finance: (Business)	
Processing/Arrangement	1.52%
- Min	746.33
- Max (Small & Medium Business)	23559.48
- Max (Commercial)	No Maximum
Insurance administration	9.17
Term Loans (Business)	
Processing/Arrangement	1.30%
- Min	647.88
- Max (Small & Medium Business)	30838.48
- Max (Commercial)	No Maximum
Insurance administration	9.48
Commercial building loans: (Business)	
Processing/Arrangement	1.35%
Commision	
- Min	704.08
- Max (Small & Medium Business)	41229.10
- Max (Commercial)	No Maximum
Insurance administration	9.48
Overdrafts: (Business)	
Authorised facility arrangement	1.30%
- Min	543.31
- Max (Small & Medium Business)	17669.62
- Max (Commercial)	No Maximum
Excess availment	Prime +15%
Unauthorised facility	41.85
Credit Card (Personal)	
Credit Card Application	57.62
Annual Card Fees	
- Silver	141.36
- Gold	212.04
Secondary Card (Silver, Gold)	80.24
Lost card/replacement	101.19
Cash withdrawal:	
- Own ATM	3.87
- Other local ATM	6.32
- International ATM	18.33
Declined transaction (due to lack of funds)	0.00
Branch over the counter cash withdrawal	
- Own bank	19.22
- Other local bank	28.80
- International bank	35.20
Point of Sale Purchases	
- Own bank	1.40
- Other Local bank	1.40
- International bank	7.30
Lost card protection insurance	
Outstanding balance on credit card insurance	0.34% of outstanding balance
Over the limit cash advance	149.99
Balance Enquiry	
- Own ATM	1.79



	Pricing (BWP)
- Other local ATM	3.48
- International ATM	3.48
Interim bank statement	9.54
Mini Statement - ATM	0.00
Impound Credit Card	
- International	185.62
- Local	160.02
Introduction letter for international bank	24.86
Currency Conversion fee	2.78%
Account in arrears (charged per month) 30 days	160.43
Pin Replacement	0.11%
ITC Enquiry	27.64
CRB Enquiry	23.69
Platinum Credit Card Fees (Personal)	
Annual Fees	471.18
Secondary card	58.91
Card Replacement fee	100.13
Out of order/over limit fee	137.24
Cash withdrawal at local branch	35.34
Cash withdrawal at International branch	47.12
Cash withdrawal at Stanbic ATM	5.88
Cash withdrawal at International ATM	42.41
Technical credit limit maximization	1.11
ITC Enquiry	27.64
CRB Enquiry	23.69
Prepaid Card (Personal & Business)	
Card Order (Per Card)	30.90
Load per (card)	14.94
Business Prepaid Card Portal	0.00
Portal Customisation	0.00
Portal Hosting Fees	0.00
User Licences	0.00
Management Reports	0.00
Statements	0.00
Management Fee	5.23
ATM Withdrawal - Stanbic	5.00
ATM Withdrawal - Other	7.21
ATM Withdrawal - International	21.92
POS Purchase - Local	1.15
POS Purchase - International	6.93
Balance Enquiry - Local	3.00
Balance Enquiry - International	4.12
Declined ATM Transaction - Stanbic	0.00
Declined ATM Transaction - Other	0.00
Card Replacement	41.20
Cardholder Prepaid Card Portal	0.00
Card To Card Transfer	0.00
Order Card	0.00
Stop Card	0.00
Corporate Credit Card (Business)	
Credit Card Application	88.35
Annual Card Fees	629.02
Card Replacement fee	89.39
Emergency Card Replacement Fee	171.55
Late Payment Fee	57.19
Insufficient Funds Fee	5.17
Balance enquiry: Stanbic Bank	1.13
Cash Withdrawal: Stanbic Bank	5.25
Cash Withdrawal Fee: Other Bank	7.89
Cash Withrawal Fee: International	36.76
Cash Advance Fee - Local	P29,25 if amount is below P1 400 and 2,22% of transaction value if above P1 400
Cash Advance Fee- International	39,69 if amount is below P1 800 and 2,34% of transaction value if above P1 800
Balance Transfer Fee	163.77
Annual Interest rate	28.00%
CRB Enquiry	23.70
ITC Transunion enquiry	27.64
Foreign Exchange Charges (Personal & Business)	
SWIFT bank transfer	106.34
RTGS Charges	
For DR transfers between 0830 & 1300hrs	10.37
for DR transfers between 1301hrs and 1630hrs	18.29
International SWIFT bank transfer (Outward TT)	0.43%
- Min	82.46
- Max	471.18
Purchase of foreign notes	4.94%
- Min	23.57

	Pricing (BWP)
- Max	212.04
Sale of foreign notes	4.36
- Min	23.57
- Max	212.04
Bills negotiated and returned unpaid	3.01%
- Min	70.68
- Max	388.85
Transfer to accounts at other local banks	0.47%
- Min	76.57
- Max	424.07
Transfer to accounts at foreign banks	0.43%
- Min	76.57
- Max	411.72
Telegraphic transfer (Inward)	0.41%
- Min	80.10
- Max	471.19
SWIFT cable cost / Local swift bank transfer	107.13
Letters of Credit (inward - exports) - (Personal & Business)	
Advising commission	187.30
Confirming commission	1.09%
- Min	412.30
- Max	
Negotiation of documents	0.52%
- Min	76.57
- Max	
Amendments (other than extensions)	164.91
Cancellation	76.57
Extension of tenure	0.48%
- Min	94.23
- Max	365.18
Letters of Credit (outwards - imports) - Personal & Business	
Establishment of letter of credit	0.51% per quarter and or part thereof
- Min	441.75
SWIFT cost on establishment	99.89
Extension or renewal of letter of credit	0.52% per quarter and or part thereof
- Min	94.23
Increase of amount of letter of credit	0.52% per quarter and or part thereof
- Min	95.61
Drawing commission on letter of credit	0.46%
- Min	76.57
- Max	No maximum
Amendment of letter of credit	164.91
Couriering of documents	129.57
Revolving and standby letter of credit	0.47% per quarter and or part thereof
- Min	441.75
Cancellation of letter of credit	174.81
Other***	
Drawings	0.46%
- Min	81.15
- Max	No maximum
Foreign Bills (collection charges) - Personal and Business	
Outward Collection Handling	
Documentary bills	0.39%
- Min	197.32
- Max	No Maximum
Clean bills	0.39%
- Min	129.47
Inward Collection Handling	
Documentary bills	0.39%
- Min	194.48
- Max	No Maximum
Clean Bills	0.37%
- Min	129.47
- Max	
Cable charges	90.90
Postage/Courier Charges	84.24
Clean Bill return	212.04
Stop payments of drafts and bills	194.43
Stop order charge	13.50
Retrieval Charges from Document bank (vouchers, messages etc),	37.46
Retrieval Charges from Document bank (vouchers, messages etc),	68.62 over 6 months
Recievable Discounting	Negotiable
Invoice Finacing	Negotiable
Escrow Services	
- Min	0.56% of amount
- Max	0.43% of amount
Payment And Clearing Charges - (Personal & Business)	
Deposit-Book	

	Pricing (BWP)
Deposit book (small book)	33.34
Stop Order	
Stop order within bank (own accounts)	0.00
Stop order within bank (3rd party accounts)	14.34
Stop order within bank (loan repayments)	0.00
Stop order to other banks (local)	26.50
Stop order to other banks (International)	16.11
Stop order dishonoured: insufficient funds	303.36
Establish Standing Order	6.30
Amend standing order	6.30
Sweeping charge	12.60
Penalty Charges - Personal & Business	
Declined POS transaction due to lack of funds debit card	
Stoppage of payment	166.43
Debit order unpaid	383.07
Excess item fee	133.69
Referral Fee (Calling customer to normalise excess)	122.31
Penalty Charges (Business)	
Referral Fee (Calling customer to normalise excess)	135.40
Account Services: (Personal & Business)	
Investigations on transactions	
Certificate of Balance:	
- Audit confirmation	371.82
Certificate covering interest paid	57.66
- Balance of account only	52.34
Full bank history report (local)	48.57
Full bank history report (international)	76.97
Stop payment instruction	169.52
Bank Letters	29.29
Sweep facility one time set up fee	171.55
Honouring Fee	126.00
Full General Report / Bank Confirmation Letter	23.57
Other Services (Personal & Business)	
Fax - Local	40.76
Fax - International	61.83
Scanning and E-mailing	44.30
- Photocopying of documents	15.14
- Courier services	139.28
Storage of repossessed cars (per day)	30.44
Release of repossessed vehicle	235.60
Handling fee for repossessed vehicle sold	669.52
Other Services (Business)	
Storage of repossessed cars (per day)	60.87
Release of repossessed vehicle	457.47
Bonds/Guarantees/Indemnities (Business)	
Shipping guarantees(bill of lading Indemnities)	
Establishment per guarantee	163.37
Quarterly commission	1,32% per quarter, or part thereof recoverable quarterly in advance
- Min	122.24
- Max	27782.42
Increase of amounts	163.37
Extension of tenure	163.37
Small to Medium Enterprises	
Establishment per guarantee	163.37
Quarterly commission	1,32% per quarter, or part thereof recoverable quarterly in advance
- Min	122.24
- Max	22225.93
Increase of amounts	163.37
Extension of tenure	163.37
Property Guarantees:(Business)	
Commission	0.74% per quarter or part thereof recoverable quarterly in advance
Establishment fee	164.91
Amendments	173.16
Assessment fee	
Copy of title deed request	6.69
Performance/Tender bonds (Business)	
Establishment:	
For bank customers	171.55
Amendments	185.53
Quarterly commission	0.82% per quarter, or part thereof recoverable quarterly in advance
- Min	129.57
Copy of bond request	7.09

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KBL Volumes Fall Amid Economic Strain

Botswana's weak consumer demand weighed on beer sales in 2025, although Kgalagadi Breweries Limited maintained its market leadership and gained share in key categories

GAZETTE REPORTER

Kgalagadi Breweries Limited (KBL) recorded a 9.4 percent decline in overall volumes in 2025 as Botswana's economic challenges dampened consumer spending, according to Managing Director Hannes Smal.

The decline affected both the clear beer and traditional beer businesses, with volumes falling by 9.8 percent and 8.7 percent respectively.

Despite the downturn, KBL said it improved its Low Alcohol Drinks (LADS) share by 0.2 percentage points and maintained its position as the market leader in beer while strengthening its presence in the Beyond Beer category through portfolio diversification and product innovation.

"KBL remains committed to sustaining leadership in its core categories while building new growth platforms," Mr. Smal said.

CLEAR BEER

The clear beer category experienced a 9.8 percent decline in volume compared with the previous year, reflecting economic pressures and supply constraints.

Premium brands recorded the sharpest decline, with volumes falling by 23.5 percent. CORE and CORE+ brands declined by 7.4 percent.

Overall clear beer market share decreased by 0.8 percentage points during the year.

BEYOND BEER

The Beyond Beer category reported a 26.2 percent decline in volume. However, its market share increased to 32.6 percent from 31 percent a year earlier.

The gain was largely driven by Brutal Fruit, which increased its share by 2.9 percentage points. Flying Fish maintained its position, while Redd's Vodka Lemon declined by 1.5 percentage points.

"Despite this setback, the business remains optimistic about future performance, with plans to enhance brand availability and expand the portfolio through new innovations," Mr. Smal said.

TRADITIONAL BEER

Traditional African beer volumes declined by 8.7 percent year-on-year, mainly because of weaker performance in Chibuku liquid beer.

In contrast, beer powder volumes increased by 12.4 percent, raising their contribution to the segment from 15.7 percent to 19.3 percent.

According to the company, the increase was supported by the start of local powder production during the second half of the year, which improved supply efficiency. Demand was also supported by consumers seeking more affordable options amid constrained spending conditions.

Food Costs Drive 2025 Inflation

Food prices remain a concern despite overall price stability, according to Statistics Botswana's latest consumer inflation review

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana's average annual inflation rate stood at 2.7 percent in 2025, down slightly from 2.8 percent recorded in 2024, according to Statistics Botswana.

The government statistics agency said Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Miscellaneous Goods and Services were the largest contributors to the 2025 average annual inflation rate, with each accounting for 0.8 of a percentage point.

"The primary contributors to the 2025 average annual inflation rate were Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Miscellaneous Goods & Services groups each accounting for 0.8 of a percentage point," the agency said in its Botswana Consumer Price Index in Review 2025 report.

Statistics Botswana noted that rising food prices were likely to have a greater impact on low-income and vulnerable households and could undermine efforts aimed at poverty reduction.

> "Nonetheless, emerging risks particularly from food prices and external factors require continuous attention and coordinated policy action."

PRICE CHANGES

Between 2024 and 2025, inflation trends varied across consumer price groups.

The largest increase was recorded in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, where inflation rose by 2.2 percentage points from 5.6 percent to 7.8 percent. Education followed, increasing by 1.1 percentage points from 1.5 percent to 2.6 percent.

Health inflation rose from 1.7 percent to 2.3 percent, while Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased from 4.8 percent to 5.4 percent.

Several categories recorded lower inflation rates. Housing declined by 2.1 percentage points, moving from 0.7 percent in 2024 to minus 1.4 percent in 2025. Restaurant and Hotels fell from 4.0 percent to 2.8 percent, while Clothing and Footwear eased from 4.3 percent to 3.7 percent.

Communication also declined, dropping from 0.3 percent to minus 0.1 percent.

POLICY OUTLOOK

Statistics Botswana said inflation remained broadly stable and within the Bank of Botswana's medium-term objective range of 3 to 6 percent.

"This outcome reflected the effectiveness of monetary policy actions, together with complementary macroeconomic measures, in anchoring inflation expectations and containing underlying price pressures," the report said.

The agency added that risks linked to food prices and external factors require continued attention and coordinated policy action.

Statistics Botswana said it would continue providing timely and reliable data to support fiscal and monetary policy formulation and evidence-based decision-making.

Absa Eyes Next Growth Phase

As Botswana's economy faces mounting pressure, Absa Botswana says it is entering a new strategic phase focused on efficiency, diversification and digital transformation



> "The environment ahead will require greater agility, sharper execution and a willingness to challenge traditional ways of operating."

GAZETTE REPORTER

Absa Bank Botswana has concluded its medium-term strategic cycle with what Managing Director Keabetswe Pheko-Moshagane described as meaningful progress across its key priorities despite sustained economic and industry challenges.

In remarks contained in the bank's 2025 Integrated Report, Pheko-Moshagane said the institution had continued to execute a strategy centred on customer focus, diversification, digital transformation, sustainability and organisational capability.

"Being the primary partner to our clients remained central to our strategic focus as we continued to deepen relationships across our customer base," she said.

The bank said its approach was supported by stakeholder engagement, client-focused initiatives, strategic partnerships and sponsorship platforms aimed at strengthening relevance, accessibility and trust.

REVENUE GROWTH

Absa reported continued progress in diversifying its earnings base, with non-interest income contributing 41 percent of total revenue during the period.

According to the report, revenue growth was achieved despite a constrained operating environment, supported by new products and services across its retail, business and corporate banking segments.

These included enhanced mobile money functionality through Absa MobiTap, the introduction of a Signature Credit Card proposition for business banking clients and an expanded suite of risk management solutions for corporate customers.

"Our strategic focus on revenue growth and diversification continued to yield positive outcomes," Pheko-Moshagane said.

DIGITAL PUSH

The bank also highlighted advances in its digital transformation agenda through investments in technology, infrastructure resilience and payments innovation.

During the year, Absa introduced digital payment capabilities aimed at improving convenience, security and cross-border transactions.

Pheko-Moshagane said the bank's digital strategy remains focused on delivering simpler and more secure customer experiences while maintaining strong cybersecurity protections.

"These investments continue to position the Bank to respond more effectively to evolving customer preferences and the increasing digitisation of financial services," she said.

LOOKING AHEAD

While reflecting positively on her tenure leading the bank, Pheko-Moshagane acknowledged the difficult economic conditions facing Botswana.

"It is, however, somewhat paradoxical that this point of reflection coincides with one of the more difficult periods for the domestic economy in recent years," she said.

Looking ahead, Absa plans to intensify efforts to improve operational efficiency and productivity, with a target of reducing its cost-to-income ratio to the lower 50s. The bank also intends to further diversify revenue streams, strengthen capital allocation and maintain a focus on risk-adjusted returns.

Pheko-Moshagane said investment in people, organisational capability, sustainability and inclusive growth would remain central to the bank's long-term strategy.

She added that stronger collaboration between industry, government and other stakeholders would be critical in supporting Botswana's economic transformation and long-term competitiveness.

Japanese Cars A Preference for Batswana

Used vehicles accounted for nearly four out of five first-time registrations in Botswana during the fourth quarter of 2025, with imports from Japan overwhelmingly leading the market

GAZETTE REPORTER

Used motor vehicles accounted for 79.6 percent of all first-time vehicle registrations in Botswana during the fourth quarter of 2025, underscoring the country's continued reliance on imported second-hand vehicles, according to Statistics Botswana.

The figures are contained in the agency's Transport & Infrastructure Statistics Quarter 4, 2025 report.

VEHICLE MARKET

According to the report, used vehicles from Japan made up 85.2 percent of all used vehicle registrations during the quarter, far ahead of South Africa, which accounted for 6.7 percent.

Conversely, most brand-new vehicles registered during the period originated from South Africa, representing 72.4 percent of the total, followed by Botswana at 9.0 percent.

"Used vehicles from Japan constituted the majority of the used vehicle registrations this quarter (85.2 percent), followed by those from South Africa (6.7 percent)," the report said.

Passenger cars dominated registrations across vehicle categories. Statistics Botswana reported that passenger cars accounted for 83.7 percent of all used vehicles registered during the quarter.

"Passenger cars constituted the majority of used vehicles, accounting for 83.7 percent of the total," the report reads.

Trailers followed at 5.4 percent, while trucks and vans accounted for 4.0 percent and 3.3 percent respectively.

Passenger cars also led among brand-new registrations, accounting for 30.3 percent of the total, followed by vans at 26.0 percent. Among rebuilt vehicles, passenger cars represented 75.0 percent of registrations.

Mazda recorded the highest share of first-time vehicle registrations during the quarter, accounting for 19.3 percent of

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Gambling Authority Targets Financial Independence

The regulator says it will cut government funding by 50 percent this year as part of a plan to become fully self-sustaining by 2028



GAZETTE REPORTER

The Gambling Authority has pledged to reduce its reliance on government funding by 50 percent during the current financial year, a move that marks the beginning of its transition toward financial self-sufficiency.

Appearing before a parliamentary committee recently, the Authority's acting chief executive officer said the regulator was pursuing a long-term strategy to gradually eliminate its dependence on state support. Since its establishment 10 years ago, the Authority has relied on government subventions to fund its operations.

"Management and the newly appointed board are working round the clock to ensure the Authority is totally weaned off government money before March 2028," the CEO told Members of Parliament.

INDEPENDENCE PLAN

According to the CEO, the strategy is the result of deliberate planning aimed at strengthening the gaming sector while easing pressure on public finances.

"This is borne of deliberate planning and the desire to grow the industry to its full potential, while releasing money for other government priorities," he said.

The Authority said it expects growth in gaming revenue, tighter operational cost controls and improved licensing compliance to help achieve the targeted reduction in government support this year.

FUTURE RETURNS

The CEO said the Authority projects that it will begin paying annual dividends to government within the next two years.

He also disclosed plans to reimburse government for all funds invested in the Authority since its inception a decade ago.

The commitment comes as Botswana's public finances face increasing pressure. The Authority's plan, if achieved, would reduce the burden on the national budget and allow government resources to be directed toward other priorities.

The regulator said its immediate focus remains on meeting the 50 percent reduction target this financial year, while maintaining progress toward full financial independence by March 2028.

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the total. Honda followed at 18.9 percent, while Toyota represented 16.9 percent.

MONTHLY TRENDS

December recorded the highest number of first-time registrations, accounting for 38.7 percent of the quarter's total. October contributed 32.6 percent, while November accounted for 28.7 percent.

Gaborone registration stations recorded the largest share of first-time registrations at 58.2 percent. Francistown followed with 8.7 percent, while Molepolole accounted for 7.2 percent.

RAIL DECLINE

While vehicle registrations remained strong, rail freight activity moved in the opposite direction.

The volume of goods transported by rail declined by 32.4 percent during the quarter, falling from 242,067 net tonnes in the previous quarter to 163,681 net tonnes.

"The decline in total freight volumes was observed across all traffic categories," the report said.

Imports recorded the steepest decline, falling by 44.8 percent, while transit traffic decreased by 42.4 percent. Local traffic dropped by 27.2 percent and exports declined by 18.9 percent.



Exports accounted for the largest share of freight volumes at 34.1 percent, followed by local traffic at 29.2 percent. Imported goods represented 27.2 percent, while transit traffic accounted for 9.5 percent.

October recorded the highest freight volumes, contributing 34.7 percent of total net tonnes transported during the quarter. December accounted for 33.4 percent, while November represented 31.9 percent.

REVENUE FALLS

Rail freight revenue also declined during the quarter.

"The total revenue from rail freight transportation decreased by 34.1 percent, from P60.5 million in the preceding quarter to P39.9 million," the report reads.

The largest decline was recorded in import revenue, which fell by 49.1 percent. Revenue from transit traffic decreased by 40.3 percent, while local traffic and exports declined by 25.7 percent and 25.0 percent respectively.



Botswana Beef's Global Moment

A New Zealand steakhouse name shows how Botswana can turn beef from a commodity into a protected global dining and lifestyle brand.

DOUGLAS RASBASH

On a winter evening in Queenstown, New Zealand, visitors gather around fireplaces, order premium steaks, browse a deep wine list and settle into one of the country's celebrated dining experiences. The restaurant is called Botswana Butchery. Thousands of kilometres away, Sydney diners once helped the same name become associated with premium steakhouse dining. The connection to Botswana may appear thin, but the lesson is important. The word Botswana already carries commercial value in global food markets.

BRAND GAP

For decades, Botswana has been strong at producing world class products, but weaker at building world class brands. It exports beef while others package dining experiences. It exports diamonds while others sell luxury jewellery. It markets tourism attractions while global travel brands, booking platforms and hospitality groups capture much of the customer relationship. The result is a familiar development problem. Botswana often exports the product while others export the story around it.

The success of Botswana Butchery shows what is being left on the table. Online reviews praise the steaks, service, atmosphere and overall experience. Diners describe the brand as memorable, premium and world class. Many know little about Botswana and may never have visited the country. Yet they have formed a positive association with the Botswana name, and are willing to pay for it. That is brand equity, even if Botswana itself receives almost none of the benefit.

> "Botswana often exports the product while others export the story around it."

BEEF VALUE

Botswana beef already has the foundation for such a brand. Its quality has long been recognised internationally, including by the late British food critic A. A. Gill, who admired the country's free range production systems and the distinctive quality produced by cattle raised under natural conditions. The issue is therefore not whether Botswana can produce excellent beef. The issue is whether it can capture more of the value created by that reputation.

Modern economies increasingly reward those who control branding, intellectual property and customer experience. A kilogram of premium beef exported from Botswana earns one price. The same kilogram served in a luxury restaurant in London, Dubai, Singapore or Sydney may generate several times more value. The difference is created by ambience, storytelling, service, certification and customer loyalty. In other words, value addition does not end at processing. It extends to ownership of the full commercial experience.

GLOBAL OUTLETS

That is why a BotswanaBeef concept deserves serious attention. Imagine certified Botswana beef restaurants in London, Sydney, Dubai, Singapore, Johannesburg and New York. Each outlet would serve Botswana beef, tell the story of the country's cattle industry, and showcase imagery from the Okavango Delta, Chobe National Park and the Kalahari. Each restaurant could also promote tourism opportunities, investment prospects and Botswana made products. In effect, every meal would become a marketing campaign and every outlet a

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commercial embassy.

Other countries have repeatedly shown how this can work. Argentina built a global reputation around beef. France built one around wine. Italy around cuisine. Japan around Wagyu. Switzerland around chocolate. These countries do not merely export products. They export stories, lifestyles and aspirations. Botswana has many of the same ingredients, including premium beef, political stability, strong veterinary standards, conservation credentials and some of the world's most recognisable tourism assets. What it still lacks is the brand architecture.

OWNERSHIP QUESTION

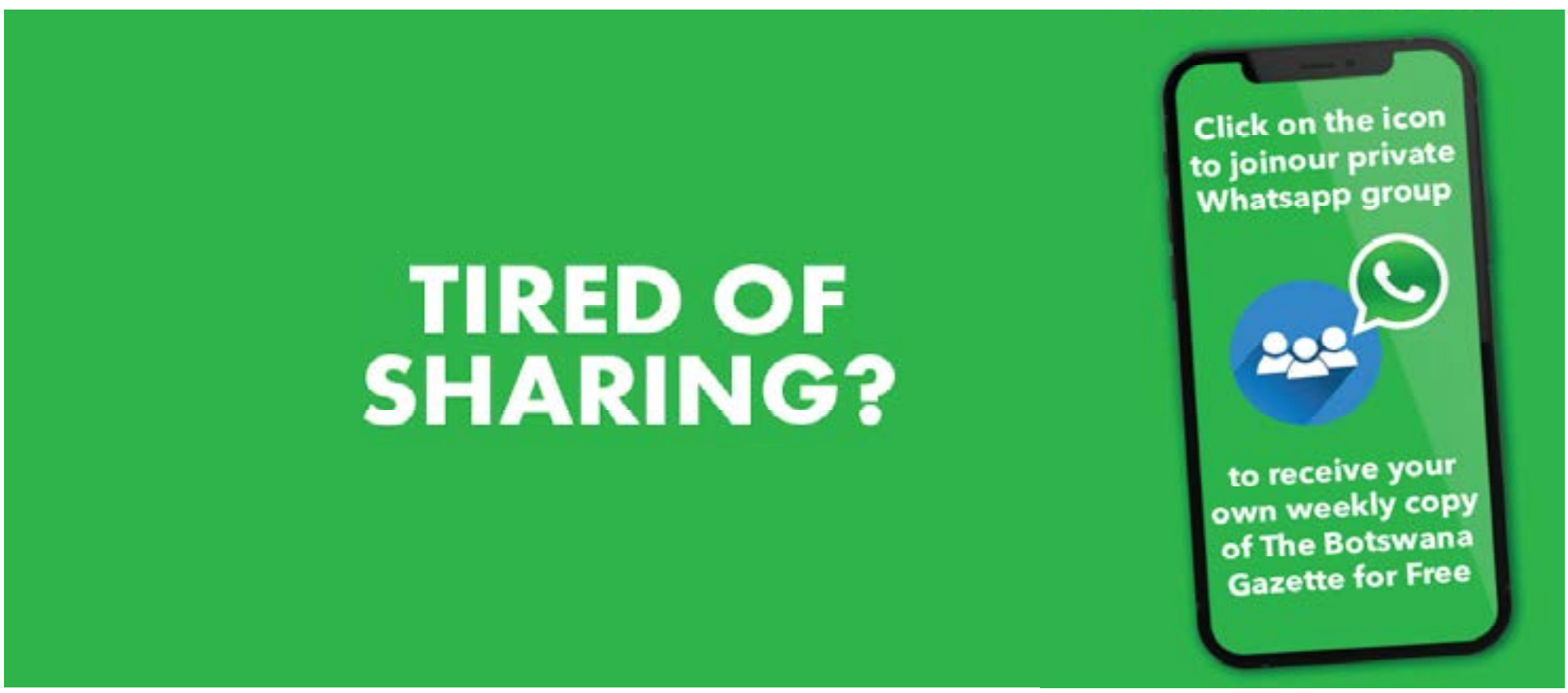
The BotswanaBeef idea could extend beyond restaurants. It could include premium butcheries, packaged meat products, online retailing, culinary tourism, luxury safari dining and lifestyle merchandise. A protected international trademark could become the base of a broader export ecosystem. The central question is ownership. Government could secure and hold the trademark on behalf of the nation, licensing approved operators that meet strict standards. Alternatively, a BotswanaBeef Brand Council could bring together producers, exporters and investors.

> “Every meal would become a marketing campaign and every outlet a commercial embassy.”

According to the Minister of Lands and Agriculture, Hon. Dr. Edwin Dikoloti, government welcomes the BotswanaBeef branding initiative and will take steps to protect it globally through WIPO. He also said government supports the idea of a global franchise of BotswanaBeef restaurants and butcheries, and will explore the concept with BITC and other stakeholders. If pursued, this would mark a strategic shift in how Botswana thinks about exports and diversification.

VALUE CAPTURE

As diamond revenues become more uncertain, intangible assets may become as important as physical resources. Brands, reputation, trademarks and customer loyalty can create more value than the products themselves. The Botswana Butchery story is therefore more than a hospitality curiosity. It is evidence that consumers already see value in the Botswana name. The market exists. The challenge is to capture it.



The Client Happiness Paradox: Why the Agency That Always Says Yes Produces the Worst Work



MANUEL VEIRUAPI RUHAPO

There is a particular type of agency relationship that feels excellent at every meeting and produces mediocre work at every deadline. The briefs are received warmly. The presentations are smooth. The client leaves every review feeling heard, validated, and satisfied. The campaigns that follow are forgettable.

This is not a coincidence. It is a structural outcome of a specific dynamic: the agency that has decided client happiness is the primary objective of the relationship.

The Client Happiness Paradox is this: the agency most focused on making the client happy in the short term is the agency least likely to produce work that makes the client successful in the long term. And the client who insists on feeling comfortable at every stage of the creative process is the client who will never see truly great work.

Why Comfort Kills Creative Work

Great brand work is, by definition, work that the client has never seen before. It departs from the familiar. It takes a position that not everyone will agree with. It makes a choice that closes off other options. It says something specific enough to be wrong.

None of these qualities survive a process optimised for client comfort. The idea that is genuinely new feels risky in the room. The position that is specific enough to be powerful is also specific enough to alienate someone. The choice that makes the work distinctive is the choice that requires the most justification. And in a relationship where the agency's primary goal is to avoid conflict and secure approval, every one of these qualities gets negotiated away before the work reaches the public.

What remains is work that passed every internal review without friction, because it contained nothing that anyone felt strongly enough about to defend or to challenge. It is the creative equivalent of a committee decision: technically acceptable, strategically inert.

In Botswana's agency and client landscape, this dynamic is the default. The market is small and relational. Agencies depend on long-term retainer relationships. Clients have personal relationships with agency principals. The social cost of creative conflict is high. The result is a market where the most commercially significant brand relationships produce the most cautious creative output, because both parties have too much to lose from the discomfort that genuine creative ambition requires.

The Happiness Paradox Applied

John Stuart Mill's observation that happiness cannot be pursued directly, that it arrives as a byproduct of pursuing something else with full commitment, applies with precision to the client-agency relationship. The agency that pursues client happiness directly produces work designed to be approved, not work designed to be effective. The agency that pursues creative excellence, and accepts that the pursuit will sometimes produce discomfort, occasionally produces work that makes the client genuinely happy in the only way that matters: work that builds the brand, grows the business, and earns the kind of market response that no amount of comfortable approval-seeking can manufacture.

The paradox is that the client who pushes back, who challenges the brief, who refuses the comfortable answer, who demands something they have not seen before, is the client who ends up with the best work. And the client who is easiest to work with, who approves quickly, who never creates friction, is the client who ends up with the most forgettable brand.

The Botswana Dimension

This plays out in a specific way in Botswana. The dominant procurement culture in both the public and private sectors rewards compliance over creativity. Agencies learn quickly that the path to retained business is not exceptional work. It is consistent delivery, reliable relationships, and the avoidance of anything that might make a decision-maker uncomfortable in a room.

The consequence is that the brands with the largest marketing budgets in Botswana are frequently the brands with the least distinctive market presence. They have the resources to do remarkable things. They have relationships with agencies capable of producing remarkable things. And the structure of the relationship, built on comfort and continuity

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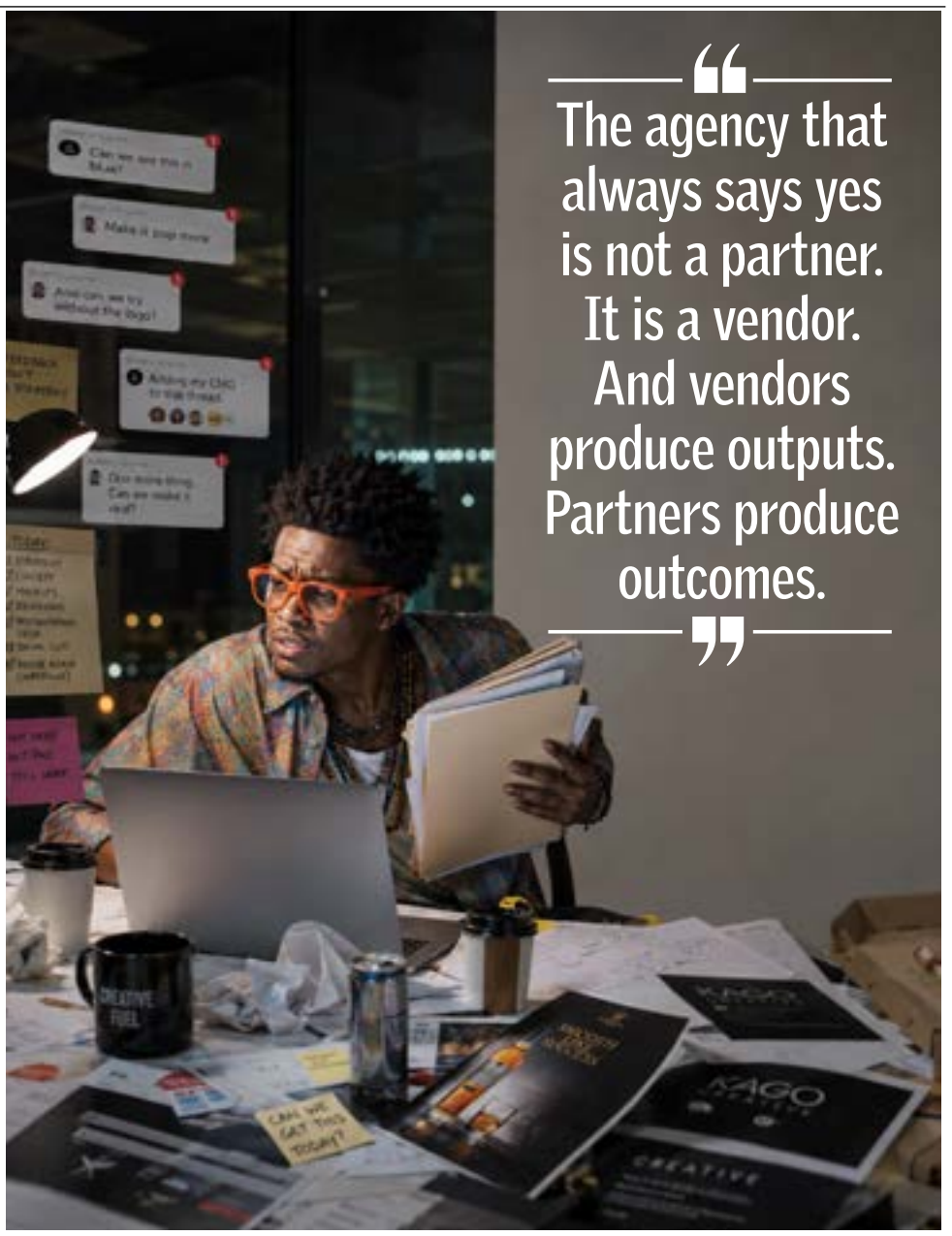
rather than creative tension and honest challenge, ensures that remarkable things are rarely attempted.

The brands that break this pattern share a common characteristic: a client-side decision-maker who is willing to be uncomfortable. Who asks the agency for the idea they were afraid to present. Who rejects the safe option not because it is wrong but because it is not enough. Who understands that the discomfort in the room is not a problem to be resolved. It is the signal that something genuinely new is being considered.

What Good Looks Like

The healthiest client-agency relationships in any market are not the most harmonious ones. They are the ones with the most productive tension. The agency that tells the client what they need to hear rather than what they want to hear. The client that holds the agency to a standard of creative ambition rather than a standard of operational compliance. The brief that is honest about the problem rather than optimistic about the solution.

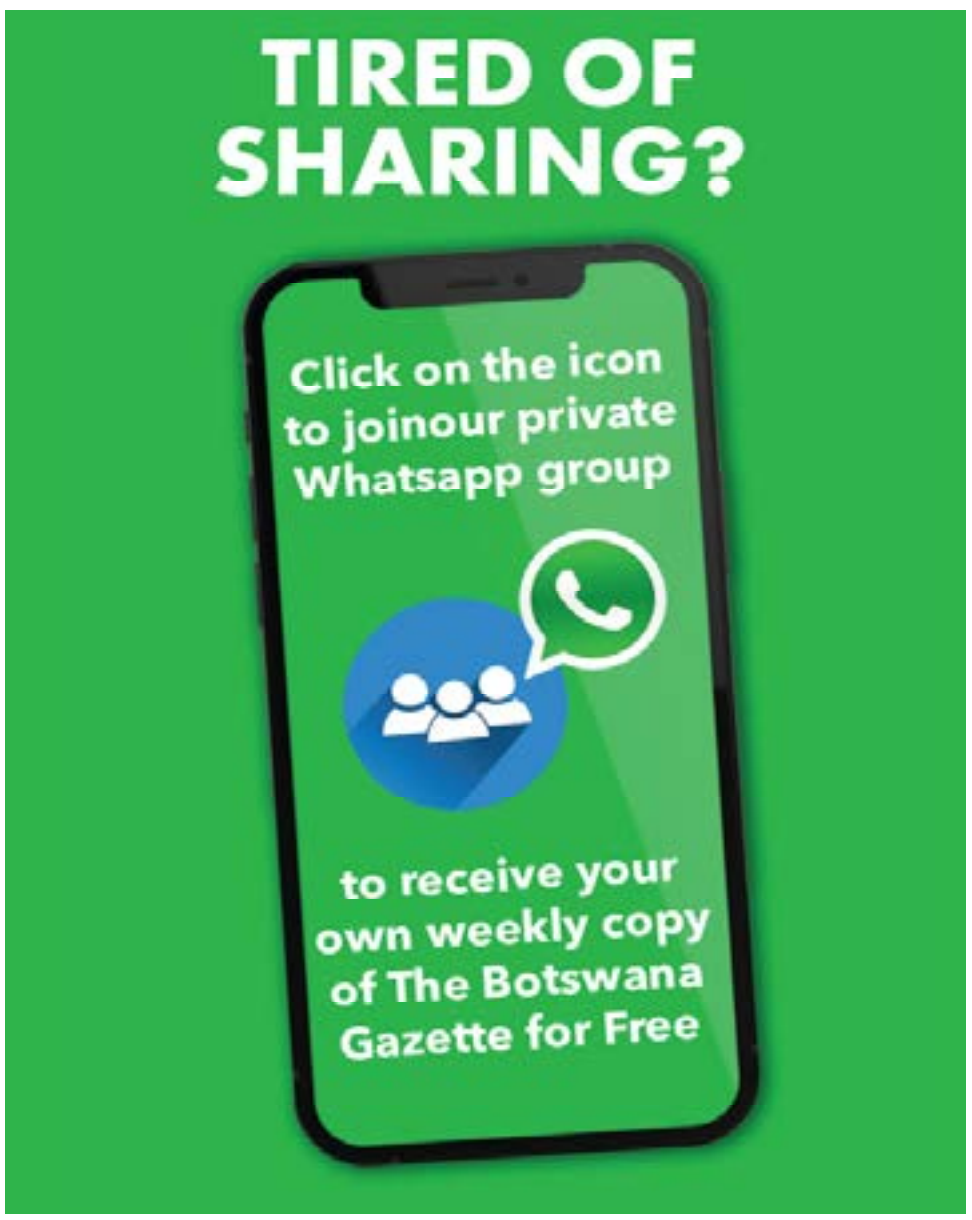




This requires trust. And trust, in a small, relational market like Botswana, takes time to build. But the investment is precise: the relationship that can hold creative tension without fracturing is the relationship that produces work worth talking about.

The agency that always says yes is not a partner. It is a vendor. And vendors produce outputs. Partners produce outcomes.

The client happiness paradox resolves the moment both parties agree that the goal is not a comfortable relationship. The goal is a great brand. And great brands are never built in comfort.





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

When a Child is Burned a Nation is Tested

A severely burned infant's desperate journey from a public clinic to a private hospital exposes deeper questions about medicine shortages, emergency care and Botswana's ability to protect its most vulnerable citizens.



DOUGLAS RASBASH

Last week, that nightmare became reality for a Botswana family when an infant suffered severe scald burns and was rushed to a government clinic in *Mankgodi. What happened next should concern every citizen. The family expected urgent treatment. Instead, they reportedly discovered that the clinic lacked the medicines required to manage the child's injuries. Faced with a medical emergency and running out of options, the family undertook a desperate journey of more than 50 kilometres to Bokamoso Private Hospital in Gaborone. Fortunately, the child received treatment. But what if the injuries had been more severe? What if the family had no access to transport? What if the nearest private facility had been hundreds rather than tens of kilometres away?

These are uncomfortable questions. Yet they go to the heart of a growing concern among ordinary Batswana: can the public health system provide essential care when people need it most?

MEDICINE SHORTAGES HIT FAMILIES HARDEST

The incident comes against a backdrop of medicine shortages that have affected public health facilities for more than a year. Clinics and hospitals across the country have struggled to maintain supplies of essential medicines and consumables, forcing patients to seek alternatives, postpone treatment, or simply go without.

Public discussions often focus on procurement systems, budgets, tenders and administration. Yet the real consequences are measured not in spreadsheets but in human suffering. They are measured in anxious parents carrying injured children through clinic doors hoping that help will be available.

> "Burn injuries are not merely a clinical problem. They are a public health problem."

BURNS REMAIN A SILENT CRISIS

Burn injuries are among the clearest examples of why healthcare systems matter. Globally, burns remain one of the most devastating forms of childhood injury. The World Health Organization estimates that hundreds of thousands of people die annually from burns, while millions more suffer disability, disfigurement and psychological trauma. Children are among

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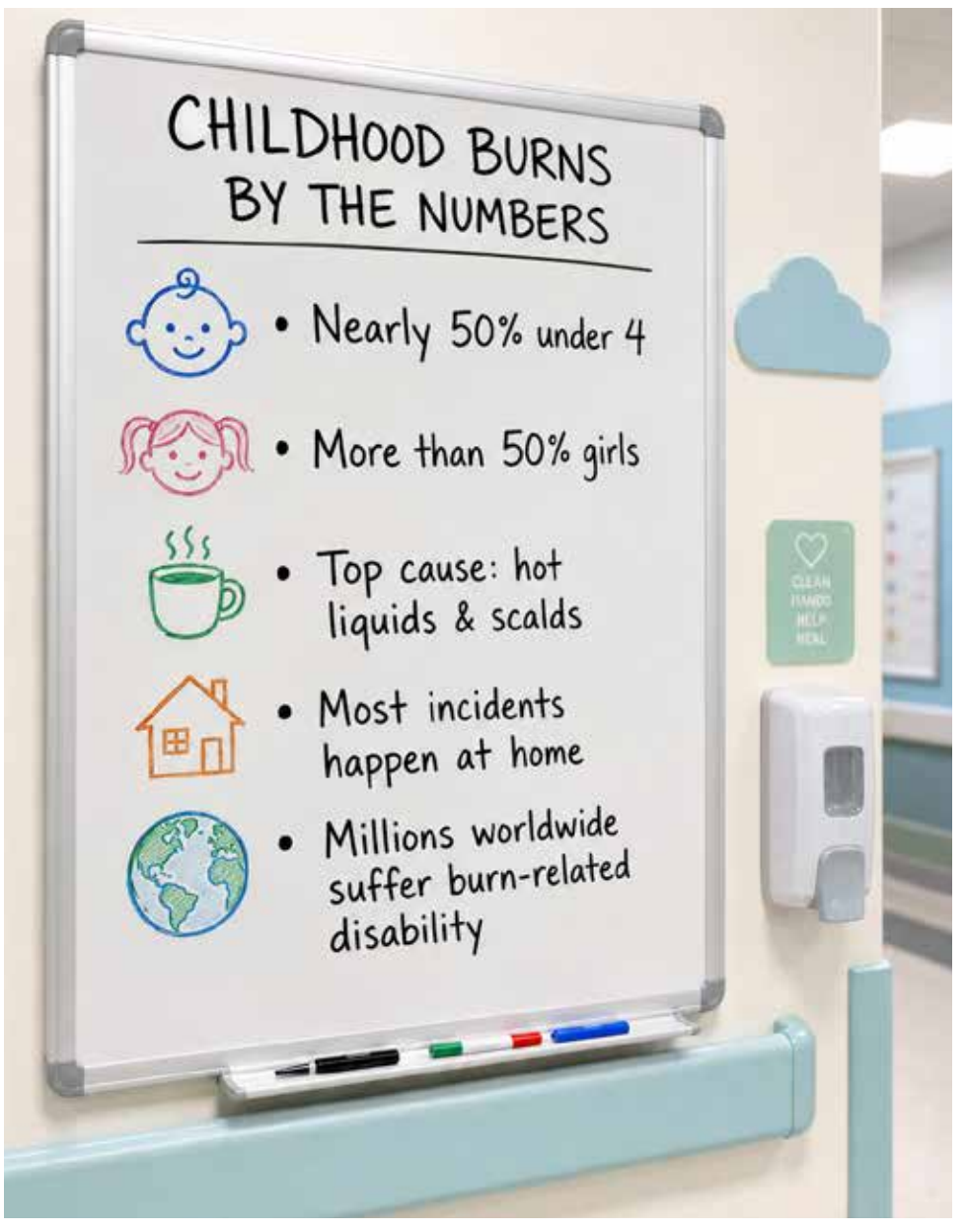

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the most vulnerable victims. Yet burns remain a surprisingly neglected public health issue.

Research conducted recently in Ethiopia provides important insights into the wider impact of burn injuries on children and families. The study examined childhood burns across three hospitals in Addis Ababa and explored not only the medical consequences but also the social, economic and psychological effects.

The findings were sobering. Almost half of all children admitted with burn injuries were under four years of age. More than half were girls. Hot liquids and scalds were the leading causes of injury. Most incidents occurred not in factories, construction sites or industrial settings but in ordinary homes among ordinary families.

The lesson is clear. Burn injuries are not rare events. They are everyday events.

In most cases, they occur in kitchens, courtyards and living spaces where children live and play. A kettle left unattended. A cooking pot placed too close to the edge of a stove. A momentary lapse in supervision. A curious toddler. Then lives change forever.

THE HIDDEN COST OF SCARS

The Ethiopian research also revealed that many caregivers lacked basic first aid knowledge. While some correctly applied cool running water to the injured area, others used traditional remedies including dough, honey, butter, herbs, animal manure, salt and sugar.

> The availability of essential medicines for critically ill or injured children should not depend on economic cycles

Many families genuinely believed these treatments would help. In reality, they can worsen wounds, increase infection risks and complicate recovery.

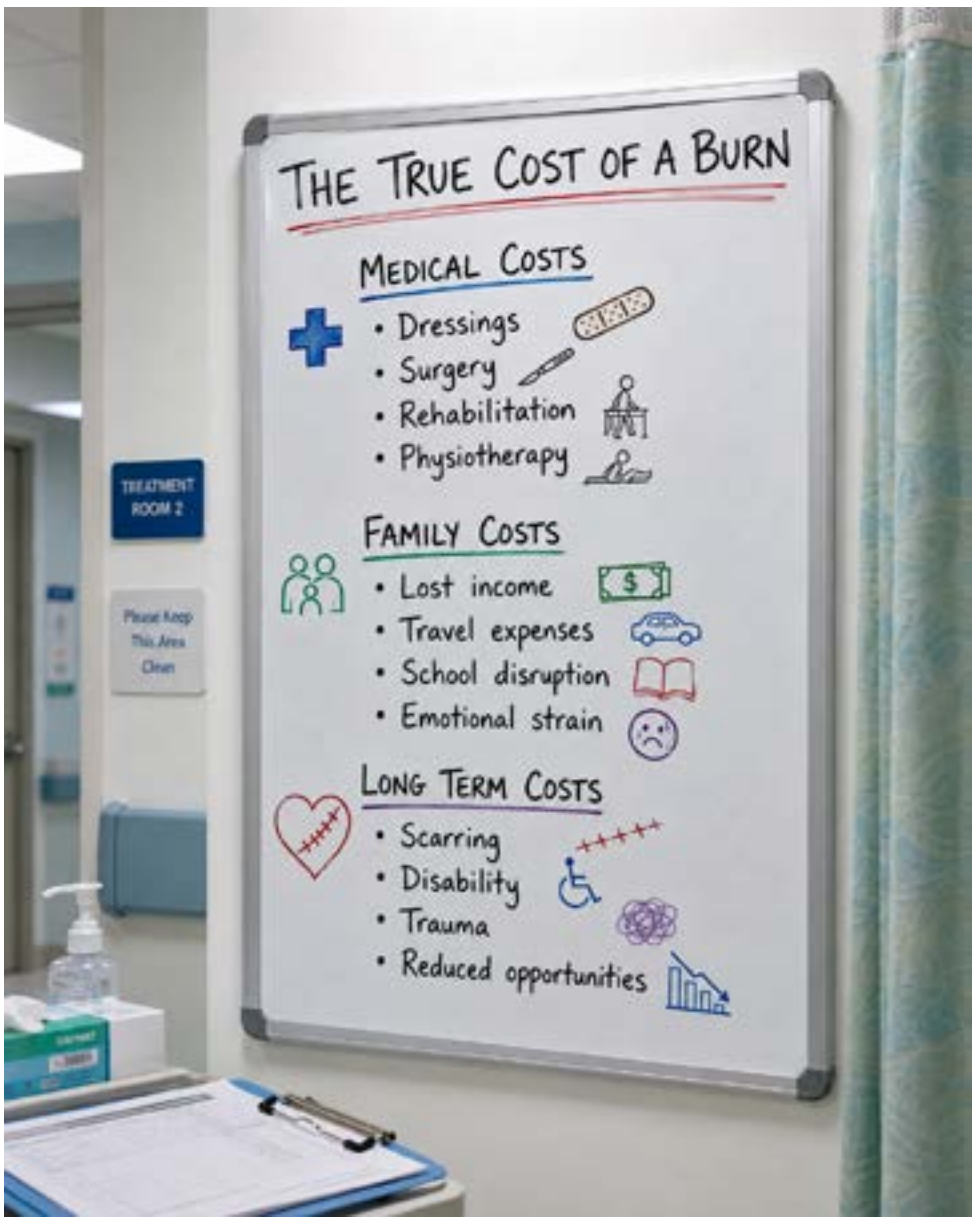
Perhaps most striking was the discovery that burn injuries leave wounds that extend far beyond the skin. Many children reported fear, anxiety, nightmares and emotional distress long after their physical injuries had begun to heal. Some became afraid of hot water or fire. Others struggled socially because of visible scars and disfigurement.

Caregivers suffered too. Many reported loneliness, depression, stress and overwhelming feelings of guilt. Some blamed themselves for the accident. Others described losing friendships, social isolation and financial hardship.

For low income households already struggling to make ends meet, the costs of transport, treatment and rehabilitation could be devastating. In many respects, a serious burn injury affects an entire family rather than just a single patient.

The study also highlighted another important finding: the absence of dedicated burn prevention programmes and limited psychosocial support for burn survivors and caregivers.

The conclusion reached by the researchers was simple but profound.



Burn injuries are not merely a clinical problem. They are a public health problem.

PREVENTION SAVES LIVES AND MONEY

The same lesson applies to Botswana. Every year, children in Botswana suffer preventable burn injuries. Yet burn prevention receives relatively little public attention compared with other health challenges.

We run campaigns on HIV, tuberculosis, vaccination, road safety and healthy lifestyles. These campaigns have saved lives and deserve recognition. But where are the campaigns on childhood burns?

How many parents know the correct first aid response to a burn injury? How many know that immediate cooling with clean running water for at least twenty minutes can significantly reduce the severity of burns? How many households have assessed common hazards such as unstable stoves, paraffin appliances, exposed electrical equipment and containers of hot water within reach of young children?

Prevention may not generate headlines, but it saves lives.

The economic case is equally compelling. Burn treatment is expensive. Severe cases often require specialised dressings, surgery, rehabilitation, physiotherapy and long term follow up care. Families may lose income while caring for injured children. Travel costs mount. Schooling may be interrupted. Employment opportunities may be affected.

The cheapest burn injury is the one that never happens.

HEALTHCARE REVEALS NATIONAL PRIORITIES

But prevention alone is not enough. When accidents occur, health systems must be ready to respond immediately. Burn injuries are time sensitive emergencies. Early intervention can significantly reduce complications, improve recovery outcomes and lower the risk of permanent disability.

Essential medicines, dressings and trained personnel should not be viewed as optional extras. They form part of the minimum requirements of a functioning healthcare system.

This brings us back to the child in *Mankgodi.

The story raises a broader question about governance and national priorities. Good government is not measured by how it performs when money is plentiful. Almost any administration can appear successful when revenues are growing, budgets are expanding and difficult choices can be postponed.

The true test comes when resources become constrained.

Botswana is entering such a period. Diamond revenues have weakened significantly. Economic growth has slowed. Fiscal pressures are mounting. Government borrowing is increasing. Tough decisions are becoming unavoidable.

In such circumstances, priorities matter. Governments cannot do everything. But they must do the most important things first.

Healthcare is not simply another expenditure category competing for scarce resources. It is an investment in human life, human dignity and human development.

A TEST OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

The availability of essential medicines for critically ill or injured children should not depend on economic cycles.

Indeed, one of the most important measures of national development is how effectively a country protects its most vulnerable citizens. Internationally, infant mortality rates, child survival rates, life expectancy and access to healthcare remain among the most closely watched indicators of development.

These indicators influence global rankings, investor confidence and perceptions of governance effectiveness.

Botswana has earned international respect over many decades. It has consistently been recognised as one of Africa's strongest development success stories, achieving remarkable progress in education, healthcare, governance and economic management.

> Sometimes the strength of a healthcare system is revealed in a quiet clinic late at night when a badly burned child arrives at the door.

Yet progress is never guaranteed. It must be protected.

If medicine shortages begin affecting healthcare outcomes, if preventable deaths increase, or if infant mortality rates begin moving in the wrong direction, the consequences will extend far beyond individual clinics and hospitals.

They will inevitably raise questions about whether one of Africa's most admired development stories is beginning to lose momentum. That would be a tragedy not only for patients but for the nation as a whole.

The infant injured in Kanye should therefore remind us of something fundamental.

Healthcare is not an abstract policy debate. It is not a procurement process. It is not a budget line. It is a frightened parent seeking help. It is a child in pain. It is a family hoping that when they arrive at a public clinic, the medicines needed to relieve suffering and save a life will be available.

Sometimes the strength of a healthcare system is revealed not during grand speeches, ribbon cutting ceremonies or policy launches. It is revealed in a quiet clinic late at night when a badly burned child arrives at the door.

That is the moment when a healthcare system is tested.

And ultimately, that is the moment when a nation is tested too.





Ronil Sekgele Besele

LLR Appoints New CEO

Letlole La Rona has appointed real estate and investment specialist Ronil Sekgele Besele as its new chief executive officer as the listed property fund looks to its next phase of growth

Letlole La Rona Limited (LLR) has appointed Ronil Sekgele Besele as its Chief Executive Officer with effect from 1 June 2026.

The appointment follows a recruitment process conducted by the board, which said Besele's experience aligns with the requirements of leading a listed property fund.

EXTENSIVE INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Besele brings nearly 20 years of experience in the real estate and investment sectors, including more than 12 years in executive leadership positions. His background includes investment valuations, development feasibility studies, strategic real estate advisory services and public-private partnership structuring.

He holds a Bachelor of Business Management in Real Estate and Development from the University of Queensland and a Master of Financial Management from the Australian National University. He is also a Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

CAREER SPANS BOTSWANA AND AUSTRALIA

Before joining LLR, Besele served as Property Development Executive at the Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZA), where he was involved in the development strategy for Botswana's Special Economic Zones and engagement with investors.

> "There is a clear opportunity to grow this company deliberately and intelligently."

He previously worked as a Director in the Real Estate Advisory division at Deloitte in Sydney, Australia, advising government agencies, universities, listed funds and private-sector clients on real estate and infrastructure investments.

BOARD CONFIDENT IN APPOINTMENT

Board Chairperson Mooketsi Maphane said Besele's experience made him well-suited for the role.

"Ronil brings a rare combination: deep technical expertise in real estate investment, executive experience at the highest level, and a grounded understanding of this market," said Maphane.

Besele said he was looking forward to leading the company.

"There is a clear opportunity to grow this company deliberately and intelligently, and I intend to pursue it with the full weight of everything I have built across two decades in this industry," he said.

The board also acknowledged Rorisang Modikana, who has served as Acting CEO since November 2025.

Article edited for length

Masterclass Focuses on Rejection

Entrepreneur Basadi Masimolole is set to host a Gaborone masterclass exploring how professionals can respond to rejection and career setbacks

Entrepreneur Basadi "Bash" Masimolole will host a masterclass in Gaborone on 27 June aimed at helping professionals, entrepreneurs and business leaders develop resilience and confidence when faced with rejection.

PERSONAL LESSONS SHAPE EVENT

The Rejection-Proof MasterClass: The Confidence, Comebacks & Resilience Masterclass will take place at The Patio Café & Deli and will focus on practical approaches to handling setbacks in careers and business.

Masimolole said the idea for the event was inspired by feedback she often receives about her ability to persevere through challenges.

"People consistently tell me that I am fearless, patient, resilient, and unafraid of rejection," she said. "I wanted to create a safe space where I could show others how to build that same muscle in their brands, careers, and lives."

FROM SETBACKS TO NEW PATHS

Masimolole shared experiences from her own educational journey, including leaving school in Zimbabwe during her final year after her family could no longer afford tuition fees. After returning to Botswana, she completed national service and later missed out on her preferred bursary programme.



Entrepreneur Basadi "Bash" Masimolole

Instead, she enrolled in a marketing degree, repeated her A-Level studies and later completed postgraduate studies in financial management.

"Not getting my first choice taught me that the road to success is rarely straight," she said. "The detours matter too."

RETHINKING REJECTION

According to Masimolole, many people become discouraged by rejection because they focus on the setback rather than the lessons it may offer.

> "Not getting my first choice taught me that the road to success is rarely straight."

"Sometimes you win and sometimes you learn," she said.

The three-hour session will cover confidence-building, resilience and strategies for responding constructively to professional and personal challenges.

Rejection-Proof MasterClass takes place on Saturday, 27 June 2026, from 14:30 to 18:00

at The Patio Café & Deli, Extension 4, Gaborone. Attendance costs P1, 850.00 per

person, including refreshments, a workbook, and networking opportunities.

An early bird special of P1, 500.00 is available until 13 June 2026. Seating is limited and bookings are only guaranteed upon a 50% pre-payment.

Article edited for length

Westlife Posts P11m Profit

Westlife Insurance Botswana has reported a P11 million profit for 2025 while unveiling a new five-year strategy focused on digital transformation, customer engagement and business diversificatio n

Westlife Insurance Botswana has reported a profit of P11 million in its 2025 audited financial results and announced the launch of a new five-year strategic plan aimed at strengthening its position in the life insurance market.

The company said the results were achieved despite a challenging economic environment marked by slowing economic growth, reduced consumer spending and increased policy lapse risks. According to the insurer, the performance was supported by cost management measures, underwriting discipline and operational efficiency.

IFRS 17 TRANSITION COMPLETED

Westlife's 2025 financial statements were prepared under IFRS 17, completing the transition from IFRS 4 in line with regulatory requirements. The company said the move aligns its reporting practices with current international insurance accounting standards.

The insurer also introduced a new vision statement focused on becoming a resilient, trusted and customer-focused insurance provider. The strategy places emphasis on digital enablement, diversification and customer engagement.

FOCUS ON PARTNERSHIPS

Westlife said its strategic theme, "Building Resilient Partnerships", extends beyond distribution channels to include regulators, industry bodies and other stakeholders within the financial services sector.

Chief Executive Officer Kgomotso Ratlhaga said the approval of the strategy marked an important step in the company's long-term plans.

"The Board's approval of our five-year strategy is more than a planning milestone; it is a declaration of intent," said Ratlhaga.

STRATEGY BACKED BY RESULTS

Ratlhaga linked the company's financial performance and transition to IFRS 17 to decisions made by management and the board.

"Our P11 million profit, our IFRS 17 transition, and our new strategic identity are not coincidences. They are the outcomes of deliberate choices by a focused team and a committed Board," she said.

The company stated that compliance, governance and transparent reporting will remain key priorities as it implements its new strategy.

Article edited for length



Chief Executive Officer Kgomotso Ratlhaga said the approval of the strategy marked an important step in the company's long-term plans.

Renewables Lead Africa's Energy Shift

An 8:1 investment ratio highlights how renewable energy is increasingly shaping Africa's energy future amid efforts to expand electricity access

Africa's energy sector is experiencing a significant shift, with renewable energy investment increasingly outpacing funding for non-renewable power generation. In 2025, Standard Bank reported that its financing for renewable energy projects exceeded non-renewable energy financing by a ratio of 8:1, reflecting broader changes in the continent's energy landscape.

ADDRESSING ENERGY ACCESS

Nearly 600 million people across Africa still lack reliable access to electricity, making energy development a key factor in economic and social progress. The growth of renewable energy projects is being driven by policy reforms, declining technology costs, investor demand and efforts to address climate-related risks while expanding access to power.

Boitumelo Sethlatswe, Head of Sustainability at Standard Bank, said the trend reflects long-term changes in the sector.

"The shift we are seeing reflects a structural change in how energy systems are being built across the continent. Renewables are no longer a marginal addition; they are becoming critical to capacity," Sethlatswe said.

CAPITAL FLOWS TOWARDS RENEWABLES

The increase in renewable energy investment has been supported largely by solar, wind and hybrid energy projects incorporating battery storage systems. Financial institutions have also increased their focus on sustainable finance as demand for renewable infrastructure grows.

Sasha Cook, Head of Sustainable Finance for Corporate and Investment Banking at Standard Bank, said investment patterns are changing.

"The energy transition in Africa is increasingly being defined by where capital is flowing. What we are seeing is a clear reallocation towards renewable energy, supported by strong fundamentals and improving project economics," Cook said.

The bank reported mobilising R47.1 billion in green finance during 2025 and said it had achieved 62% of its R450 billion sustainable finance target by the end of the financial year.

INFRASTRUCTURE REMAINS A CHALLENGE

Recent renewable energy transactions financed by the bank include solar and wind projects in South Africa's Free State, Mpumalanga and Northern Cape provinces. Beyond power generation, investment is increasingly being directed towards grid stability, energy storage and decentralised energy solutions.

Industry stakeholders note that regulatory complexity, financing constraints and infrastructure gaps continue to slow deployment in some markets, requiring cooperation between governments, financial institutions and the private sector.



Boitumelo Sethlatswe, Head of Sustainability at Standard Bank, said the trend reflects long-term changes in the sector.



Orange Leads Environment Clean-Up

A World Environment Day campaign in Gaborone North brought together residents, city officials and corporate volunteers to promote cleaner public spaces and responsible waste management

Orange Botswana partnered with the Gaborone City Council and local residents to mark World Environment Day through a community clean-up campaign held in Gaborone North.

The initiative, conducted under the company's Engage for Change programme, involved litter collection and the installation of waste bins at selected locations. Employees, city officials and community members participated in activities aimed at promoting responsible waste disposal and cleaner public spaces.

SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

Speaking at the event, Orange Botswana Chief Executive Officer Néné Maïga said the campaign reflected the company's approach to community engagement and environmental responsibility.

"At Orange Botswana, sustainability is not just a corporate responsibility; it is a commitment that guides how we engage with our communities," said Maïga.

She added that the programme encourages employees to support initiatives that contribute to environmental protection and community wellbeing.

CALL FOR COLLECTIVE EFFORT

Maïga said World Environment Day serves as a reminder of the need for cooperation in addressing environmental challenges.

"Environmental conservation requires the participation of all stakeholders. By working together with the Gaborone City Council and community members, we are demonstrating that small actions, when undertaken collectively, can create significant and lasting change in our communities," she said.

Gaborone Deputy Mayor Mankie Sekete said partnerships between the private sector, local authorities and communities play an important role in improving urban environments.

> "Environmental conservation requires the participation of all stakeholders."

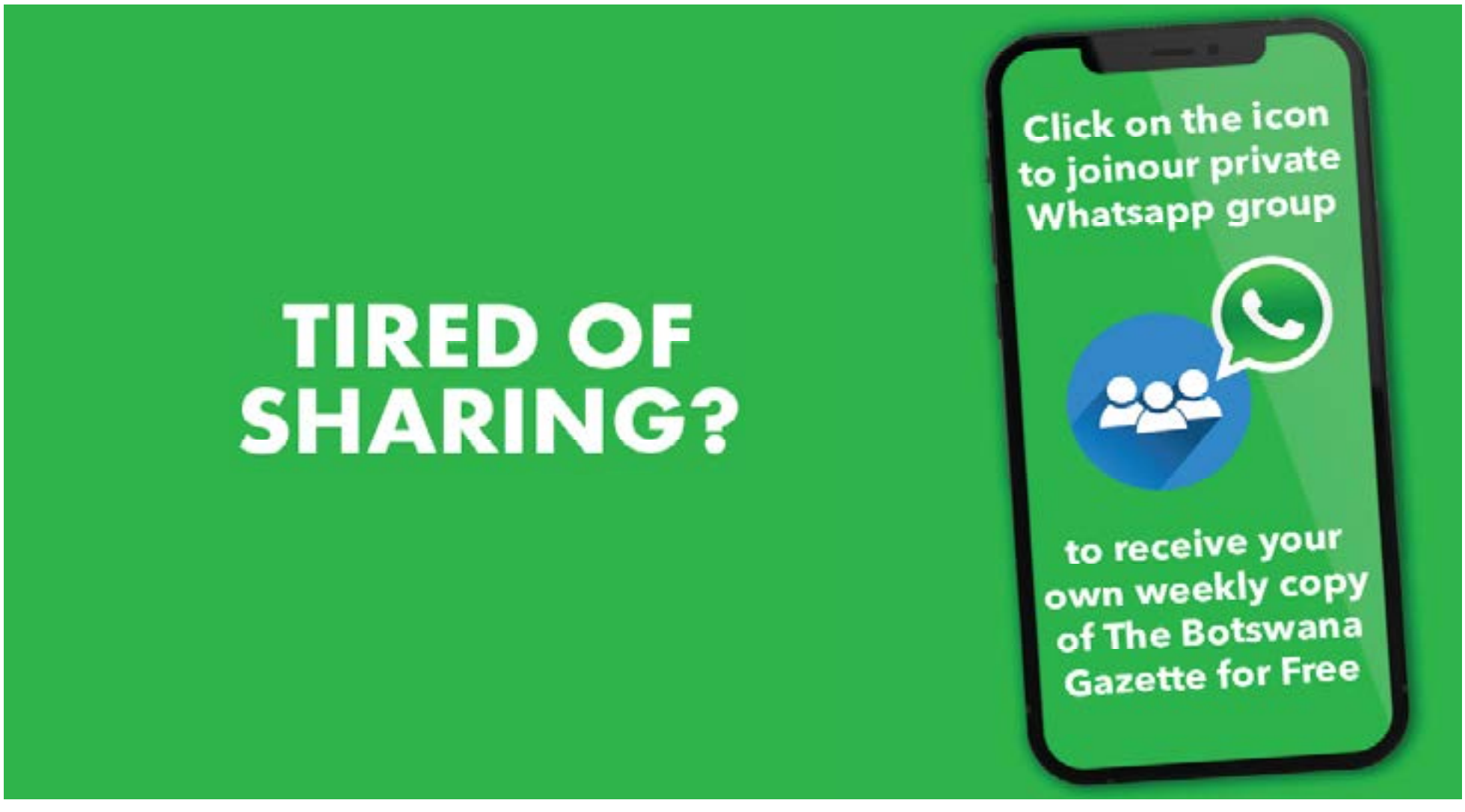
SUPPORTING BETTER WASTE MANAGEMENT

"Partnerships such as this one are essential in helping us build a cleaner, greener and more sustainable city," said Sekete.

The newly installed waste bins are expected to support ongoing efforts to improve waste disposal practices in the area and encourage residents to take greater responsibility for keeping public spaces clean.

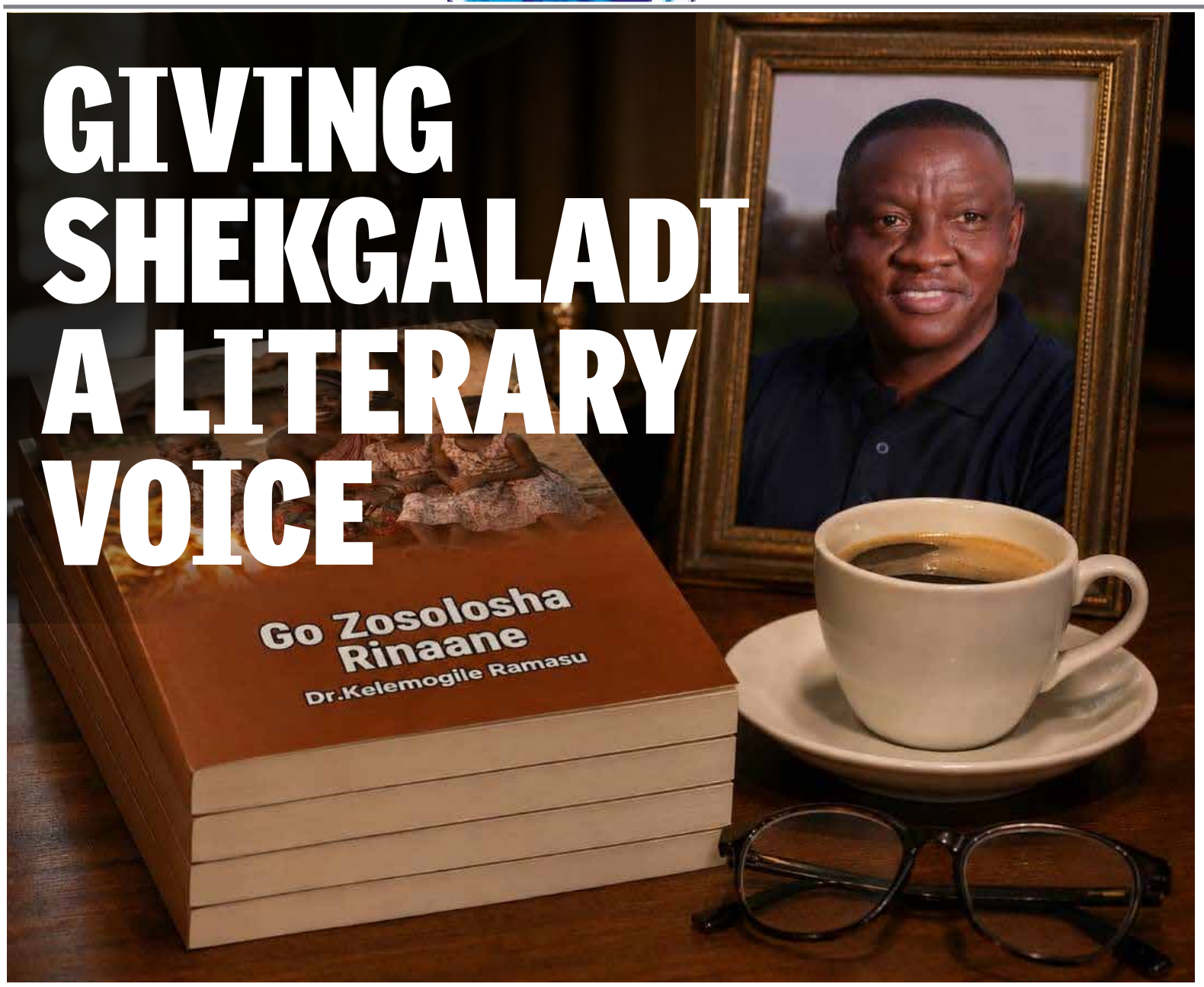
The clean-up campaign formed part of Orange Botswana's wider sustainability programme, which includes social, environmental and community-focused initiatives.

Article edited for length



The Botswana Gazette
TIME OUT
THE BOTSWANA GAZETTE
WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2026

GIVING SHEKGALADI A LITERARY VOICE

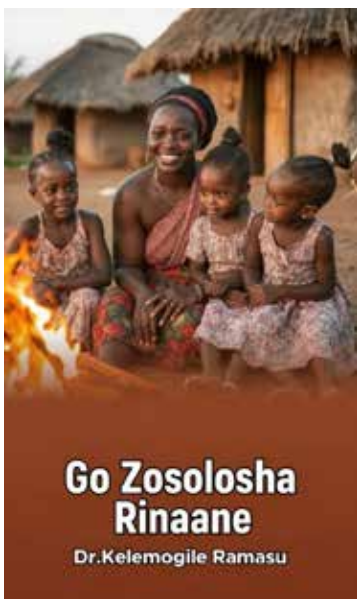


In an age where global culture moves at the speed of a swipe, one local author is slowing things down and taking readers back to the fireside. With the release of Go Zosolosha Rinaane, Dr Kelemogile Ramasu is proving that indigenous languages are not relics of the past, they are the future

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Some revolutions arrive with loud speeches. Others arrive disguised as storybooks.

When acclaimed author Dr Kelemogile Ramasu released Go Zosolosha Rinaane, the Shekgaladi translation of his celebrated Tsosoloso Ya Mainane, he wasn't simply publishing another book. He was making a statement: Botswana's indigenous languages deserve shelf space, classroom space, and cultural relevance.



> "It became a hit the moment it was released via Facebook. A lot of people showed interest in it."

At a time when many African languages face the threat of being overshadowed by dominant global tongues, Ramasu is betting on folklore, storytelling, and mother-tongue literature to keep cultural identity alive.

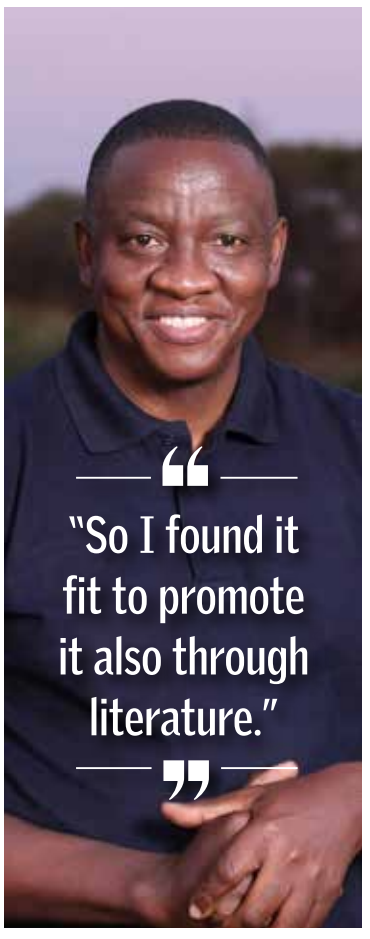
"Shekgalari is slowly becoming popular," said Ramasu in an interview, crediting artists such as Kgosi Maburu, Sheheya and Chokoma for helping push the language into the mainstream. "So I found it fit to promote it also through literature."

MORE THAN A TRANSLATION

The project became a community effort.

Khakhea natives Masedi Charlene Mokolobe and Bonno Mokolobe led the translation, even consulting elders when certain Setswana words proved difficult to render into Shekgaladi. The result is more than a translated text; it is a cultural bridge connecting generations.

For a language with limited published literature, the book arrives as both representation and preservation.



Ramasu believes it can help revive reading culture and reignite the tradition of storytelling among Shekgaladi speakers.

He said: "The book is going to help improve reading culture and revive the spirit of storytelling among the Shekgalari speakers."

> "The book is going to help improve reading culture and revive the spirit of storytelling among the Shekgalari speakers."

A MULTILINGUAL MOVEMENT

The bigger story may be what happens next.

Tsosoloso Ya Mainane has already crossed linguistic borders, appearing in Timbukushu, French, Afrikaans, Sesarwa and Chinese. Ramasu sees a future where more Botswana writers embrace translation as a tool for inclusion rather than limitation.

Go Zosolosha Rinaane is expected to be officially launched soon and will be available in bookstores across Botswana and Namibia.



NOSTALGIA HAD THE LAST DANCE

What happens when the music of the 70s, 80s and 90s collides with a crowd unwilling to let go of its golden years? At the Grand Palm's GICC, nostalgia proved it is no longer a memory, it is a movement

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The much-anticipated 70's & 80's Disco Party returned in spectacular fashion over the weekend, transforming the Grand Palm's GICC into a vibrant time capsule where classic hits, vintage swagger and collective memory ruled the night.

With South African legends Bongo Maffin headlining and a local lineup featuring DJ Lefatshe, DJ Mimi, DJ Bat's Matash, Buddahblaz, DJ Jam-N-I and others, the event delivered exactly what its audience craved: a celebration of timeless music that refuses to fade quietly into history.

MORE THAN A THROWBACK

In an entertainment landscape obsessed with the next big thing, the Disco Party has carved out a unique lane by honouring what came before. This year's addition of a 90s segment, marking Grand Palm Hotel Casino Convention Resort's 30th anniversary, expanded the nostalgia narrative while introducing fresh energy to the experience.

Event coordinator Bame Motsomatshukudu told Time Out that the growth has been undeniable.

"This year, we saw notable growth, which confirms that the event continues to resonate strongly with its target market."

THE POWER OF SERVING THE OVERLOOKED

The event's success highlights a growing truth about Botswana's lifestyle scene: mature audiences are hungry for experiences designed specifically for them.

"The 70's & 80's Disco Experience fills an important gap in the market, as there are limited entertainment offerings specifically catering to the 40+ audience," said Motsomatshukudu.

Rather than chasing youth culture, the event celebrates a generation whose soundtrack still commands packed dance floors.

NOSTALGIA MEETS INNOVATION

Behind the retro glamour was a modern mindset. Organisers introduced a fully online ticketing system and took a risk on a more diverse DJ lineup. Some patrons questioned the changes, but the response was overwhelmingly positive.

She said: "We strongly believe in providing opportunities based on merit, talent, and the ability to deliver a memorable experience."

Even an unexpected headline act change, after Brothers of Peace were unable to travel, failed to derail the momentum. Bongo Maffin stepped in and kept the crowd on its feet.

"We strongly believe in providing opportunities based on merit, talent, and the ability to deliver a memorable experience."

The lesson was simple: nostalgia works best when it evolves. The music may be old school, but the vision behind Botswana's biggest disco celebration is firmly focused on the future.

Monthe's Rise From the Ashes

From heartbreak and grief to healing and hope, Bassie Monthe's debut memoir is a deeply personal reminder that life's darkest chapters can become the foundation of a powerful new beginning

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

There is something captivating about people who refuse to let pain write the final chapter of their story. In her debut memoir, A Memoir of Loss, Resilience, and Choosing Love Again, Botswana-born entrepreneur, community leader and cultural advocate Bassie Monthe turns life's bruises into a blueprint for survival.

The 201-page memoir is not simply a book about loss. It is a candid exploration of what happens after the storm — when the tears dry, the dust settles, and a person must decide whether to remain broken or begin again.

WHEN PAIN BECOMES A TEACHER

Monthe does not shy away from the difficult moments that shaped her journey. Instead, she embraces them with startling honesty.



"Looking back now, I can honestly say I am grateful for every chapter, even the difficult ones, because they all carried purpose. They taught me resilience, self-worth, faith, courage," she reflected.

Printed in Poland and published by Smith Book Publishers, the memoir reads like a conversation with a trusted friend — raw, reflective and deeply human. Through grief, disappointment, healing and renewal, Monthe invites readers into the private spaces where growth often takes place unnoticed.

CHOOSING LOVE AGAIN

Perhaps the book's most compelling thread is its exploration of vulnerability. In one chapter, Monthe recounts how she found the courage to love again after heartbreak, offering readers a reminder that healing is not about forgetting pain but learning to live beyond it.

"This book was born from a very personal place, and it came at a point when I fully wanted to express myself," she said.

A STORY BIGGER THAN ONE WOMAN

Beyond the memoir lies a woman whose impact stretches across borders. As founder of Tswana Hub BW/IE, Monthe has created a bridge connecting Batswana in the diaspora while celebrating Setswana culture. Her advocacy for women's empowerment, leadership and community building mirrors the themes running through every page of her book.

With the fitting subtitle, Like a Phoenix, I Rose Again, the memoir delivers exactly what it promises: a story of falling, rebuilding and finding hope where none seemed possible.



Who Nailed the Retro Look?

At the Grand Palm's GICC, the music may have brought people together, but it was the fashion that stole the spotlight. From disco queens and sequined divas to township gentlemen dripping in vintage swagger, the 70s & 80s Disco Party proved that retro style never goes out of fashion



GOSEGO MOTSUMI

The dance floor was buzzing, the classics were spinning, and the glitter was impossible to ignore. But at the return of the much-loved 70s & 80s Disco Party at Grand Palm's GICC, the real headline act wasn't just the music, it was the fashion.

The theme called for Retro Fashion Glitter, and attendees arrived ready to travel through time. Sequins shimmered under the lights, afros stood proudly, bell-bottoms swayed with every dance move, and oversized sunglasses reminded everyone why the disco era remains fashion's most unapologetically expressive chapter.

THE GENTLEMEN OF GROOVE

If vintage cool had a headquarters, it would have been wherever Bk Proctor and Solomon Buti of Local Corner were standing.

Flat caps, argyle knitwear, striped sweaters and tailored trousers delivered a masterclass in understated retro style. Their look felt less like costume and more like a living photograph from a late-70s social club. Effortlessly stylish and rich with character, they embodied an era when fashion was about community, confidence and charm.

> "The theme called for Retro Fashion Glitter, and attendees arrived ready to travel through time."

DISCO FEVER IN SILVER

Lerato Rantao, popularly known as Ms Lau'ra, arrived like she had stepped directly out of Studio 54.

Designed by Mike the Designer, her metallic silver two-piece ensemble paired with dramatic faux fur, oversized sunglasses and flared trousers captured the fearless spirit of disco. It was bold, glamorous and impossible to overlook.

GLITZ AND GLAMOUR

Norah McAslin of Norah Cosmetics brought pure superstar attitude. Her gold sequined fringe dress danced with every movement, while over-the-knee boots and shimmering embellishments evoked the golden age of music videos and dance-floor icons.

The look was confident, theatrical and perfectly suited for a night built on nostalgia and self-expression.

AFRO, ATTITUDE AND AUTHENTICITY

Phodiso Seloilwe delivered one of the evening's most authentic tributes to the era. With a voluminous afro, sparkling royal-blue bell sleeves and dramatic flared details, her look celebrated the freedom and flamboyance that defined disco culture.





More than fashion, it was a personal connection to an era she lived through.

In the end, every standout look understood the assignment. Together they proved that great retro fashion isn't about copying the past.

It's about capturing its attitude. And on this glittering night, attitude was in abundant supply.



French Culture Day Slated for Mochudi

What if learning a new language was less about textbooks and more about tasting crêpes, singing songs and discovering another way of seeing the world? In Mochudi, French Culture Day will be turning cultural exchange into an adventure—one conversation, game and young mind at a time

GAZETTE REPORTER



In a world where borders seem to be shrinking and cultures increasingly collide online, one question remains: how do young people learn to truly understand each other?

In Mochudi, the answer may begin with a simple "Bonjour."

This month, French Culture Day will transform the Stepping Stones International Centre in Mochudi on Friday, 12 June 2026 into a vibrant meeting place where language becomes a bridge rather than a barrier. Organized by Alliance Française de Gaborone, with support from the French Embassy and Stepping Stones International, the event promises much more than a lesson in French vocabulary.

It is a celebration of curiosity itself.

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Forget grammar books and endless verb conjugations.

Participants will rotate through interactive stations exploring French language, food, history, art and games. One moment they will be learning everyday French phrases, the next they will be tasting freshly prepared crêpes, playing French-inspired games or discovering stories about life in France.

The experience has been deliberately designed to make learning feel less like a school assignment and more like cultural exploration.

WHY CULTURE MATTERS

At its heart, French Culture Day is not simply about promoting France. It is about encouraging young people to embrace a wider world.

The initiative seeks to foster intercultural dialogue, global awareness and appreciation for diversity—skills that have become just as valuable as academic qualifications in an increasingly connected world.

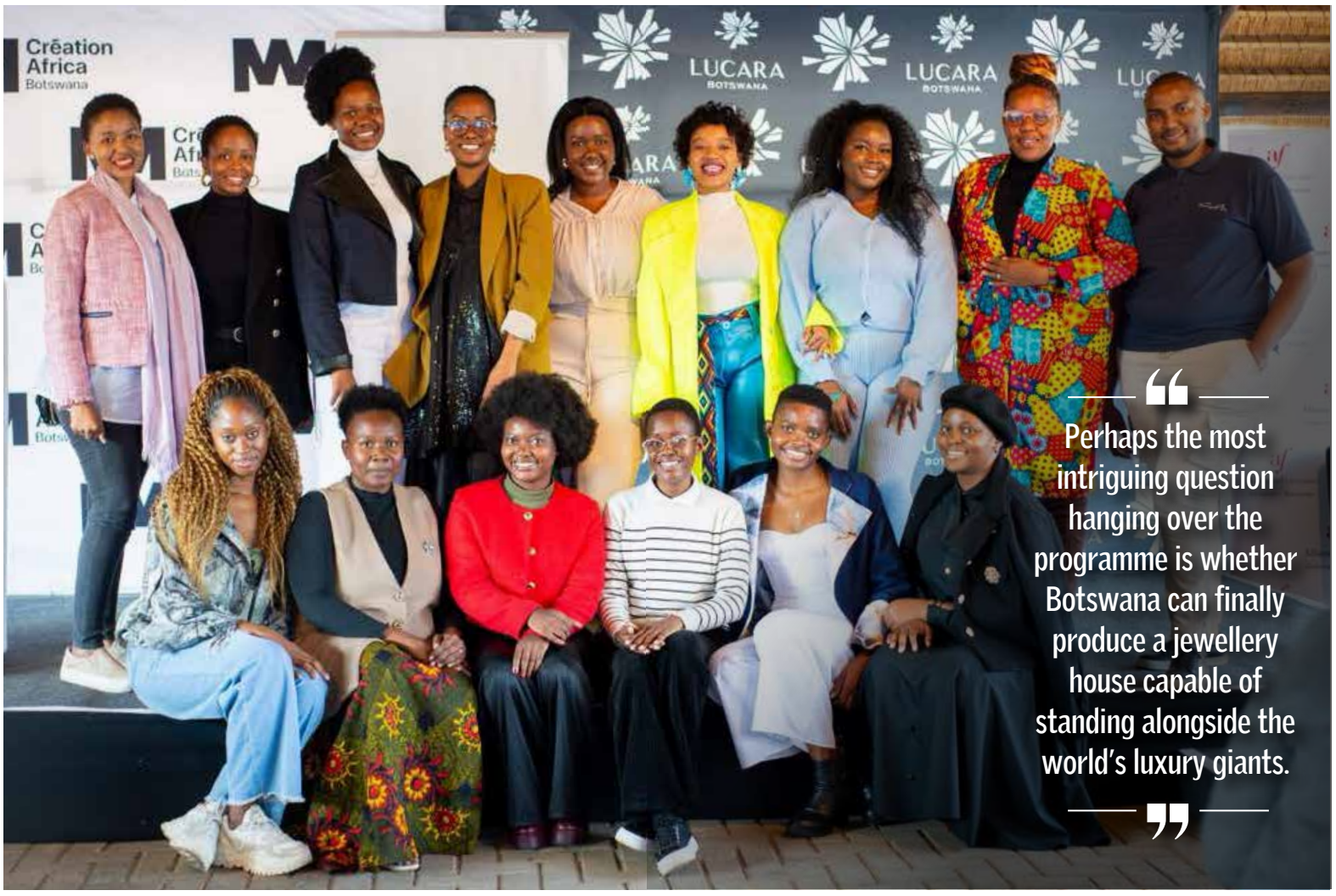
In an age where misunderstanding often dominates headlines, cultural exchange offers something different: perspective.

A SMALL EVENT WITH A BIG IDEA

The presence of French Ambassador Valérie Baraban, education officials and cultural stakeholders underscores the significance of the event. Yet the most important guests remain the young participants themselves.

They are the generation that will inherit a world shaped by international collaboration, cultural diversity and global citizenship.

Why Creation Botswana Returned



> Perhaps the most intriguing question hanging over the programme is whether Botswana can finally produce a jewellery house capable of standing alongside the world's luxury giants.

After a successful debut in fashion entrepreneurship, Création Botswana is back for season two. The programme is betting that Botswana's future isn't just buried in diamond mines, but hidden in the hands of the designers, artisans and entrepreneurs ready to transform stones into global luxury brands

GOSEGO MOTSUMI

Fashion was only the beginning.

When Création Botswana launched its first season, it focused on helping emerging fashion entrepreneurs sharpen their business skills and find their footing in a competitive industry. Now the programme is returning with a bold new mission: turning Botswana's diamond story into a jewellery story.

It's a shift that feels overdue.

After all, Botswana is one of the world's leading diamond producers. Yet while the country exports some of the planet's most coveted stones, few internationally recognised jewellery brands carry a Botswana name.

Création Botswana wants to help change that.

WHY JEWELLERY, WHY NOW?

The programme's second season pivots towards jewellery design and manufacturing, a sector sitting at the crossroads of creativity, craftsmanship and commerce.

According to Project Manager Nature Inger, the move was inspired by a simple realization from Season 1: talent alone is not enough.

"When you combine technical skills, business training, mentorship, international exposure, and market access, creatives are able to accelerate their growth significantly."

This time, the programme is applying that formula to an industry deeply connected to Botswana's identity and economic future.

BUILDING MORE THAN BRANDS

Season 2 arrives with heavyweight partners including Lucara Botswana, KGK Diamonds Botswana, Oodi College of Applied Arts and Technology, and French jewellery experts through the Haute École de Joaillerie.

Participants will receive technical training, mentorship, masterclasses, entrepreneurship support and international exchange opportunities.

The ambition extends far beyond creating beautiful necklaces and rings. The real goal is building an ecosystem where designers, manufacturers, educators and industry leaders collaborate to create products that can compete globally.

THE BIGGER DREAM

Perhaps the most intriguing question hanging over the programme is whether Botswana can finally produce a jewellery house capable of standing alongside the world's luxury giants.

Inger believes the foundation already exists.

"I think the creative talent already exists."

The challenge, she said, is building the support systems around the talent: technical training, business development, mentorship, production capacity, industry partnerships, access to markets and international visibility.

Will Création Botswana alone create the country's first internationally celebrated jewellery

house? "Probably not. Building a globally recognised brand takes years of consistent work. But can Création Botswana help create the conditions and set the foundation that could make that possible? Absolutely," she said.

That's why Création Botswana is returning. Not simply to train designers, but to help Botswana move from exporting diamonds to exporting dreams, craftsmanship and globally recognised creative brands.

The stones have always been here. Now the spotlight is turning to the people who shape them.

Inside Paradise's Gaborone Launch

Kenneth Middleton isn't just launching a cookbook in Gaborone. He's bringing a food movement. When Paradise lands at Exclusive Books this month, guests can expect stories, signatures, flavours and a glimpse into a future where recipes leap off the page and onto the dinner table

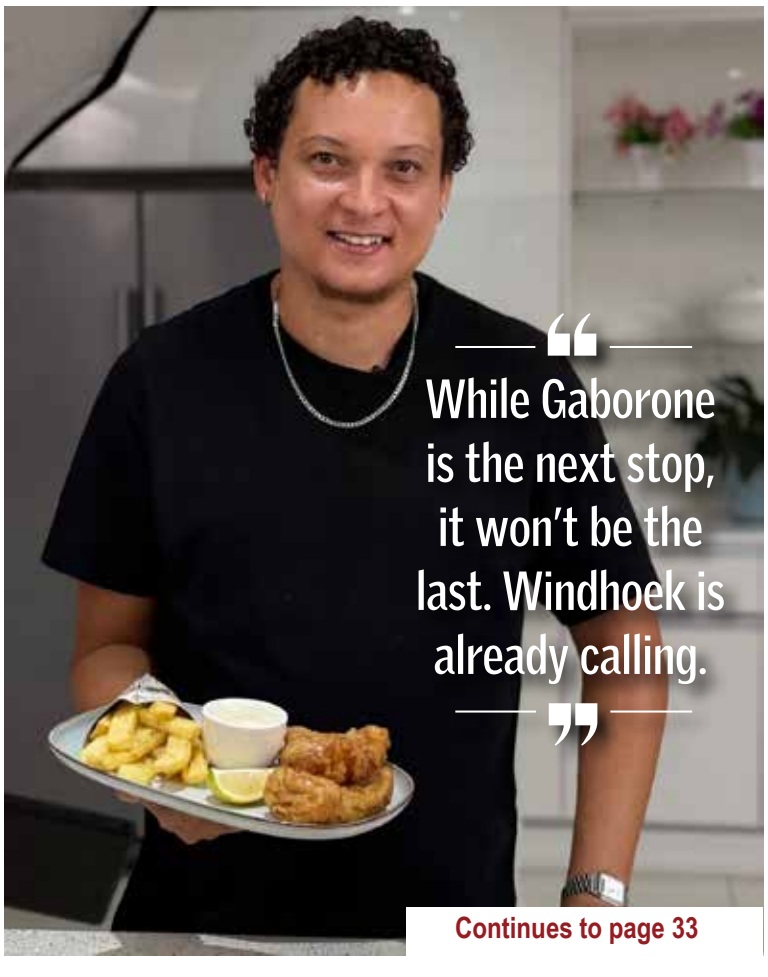
GOSEGO MOTSUMI

There is something fitting about a cookbook called Paradise returning home.

After a successful launch in Cape Town, chef and food storyteller Kenneth Middleton is bringing his celebrated cookbook to Gaborone on June 25. But those expecting a traditional book launch may be surprised. This is shaping up to be part literary gathering, part food conversation and part preview of something much bigger.

Guests at Exclusive Books, Airport Junction, can expect an intimate discussion between Middleton and Kennedy Thal, audience interaction, book signings and, perhaps most importantly, a taste of what lies between the covers.

"There will be some tasters, a few tasters from the recipes in the book for the guests who will be coming to the launch," Middleton told Time Out.



> While Gaborone is the next stop, it won't be the last. Windhoek is already calling.

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A HOMECOMING SERVED WARM

The Gaborone launch arrives after months of anticipation from local readers eager to see whether the chef had forgotten his roots.

He hasn't.

In fact, Middleton says many Botswana readers have already purchased the book and begun experimenting with its recipes, including a much-talked-about seswaa creation that has been years in development.

> "People will get to taste actual recipes from the book in their final form, in the most glorious form possible."

The launch is as much about listening as it is about celebrating. Middleton wants to hear directly from readers, answer their questions and gauge how Botswana is responding to a cookbook that boldly places local flavours alongside global favourites such as Vietnamese pho and Korean fried chicken.

THE ROAD AHEAD

While Gaborone is the next stop, it won't be the last. Windhoek is already calling.

The chef says demand from Namibia has been growing, making a launch there the natural next chapter in Paradise's journey.

Yet the most exciting plans may come after the book tour ends.

WHEN RECIPES BECOME EXPERIENCES

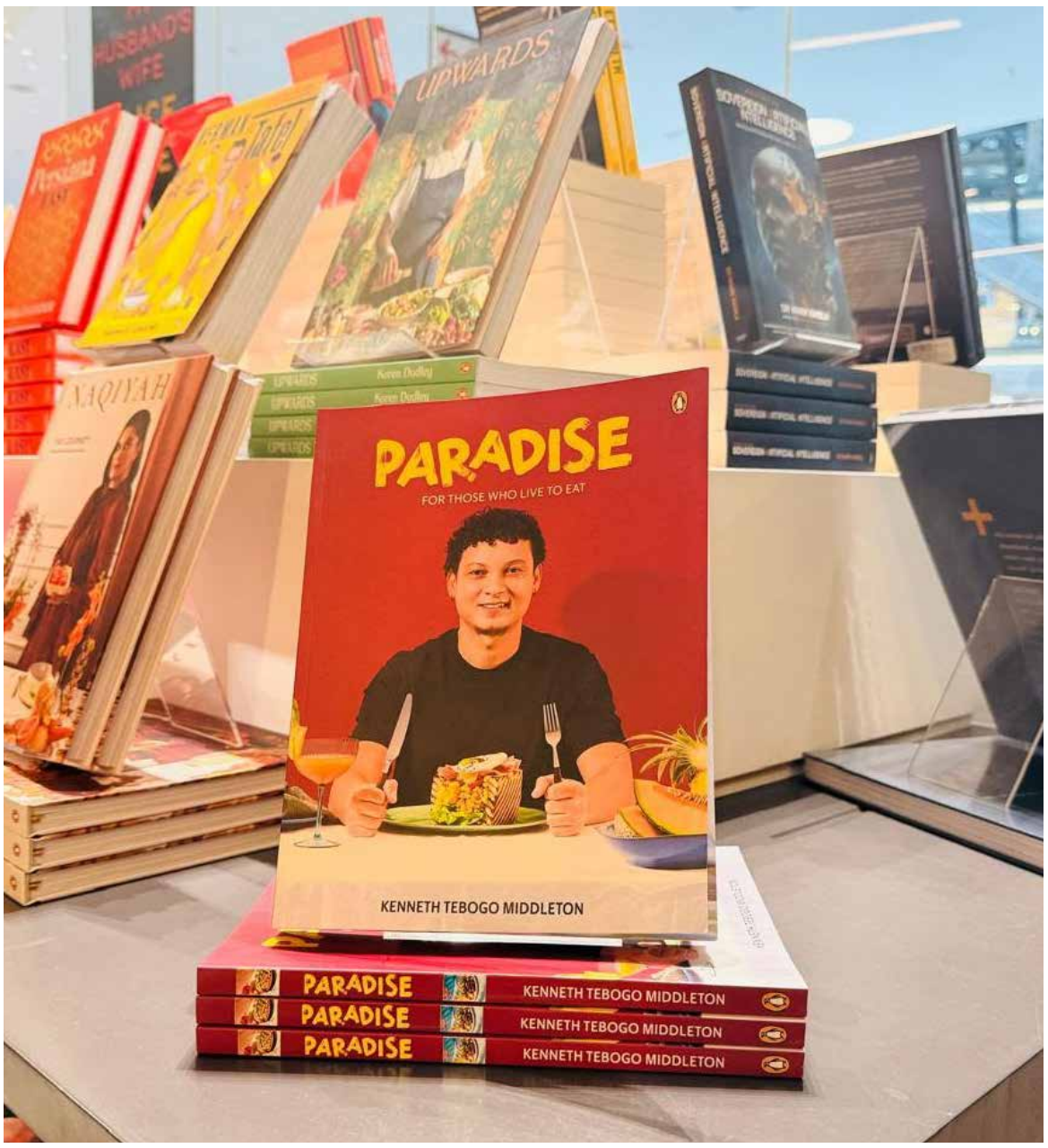
Middleton dreams of creating exclusive dining events inspired by the cookbook, where guests can move beyond reading recipes and actually live them.

"I would love to do some exclusive dinners."

Imagine a carefully curated three- or four-course menu built entirely from Paradise, where dishes are elevated beyond the home kitchen and presented in what Middleton calls "their most glorious form possible."

He said: "People will get to taste actual recipes from the book in their final form, in the most glorious form possible."

For Middleton, the future of Paradise is no longer just about selling books. It's about creating experiences one plate, one story and one unforgettable meal at a time.



Miss Universe Botswana Overhauls Selection Model

The pageant shifts toward a "reign-first" structure to boost regional leadership and commercial competitiveness.



The Miss Universe Botswana organization has restructured its titleholder preparation framework, implementing a "reign-first" model that prioritises domestic community service and institutional training ahead of global competition.

LEADERSHIP OVERHAUL

National Director Safie Sekgwa announced the leadership-driven initiative during a press briefing at Park 27 in Gaborone. Under the revised system, selected representatives will complete a structured period of national service, local sponsor engagements, and community development projects before advancing to the international Miss Universe stage. Sekgwa stated that the framework aims to transition the franchise from a traditional beauty pageant into a leadership and professional development platform, ensuring candidates are fully equipped for international competition.

ROSTER CLARIFICATIONS

The briefing also addressed recent public confusion regarding title selection. Sekgwa clarified the pageant's recruitment pathways, which rely on scouting, digital applications, and formal auditions. To illustrate, he noted that Wangu Modise, the current runner-up, was identified via scouting. Furthermore, Sekgwa confirmed that the newly appointed Miss Universe Botswana 2026, Dabilo Ongkarabilo Moses, did not replace any active contestant; she was elevated to the title from her previous position as First Princess under the new institutional guidelines.

ECONOMIC INITIATIVES

As part of a broader effort to integrate the franchise with Botswana's creative economy, the organization announced a competitive national costume selection process. Local designers will have the opportunity to submit designs, with selected individuals accredited as official service providers to the franchise. The initiative is intended to offer emerging local creatives commercial exposure on an international scale. Sekgwa also acknowledged independent pageant organizers and media contributors for their ongoing role in regional talent development.

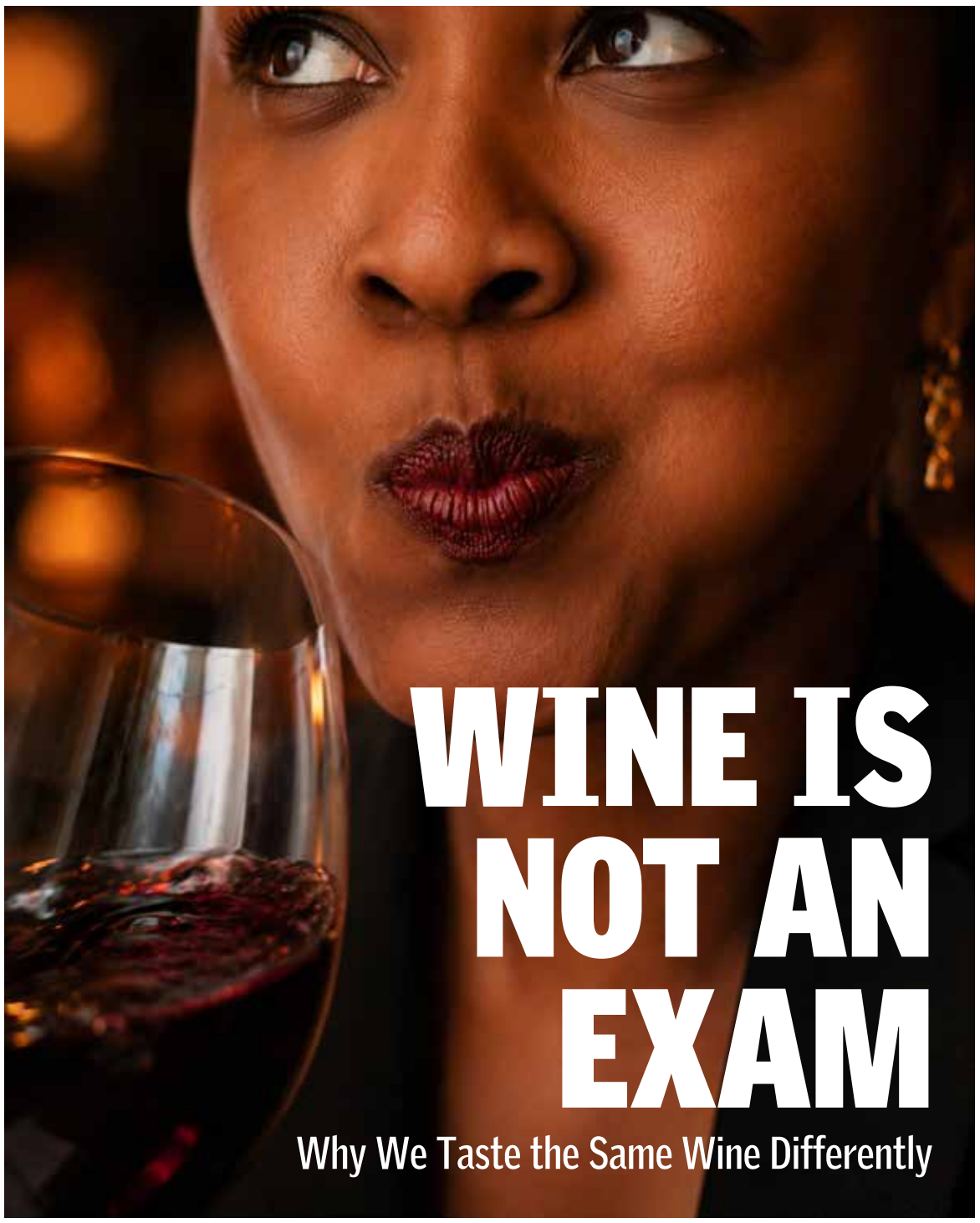
RESOURCE CHALLENGES

Moses, a 26-year-old broadcasting and journalism graduate from Maitengwe, spoke about her upcoming preparation for the global finals in Puerto Rico. Reflecting on her previous international pageant experience in 2023, Moses emphasized the importance of maintaining an authentic identity under competitive pressure. She also indicated plans to pursue future studies in law, specifically focusing on criminal justice.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

The organization concluded the briefing with a call for stronger domestic corporate and state backing. Sekgwa raised concerns regarding the financial impact of public misinformation, noting that negative narratives have previously led potential corporate sponsors to withdraw funding. Citing state entities like Air Botswana, he argued that international cultural participation should be treated as a shared national responsibility rather than an individual financial burden. Auditions and a promotional carnival are scheduled for 27 May 2026 to identify future candidates.

> "Our goal is not simply to participate. Our goal is to compete and ultimately win."



WINE IS NOT AN EXAM

Why We Taste the Same Wine Differently

A lively reminder that wine tasting is personal, shaped by memory, mood, food and the wonderfully strange language people bring to the glass.

There is a moment at almost every wine tasting when things unravel. Someone announces strawberries. Another counters with grapefruit. A third, holding the glass like a judge, quietly offers, "wet stone." Then someone says the wine reminds them of their grandmother's curtains, and suddenly nobody knows the rules anymore.

The good news is that there are no rules. Some of the best tasting notes sound ridiculous. "This wine tastes blue." "This reminds me of a library during a thunderstorm." Wine tasting can sound more like group therapy than a sensory exercise.

One common fear among people getting into wine is that they are doing it incorrectly. They worry that they cannot identify enough aromas, or that everyone else has a secret tasting superpower. The truth is more comforting. Wine tasting is not a test. It is a conversation.

DIFFERENT PALATES

The great taste debate exists because people experience wine differently. Not because some are gifted and others are not, but because every palate carries different memories and references. The person next to you is not necessarily tasting better than you. They are tasting through a different lens.

We often talk about wine as though it is fixed. Open a bottle, pour a glass, and surely everyone should taste the same thing. Except they do not, and that makes wine fascinating.

Taste is shaped by far more than the wine itself. It is influenced by memory, upbringing, culture, genetics, mood and what you ate earlier. When a winemaker describes tropical fruit, your brain searches your own life. If you grew up eating guavas from the garden, you may recognise those notes immediately. Someone else may reach for grapefruit, peaches or mangoes. Neither person is wrong. They are drawing from different libraries of memory.

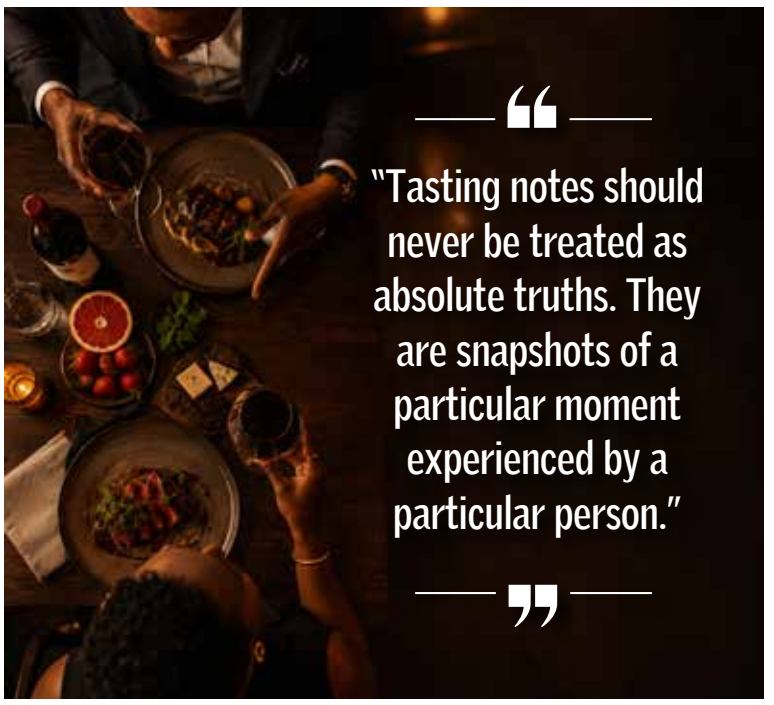
MINT CHOCOLATE

A few years ago, I visited Post House, a producer whose wines I admire. During that visit, I was handed a red wine and almost immediately said, "mint chocolate." I did not mean mint, herbs, or vague freshness. I meant mint chocolate, and I was certain about it.

The response was expected. A pause. Raised eyebrows. Polite scepticism. The sort of silence that suggests people are trying not to ask whether you have lost your mind.

Then the conversation began. Eventually, it became clear that the note was present. Nobody in the room arrived there immediately. The discussion became part of the experience. Wine is one of the few hobbies where intelligent adults can debate whether a beverage tastes like mint chocolate and nobody finds that strange.





NO CONSENSUS

At a recent Gaborone Wine Club gathering, a room full of people tasted the same wines at the same time. Consensus did not emerge. One person found citrus. Another found stone fruit. Someone else picked up herbs. A gentleman near the back seemed determined to discover the meaning of life between the first and second swirl.

> "The person next to you is not necessarily tasting better than you. They are tasting through a different lens."

That is part of the pleasure. A room full of wine lovers can taste the same wine and still arrive at different conclusions. Rather than proving somebody is wrong, it proves how personal tasting really is.

SECOND GLASS

I tend to discount the first glass. Not completely, but I rarely make a final judgement from the first sip because it is calibration. Your palate is waking up, your senses are adjusting and your brain is figuring out where to file the experience. You are gathering information, not reaching a verdict.

By the second glass, or at least the second proper taste, the wine has had a chance to settle and so have you. The flavours begin to organise themselves. What seemed sharp may now feel balanced. What seemed simple may reveal another layer. Judging wine on the first sip is like judging a person by their first email. Possible, but not always wise.

FOOD AND MOOD

Wine also never exists in isolation. What you have eaten matters enormously. A Sauvignon Blanc before spicy food can feel bright and refreshing, while the same wine after spicy food may appear softer or sweeter. A structured red that feels firm on its own can become harmonious alongside a well cooked steak.

Food changes wine, but so do mood and context. A bottle enjoyed on holiday overlooking vineyards develops charm. The same bottle consumed while answering emails and paying bills may struggle to create magic. The wine has not changed nearly as much as the circumstances around it.

That is why tasting notes should never be treated as absolute truths. They are snapshots of a moment, experienced by a particular person. The simplest lesson is also the most liberating. You do not need to taste what someone else tastes or identify every aroma correctly. Pay attention, trust your own experience and allow your palate to develop naturally. After all, wine is not an exam. Disagreeing can be half the fun.



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.

Get training on the new 2025 VAT Amendment Act



Jonathan Hore, Managing Tax Consultant



Gavin Mashiri, Senior Tax Consultant



Phenyo Nkele, Tax Consultant

The Ministry of Finance gazetted the Value Added Tax Amendment Bill 2025 on 8 August 2025 and the said Amendment Bill was then passed by Parliament in the week ending on 16 August 2025. The said Bill was then enacted as the Value Added Tax Amendment Act Number 16 of 2025 on 17 October 2025. In this article, we seek to examine the major details of the Amendment Act, at a high level. We highly recommend that organisations obtain bespoke internal training on this new law which, as stated above, was assented to on 17 October 2025. The law commenced as from 1 June 2026 and affected taxpayers must therefore comply with the said law.

REVERSE VAT ON VAT REGISTRANTS

The Amendment Act introduces a reverse VAT mechanism, requiring every VAT registrant to account for output VAT on services imported from outside the country. In practice, nearly all businesses import services with common examples including Microsoft 365 licenses, consultancy or management services, trademark royalties, and similar cross-border transactions. Under the proposed framework, VAT registrants will be obligated to charge output VAT on such imported services and adhere with other compliance matters. This results in notional sales which mustn't affect profits or revenue. Input tax may be claimed in certain circumstances.

REVERSE VAT ON NON-VAT REGISTRANTS

Notably, even suppliers who are ordinarily exempt from VAT such as educational institutions, medical facilities, churches and NGOs (among many others) will be required to pay VAT when they procure services from non-residents as long as their annual income exceeds P1m.The same will apply to government ministries, independent government bodies, city or rural councils, landboards and other parastatals that are currently not registered for VAT. Such entities will also be required to first register for Reverse VAT, followed by regular VAT returns filings. Mixed suppliers, such as banks will continue to account for VAT on imported services as currently practiced, albeit under the framework of Reverse VAT.

ELECTRONIC FISCAL DEVICES

The Ministry of Finance, through various public addresses, highlighted loopholes in the VAT collection system, particularly the under-declaration of output VAT by some traders. In response, the Ministry seeks to close such tax gaps through the new legislation. The Amendment Act introduces a requirement for every VAT-registered person to procure VAT Billing machines that will interface directly with the BURS system. Once acquired, all invoicing must be conducted through these machines. As invoices are generated, the system will automatically transmit the data to BURS, thereby eliminating the manipulation of sales figures and output VAT. This still awaits VAT regulations which will make the practical application matters plain and clearer.

VAT ON TECH-GIANTS

The tax authorities have long signalled their intention to introduce VAT on digital services supplied by international tech giants that have no physical presence in Botswana who nonetheless derive substantial revenue from the local market. These include the likes of Netflix, iTunes, Google, Facebook, and similar service providers, who are now required to register for VAT in Botswana. Offshore tourism agents will also be required to register for VAT with BURS.

PROCURE TAX TRAINING!

We urge corporates and other organizations to seek bespoke in-house training which addresses the pertinent features of the new law in as far as they affect their businesses. This, unlike general training at workshops, is designed after considering the exact business of the impacted entity and it is therefore precise in as much as it is relevant. The new law introduces highly technical matters which will affect businesses' IT systems and tax records. Various penalties will be levied for non-compliance with the said laws.

Contacts: You may contact us at +267 7181 5836 or +267 393 9435 or jhore@aupra-contax.co.bw or www.aupra-contax.co.bw. This article is general, and tax advice is recommended if decisions are to be made. If you require to join our free Tax WhatsApp groups or to know more about our 9 Tax e-books, please send us a text/whatsapp on the number above.

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H/W THEDI
IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF GABORONE
HELD AT VILLAGE

CASE NO: CCMVL–001902-25

In the matter between: -
KEBAWETSE MONTSHIWA **PLAINTIFF**
And
EMMANUEL MOGOGI KOOSIMILE **DEFENDANT**

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: EMMANUEL MOGOGI KOOSIMILE, an adult male of full legal capacity whose last known address is Molepolole, otherwise further and better particulars are to the Plaintiff unknown.

TAKE NOTICE THAT by summons issued out by this court you have been called upon to enter or cause to be entered an appearance to answer within seven (7) days after publication hereof, to the Clerk of Court and to the Plaintiff's Attorneys of your intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein the Plaintiff prays for:

a) **Return of the motor vehicle, being a Honda Fit of registration number B 908 BDP;**
b) **The Plaintiff pay the Defendant for the work he has done;**
c) **Cost of suit;**
d) **Further/ alternative relief.**

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 27TH DAY MAY 2026.

PLOT 908, AFRICAN MALL
Cnr of Merafhe Rd & Phalane Cl
P. O BOX 481 AEJ, GABORONE
TEL: 311 3321 FAX: 390 79 42
CELL: 77885509
Our Ref: (LG 1158/NL)

EZEKIEL ATTORNEYS
ATTORNEYS • NOTARIES • CONVEYANCERS

CHANGE OF LAND USE

I PAKO BENEDICT PETER, owner of Plot No. 6659, located in Botshabelo Ward, Charleshill intends to change land use from single family residential to multi-family residential.

For any objections contact Charleshill District Council, Physical Planning Department on Telephone No. 6592057 within fourteen (14) days of publication of this notice.

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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 166/26

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED **PLAINTIFF**
And
BAKANG RAMARIBANA **DEFENDANT**

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Bakang Ramaribana
Defendant
P.O Box 829
MOGODITSHANE

formerly residing at Plot 7730, Block 3, Gaborone, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar and to **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS** (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED** claims:-

a) Payment of the sum of **P90 173.36** by the Defendant;
b) Interest at prime rate plus 18% per annum from 27th day of February 2026 to the date of final payment;
c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client scale.

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 9TH DAY OF JUNE, 2026

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

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

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

CASE NO: CVHFT 000 103/26

In the matter between:
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED **PLAINTIFF**
And
TIAAN BOTES **DEFENDANT**

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: Tiaan Botes
Defendant
P.O Box 99
LOBATSE

Formerly residing at JO 28, Odendaalstrust Farm, Lobatse, but whose present whereabouts are unknown that by summons issued out of this Honourable Court, you have been called upon to give notice, within **Twenty One (21) days** after publicatiWon hereof, to the Registrar and to **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED c/o M MMOHE ATTORNEYS** (Plaintiff's Attorneys) of intention to defend (if any) in an action wherein **FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED** claims:-

a) Payment of the sum of **P74 961.40** by the Defendant;
b) Interest at the rate of 26.01% per annum from 6th day of February 2026 to the date of payment;
c) 10% collection commission in the event of paying the amount in installment; and
d) Costs of the suit at attorney and own client scale.

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN THIS 9TH DAY OF JUNE, 2026

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

DEPUTY REGISTRAR & MASTER

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

CASE NO. CVHGB – 00145 - 22

In the matter between:
THREE PARTNERS RESORTS LIMITED **PLAINTIFF**
and
WHITE WIZZ (PTY) LTD T/A CAPELLO **1ST DEFENDANT**
DEEPAK MAM **2ND DEFENDANT**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

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

DATE : 6th July 2026
TIME OF SALE : 1030 Hours
PLACE OF SALE : Lot 20637, Block 3, Gaborone
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : Developed piece of land being Lot 20637, Block 3 Industrial, Gaborone, with an industrial warehouse with a workshop, offices and ablutions within a paved and walled yard, measuring 1550m², held under Deed of Transfer No: 219/2022 made in favor of Kalahari Associates (Pty) Ltd.

Terms and Conditions : Cash or Bank guaranteed cheques.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 1ST JUNE 2026.

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

PAUL & PARTNERS

GABANAGAE J
IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT GABORONE

CASE NO. CVHGB-0003037-25

In the matter between:
NKAYA ROOSEVELDT MODONGO **PLAINTIFF**
And
BRIAN MUGO **1ST DEFENDANT**
AKLH LOGISTICS (PTY) LTD **2ND DEFENDANT**
KOLE ENEGRY KOLE **3RD DEFENDANT**

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE

TO: BRIAN MUGO of Gaborone and whose further and better particulars are unknown to the Plaintiff.

AND TO: AKLH LOGISTICS (PTY) LTD represented by Brian Mugo and whose last address known to the Plaintiff is Gaborone.

TAKE NOTICE that by the Summons issued out of the court you have been called upon to give notice, within **21 days** after publication hereof, to the Registrar of Court and to **Morima Attorneys, Gaborone International Commerce Park, Plot 158, Unit 6, P. O. Box 201140, Bontleng, Gaborone, the Plaintiff's Attorneys, of your intention to defend in an action wherein the Plaintiff claims**:

(a) That Defendants, within seven (7) days of the Court's order, return to the Plaintiff the original vehicle, being a Toyota Hilux RS, model 2.8 GD6, double cab, year 2023, with a mileage not exceeding 10,000 kilometers at the time of sale, in good and proper condition;
(b) In the event that Defendants fail to comply with paragraph (a) above, that they be ordered to refund Plaintiff the full purchase price of **P487,000.00**.
(c) Interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum a tempore mora;
(d) Costs of suit; and
(e) Further and/or alternative relief

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

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 2ND DAY OF JUNE 2026

MORIMA ATTORNEYS
Attorneys | Notaries | Conveyancers

(Plaintiff's Attorneys)
Gaborone International Commerce Park, Plot 158, Unit 6
P.O. Box 201140, Bontleng
Tel: (+267) 3115465 Fax: (+267) 3115464
GABORONE

SLAVE. J
IN THE HIGH COURT OF BOTSWANA
HELD AT FRANCISTOWN

CASE NO: CVHFT-000746/17

In the matter between
LESEGO SEMANA **PLAINTIFF**
And
METSI DRILLING (PTY) LTD **1ST DEFENDANT**
ISAAC DAVIDS **2ND DEFENDANT**
BANYENYE V.DAVIDS **3RD DEFENDANT**

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to a judgment granted by the Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by **Deputy Sheriff OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA** to the highest bidder.

DATE OF SALE : 27th June 2026
TIME OF SALE : 10:30 a.m.
VENUE OF SALE : Monametsana
PROPERTY TO BE SOLD : certain piece of land situate in the Bakgatla Tribal Administration at Monametsana measuring 253.1076 x 242.5715 x 291.1902 x 235.813m in favour of Banyenye Davids.

CONDITIONS OF SALE : EFT(Electronic Funds Transfer). Further Detailed conditions of sale are obtainable from the Deputy Sheriff.

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 28TH DAY OF APRIL 2026

DEPUTY SHERIFF OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA
C/o Motlhala Ketshabile & Company
Plot 23671, Phase 4
Private Bag Br 320
GABORONE-cell no: 71222244/72195113

APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF CERTIFIED COPY OF LOST DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to apply for a certified copy of **Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. FT TL 183/2011** registered on the 30th **day** of **March 2011** in favour of **NOELINE SIMANGALISIWE NDABA in** respect of the following property:

CERTAIN : piece of land being Tribal Lot 16430, Maun
SITUATE : at Maun in the Batawana Tribal Territory
MEASURING : 1025m2 (One Thousand and Twenty-Five Square Metres);

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

DATED AT FRANCISTOWN ON THIS 29TH DAY OF MAY 2026.

MMOHE ATTORNEYS
ATTORNEYS, NOTARIES & CONVEYANCERS

Plot No. 3936, Peolwane Street
Minestone
P.O. Box 1860
FRANCISTOWN
Telephone No. 2441616

INTENTION TO CHANGE MARRIAGE PROPERTY REGIME

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

1. **GONTSE POONYANE** who is married to **KAGISO POONYANE**, in community of property on the 18th day of October 2019 at Bobonong in the Central District, intends to make an application to the High Court of Botswana for leave to change her property regime to out of community.

2. **GONTSE POONYANE** intends to apply to the High Court of Botswana after the expiration of the three (3) weeks statutory notice from the date of first publication hereof.

3. Any person, creditor or debtor, who may have an interest in the assets and/or liabilities of **GONTSE POONYANE and KAGISO POONYANE**'s estate, should they have objections to the proposed change of matrimonial property regime, should inform the Applicant's Attorneys, **WAME'S LEGAL CHAMBERS** in GABORONE, before the expiration of three (3) weeks period, or make representations before the High Court of Botswana once the contemplated application is lodged.

DATED IN GABORONE ON THIS 25th DAY OF MAY 2026.

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

FINAL LIQUIDATION AND DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Master's Reference: ESHGB-000294-24

IN THE ESTATE of the late MICHAEL MAILA SEKAMBO who died at Plot No. 34826, Block 8 Gaborone District, Republic of Botswana on the 30th day of May 2020.

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

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

Dated at Gaborone on this 25th Day of November 2024

The Executrix
Tlamelo Sekambo
Private Bag BR 106
GABORONE
TEL: 71388106/73826856

GIRLS LEAD SACA MEDAL CHARGE

Botswana topped the SACA U18/U20 Championships in Mauritius with 20 medals, driven by a strong showing from female athletes across sprint and field events

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana returned from the SACA U18/U20 Championships in Mauritius over the weekend with a commanding finish at the top of the medal table, securing 20 medals and finishing first among 12 SADC countries.

> "we are on path to deliver on our ambition of 2028 and 2032 Olympics"

The performance was marked by an unusually strong contribution from female athletes, who delivered multiple gold medals in sprint and field events.

Mabua Mabua of the Botswana Athletics Association said the results were particularly encouraging on the women's side.

"Very impressive results," he said in an interview. "the part that's exciting is that of girls , it's rare for them them to dominate with medals like they did , they did really well brought gold medals in races like 100 and 200m as well as long jump , it shows we have growth in the area that we have been lagging on . we are on path to deliver on our ambition of 2028 and 2032 Olympics , we will continue guarding them and make sure that we have girl representation at those Olympics."

Botswana's medal haul included 10 gold, 3 silver and 7 bronze medals, enough to place the country first overall in the regional competition.

Among the standout performances were Ludo Star Mbekwa, who won gold in the Women's U20 long jump, Game Onneile, who took the Women's U18 200m title, and Same Mhutsiwa, who secured a sprint double in the Women's U20 100m and 200m events.

The results underscored Botswana's depth across junior athletics and its growing presence in both track and field disciplines at regional level.

Mabua said the performances aligned with longer-term objectives for international competition, adding that continued focus would be placed on developing female athletes for future Olympic participation.



I would like to inform owners of plot 22915,plot 22917 and plot 22921 at Phase 4,that I would like to put a boundary wall at plot 22916.My contact 72232007

Farm worker wanted for a farm near Letsweletau. Must have experience in horticulture.

Apply to:

The Farm Owner
P.O. Box 88986
Gaborone

Call: 74855406

BOXING MAPS LONG-TERM GROWTH

Association says governance reforms, athlete development and a national league are central to plans to strengthen the sport

GAZETTE REPORTER



The Botswana Boxing Association (BoBA) says it is prioritising long-term development, governance reforms and athlete growth as it seeks to build a more competitive and sustainable sport.

Addressing the association's annual general meeting over the weekend, BoBA president Dirang Thipe said the executive committee had focused on creating systems that would support boxing beyond its current term of office.

"Since assuming office in August 2025, the Executive Committee has committed itself to a clear and deliberate agenda: to reposition Botswana boxing as a well-governed, competitive, sustainable, and internationally respected sport," Thipe said.

He added that the association had concentrated on "building systems, not moments," with initiatives aligned to a broader strategy aimed at transforming boxing in Botswana.

GOVERNANCE DRIVE

Thipe said the association had established and activated several commissions and committees involving representatives from affiliate clubs to improve participation in decision-making and accountability.

He said the executive committee had also prioritised unity and collaboration within its leadership structures while focusing on what it considered best for the sport.

A key development during the reporting period was the implementation of the Botswana Boxing Association Strategic Plan 2025–2028, which outlines priorities in governance, athlete development, high performance, stakeholder engagement, financial sustainability and commercial growth.

"The strategy is not merely a document for compliance purposes. It is a practical guide that informs our decisions and ensures that our resources are directed towards programmes that deliver measurable impact," he said.

LEAGUE LAUNCH

Among the association's major initiatives was the launch of the National Boxing League, which provides athletes with regular competition opportunities and a structured ranking system.

According to Thipe, the league is intended to strengthen talent identification and national team selection while shifting the sport towards a season-based competition model.

"The National Boxing League is not simply a competition. It is a development pathway, a high-performance tool, and a platform through which we intend to build a stronger boxing product," he said.

ATHLETE PATHWAY

The association also reported progress in youth development, grassroots programmes, national camps and official sparring opportunities.

Thipe said youth championships had been successfully hosted during the period under review as part of efforts to create a pathway from grassroots participation to elite competition.

BoBA also continued to develop technical officials, with several national referees and judges completing qualification programmes and contributing at competitions across the country.

> "We do not want Botswana boxing to merely participate at international competitions. We want Botswana boxing to compete, perform, and win."

Looking ahead, Thipe said the association aims to strengthen coaching development, improve financial sustainability through partnerships and sponsorships, and prepare athletes for future international competitions, including qualification pathways for the Commonwealth Games and Olympic Games.

"We do not want Botswana boxing to merely participate at international competitions. We want Botswana boxing to compete, perform, and win," he said.

CONTINENTAL CHESS SHOWPIECE COMING TO BOTSWANA

African championship doubles as a World Cup qualifier and a milestone celebration of 50 years of organised chess on the continent

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana will host the 2026 African Individual Chess Championships for the first time, a development that Botswana Chess Federation (BCF) president Kutlwano Tatolo described as a landmark moment for the country and the sport.

The championship, Africa's premier individual chess competition, will take place at Debswana Jwaneng Mine from June 18 to June 27, 2026. The tournament also serves as a qualification event for the FIDE Chess World Cup, attracting some of the continent's strongest players.

"The championship elevates Botswana's profile on the continental and international sporting stage, showcases the country's ability to host world-class events, and provides local players with the unique opportunity to compete against Africa's strongest chess talent on home soil," Tatolo said in an interview.

She added that the event is expected to promote tourism and economic activity while contributing to the development of chess in Botswana.

STRONG FIELD

According to Tatolo, 25 African countries have confirmed participation in the championship.

"We are delighted to confirm participation from 25 African countries, including three Grandmasters and more than ten International Masters, alongside numerous titled players and rising talents who represent the future of African chess," she said.

"Their presence reflects the growing strength and popularity of chess across the continent and underscores the importance of this championship within the global chess calendar."

The event is recognised as the continent's most important chess tournament and offers players an opportunity to secure qualification to the Chess World Cup.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

This year's championship coincides with the 50th anniversary of the African Chess Confederation (ACC), adding further significance to the tournament.

"Importantly, the championship coincides with the 50th Anniversary of the African Chess Confederation, making Botswana the proud host of a landmark celebration in African chess history," Tatolo said.



She said hosting the tournament demonstrates Botswana's growing reputation as a destination capable of staging major sporting events while providing an opportunity to showcase the country's hospitality, culture and tourism offerings.

Tatolo also acknowledged the contribution of partners and stakeholders involved in delivering the event.

"On behalf of the Botswana Chess Federation, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to Debswana Jwaneng Mine, our sponsors, partners, volunteers, government stakeholders, and the African Chess Confederation for their unwavering support in making this historic event possible," she said.



Botswana Hosts Zone IV Swimming

Gaborone prepares for over 400 athletes from 14 nations as officials outline development, infrastructure, and participation gains ahead of CANA Zone IV Championships

GAZETTE REPORTER

Hosting the CANA Zone IV Swimming Championships is expected to play a significant role in swimming development in Botswana, according to Botswana Swimming Sport Association (BSSA) public relations officer Bokang Mokobi.

"Hosting CANA Zone IV is a game-changer for a landlocked, developing swim nation like Botswana," Mokobi said, noting that more than 400 athletes from 14 countries will compete in the country.

He said the presence of regional swimmers would increase visibility for the sport locally. "Young Batswana swimmers see elite regional heroes up close – it makes elite swimming feel possible," he said.

Mokobi added that hosting also brings technical development opportunities. "World Aquatics and Africa Aquatics bring officials, clinics, and equipment. Our local coaches, officials, and volunteers get trained to international standard in one week."

He further noted that international hosting often triggers infrastructure improvements, including timing systems and competition equipment that remain after the event.

EVENT READINESS

Mokobi said Botswana's readiness is supported by prior experience hosting aquatic competitions, including the 2023 Africa Aquatics Zone IV Water Polo tournament.

"We're ready because Botswana has hosted international aquatic events and built the logistics capacity through BSSA and BNOC systems," he said.

He confirmed that the University of Botswana pool will be used for competition. "The facility is FINA-certified, and Gaborone has hotels, transport, and medical capacity to host visiting teams."

He added that Botswana has more than 100 trained volunteers and certified officials, supported by recent international clinics.

Remaining gaps include open water readiness and international timing systems, though he said technical delegates from Africa Aquatics will provide support.

ATHLETE OPPORTUNITIES

Mokobi said hosting the event would expand participation for local swimmers who often face financial barriers to international travel.

"Normally only 8 to 12 swimmers afford flights to Zone IV. At home, we can enter 40-plus swimmers across age groups," he said.

> "Medals last a day. Legacy lasts decades."

He added that competition against regional nations would raise performance levels. "Our swimmers will race South Africa, Zimbabwe, Angola – the benchmark. Times drop when you're chased."

He also highlighted relay events as an opportunity for broader team participation and development.

LEGACY IMPACT

Mokobi said the championships are intended to leave long-term benefits beyond competition results.

"Medals last a day. Legacy lasts decades," he said, pointing to upgraded timing systems, touchpads, and starting blocks expected to remain in Botswana.

He added that the event will contribute to training new officials and coaches. "Thirty new certified officials and ten Level 1 coaches trained during the championships will run the sport after visitors leave."

He also noted expected growth in swimming participation following exposure to elite competition.

"The dream is that in 2030, a Motswana teenager says, 'I started swimming because I saw Zone IV in Gaborone when I was 8."

Botswana Targets Sports Economy Growth

The inaugural Business of Sport Summit aims to position sport as a driver of investment, tourism, entrepreneurship and economic diversification

GAZETTE REPORTER

Botswana will host its inaugural Business of Sport Summit on June 25–26, 2026, at the Gaborone International Convention Centre (GICC), in a move aimed at positioning sport as a strategic contributor to economic growth, investment attraction, entrepreneurship, innovation, tourism development and youth empowerment.

The event, which organisers say will become an annual fixture on Botswana's sporting and business calendar, is the first platform in the country dedicated exclusively to examining the relationship between sport and business.

According to organisers, the summit seeks to stimulate dialogue, encourage investment, foster partnerships and develop practical strategies to unlock the economic value of the sports sector.

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

Globally, sport has evolved into a multi-billion-dollar industry with economic influence extending beyond competition. The sector contributes to infrastructure development, job creation, tourism, media, technology, retail and the creative economy.

The summit aims to place Botswana within this broader conversation while identifying opportunities relevant to the country and the region.

Over two days, the gathering will bring together representatives from government, the private sector, sports federations, athletes, investors, tourism operators, technology companies, broadcasters, sponsors, academia and development partners.

Participants are expected to engage through keynote presentations, panel discussions, masterclasses, exhibitions and networking sessions focused on building a sports economy that contributes to national development.

KEY DISCUSSIONS

Topics on the agenda include sports investment and sponsorship, sports tourism, sports infrastructure, athlete commercialisation, digital innovation, sports media and broadcasting, entrepreneurship opportunities within sport, and strategies for developing sustainable sporting events capable of attracting international audiences and investment.

The summit comes as Botswana's sports sector continues to gain visibility through international achievements by local athletes and increased interest in the country as a destination for major sporting events.

Organisers say the current momentum presents an opportunity to develop sport into a viable economic sector capable of delivering long-term benefits for communities and citizens.

> "This summit is not simply an event; it is the beginning of a long-term movement aimed at building a sustainable and commercially viable sports ecosystem."

LONG-TERM VISION

Speaking on the significance of the summit, organiser Bonni Dintwa said the initiative seeks to broaden perceptions of sport beyond recreation and competition.

"Sport has the power to unite people, inspire nations, and transform lives. However, its impact extends far beyond the stadium," he said.

"The inaugural Business of Sport Summit seeks to ignite conversations and actions that will help Botswana harness sport as a tool for economic development, business growth, youth empowerment, and social progress."

He added: "This summit is not simply an event; it is the beginning of a long-term movement aimed at building a sustainable and commercially viable sports ecosystem."

Organisers say the summit will also provide opportunities for young entrepreneurs, emerging sports professionals and innovators to engage with industry leaders and decision-makers.

The event is expected to generate recommendations that could inform future policy, investment and sector development initiatives while supporting Botswana's broader economic diversification goals.

As the inaugural edition, organisers envision the summit growing into a leading annual platform for sports business dialogue in Africa, attracting greater regional and international participation in future years.

TIRED OF SHARING?



BACKPAGE
WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2026
SINCE 1984

The Botswana Gazette
SPORT

GIRLS LEAD SACA MEDAL CHARGE

Botswana topped the SACA U18/U20 Championships in Mauritius with 20 medals, driven by a strong showing from female athletes across sprint and field events



37.

