



# The Patriot

2012 'BALANCED & FAIR'

## on Sunday



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# Serame stirs BDP turmoil

- Demand that Phase 1 Bulela Ditswe be nullified
- Many constituencies opened beyond stipulated hours
- Her appeal could inspire many protests, plunge BDP into chaos

**BAKWADI LEKOPANE**  
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

**S**HOULD THE MINISTER OF Finance, Peggy Serame's appeal that the ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) violated regulations by not adhering to stipulated voting hours of 0600hrs -1800hrs in the first round of primary elections last weekend succeed, campaigns for the October 2024 general election will be thrown into disarray.

The successful appeal could have catastrophic consequences for the party by disrupting several constituencies where voting in the primary elections also started late on Saturday and continued until the next day (Sunday). Serame is calling for the nullification of the first round of primary elections countrywide. The BDP has already acknowledged the mess, apologizing to its members for the late commencement of the election process and attributing the delays to problems with external parties hired to print the ballot papers.

Serame, who was defeated by the Minister of Health and Wellness, Dr Edwin Dikoloti, by a margin of 1,481 votes, argues that the party violated its primary election rules. BDP regulations stipulate that voting should start from 0600hrs to 1800hrs, which was not the case in many constituencies.

In her protest letter, Serame outlined her grievances, stating that voting in some wards, such as



Serame

Mmathethe, Pitshane Molopo, and Mogojojojo, started as late as 6pm and 10pm on Saturday evening. Additionally, she noted that in certain areas, voting only began the following day, with some cells within the same ward starting on different dates. This, she argues, constitutes a clear violation of BDP's regulations, which allow for polling station hours to be extended by no more than two hours under exceptional circumstances.

According to the BDP primary elections regulations, Dikoloti being the person affected by the appeal should be furnished with a protest letter and "may, within

been advised against the appeal. We had thought that she would accept the outcome, as many others have done under similar circumstances. Many were disadvantaged by the irregularities; why does she think she is the only one affected?" said a senior party insider.

As the BDP grapples with Serame's challenge, concerns are growing within the BDP that her appeal over primary election irregularities could set a precedent, inspiring similar challenges from other party members.

Party insiders warn that Serame's appeal could lead to an influx of similar protests, causing internal turmoil and jeopardizing the BDP unity, which the party President Mokgweetsi Masisi has been preaching in his countrywide campaigns.

Yet, others say Serame's protest is a curveball. "The regional committee is acutely aware of the political dynamics within our party and is struggling with several questions. Are Serame's actions supported by the party elders? How will Dr Dikoloti's 5,839 voters react if the party takes this route? And what impact will this have on the public perception of the party?" an insider questioned.

Among other claims Serame makes are that she "was denied a copy of the voters roll" as she "needed it to campaign among democrats." She further says some of the people voted more than once due to the presiding officer's "failure to use ink on the fingers of democrats who had voted."

# Kgafela II rejects Khama, Mswati

- Khama approached Kgafela II over Royal Council appointment-claim
- Mswati ask Khama, Kgafela to be Ludzidzini Royal Council advisors



Kgafela II

the Kingdom of Eswatini to serve as external special advisors to the Ludzidzini Royal Council, The Patriot on Sunday has learnt.

Ludzidzini Royal Council is a recognised traditional structure in the government that plays an advisory role to King Mswati III and the royal family with its members appointed by King Mswati III. Information gathered by this publication is that Khama, who is targeted to be an advisor to the council also approached Kgafela II to become part of the council, but Kgafela II turned down the offer. Sources said Mswati III would have loved to have Khama and Kgafela II as senior advisors of the council.

"Kgafela and Khama meet often in South Africa to discuss issues in Botswana, particularly around bogosi. Khama approached Kgafela to accompany him whenever he travels to Eswatini at the invitation of Mswati, but Kgafela has been

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**B**AKGATLA PARAMOUNT CHIEF, Kgosi Kgafela II has rejected an offer extended to him by former President Ian Khama on behalf of King Mswati III of

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## Hands off our constituencies

# BPP warns BNF radicals

- BNF faction de-campaigns BPP in Shashe West wards
- BPP threatens to boycott the UDC NEC meetings

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**F**URIOUS BOTSWANA PEOPLE'S Party (BPP) has warned its Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) coalition counterpart, Botswana National

Front (BNF) to stop infiltrating constituencies and wards allocated to them where some members decampaign candidates of other UDC affiliates.

The UDC National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting that was



Mashungwa

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**NEW KFC ALL STARS**

**75<sup>90</sup> EACH**

Ts & Cs apply. Images for illustrative purposes. Delivery prices may vary.



# De Beers donates P463 000 to Stepping Stones

DE BEERS GROUP IS PLEASED TO announce a P463,000 donation to Stepping Stones International, a charity that unlocks the potential of vulnerable children and youth in Botswana. The donation was raised through the ReSet Collective collaboration and will support the implementation of the Young Mothers Programme including coaching young men, also known as "Polishing Young Diamonds," in Goodhope and Kgatleng, Botswana.

ReSet Collective was introduced to celebrate the positive impact generated by natural diamonds in De Beers Group's partner countries.

Harnessing the power of creative collaboration to show the positive impact De Beers diamonds make, five jewellery designers with a passion for natural diamonds and sustainability travelled to Botswana to follow the journey of a De Beers diamond. This initial activation, dubbed 'the ReSet Collective' included US designers Jade Trau, Jennie Kwon, Julez Bryant, Sara Weinstock, and Zoë Chicco. Inspired by the people they met and the beautiful landscapes and wildlife they witnessed; each member of the collective designed a unique pendant with De Beers diamonds from Botswana. The one-of-a-kind pieces were sold by Sotheby's, with proceeds being donated to charity.

As a beneficiary of these funds, Stepping Stones International will be enabled to



support the Young Mothers Programme in Goodhope and Kgatleng, which aims to provide essential support and opportunities for young mothers, helping them to build a better future for themselves and their families. "We are happy to support Stepping Stones International and its mission. This programme is strongly aligned with our objective of accelerating equal opportunity for women and girls and contributing to the development of the communities in which we operate. The ReSet initiative seeks to highlight the positive influence that natural

diamonds have on communities throughout the world, and we are pleased to see proceeds raised by the collection making a significant difference in our communities in Botswana," stated Thabile Moipolai, Senior Vice President - People for De Beers Group.

The donation is also a testament to De Beers Group's commitment to its Building Forever sustainability framework and its priority focus on accelerating equal opportunity and partnering for thriving communities. By collaborating closely with local communities, De Beers strives to create lasting, positive impacts that extend far beyond the diamond industry.

"We are immensely grateful for the generous donation from De Beers Group. The Young Mothers Programme will provide crucial support and opportunities for young mothers in Goodhope and Kgatleng, helping them to build a brighter future. This partnership with De Beers Group highlights the power of collaboration in driving positive change and empowering communities," said Lisa Jamu, Executive Director at Stepping Stones International.

# Ombud Expo 2024

THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN cordially invites all media houses to an official opening ceremony of the Second International Ombud Expo (IOE) 2024 to be held on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024, at Gaborone International Convention Centre (GICC) at 08:00 hours. The event will be officiated by His Honour, the Vice President of the Republic of Botswana, Honourable Slumber Tsogwane.

This year's theme is 'TRUSTED INSTITUTIONS: RIGHTING INJUSTICES, BOLSTERING QUALITY GOVERNANCE'. The Memorandum of Understanding between African Ombudsman and Mediators Association (AOMA) and the Anti-Fraud Risk Investigations and Compliance Academy (Africa Training Academy) will be signed by Hon. Florbela Rocha Araújo, Ombudsman of Angola and AOMA President, Hon. Adv. Kholeka Gcaleka, Public Protector South Africa and Chairperson of AORC Board and AFRICA Training Academy President on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Fairgrounds at 1000 hours.



Stephen Tiroyakgosi Ombudsman of Botswana

# Masisi is Ambassador of More than a Mother Campaign

THE FIRST LADY OF BOTSWANA, Neo Jane Masisi was officially named the Merck Foundation Ambassador of the More than a Mother Campaign in Botswana this past week. The Merck Foundation has been working in partnership with the first lady for over 3 years and has notable milestones to show for it.

Merck foundation helps curb the stigma around infertility, assists women who have suffered gender-based violence through the Great Initiative of which beneficiaries around Botswana received sewing machines to make them independent.

Dr. Rasha Kejel the CEO of Merck Foundation also officially the Mother than a Mother Campaign which provides women who face stigma because of infertility consolidation through making the public understand that it is not only one sided.

The campaign also tries to provide solutions that can assist those experiencing problems of infertility, it also supports the education of a girl child. Dr. Kejel mentioned that educating the girl child is a strategy for women empowerment and a stronger community.

With over 45 scholarships awarded to health care professionals in critical and underserved specialties the Merck Foundation has been committed to transforming the patient care landscape in Botswana especially for women who face the stigma of infertility.

Speaking at the launch the chairman of the foundation Prof. Dr. Frank Stangenberg



Neo Masisi

alluded that good health care is imperative in contributing to socio-economic development, he further mentioned that the foundation recognizes the lack of trained health care professionals and aims to alleviate that.

Beneficiaries of the scholarships stated that they have improved their work ethic and that there has been less referrals abroad. One of the beneficiaries of the Merck Foundation Scholarships Dr. Lorato Seopane mentioned that she is one of the three endocrinologists that work for the government in Botswana, this shows there was a clear burden on the health system and a shortage of these specialists. Dr. One Steven stated that with the knowledge acquired efforts are being made in Botswana to establish the first ever IVF centre which will assist infertility as it will cut cost of going abroad to do procedures.

# Long-term behavioural change report launched



ASHLEY THABA\*

HEALTHY FAMILIES FOUNDATION, LED BY Percy and Ashley Thaba, on Wednesday hosted a stakeholder engagement session sponsored by the Ministry of Communication, Knowledge and Technology to disseminate results of a six-months study measuring the long-term behavioural change impact of their programs. In a nation constantly plagued by incidents of gender-based violence, passion killings, escalating crime, love affair scandals, it is encouraging to know that one Foundation is trying to be proactive to change the narrative.

For the past four years The Thabas, through the Healthy Families Foundation have been traveling around the country to teach entire communities about how to have healthier families. They have taught a total of 20,259 people. The results show these travels have led to a huge return on investment in thousands sharing that the trainings have radically changed their lives and families.

For the purpose of the study commissioned by the Ministry of Communication, Knowledge and Technology, a professional researcher, Dr Ramabu, led a team of four research assistants to go back to the various communities the Thabas have taught over the past four years, namely Rakops, Serowe, Mahalapye, Francistown, Gabane, Kanye, and Ghanzi. The study lasted for six months, with the team going back to each community and randomly surveying 5% of the participants to measure the long-term impact on gender-based violence, substance abuse, absent parenting, financial management, among other common social ills.

The Healthy Families Foundation believes that

if they can fix the root of broken homes, the fruit of these destructive social ills will naturally be fixed. With that hypothesis, the participants of the stakeholder engagement were pleased to see that indeed the data does show an unbelievable amount of behavioral change. The entire report and engagement was live streamed on their Facebook page: Healthy Families Foundation, for anyone who would like to see that presentation for themselves.

As a nation, organizations that participate in CSR initiatives were encouraged by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Communication, Knowledge and Technology to partner with the Healthy Families Foundation. It is organizations like them that can take us where we need to go as a nation that desires to eradicate gender-based violence, substance abuse, and orphans and vulnerable children among other social ills. Indeed, it is commendable how the results of this study and the testimonies given at the stakeholder engagement provide hope that change is possible.

Two men, namely Ernest Boemo and Police Officer, Constable Disang, both testified publicly that after the teachings their lives have been completely transformed. Boemo testified that he has almost completely stopped drinking, has gotten involved in his daughter's life though previously was completely absent, and has taken a step to lead a life of purity and integrity which has brought him so much more peace than his previous life of fighting, drinking and various women. Officer Disang also testified to a significant decrease in alcohol intake, as well as a dramatic improvement in his marriage and parenting thanks to applying the communication and financial management. As well, he shared stories of marijuana users he has taught the material he learned in the workbook used in the community campaigns that have completely stopped abusing drugs.

All in all, the results were astounding, and stakeholders applauded the Foundation for their work in the communities. Percy Thaba, the Foundation's CEO, pleaded with organizations and government departments to partner with them to continue building happy families. He said they are currently struggling to raise funds, despite that many communities are demanding their services and need consistent follow up. He reiterated that funds remain the limiting factor. He hoped that after seeing the evidence, corporates and government ministries would be encouraged to partner with the Foundation for national transformation.

\* Ashley Thaba is the Healthy Families Foundation Co-Founder



# EXTERNAL VACANCY

## CIRCULAR NO. 4 OF 2024

Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) is a semi-autonomous organization of Government responsible for assessing and collecting tax revenue as well as border administration. BURS invites dynamic, self-motivated and qualified citizens of Botswana to visit the BURS website and apply for the following post:

1. TECHNICAL ANALYST, SECURITY X 1 (GABORONE)
2. PROGRAMMER X 2 (GABORONE)
3. SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER X 1 (GABORONE)

Kindly access the advert at BURS website and BURS Facebook page/sites as follows:  
**Website:** [www.burs.org.bw](http://www.burs.org.bw)  
**Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/BotswanaUnifiedRevenueService/>

All applications should be sent to [recruitment@burs.org.bw](mailto:recruitment@burs.org.bw) and addressed to;

**Director Human Resources**  
**Botswana Unified Revenue Service**  
**Plot 54379 CBD - Tower Block, 5th Floor**  
**Private Bag 0013**  
**Gaborone**

For more information regarding this position, please contact the Human Resources office at these numbers: **Ms. E. Mmereki @ 3638924, Ms. M. Ramosese @ 3638905, Ms. M. Bothata @ 3638472 and Ms T. Toko @ 3638939.**

**Closing date: 30th July, 2024**



Private Bag 0013, Gaborone, Botswana

Botswana Unified Revenue Service

[www.burs.org.bw](http://www.burs.org.bw) @theOfficialBURS





## Kgafela II

FROM PAGE 1

reluctant to join him," said an impeccable source close to Kgafela II and the Bakgatla royal family. Khama has, in the past, confirmed that he meets up with Kgafela in South Africa to discuss a number of issues including bogosi. According to the source, Kgafela told Khama that for him to accept Mswati's offer to be an advisor to the Royal Council, he should first consult the royal family and Bakgatla both in Moruleng and Mochudi. Both Khama and Kgafela II are fugitives living in South Africa after escaping criminal charges laid against them by government of Botswana. Contacted for a comment on Friday, Khama briefly said it is not true that he had approached Kgafela II for the Ludzizini Royal Council special advisor role and denied claims that he is involved in any advisory role to King Mswati III and government bodies.

### Power

Political analyst, Kitso Morekisi said Khama and Kgafela II as paramount chiefs of Bangwato and Bakgatla are feeling isolated by being away from home, but Khama is trying to remain relevant and gain power. He said Kgafela II although being not in Mochudi, he still command power in his tribe at Moruleng as compared to Khama who is finding it difficult to regain control of Bangwato as government is blocking his attempt to have his preferred regent Seretse Peter Khama being appointed to replaces Kgosi Serogola Seretse. "Kgafela II is still in charge of Bakgatla and his royal duties. He would not see it as important to frequent Eswatini or strike an alliance with Mswati III. Khama would fight by everything to ensure that his choice to be a regent is appointed more so that he doesn't command Kgosi Serogola, and their relationship has broken irretrievably," said Morekisi.

Both Khama and Kgafela II are fugitives living in South Africa after escaping criminal charges laid against them by government of Botswana. Khama fled the country in 2021 citing that his life is in danger and has been regularly visiting Eswatini to attend and officiate at the government activities at the invitations of Mswati III. Kgafela II who has been in South Africa since 2011 had a fallout with the then Ian Khama administration, which de-recognised him as Bakgatla Kgosi after he refused to join Ntlo ya Dikgosi and become a civil servant under Bogosi Act. In October 2011, government took the decision to invoke provisions of Section 15 (b) of the Bogosi Act Chapter 41:01, in the public interest, to de-recognise Kgosi Kgafela II of Bakgatla with immediate effect.

However, both have recently hinted their intentions to return home and Khama has told Bangwato during a meeting during Sir Seretse Khama commemoration earlier this month that he intends to return before elections.

Kgafela II on the other hand informed Bakgatla during the official opening of Mochudi main Kgotla in two months ago that he would return to Botswana in 2030, emphasizing that he would still fight for Kgatlang District to become an independent state with its own constitution.

# Batswana praise Debswana

## Transforming Boteti district

**I**N AN INTERVIEW ON THE sidelines of the commemoration of Debswana's 55 years anniversary, which was held in Orapa on Tuesday, Orapa Councillor Chilume Balopi told The Patriot on Sunday that without Debswana, Botswana's health sector, education, infrastructure and other basic necessities would be heavily underdeveloped. He said having witnessed the growth of Debswana as a former employee and now as a community leader, it has been inspiring and encouraging. Balopi said through Debswana's CSR Programme they have done a tremendous job in the development of Boteti district through their contribution to the education sector, construction of classrooms, construction of internal roads amongst other developments. "Government cannot do everything on its own, so Debswana has come in to augment that situation," he said, adding that it is fitting for Debswana to celebrate the 55 years as they have also done very well in terms of creating employment opportunities for Batswana.

Balopi also pointed out that there have been several programmes that Debswana has developed to empower the lives of Batswana to stand on their own. He said some of the companies that provide services at Debswana are owned by

Batswana have showered Debswana with praise for its massive contribution to the development of Botswana and her citizens over the past 55 years. Since its establishment in 1969, the company has played a crucial role in promoting economic growth, supporting communities especially in their areas of operation and creating employment for many Batswana. This feat was achieved through initiatives like the robust Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Programme and Citizens Economic Empowerment Programme (CEEP) and sponsorship of students among others. **STAFF WRITER LESEGO MOSINYI** heard stakeholders last week.

former employees who have been given an opportunity after they retired or resigned.

He prayed that going forward, though the sale of diamonds has gone down and the issue of lab grown diamonds has become a threat, there should be a positive outcome as diamonds continue to play a crucial role in the economy of Botswana.

"Even though we currently have issues in the diamond industry we remain hopeful that the powers that be will engage positively and come out of this as winners. We believe that this country and Boteti still need these diamonds for its development," said Balopi.

Kgosi Keletshwaretse Phetsogang of Mmatshumu said the celebration of Debswana's five decades is vital to look back at what they have achieved as a company. Also, a former Debswana employee himself Kgosi Phetsogang praised Debswana for hiring Batswana in leadership positions as they are they know the struggles of Batswana better. He commended OLDM for availing officers who are specifically assigned to deal with Mmatshumu community.

Further, Kgosi Phetsogang said it is high time that some of Debswana's profits are invested in Boteti so that when the mine life comes to an end,



Orapa Health Services' Lorato Chite

the 19 villages in the district will remain with sustainable developments.

"These funds could be channeled through Boteti District Council for disbursement, in Mmatshumu we need a 41 kilometers road and if those funds were available, I am sure they could have helped," he observed.

### CEEP, Women Empowerment

Narrating her Debswana diamond story, Chit Investments (Pty) Ltd owner

Tshegofatso Motshebe who is a CEEP beneficiary, thanked Debswana for investing in her business. She said last year she won a tender to maintain some of the roads in Orapa.

She said one of the things which were crucial in her line of business was a twin cab vehicle and didn't have funds to purchase it. However, Motshebe said she was able to utilise Debswana CEEP programme and managed to purchase the vehicle through her bank. "I managed to complete

my job without any hustle, therefore I thank Debswana for assisting me and I encourage other Batswana to utilise this programme," she said.

Orapa Health Services' Lorato Chite said she was filled with joy as Debswana not only played an important part in her life but also in the lives her family. She joined Debswana as a nurse at the age of 28. She started as a general nurse before joining the HIV/AIDS team as VCT counselor, and now work as Family Nurse Practitioner

in charge of the Community health and MASA Programme which is a Debswana CSI initiative that continues its positive impact on surrounding communities.

Chite hailed the company for its contribution to the education of her husband as it has sponsored him as form 5 school leaver to A levels and further sponsored him abroad to pursue Bachelor of Engineering hons degree in Mining Engineering.

She said Debswana nurtures and cares for its employees as her husband who has worked in the company for the past 37 years will leave as Principal Mining Engineer, having been with the company from a Form 5 school leaver to retirement.

She said Debswana also played a crucial role in the education of her children as they contributed to their access to the best schools. "Debswana, in short, you are the employer of choice; you take care of your employees in every respect, especially in basic needs – offering best security, safety, best schools, best health, best housing and best values," she said.

### Boost to SMMEs

Business Botswana Chairman (Lethakane branch), Tshekatsheko Sethomo told The Patriot on Sunday that when Debswana celebrate, all Batswana should celebrate as the company has contributed to every Motswana directly and indirectly. He said in their continuous effort to empower and improve the livelihoods of Batswana, Debswana made it easy for local companies to get subcontracts within the mine. He said Debswana deserves a pat on the back for availing jobs to Batswana businesses, which were not available in the 70s and early 80s as they were only enjoyed by sub-contractor companies from South Africa. "But in late 80s, 90s and 2000 these companies were dropped, and gradually local sub-contractors took over because the mine realised that Batswana are capable of performing these jobs," he noted, adding that as most of Batswana businesses did not have enough initial capital of investment Debswana assisted them by introducing programmes that encourage local businesses. Sethomo said the latest programme, which Batswana have embraced is Debswana's CEEP through which the mine has partnered with local commercial banks to fund more locally owned businesses to participate in contracts at Debswana mines. "Today as you walk around, you will see that indeed several businesses have been established and benefit from this programme," he said, praising Debswana for never leaving other sectors of the economy behind as recently, the company, in collaboration with Stanbic bank launched P2 million grant to empower citizen-owned Small Medium & Micro Enterprises (SMMEs), shared equally between the Orapa area of influence and the Jwaneng area.

MOROKA J.

Case No. CVHFT-000602-16

In the matter between:

**CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)**  
and  
**THUNDA ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION (Pty) Ltd t/a COLESTMA TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS OAKMOETSWE COLLIER MATETE R AND B AUTO (PTY) LTD**

Plaintiff  
1st Defendant  
2nd Defendant  
3rd Defendant

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**

**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika to the highest bidder as follows:

**Date of Sale:** 30th August 2024  
**Venue:** Tribal Lot 75, Tlokweg  
**Time:** 10:00 am

**Property to be sold:** A certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 75 Tlokweg, situated at Tlokweg in the Batlokwa Tribal Territory measuring 722m<sup>2</sup> (Seven Hundred and Twenty-Two Square Metres) held under Notarial Deed of Cession No. MA 54/2001 dated 23rd day of February 2001 made in favour of R and B Auto (Pty) Ltd subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid deed together with developments thereon being Garage with an Office, Storeroom and Toilet, paved yard with wall.

**Terms of Sale:** STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.

**Conditions of sale:** Details and conditions of sale may be inspected at Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika's office, on 71696997 / 3165097

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.

**DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA**  
CELL NO. 71696997 / 3165097  
C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)  
FOUR THIRTY SQUARE  
PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD  
PRIVATE BAG 00504  
GABORONE  
(LEGAL.COL.01507)

## JOB VACANCY

### CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO)

Spark Capital (Pty) Ltd requires a motivated and dedicated individual to fill the position of **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)** to be responsible for the company's financial operations.

You will report directly to the company Directors.

**Duties & Critical Outputs**


Oversee and manage all the financial issues within the group. This includes, but not limited to;

- Planning, managing and control the accurate recording and processing of all accounting information of all the retail chain shops.
- Preparation of budgets, monthly management accounts, quarterly & annual financial statements of the group.
- Ensuring that the accounts reflect an accurate and true record of financial transactions and putting in place operational procedures for timely resolution of debtor/creditor queries.
- Working Capital Management.
- Capital Budgeting.
- Fund Raising.
- Tax management & administration of the group.
- Audit liaison (internal & external)
- Listing requirements & Adherence

**Qualifications & Experience**

- A Chartered Accountant with minimum of 10 years' experience.
- Must be registered with BICA.
- Have held senior finance positions or the same covering multiple markets.
- Must have excellent interpersonal and communication skills with the executive presence to work with senior management, investors and external stakeholders.

Apply with your cover letter, curriculum vitae and references to the following address no later than the **12<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.**



## We're... Hiring!

Join our team of Experts

**EXTERNAL – RE ADVERTISEMENT**

The Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

**FACULTY OF ANIMAL AND VETERINARY SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SCIENCES      1.VACANCY CIRCULAR NO: 2024:05:16**

**INSTRUCTOR (VETERINARY SCIENCE) – ONE (1) POST**

**REQUIREMENTS**

The candidate must possess the following:

- A Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree or equivalent qualification registerable with Botswana Veterinary Surgeons Council.
- Two (2) years post qualification experience in teaching including demonstration of practical exercises or work experience in the veterinary industry / field / discipline.
- Knowledge in Instructional learning methods, Academic assessments, and subject matter expertise

**JOB PURPOSE**

- To teach at Certificate and Diploma level
- To train and educate students in the veterinary discipline.
- Administration of certain teaching activities within the veterinary discipline
- Any duties as may be assigned by the supervisor.

**COMPETENCIES**

- Technical expertise
- Teaching
- Execution and delivery
- Learning and teaching management
- Subject matter specialist
- Academic assessment

**Fringe Benefits:** These include motor vehicle purchase advance scheme, an optional 50% BUAN funded medical aid plan & group life assurance scheme. In addition, permanent and pensionable staff are offered a contributory pension scheme while contract staff are offered a gratuity of 30% of basic salary after completion of the contract.

**Method of Application:** Applications quoting the vacancy number, the post being applied for, and accompanying detailed curriculum vitae (CV), at least three references of which one should be from an employer/most recent employer/or immediate supervisor, true and certified copies of educational /professional certificates, grade transcripts and identity card/passport must be sent to the address below.

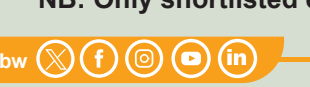
**ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:**

Director, Human Resources  
Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Private Bag 0027  
GABORONE

Email to: [recruitment@buan.ac.bw](mailto:recruitment@buan.ac.bw)  
OR  
Hand deliver applications to  
Records Office, Block 300, BUAN

**Closing Date: 23 August 2024**

**NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

[www.buan.ac.bw](http://www.buan.ac.bw)
[info@buan.ac.bw](mailto:info@buan.ac.bw)




# Preparing for a Data-Driven Future: The role of Math Interventionists



LAGAGO TAMOCHA\*  
EDUCATING  
THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
LEARNER



**M**ATHEMATICAL PROFICIENCY HAS become more crucial than ever in an era dominated by big data and technological innovation. The world is shifting towards a future where data literacy and analytical skills are indispensable across various sectors, from healthcare to finance, and from engineering to social sciences. In Botswana, the urgency to adapt our education system to these emerging demands has never been clearer.

## The State of Math Proficiency in Botswana

Over the past decade, Botswana's education system has faced significant challenges in mathematics education. National examination results consistently reveal that many students struggle with basic mathematical concepts. The 2021 Botswana Examinations Council report highlighted that less than 30% of students achieved satisfactory grades in mathematics

at the junior secondary level. This trend is worrying, considering the pivotal role that mathematical literacy plays in both personal and professional realms.

## Why Math Interventionists Matter

Math interventionists are specialised educators trained to identify and address learning gaps in mathematics. Their role extends beyond traditional teaching; they employ targeted strategies to help students

overcome specific difficulties. In the context of Botswana's declining math proficiency, math interventionists could be the key to reversing this trend.

Math interventionists work with students who have been identified as struggling, offering tailored instruction that meets their unique needs. This personalised approach is essential in ensuring that all students, regardless of their starting point, can achieve a level of mathematical understanding that will serve them well in their future careers.

## The Future Workforce and the Need for Mathematical Skills

The jobs of tomorrow will be deeply intertwined with data and technology. According to the World Economic Forum, data analysts, artificial intelligence specialists, and digital transformation experts are among the top emerging roles. These positions require strong mathematical foundations, particularly in areas such as statistics, algebra, and calculus.

Botswana's Vision 2036 aims to transform the nation into a high-income country, driven by an educated and

informed populace. To realise this vision, we must invest in our students today, equipping them with the skills needed to thrive in a data-centric world. Math interventionists can play a pivotal role in this transformation, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to develop the necessary mathematical competencies.

Establishing Math Clinics in Schools To address the growing need for mathematical proficiency, Botswana should consider establishing Math Clinics in schools.

These clinics would function as dedicated spaces where students can receive intensive support from math interventionists. The clinics could offer:

**Diagnostic Assessments:** To identify specific areas where students struggle and tailor interventions accordingly.

**Personalised Learning Plans:** Developing bespoke learning plans that cater to individual student needs.

**Regular Monitoring and Feedback:** Continuous assessment to track progress and adjust teaching strategies as needed.

**Parental Involvement:** Engaging parents in the learning process to reinforce mathematical concepts at home.

## The Broader Benefits

Beyond improving individual

student outcomes, Math Clinics with interventionists can contribute to a broader culture of excellence in mathematics education. Schools can become centres of innovation and best practice, sharing successful strategies and resources. This, in turn, can elevate the overall standard of education across the nation.

Moreover, by investing in math interventionists and Math Clinics, Botswana can foster a generation of critical thinkers and problem solvers.

These skills are not only essential for future employment but also for informed citizenship and personal empowerment.

The importance of mathematical literacy cannot be overstated as we stand on the cusp of a new era defined by big data and technological advancement.

The current state of math proficiency in Botswana schools calls for urgent and targeted interventions. By establishing Math Clinics in schools and deploying skilled math interventionists, we can ensure that our students are well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the future.

This investment in education is not merely a response to an immediate need but a strategic move towards realising Botswana's long-term vision of prosperity and innovation.



## VACANCY NOTICE: RECRUITMENT OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORAL COMMISSION, JULY 2024

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) was established in 1997 under Section 65A of the Constitution of the Republic of Botswana. The Commission consists of seven members being - (a) a Chairman who is a Judge of the High Court appointed by the Judicial Service Commission; (b) a legal practitioner appointed by the Judicial Service Commission; and (c) five other persons who are fit, proper and impartial, appointed by the Judicial Service Commission from a list of persons recommended by the All Party Conference.

The Commission is responsible for –

- the conduct and supervision of elections of the Elected Members of Parliament and members of a local authority, and conduct of a referendum;
- giving instructions and directions to the Secretary of the Commission appointed under Section 66 of the constitution, in regard to the exercise of his or her functions under the electoral law prescribed by an Act of Parliament;
- ensuring that elections are conducted efficiently, properly, freely and fairly; and
- performing such other functions as may be prescribed by an Act of Parliament.

In the performance of its responsibilities, the Commission is guided by the legal framework provided by the Constitution of Botswana, the Electoral Act, the Local Government Act, the Presidential Elections (Supplementary Provisions) Act and the Referendum Act. The Commission also undertakes its work in line with international best electoral practices, as long as such best practices are not inconsistent with Botswana's electoral laws.

Eligible persons are invited to apply for appointment as members of the Independent Electoral Commission. The recruitment targets individuals, visionary leaders, strategic thinkers and/or professionals of high integrity with good communication and decision making skills, and sound knowledge of electoral democracy to vacancies that have arisen as a result of end of the 10 year term (2 successive lives of Parliament ) for the current five members of the Commission.

### Applications must be submitted in writing accompanied by:

- a comprehensive curriculum vitae
- a certified copy of the applicant's national identity and
- the relevant academic qualifications

### The applicant

- Must be in possession of a Degree or equivalent qualification preferably in the field of Law, Political Science, Social Science, International Studies, Public Administration or Information Technology.
- Must be 18 years and above.
- Must have thorough knowledge and understanding of Botswana politics, culture, issues and trends relating to democracy and elections in Botswana and in the SADC region.
- Must have a firm sense of integrity and commitment to the principles of fairness, political neutrality and equality.
- Should neither be a political activist nor hold a political office.
- Must declare whether they have been office bearers of a political party or have a high party-political profile.
- Must have proven relevant knowledge and experience in at least some of the following: Election Administration and Management, Finance, Governance, Public Administration, Law, Information Technology, Conflict Resolution and Mediation.
- Must have a proven track record of performance, delivery and good governance.

A person shall not be qualified to be considered for appointment as a Member of the Independent Electoral Commission if –

- he or she has been declared insolvent or adjudged or otherwise declared bankrupt under any law in force in any part of the Commonwealth and has not been discharged, or has made a composition with his or her creditors and has not paid his or her debts in full; or
- he or she has been convicted of any offence involving dishonesty in any country.

A person appointed a member of the Commission shall assume the duties of the office of Commissioner only after he or she has taken and subscribed the oath of allegiance and such oath for the due execution of his or her office as may be prescribed by an Act of Parliament.

Applications must be submitted by registered mail on or before the close of business on the 29th July, 2024 and addressed to:

**The Secretary  
Independent Electoral Commission  
Private Bag 00284  
Gaborone**

Or physically delivered at the office of the Secretary to the Independent Electoral Commission, Office No. 402, Plot 75739, Setlhoa, Block 10, Gaborone.

All enquiries must be directed to the Secretary to the Independent Electoral Commission at Telephone No. 3612401.

Kindly note that only shortlisted applicants will be responded to.

## BIG Numbers: BDP warns Opposition

- High voter turnout in Bulela Ditswe Round 1
- BDP promises smooth elections process this weekend

### BAKANG TIRO

editors@thepatriot.co.bw

**T**HE RULING BOTSWANA DEMOCRATIC Party (BDP) held the first phase of its primary elections commonly known as Bulela Ditswe last weekend and recorded high numbers in terms of voter turnout, a development that observers say the opposition should be wary of ahead of general election.

The elections were marred by delays as voters roll and ballots were the main reasons for delay and that didn't deter the democrats to go out in numbers to cast votes on the elections that caused upset to some incumbent MPs and councillors.

The second phase of primary elections were expected to be held this weekend in the remaining 26 constituencies. Good Hope-Mmathethe constituency recorded high numbers tallying 10 719 with Dr Edwin Dikoloti winning with 5 839 votes and Peggy Serame garnering 4358 votes.

Political science lecturer at University of Botswana (UB) Dr Adam Mfundisi said there has been number of factors that were at play and led to the BDP members coming out in large numbers to vote. "We must remember that the BDP has been in power for more than five decades uninterrupted hence it has developed political networks as well as the use of government media to propagate the primary elections. In addition, the private media joined the chorus of promoting the BDP primary elections," she said.

Dr Mfundisi said the BDP is a well-resourced party sponsored directly and indirectly by both Government and the corporate (business) worlds, adding that amid rampant poverty, unemployment, inequality, and deprivation, people are desperate for survival.

Also, Dr Mfundisi said, primary elections in political parties are in theory supposed to include only supporters of a political party, but in reality, due to sometimes seemingly competitive politics, require inclusion of non-party cadres.

Another political commentator Kitso Morekisi said the turnout is positive sign that BDP could have done well in registering members before primary elections, adding that opposition could still benefit from the high numbers as some Bulela Ditswe losers will be furious and secretly support opposition candidates.

"This is the trick of Bulela Ditswe, and we are already witnessing appeals swarming the party. Those in the losing end will encourage their supporters to vote for opposition. This has been the most heated primary elections and if not careful, BDP would come out of the elections deeply bruised," he added.

Also, Morekisi said it is important for parties' time and again to update their membership database, adding that Botswana National Front (BNF) primary elections in key constituencies especially in its stronghold Gaborone constituencies were not good with voters averaging 300 in some instances.

He advised all political parties not to wait for election season to approach and then



Kentse

they would update membership database as well as recruiting new ones, adding that its high time parties have in their structures specific membership committees.

### Upbeat

Meanwhile, BDP spokesperson Kagelelo Kentse said after the long wait for primaries, said they are humbled and grateful for the commitment shown by democrats over the past weekend despite the hiccups it faced.

He said the average turnout for constituencies in phase 1 is 4030, meaning that in the 36 constituencies there were over 4000 voters on average in every constituency, adding that it shows that the BDP is a strong party, that the party is alive and growing from strength to strength.

"We have been on a recruitment drive led by president Mokgweetsi Masisi and a special task team he has appointed. You will remember the massive rallies we have hosted in North West Region, Good Hope, Palapye and Serowe where we welcomed multitudes in the party, this is a true reflection of that," he said.

In addition, Kentse said the BDP takes its primaries seriously and it don't rush them as the party prepare intensively before conducting primary elections.

"We are also comfortable with our time as we have been campaigning all along. In the past two years, the BDP is the only party that held public rallies, very successful ones for that matter. So, in the next three months we are not starting our campaign and seeing it off. We will finish off our campaign in style and we are coming for the opposition. It's a whitewash in the waiting," said the optimistic Kentse.

Meanwhile, Kentse while pressed about the last weekend election delays, he said the party is waiting for formal reports from presiding officers and also feedback from democrats to understand the extent of that.

According to Kentse, that feedback will only be after phase two elections completion when the party will then have an extensive review of all the primary elections process.

"But as for this weekend, we expect a smooth run compared to last weekend. We have corrected ourselves. We wish all democrats partaking this weekend the very best, they must always remember the Party First," said Kentse.

### Confidence

Moreover, Dr Mfundisi said in theory the BDP big numbers matter because the give some confidence to the BDP that it has the prerequisite support to win in the 2024 general elections.

Practically, he said these numbers do not reflect the massive support of the BDP in these constituencies.

"Not all voters have registered for the 2024 general elections. A sizeable number of voters took part for personal reasons, particularly the benefits offered by the competing candidates," said Dr Mfundisi.



# DEBSWANA: Pillar of Botswana's economy

**F**ESTIVITIES FOR THE DAY PRESENTED an opportunity for stakeholders to reflect on Debswana's history, and how the company has impacted lives and grown Botswana's economy in general. Giving testimony on how Debswana has impacted lives in their area of operation, Boteti District Deputy District Commissioner, Ewete Seleo said Debswana's vision to harness diamonds for the betterment of the nation and its people is evident in Boteti district. He said while diamond mining has brought immense benefits, it is important to look towards other sectors to diversify and create a resilient economy.

"OLDM's partnership with Boteti District is a long standing one and will continue, especially because the district leadership has agreed that requests for projects shall be screened through District structures, including the District Development committee to ensure those selected are of high impact and for the benefit of the district as a whole and not individualism," said Seleo.

## High Impact Projects

He said to accomplish this, together with Orapa, Letlhakane and Damtshaa Mines (OLDM), Boteti district is exploring opportunities in Agriculture, Tourism, and small business support to ensure sustainable development.

He said this is evident as the company continuously invests significantly in food security projects like the Xhumo Horticulture Project, Khwee Beef Ranch Development that are both currently at inception. He said Debswana has also invested in Community Based Organisations such as the Mokopi Conservation Trust where they have invested about P2.8 million towards development of a Predator Park for conservation, employment creation, educational research, and the construction of a restaurant at the park.

Selelo commended OLDM for their vision of Orapa Today Boteti Tomorrow (OTBT) which has successfully delivered the development of legacy projects that will sustain the district, among them the Adrian Gale Diamond Museum, and the expansion of Orapa Game Park to drive the mission of Mining Today Tourism Tomorrow.

He said Boteti residents are looking forward to the establishment of a Business Park, which will act as a commercial hub for the district and the establishment of a Mining Technical College, which were suspended due to the delayed Orapa Cut 3 project.

Giving a keynote address, OLDM General Manager, Mogakolodi Maoketsa said Debswana just like the diamonds they mine, is a national pride that has significantly contributed to the development of the country and the people, and has remained the largest contributor to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP), export earnings and government revenues since inception.

He said through partnerships with government institutions, like-minded organisations as well as community

Before the establishment of Debswana in 1969, Botswana was one of the poorest nations in Africa. However, it was the discovery of diamonds and the ultimate setting up of Debswana that set the country in a transformative path of aggressive growth. Debswana has remained the pillar of Botswana's economy for the past 55 years, singularly raising the country from a low-income one to a middle-income economy. **STAFF WRITER LESEGO MOSINYI** attended the commemoration of Debswana's 55 years of existence in Orapa on Tuesday under the theme 'More than Diamond Mining'.

leadership in their operations area of influence, they have and continue to serve a purpose that goes beyond their mining operations to make lives brilliant through their Environmental Social Governance and Social Economic Development (SED) programmes.

"It is for this reason that as we reflect on the last 55 years, we are taking on the mission of being intentional in making our impact clearer, to all our stakeholders that Debswana is more than just a diamond mining company," he said.

## Beyond Mining Operations

Maoketsa said, since the 1970s, Debswana has created many opportunities and facilitated enrichment of lives by contributing to every sector of the economy; creating employment for thousands of Batswana. He also said through their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes they have positively contributed to sports development, enhancement and development of health and education facilities and services, skills development programmes to enable community members to access diverse jobs, and positively impacted conservation and biodiversity.

"We have been leading in the promotion of the empowerment of Women, Girls and differently abled people, including enterprise development," said Maoketsa.

Debswana has always emphasized the need to leave their areas of operation in good shape when they cease operations and therefore Maoketsa said in Boteti, they have funded several infrastructure projects in the education space to support the district.

The projects include construction of classrooms and administration block at Mokoboxane Primary School, a classroom block at Supang Primary School as well as five (5) fully furnished classrooms at Seaseole Primary, classrooms at Orapa Junior Secondary School, Tsiyane Special Education Classroom block amongst others.

"We have a new project due to begin in the near future being the construction of a classroom block at Mmea Primary School where P2.6 million has been committed," he said.

Furthermore, Maoketsa said in the health space they spend a substantial amount of money every year in offering health services to community members at no cost at their health facility.

In addition, he said, they have funded a multi-million maternity ward to the tune of P5.3 million at Letlhakane Primary Hospital to ease congestion and improve access to high quality health care for the people of Boteti. He said in their continued effort

to impact the healthcare space positively, they are going to fund the refurbishment of a Theatre at Rakops Primary Hospital at a cost of P4.2 million to improve clinical outcomes of emergencies in Boteti. Currently, Rakops Primary Hospital does not offer theatre services but refer to other hospitals.

Maoketsa said Debswana is committed to leverage their purchasing power and influence to achieve socio-economic development objectives through Citizen Economic Empowerment Programme (CEEP), to increase the participation of Botswana citizen-owned Small, Micro,

Medium Enterprises (SMMES) in their supply chain, which will in the long-term enhance the capacity and sustainability of the local supply base. He said the key focus is on accelerating the attainment of citizen spend of P20 billion and creation of 20,000 jobs.

Recognising past and present Debswana employees and business partners, Maoketsa said without their hard work and unwavering commitment, the company will not be where it is today. He said Debswana will remain steadfast in ensuring they leave behind an enduring legacy now and beyond diamond mining.



OLDM General Manager, Mogakolodi Maoketsa

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The University is looking for qualified and experienced individuals for the below stated positions:

The positions are based at BIUST Campus, Palapye and are offered on pensionable terms/ fixed term contract

### SCHOOL OF EARTH SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

#### DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RESOURCES

- 1. LECTURER REMOTE SENSING AND GIS**

**Main Purpose of the Job:**  
To deliver teaching in Geographical Information Sciences and Remote Sensing. To participate in curriculum development and the advancement of Geographical Information Sciences and Remote Sensing. To conduct individual research or work on collaborative projects. To supervise the efforts and performance of Teaching Instructors, Teaching Assistants and Technicians. To supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students' projects. To source external and internal research funding from national and international donors.

**Qualifications**

  - A PhD in Remote Sensing and GIS from a recognized Institution
  - Familiarity with the core curriculum in Remote Sensing and GIS.
  - A higher education teaching qualification or professional recognition (e.g. PG Certificate in teaching or equivalent) an added advantage.

**1 Experience**

  - At least 2 years' experience in either teaching/lecturing/research or industry experience in the relevant field or discipline is an added advantage.
  - Good research record of at least 3 publications in Scopus indexed journals or equivalent industry experience.
  - Experience of teaching at the Undergraduate/Postgraduate levels is an added advantage.
  - Evidence of verification of qualifications by the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA).
- 2. LECTURER - SEDIMENTOLOGY**

**Main Purpose of the Job**  
To deliver teaching in Sedimentology and related subjects. To participate in curriculum development in the Department of Mineral Resources. To conduct individual research or work on collaborative projects. To supervise the efforts and performance of Teaching Instructors and Teaching Assistants and Technicians. To supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students' projects. To source external and internal research funding from national and international donors.

**Experience**

  - At least 2 years' experience in either teaching/lecturing/research or industry experience in the relevant field or discipline is an added advantage.
  - Good research record of at least 3 publications in Scopus indexed journals or equivalent industry experience.
  - Experience of teaching at the Undergraduate/Postgraduate levels is an added advantage.
  - Evidence of verification of qualifications by the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA).

**Qualifications**

  - A PhD in Sedimentology or related field from a recognized Institution
  - A higher education teaching qualification or professional recognition (e.g. PG Certificate in teaching or equivalent) an added advantage.
- 3. LECTURER ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY**

**Main Purpose of the Job**  
To deliver teaching of Ecology and Biodiversity and related field. To participate in curriculum development and the advancement of Ecology and Biodiversity. To conduct individual research or work on collaborative projects. To supervise the efforts and performance of Teaching Instructors, Teaching Assistants and Technicians. To supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students' projects. To source external an internal research funding from national and international donors.

**Qualifications**

  - A PhD in Ecology or equivalent qualification from a recognized Institution
- 4. LECTURER IN ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES**

**Main Purpose of the Job:**  
To deliver teaching in Atmospheric Sciences. To participate in curriculum development and the advancement of Atmospheric Sciences. To conduct individual research or work on collaborative projects. To supervise the efforts and performance of Teaching Instructors, Teaching Assistants and Technicians. To supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students' projects. To source external and internal research funding from national and international donors.

**Qualifications**

  - A PhD Atmospheric Sciences / Atmospheric Physics / Meteorology from a recognized Institution
  - Familiarity with the core curriculum in Atmospheric Sciences.
  - A higher education teaching qualification or professional recognition (e.g., PG Certificate in teaching or equivalent) an added advantage.

**Experience**

  - At least 2 years' experience in either teaching/lecturing/research or industry experience in the relevant field or discipline is an added advantage.
  - Good research record of at least 3 publications in Scopus-indexed journals or equivalent industry experience.
  - Experience of teaching at the Undergraduate/Postgraduate levels is an added advantage.
  - Evidence of verification of qualifications by the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA).
  - Professional Certification
  - Registration with the appropriate professional body where applicable.

**COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS**

  - Complete multiple assignments, maintain quality, work under pressure and adhere to deadlines.
  - Adhere to Human Capital policies, practices, and procedures, and conform to professional standards and ethics.
  - Apply interpersonal styles/methods to develop and motivate staff
  - Conceptual and practical thinking
  - Customer focused
  - Decisive and assertive

**REMUNERATION**  
The University offers an attractive package, commensurate with qualification and experience.

If you meet the requirements of the above stated position, please send your application letter and a detailed Curriculum Vitae including at least two (2) recent professional referees to:

Director, Human Capital at the email address below.  
[recruitment.earthenv@biust.ac.bw](mailto:recruitment.earthenv@biust.ac.bw)

For any further enquiries, you may call Ms. Taolo @ 4931305/Ms Mosinyi @ 4931317

**CLOSING DATE: August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

www.biust.ac.bw

## BPP warns BNF radicals

### FROM PAGE 1

scheduled for Palapye last Saturday was expected to get a report from the UDC Chairman, Motlatsi Molapise who had been on tour to resolve constituencies and wards dispute between BPP and BNF at Kgatleng East and Shashe West.

However, Molapise did not furnish the meeting with dispute resolution report and promised that it would be soon concluded and handed over to the NEC. BNF had been engaged in a scuffle with BPP in Shashe West constituency where some of its members derecognized the BPP council candidates and moved on to release campaign posters for BNF members.

In an interview, BPP Publicity Secretary Alfred Mashungwa said BPP was disturbed by the conduct of BNF by attempting to unlawfully topple BPP from the constituency and some of its wards. He said the UDC direct member and councillor for Shashe Mooke and Tholodi wards Isaac Nyathi received information that he had been derecognized as UDC council candidate and will be replaced by the BNF candidate instead.

Mashungwa, UDC parliamentary candidate for Shashe West also said he received hostility from some BNF members when UDC announced that the constituency has been allocated to BPP to contest for. "I led the BPP delegation together with MP Ignatius Moswaane to consult with BNF structures and we found out that there has been a group of BNF individuals who gone against to cause divisions and harass BPP

candidates. Those people are bad for BNF reputation and need to be punished," said Mashungwa.

According to Mashungwa, BNF Shashe West constituency committee has assured the BPP of its support, adding that it was not true that BPP would boycott UDC NEC meeting in Palapye in protest of BNF hostile conduct towards BPP candidates.

### Kgatlang East

Meanwhile, Mashungwa could not confirm if BPP had agreed to swap Kgatleng East to BNF because of its failure to mobilize structures and launch an effective campaign in the constituency which BNF has also disputed before.

BNF Kgatleng East constituency was against BPP being allocated the constituency, citing that the party is not popular as compared to BNF which had contested and won general election at Kgatleng East before. The BNF member who had been expected to represent UDC in the constituency, Obakeng Matlou protested the UDC decision to allocate the constituency to BPP and frustrated by UDC firmness, Matlou resigned from BNF.

BNF spokesperson, Tumelo Legase when asked if BPP and BNF have opened talks to exchange Kgatleng East, also said he cannot confirm if there are such developments. Legase said the issue of Kgatleng East alongside other wards and constituencies that were disputed is before a committee led by BPP president and UDC Chairman Molapise and as far as he knows, the committee has not concluded and issued resolutions on that issue.





# Debswana Diamond Company Celebrates 55 Years of Success on Debswana Day

Debswana Diamond Company proudly celebrated Debswana Day on July 23rd across all its operations, marking 55 years of pioneering contributions to Botswana's development under the theme "More Than Diamond Mining."

As the company commemorated its 55th anniversary, the focus of speeches and testimonies was not only centred around operational successes but also on the positive impact Debswana has had on the lives of Batswana.

Celebrations across all sites were punctuated with storytelling, featuring old and young employees, executives, and differently abled individuals sharing their diamond stories.

From humble beginnings in 1969, Debswana has been at the heart of Botswana's economic transformation. The company's journey has been one of resilience, uncovering Botswana's limitless potential and creating a timeless legacy of undeniable impact.

# Orapa, Lethakane & Damtshaa Mines celebrations



Ewetse Selelo, Boteti Deputy District Commissioner sharing the district's diamond story



Keodirele Moepeng of Botswana Mine Workers Union



Lorato Chite, OLDLM Family Nurse Practitioner sharing her diamond story



Culture Spears entertaining participants



Employees and Business Partners

Orapa, Lethakane and Damtshaa Mines (OLDM) also joined the rest of Debswana operations to commemorate the company's 55th Anniversary. Speaking at the commemoration attended by a multitude comprising employees, business partners and district leadership, OLDLM General Manager, Mogakolodi Maoketsa, said the establishment of Debswana 55 years ago with mining operations beginning in Orapa was a turning point for both Debswana and Botswana. "Debswana, like our diamonds, is our national pride," he said, further noting that diamonds transformed our country from a low to a middle-income economy as a result of Botswana's prudent management of revenues from diamonds.

Maoketsa further mentioned that through Debswana Corporate Social Impact programmes, the company has positively contributed to sports development, enhancement and development of health and education facilities and services, and skills development programmes to enable community members to access diverse jobs. It has also positively impacted conservation and biodiversity, and has been leading in the promotion of the empowerment of women, girls, and differently abled people, including enterprise development to name but a few.

For his part, Boteti Deputy District Commissioner, Ewetse Selelo, said: "Debswana Diamond Company has been a catalyst for the development of Boteti District through its economic contributions, community and infrastructural development projects."

"Debswana has indeed played a pivotal role in transforming our district into a thriving community over and above its contribution to the national GDP. Moving forward, the district leadership will continue to support and collaborate with OLDLM to ensure that the benefits of diamond mining are felt by all, today and for generations to come. Together, we can build a prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive Boteti District," he said. He added: "Our diamond story continues as we commemorate the 55th anniversary, and we look forward to the next 55 years of more livelihood transformations and endless possibilities. For this partnership, the future is bright and full of hope."



Jwaneng Mine Fire Station outside overflow



Jwaneng Mine Acting General Manager addressing employees



Jwaneng Mabutsane MP Hon Mephato Reatile



BMWU Chairman-Tshepo Serame giving closing remarks



Poet Moanamsi Machola reciting a poem for Debs55



Bangwaketse Paramount Chief, Kgosi Malope II in the middle



Chokoma & dancers on stage



Jwaneng Mine Employees in Attendance



Jwaneng Mine Employees in Attendance



Jwaneng Mine Employees in Attendance

# Jwaneng Mine celebrations

Deep within Jwaneng Mine, Debswana celebrated a remarkable achievement: 55 years of diamond mining under the theme "More Than Diamond Mining". The event was hosted at the Fire Station within the mine, uniting Jwaneng's leadership from various areas of influence, the Jwaneng Mine Executive Committee, the Executive Committee of the Botswana Mine Workers Union Jwaneng Branch, management, business partners, and employees in a momentous celebration.

Goitseone Gadifele, Acting General Manager of Jwaneng Mine, began by acknowledging the challenges they have overcome over the years. He highlighted the day as a tribute to the dedication, commitment, and passion that have defined 55 years of diamond mining. Gadifele emphasised that each person present had a unique story about how diamonds have impacted Botswana and its people. A moment of silence was observed to honour fallen colleagues like Mosimanegape

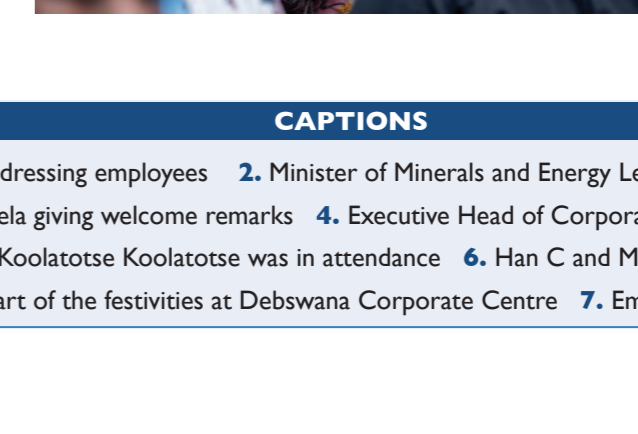
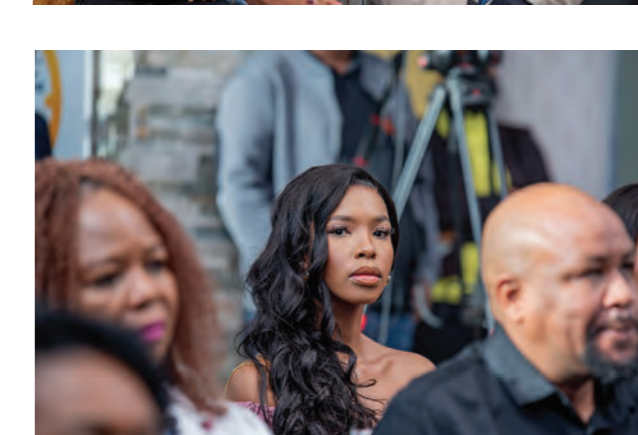
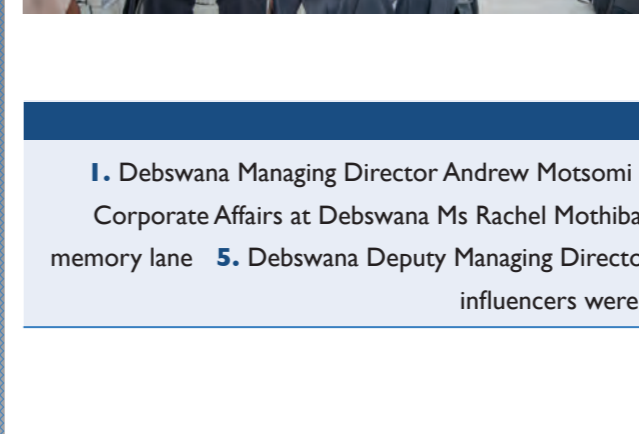
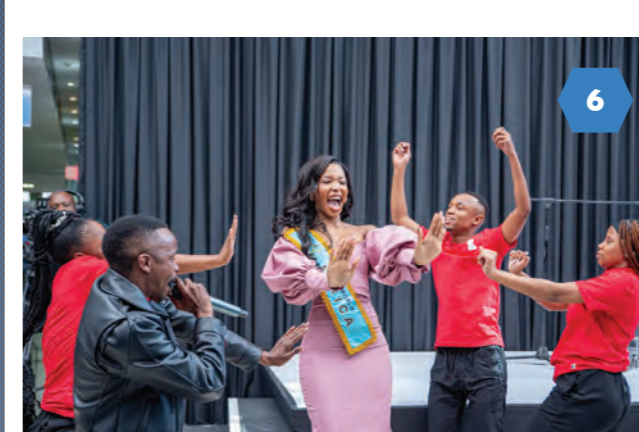
Leoketsa, who served at the mine. Gadifele stressed the importance of sharing Botswana's diamond story globally, showcasing how these gems have contributed to the nation's growth and development. He concluded with a message of hope, encouraging everyone to continue sharing their own diamond stories and to shine brightly in their endeavours.

Among the distinguished guests were Bangwaketse Paramount Chief, Kgosi Malope II, Member of Parliament for Jwaneng-Mabutsane, Mephato Reatile, council chairpersons, local leaders, and other esteemed figures. Their presence underscored the mutual agreement and strong partnership between Debswana and the community, founded on cooperation and shared values.

We also heard inspiring testimonies, including one from Mr. Baengele Selepe from the mining department, who shared his personal journey within the mine. His story resonated with many,

highlighting the personal and professional growth experienced during his tenure at Jwaneng Mine. Further reflections came from Mr. Adrien Sedigeng and Mr. Steven Baatshwana, emphasising that the celebration marked not only a milestone for Debswana but also celebrated the integrity, innovation, and community spirit that have defined Jwaneng Mine over the decades.

Closing the event, Mr. Tshepo Serame, Chairman of the Botswana Mine Workers Union, spoke passionately about the mine's impact on its people and the economy of Botswana. To engage attendees further, there was a trivia competition among employees, with questions posed by Mr. Serame. Adding to the festive atmosphere, renowned artist Chokoma delivered captivating performances, while Moanamsi Machola's soul-stirring poetry added an artistic dimension to the celebration. Their talents contributed to an unforgettable day, enriching the atmosphere and creating lasting memories for all who attended.



### CAPTIONS

1. Debswana Managing Director Andrew Motsomi addressing employees
2. Minister of Minerals and Energy Lefoko Moagi giving a keynote address
3. Executive Head of Corporate Affairs at Debswana Ms Rachel Mothibatsela giving welcome remarks
4. Executive Head of Corporate Services Bonny Thebenjomo taking employees down the memory lane
5. Debswana Deputy Managing Director Koolatse Koolatse was in attendance
6. Han C and Miss World Africa Lesego Chombo who is also one of Debswana influencers were part of the festivities at Debswana Corporate Centre
7. Employees enjoying the day.

# Debswana Corporate Centre celebrations

Hundreds of employees based at Debswana Corporate Centre (DCC) commemorated Debswana Day in style on July 23rd, celebrating not only Debswana's successful diamond mining over the past five decades but also paying tribute to how the company has touched many lives and transformed a nation.

The day was characterised by great rejoicing and festivity, with heartwarming speeches and great entertainment by the talented musicians Han C and Ntirelang 'NT' Berman. Employees and business partners were also treated to a Diamond Pipeline Awareness exhibition, a unique opportunity to deepen their understanding of the diamond mining processes from exploration to the consumer, appreciate the role they play in their day-to-day jobs, and enable them to tell the Natural Diamond Story.

In her welcome remarks, Executive Head of Corporate Affairs, Mrs Rachel Mothibatsela, emphasised that every Motswana has a rich diamond story to tell. "Colleagues, the cornerstone of this campaign is the idea that no one is better equipped to tell the story of Debswana than the people who have been impacted by it. And we believe, the first point of listening is right here with you, Debswana employees," she said.

Debswana Managing Director Mr Andrew Motsomi added, "No story is too small, as every life touched by Debswana's existence is one that can inspire our direction moving forward and assist us in ensuring that we continue to do all we can to better the lives of Batswana, well into a future where we see the aspirations of our national Vision 2036 realised."

As a former employee of Debswana and now

the Minister of Minerals and Energy, Honourable Lefoko Moagi took employees down memory lane, sharing his diamond story. Moagi spoke of how he has witnessed the good that diamonds have done for this country over the past five decades, adding that diamonds are not just gems, but a foundation upon which the hope and promise of Botswana's economy has been built.

"The Debswana story is a story of transformation; for over the years, Debswana has been the beating heart driving Botswana's evolution; its narrative intricately woven into the very fabric of our nation's story."

Hon. Moagi concluded his speech by sharing memories from his youthful days at Debswana, recounting both the great and difficult moments during his stay at Jwaneng Mine.



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# Opinions, Reviews & Analysis



**ADAM PHETLHE**  
ON SUNDAY!

**N**O MATTER HOW HARD THE Botswana Democratic Party spin doctors attempt to spin how and why their bulela ditswe (primary elections) process unfolded so dramatically and spectacularly, a huge damage to the party's reputation locally and internationally has been committed by none other than the structure mandated by the BDP Constitution to run the party in between national congresses/conferences. And that structure is the Central Committee (CC) complemented by the Political Education and Elections Committee (PEEC). I have opined on other media platforms that the CC must take all the blame for the unprecedented colossal failure to organise and run the first phase of the bulela ditswe processes.

One shudders to imagine whether or not the CC will redeem itself in running the second phase due this weekend. The jury is still out there. Added to that crucially, is whether the BDP will significantly recover from the self-created colossal failure by omission or commission. It will be foolhardy to suggest that the very characters who brought the name of the BDP into disrepute and so much embarrassment can redeem it from the same. Under normal circumstances, such characters would immediately resign to afford the BDP to elect other members. I will concede it will not be opportune to do so given the political circumstances and optics at this point in time.

**How did we get here?**

The party, particularly its head honchos, knew all along a general election was due in October 2024 and that the party was duty bound to invoke its Constitution and other such instruments to elect parliamentary and council candidates to represent it in the coming election. Almost immediately after the 2019 general election Botswana and the globe were hit by Covid-19 pandemic the emergence of which rendered the globe immobile but not completely. There was the Delimitation exercise which increased parliamentary constituencies from 57 to 61.

Covid-19 lockdown was lifted in May 2021 after a 48 day period while the Delimitation Report was handed in February 2023. Therefore and up to last weekend when the first phase of bulela ditswe was held, the CC had close to 18 months within which to properly organise the event. The CC conveniently it must be said, points to these events as some of the key obstacles that impeded the proper

## BDP's colossal failure during bulela ditswe

planning to organise for bulela ditswe elections. From where I stand, this is as good at clutching at straws to save one's life. There was more than enough time.

At the centre of the controversial voter registration is the PEEC which is faulted for having aided and abetted such registration. One reputable local publication posited recently that '...it had uncovered information that there has been a lot of trafficking by candidates and registration of opposition members to help some of the aspiring candidates to win the primaries. Also uncovered is that while registration was done by PEEC employees, some of the branch members hijacked the process by ordering who should and should not be registered with the aim of having their preferred candidates to register more people.

We find ourselves in this fraudulent process because of the short sightedness of the CC. The entire thing got messed up when the CC got involved in the vetting process of candidates... It is difficult for me to dismiss the publication because voter trafficking allegations are reported across political parties. At the BDP, such were prominently reported around 2018 where Hon Mpho Balopi was alleged to have transported people from Maun to register to vote in the Gaborone North constituency where they would be handsomely rewarded. To the best of my recollection, allegations against Hon Balopi remained just that. Following these allegations however, the BDP would have effectively and as a matter of urgency, tightened its voter registration processes and procedures such that only BDP card-carrying members are registered to participate in the bulela ditswe elections. But sadly and evidently, such has not been the case. It leaves me with the conclusion that voter trafficking is the norm during the party's bulela ditswe elections. Only those candidates who manage to vote-traffic more numbers become successful albeit under dubious circumstances. It could very well suggest that because candidates are fully aware that voter trafficking is the norm and therefore practised, those who become unsuccessful would know that foreign elements contaminated the elections. Their fear I would assume, would be that exposing such would by extension expose them as well.

The voters roll: This is a central document in deciding who loses or wins an election. Unfolding events suggest it was hidden away from the BDP members let alone the candidates. It is one of the documents that appallingly delayed the starting of the bulela ditswe elections in some instances for up to twelve hours or more. How does the CC expect the general membership of the party not to be hugely aggrieved when the voters roll is availed on the day of elections?

This should tell us one thing: and that is that the voters roll was purposefully constructed to deliver a preferred outcome though it does appear that did not entirely pan out that way. The suggestion that printing companies delayed the timely delivery of the voters roll does not fly. One would have expected the CC to ensure delivery was effected long before the voting period. To wait until the eleventh hour and proffer such excuse is simply disingenuous if not downright untenable. In short, the voters roll was meant to allow a 'democrat' to cheat the other.

**Can BDP recover?**

The party has previously experienced bouts of bulela ditswe after tears but not to the levels the nation has just witnessed. There is a huge difference between the previous episodes and the current. In the former, the after tears bouts took place long before a general election (about a year or so) where those gripped by deep grief of political tornado were able to internalise their losses, come to terms with it and move on. In the latter, the party will not be able to address grievances emanating from the bulela ditswe through an Electoral Appeals Board given that the general election is three months away.

Importantly, the party will be entering the general election with a huge baggage of disgruntled members on a wide variety of bulela ditswe issues. The tone of the President when announcing no appeals will be entertained from the bulela ditswe losers was not compassionate and empathetic but somewhat adversarial. Instructively, the President's announcement violates the very tenet of inner party democracy in terms of the principle of natural justice. The BDP will by and large, recover simply out of the benefit of incumbency.

**Colossal failure effects**

The consequences are too ghastly to contemplate. The BDP will be divided right down the middle between the vanquished



and the triumphant. The party as it goes to the general election will require all hands on deck for a common purpose. While forming a political party by the vanquished could for now be discounted, the vanquished (with the exception of those expected to win by close proximity to the leadership) could mount a strong, quiet protest against their party in terms of voting against its parliamentary and council candidates. Also, the vanquished will not be too eager and energised to campaign for the party given the painful and humiliating treatment their own party wilfully meted on them.

Even if phase two of the elections could be better organised, the colossal failure

will not be easy overcome. The damage is monumental. If the BDP took itself seriously, members of the CC and PEEC would resign. It may not be convenient at this stage as already alluded to. That will have to happen immediately the general election. As a parting shot, the BDP has become so undemocratic and so intolerable to none other than its own members-the people who should vote for it to retain power. If the Mind Set Change and Reset Agenda were genuine and not populist, such would have cascaded to bulela ditswe elections. I am prepared to be persuaded otherwise as always. Judge for Yourself!

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

We invite readers to write Letters to the Editor on various issues, be they social, political, economic or entertainment related. Although we support and encourage healthy debates and sharing of alternative views, we will not publish any letter that is slanderous or libelous.

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE		TAFJA J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-003520-15
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>SPRAY WORKS (PTY) LTD</b> <b>KABO MARTIN MOTHIBAMELE</b> <b>SENATLA CHRISTOPHER MANTHE</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Gaone Ratsoma to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	3rd September 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Lot 22782, Gaborone	
<b>Time:</b>	14:30 p.m.	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> A certain piece of land being Lot 22782, Gaborone, situated in the Gaborone West Extension 17, measuring 754m <sup>2</sup> (Seven Hundred and Fifty Four square meters) held under Deed of Transfer No. 1927/2011 dated 7th day of October 2011 made in favour of Senatla Christopher Manthe subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid deed together with developments thereon being a three bedroomed house with fitted kitchen, sitting room, toilet & bathroom, servants' quarters with one room, shower and toilet, the yard is partly paved, security wall and sliding gate.		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>Conditions of sale:</b> Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's offices or with Deputy Sheriff Gaone Ratsoma on 72199719		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF GAONE RATSONA</b> CELL NO. 72199719 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL.COL.01295)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE		GAREKWE J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-001421-18
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>ROCKERBLOCKER CONSTRUCTION (PTY) LTD</b> <b>CLEARANCE SEMANGA TAFJA</b> <b>OLERILWE TAFJA</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	29th August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Tribal Lot 660, Gabane	
<b>Time:</b>	14:00 pm	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> A certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 660 Gabane, situated in the Bakwena Tribal Territory measuring 910m <sup>2</sup> (Nine Hundred and Ten Square Metres) which property is held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 252/2012 dated 23rd day of February 2012 made in favour of Olerilwe Tafa, together with developments thereon being two Apartments consisting of two bedrooms each, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, toilet with water and electricity connected.		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>Conditions of sale:</b> Details and conditions of sale may be Inspected at Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina's office on 71657100 / 71801582		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12th DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA</b> CELL NO. 71657100 / 71801582 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL.COL.01962)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN		SOLOMON J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHFT-000433-18
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>PRECIOUS FOOD (PTY) LTD</b> <b>MMUSI KURUSA</b> <b>KELAPILE NDOBANO</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Uyapo Mafika to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	31st August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	CEDA Warehouse, Plot 21346, Unit 1, Swaran Park, Phakalane	
<b>Time:</b>	11:00am	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> 1 x Range Rover, Blue in color, Reg No. B 887 BAP		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF UYAPO MAFIKA</b> CELL NO. 71659897 / 3165097 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL.COL.01963)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE		LEBURU J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-000224-20
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>LIBERTAS (PTY) LTD</b> <b>CATHERINE THUPAYAGALE</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	30th August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Portion 58, a Portion of Portion 2 of Farm Kenmoro No. 1-KP, Ruretse	
<b>Time:</b>	14:30p.m	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> A certain piece of land being Portion 58, a Portion of Portion 2, of the Farm Kenmoro No. 1-KP, situated at In the South East Administrative District, measuring 4.000Ha (Four Comma Zero Zero Zero He Hectares) held under Deed of Transfer No. 1193/2008 dated 27th day of May 2008 made in favour of Libertas (Pty)Ltd subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being a three bedroomed house, sitting room, bathroom, toilet, TV room and study room, the house does not have roof. Servant quarters with four rooms and 1x 2 boreholes .		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>Conditions of sale:</b> Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's offices or with Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi on 71623026 / 73301311		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF MESHACK MOSHABI</b> CELL NO. 71623026 / 73301311 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (CEDA.COL.02161)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT FRANCISTOWN		MASUKU J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHFT-000168-08
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>GEORGE &amp; FRAZER HOLDINGS (PTY) LTD</b> <b>GEORGE MOKAILA</b> <b>FRAZER THATAYAOANE</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Seikise Manyapetsa to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	31st August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	CEDA Warehouse, Plot 21346, Unit 1, Swaran Park, Phakalane	
<b>Time:</b>	10:30 a.m	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> 1 x Motor Vehicle: Kia: Model: Sportage, Silver in Colour Reg No. B 283 AGX,2 x Grey Sofas, 1 x Sinotec Television.		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF SEIKISE MANYAPETSA</b> CELL NO. 71280307 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL.COL.0403)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT GABORONE		TAFJA J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-001029-22
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b> and <b>SUPER WORLD (PTY) LTD</b> <b>PERCY MAKWA</b> <b>PATRICIA MOLESENG</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>  <b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	29th August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Tribal Lot 707, Mogoditshane	
<b>Time:</b>	10:00 a.m	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> A certain piece of land being Tribal Lot 707, Mogoditshane, situated at In the Bakwena Tribal Territory, measuring 1174m <sup>2</sup> (One Thousand One Hundred and Seventy Four Square Metres) held under Memorandum of Agreement of Lease No. TL 598/98 dated the 30th day October 1998 made in favour of Patricia Moleseeng subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid Lease together with developments thereon being two bedroomed house, master ensuite, sitting room, dining room, fitted kitchen, bathroom and toilet		
i) Storeroom , tuck-shop ii) Two roomed house, three roomed house, one room house, two bedroom house with sitting room, kitchen, shower and toilet and the yard has a boundary wall.		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>Conditions of sale:</b> Detailed conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's offices or with Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi on 71623026 / 73301311		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF MESHACK MOSHABI</b> CELL NO. 71623026 / 73301311 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (CEDA.COL.02230)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE		MOGOMOTSI J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB – 003172-17
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>COLOUR PLACE (PTY) LTD</b> <b>SIMON EDIRETSE KEIKWATHLAHE BAIPOLEDI</b> <b>LETSO KEIKOTLHAILE</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff NEO OTSETSWE to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	3rd September 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Lot 24466, Extension 12944, Taung, Gaborone	
<b>Time:</b>	10:30 a.m	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> A certain piece of land being Lot 12944, Gaborone, situated in Gaborone Administrative District, measuring 432m <sup>2</sup> (Four Hundred and Thirty Two Square Metres) held under Deed of Transfer No. 990/1989 dated 24th day of November 1989 made in favour of Ediretse Keikwathlahe Baipoleledi with some developments thereon being a three bedroomed house with ensuite, fitted kitchen, toilet with bath tub, sitting room, two and half at the back, the yard is fenced.		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>Conditions of sale:</b> Detailed conditions of sale may be Inspected at the Deputy Sheriff Neo Otsetswwe on 76645365		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF NEO OTSETSWE</b> CELL NO. 76645365 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA), PLOT 54350 FOUR THIRTY SQUARE, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL/COL.01848)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE		DUBE J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-001496-17
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>COMMON SENSE INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD</b> <b>KEEMENAO BERNARD LOBELO</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	31st August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	CEDA Warehouse, Plot 21346, Unit 1, Swaran Park, Phakalane	
<b>Time:</b>	12:00noon	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> 1 x Tata Truck LPT Reg No. B 511 ATE White in Color		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DA OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA</b> CELL NO. 71657100 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL/COL.01734)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE		TAFJA J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-003144-17
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>JONAS KWEDIBANA</b>	<b>Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	4th September 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	Tribal Grant 4430-KO, Mmatseta	
<b>Time:</b>	0:30 am	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> A certain piece of land being Tribal Grant 4430–KO, situated at Matseta in the Bakwena Tribal Territory, measuring 7.3899Ha (Seven Comma Three Eight Nine Eight Square Metres), held under Memorandum of Lease No. TG 130/2008 dated 3rd day of December 2008 made in favour of Jonas Kwedibana subject to the reservations and conditions contained in the aforesaid lease together with developments thereon being a fenced farm with four bedroomed house, sitting room, kitchen, two store rooms, 1x poultry house, pit-latrine toilet and borehole.		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>Conditions of sale:</b> Detailed and conditions of sale may be inspected at the Plaintiff's office or with the Deputy Sheriff Nonofa Mabina 71657100		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF NONOFO MABINA</b> CELL NO.71657100 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA), FOUR THIRTY SQUARE, PLOT 54350 PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (CEDA.COL.01833)		

IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT LOBATSE		DUBE J.
In the matter between:		Case No. CVHGB-002871-21
<b>CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA)</b>	<b>Plaintiff</b>	
and		
<b>MATSWAI PROJECTS (PTY) LTD</b> <b>OABILE KEBINAKGABO</b> <b>NEELO ONTSHEPILE SELOLWANE</b> <b>SELAELO MANI SELOLWANE</b>	<b>1st Defendant</b> <b>2nd Defendant</b> <b>3rd Defendant</b> <b>4th Defendant</b>	
NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION		
<b>BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT</b> pursuant to a judgment granted by the above Honourable Court, the following property shall be sold by public auction by Deputy Sheriff Meshack Moshabi to the highest bidder as follows:		
<b>Date of Sale:</b>	31st August 2024	
<b>Venue:</b>	CEDA warehouse, Plot 21346, Unit 1, Swaran Park, Phakalane Industrial	
<b>Time:</b>	10:30 a.m	
<b>Property to be sold:</b> 1 x 71 Seater VOL Bus Reg No. B 187 BGK		
<b>Terms of Sale: STRICTLY CASH or BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUES.</b>		
<b>DATED AT GABORONE THIS 12 DAY OF JULY 2024.</b>		
..... <b>DEPUTY SHERIFF MESHACK MOSHABI</b> CELL NO. 71623026 / 71263198 / 71619553 C/O CITIZEN ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CEDA) FOUR THIRTY SQUARE PLOT 54350, PG MATANTE ROAD, CBD PRIVATE BAG 00504 GABORONE (LEGAL/COL.02226)		

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# Business

## NATURAL DIAMONDS MARKET CRASH

# De Beers revenue P8 billion down

- Posts \$2.2 billion revenue in H1 2024 from \$2.8 billion in H1 2023
- \$600 million fall due to weak market demand for rough diamonds
- Weakened economic activity in Key China market chokes industry
- De Beers launches Origin Strategy to mitigate the market volatility

**BAKANG TIRO**  
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**T**HE CONTINUOUS FALL IN THE demand and sales of natural diamonds worldwide has not spared the giant global diamond producer and marketing firm, De Beers Group whose revenue tumbled from \$2.8 billion to \$2.2 billion during the first half of 2024, \$600 million or P8.1 billion decline.

The natural diamonds market prospects remain bleak amidst the significant decline in the demand for the polished rough diamonds as one of its key markets such as China find its economic activity weakened.

Despite the weakening demand Russia, which has been facing boycott due to its war in the Ukraine, surprised most recently when it announced a record sale of its natural diamonds; suspected to have been sold to its close allies.

Presenting the De Beers interim results for 2024, Executive Vice President Paul Rowley said the trading conditions in the first half of the year have been difficult; characterised by an ailing China economy.

Rowley noted that the US market remained broadly stable (albeit at lower levels), while India continues to see robust demand, adding that retailers continue to be cautious in their purchases of polished diamonds and midstream inventories remain higher than usual, leading to the slowing demand for rough diamonds.

“This reflects the decision to intentionally lower production and change short-term plant feed mix in response to the weaker rough diamond demand due to the higher-than-average levels of inventory in the midstream and cautious retailer restocking,” said Rowley. Rowley said De Beers launched the new Origin Strategy to streamline and grow value across its business from mining through to retail and enhance resilience to economic cycles. He said the strategy is anchored on five (5) pillars being business streamlining, focused upstream, integrated midstream, reset downstream and pivot synthetics.

**PRODUCTION**  
Meanwhile, De Beers CFO Niranjana



Executive Vice President Paul Rowley presenting the De Beers interim results for 2024

[PIC: PINO KILANO]

Mylvaganam said the performance shows resilience despite the challenging conditions.

He said the difficulties in the market had resulted in rough diamond production reducing to 13.3 million carats (30 June 2023: 16.5 million carats).

In Botswana, production was reduced by 24% to 9.7 million carats (30 June 2023: 12.7

million carats), driven by intentional lower production and short-term changes in plant feed at Jwaneng and Orapa.

De Beers said Namibia production decreased by 3% to 1.2 million carats (30 June 2023: 1.2 million carats), with planned lower production at Debmarine Namibia, partially offset by planned mining of

areas with higher grades and recoveries at Namdeb.

De Beers said the total rough diamond sales volumes decreased by 22% to 11.9 million carats (30 June 2023: 15.3 million carats). The average realised price is broadly flat at \$164/ct (30 June 2023: \$163/ct), reflecting a larger proportion of higher value

rough diamonds being sold, offset by a 20% decrease in the average rough price index.

Underlying EBITDA decreased to \$300 million (30 June 2023: \$347 million), driven by reduced sales volumes and high unit costs due to intentionally lower production and the ramp up of Venetia underground. “Earnings benefitted from strategic

progress on announced business streamlining, with a fair value gain of \$127 million recognised in the period in relation to a non-diamond royalty right.

De Beers has focused on managing its rough diamond inventory levels through the softer trading conditions by reducing production,” said De Beers.

## BOCRA upbeat about 2024-29 strategy

- Strategy to unlock digital economy potential
- The ICT sector adds P1.9 billion to the GDP in Q1 2024
- Mobile Money Value Transactions stood at P33.5 billion in December



BOCRA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Martin Mokgware

[PIC: PINO KILANO]

**BAKANG TIRO**  
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

**I**NFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS Technology (ICT) sector regulator Botswana Regulatory Authority (BOCRA) is upbeat that its new 2024-2029 strategy would be crucial in propelling the country transformation towards digital economy.

BOCRA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Martin Mokgware while speaking at the launch of the strategy on Tuesday said ICT has contributed P1.9 billion to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the first quarter of 2024.

Mokgware said this demonstrates that the sector has vast potential to grow and contribute to the economy immensely.

He said there has been a significant

progress in achieving the set targets of the past 2019-2024 strategy, including seeing the Mobile broadband penetration growing to 100% and Improved Commercial Broadcasting Coverage to 75%.

In addition, Mokgware said Mobile Network Coverage as of March 2024 stood at 98% for 3G and 4G.

He said as of December 2023, Mobile Money Subscriptions had 2,073,426 customers and Mobile Money Value Transactions stood at P33.5 billion, adding that the mobile money platforms are for the purposes of supporting financial inclusion.

He said Botswana has the highest internet User penetration at 127% in the SADC region.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Communications, Knowledge and Technology Thulagano Segokgo said

Botswana is on course to become a fully digital economy supported by government strategies.

Segokgo said as a country, Botswana has always strived for excellence and never wanted to be left behind as the world transforms through the various stages of development.

“We remain steadfast in our resolve to be counted among those who leapfrog in uplifting the livelihood of their populace through digital economy,” he said. On this premise, Segokgo said government has introduced various initiatives aimed at transforming the economy through the use of digital technology and these include the Digital Transformation Strategy, the Reset Agenda, the National Broadband Strategy, and the Smart Botswana Strategy.

He said it is encouraging to note that these initiatives are beginning to bear fruits, adding that the 2024 report of World Competitiveness Ranking produced by the Swiss International Institute for Management Development (IMD) placed Botswana’s competitiveness at position 55 out of 67 of the countries that were surveyed.

“The report considered four parameters of Economic Performance, Government Efficiency, Business Efficiency and Infrastructure. Out of the four parameters Botswana fared better on Government Efficiency where it was ranked position 38 out of 67. Botswana has been making steady progress from position 61 obtained in 2021, 58 in 2022, 59 in 2023 to 55 in 2024,” said Segokgo.

## FNB named the Best Bank in Botswana

... CEO Steven Bogatsu over the moon



FNB CEO, Steven Bogatsu

[PIC: PINO KILANO]

**F**IRST NATIONAL BANK BOTSWANA (FNB Botswana) has been honored with the accolade of Best Bank in Botswana at the 2024 Euromoney Awards for Excellence for the fifth time.

The Bank extends its heartfelt gratitude to its esteemed customers, for the unwavering support and trust. This prestigious award is a testament to the Bank’s commitment to providing customers with innovative and efficient banking solutions tailored to meet their individual needs.

The Euromoney Awards for Excellence,

established in 1992 by Euromoney Magazine, are among the most esteemed recognitions in the global banking industry. These awards celebrate top-performing banks worldwide and receive over a thousand submissions each year, covering more than fifty regional categories.

“We are deeply honoured to receive this award this year. This recognition depicts our vow to be a customer-centric solutionist bank, meeting our customers’ needs with innovative and efficient services,” said FNB Botswana CEO, Steven Lefentse Bogatsu.

“In 2024, our focus has been on integrating cutting-edge technology to enhance and simplify customer experience and ensure financial inclusion for all. We are given to our promise to continuously improve and evolve in response to our customers’ demands.”

Bogatsu further added, “Our journey has been one of persistent growth and prompt responsiveness to customer needs. From pioneering the first ATM Deposit-Taking Machine in 2015 to introducing advanced digital banking solutions this year, we prioritise our customers above all. This achievement is also a tribute to our employees who demonstrate a high-performance culture and whose hard work and resilience has been instrumental to our success.”

This has ensured that the Bank remains at the forefront of the banking industry, delivering cutting-edge financial solutions and maintaining its reputation as a leader in the market, ensuring it competes with other financial institutions locally and globally, providing the highest quality of service for all its customers.

Central to FNB Botswana being a solutionist bank is its ethos of shared prosperity. The bank believes that its success is intrinsically linked to the well-being of its customers and the broader community.

By championing initiatives that promote financial inclusion, through offerings such as CashPlus and Bank on Wheels, supporting local businesses, and investing in community projects, FNB Botswana makes evident, its commitment to creating value beyond banking. This ethos drives the bank to provide the best possible services to its customers, ensuring they have access to the tools and resources needed to achieve their financial goals.



# Barminco extends stay at Khoemacau copper mine

**SOLOMON TJINYEKA**  
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

**P**ERENTI'S UNDERGROUND MINING business, Barminco, has finalised discussions regarding the existing five-year mining services contract for the

Khoemacau copper mine in Botswana with Khoemacau Copper Mining Proprietary Limited, a subsidiary of MMG Limited. Barminco has been operating at Khoemacau since the mine commenced in 2019, initially winning the services contract when the mine was owned by Cuprous

**Capital Ltd.**  
Barminco is working to deliver on the current mine plan while MMG explores potential expansion opportunities at Khoemacau, Khoemacau is one of the world's highest quality copper mines and has a strong case

for expansion to meet the global copper demand. Owned by Khoemacau Copper Mining, a subsidiary of MMG, the mine has been focused on delivering the current mine plan and exploring potential expansion opportunities.

Perenti Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mark Norwell, said the expansion under consideration has the potential to supply increasing global demand for copper and "we are proud to be working with MMG as they assess various future opportunities".

Perenti president of contract mining Gabrielle Iwanow said the continuation of the contract would allow Barminco to continue working in a key environment. "The continuation of this contract enables the Barminco team to continue working at Khoemacau under revised terms," she said. "The region surrounding the operations includes multiple resources beyond the current scope. Cumulatively, these resources have potential to support much higher production and maintain many years of



Perenti Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mark Norwell

mine's life. We look forward to working with MMG to continue high quality operations at Khoemacau."

The remaining contract value is approximately \$240 million, and Barminco will continue on the existing contract until June 30, 2025.



## Know Your Corporate Leader

**Full Name:** Thabiso Nkile  
**Position:** General Manager Affluent  
**Institution:** Standard Chartered Botswana  
**Date Started:** 27 May 2024  
**Nature of business:** Banking



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## COMMENCEMENT OF THE 2024 FILING SEASON

The 2024 Individual Income Tax Filing Season started on the 1st July 2024 and will end on September 30th 2024.

1. For the 2023/ 2024 Tax Year, individuals who are required to file are as follows;
  - 1.1. Those who earn more than P480 000.00 per annum and from a single employer.
  - 1.2. Those who have more than one source of income, regardless of the P480 000.00 threshold. This includes those who have business income, rental income, investment income, earning pension and salary from another employer, directors' fees etc.
  - 1.3. Those employed for less than 12 months in the Tax year,
  - 1.4. Those who changed jobs - moving from one employer to the other,
  - 1.5. Those overtaxed or undertaxed,
2. If your source of income is employment only, and is less than P480 000.00, you are not required to file, provided that the income is from a single employer, for 12 months of the Tax year and the correct PAYE was deducted from that income.
3. Employers/ Payers are required to ensure to;
  - 3.1. Register and use e-services platform for filing of returns and payment of Tax due.
  - 3.2. Submit annual Withholding Tax Return and Other Withholding Tax Return (ITW10/ITW100) by the 31st July 2024.
  - 3.3. Issue certificates of Tax deducted (ITW8/ ITW9) to all employees/ payees from whom Tax has been deducted.

**Employers are encouraged to file their PAYE returns online, which would automatically populate the individual employees' tax accounts, who would be then able to file their returns.**

To register for e-service, please visit our BURS website; [www.burs.org.bw](http://www.burs.org.bw)

For more information, contact the BURS Call Centre at **17649**.

**BURS, collecting for progress**

## Access Bank boosts domestic capital markets

**A**CCESS BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED HAS announced the successful completion of its sell down of shares to meet the statutory requirements set by the Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE). This strategic move ensures the Bank's continued compliance with regulatory standards and reinforces its commitment to governance in line with global best practices.

The sell down involved a reduction of Access Bank Plc's shareholding in Access Bank Botswana Limited from 78.15% to the required 70%, in accordance with the BSE's mandate for a 30% free float requirement. This process, concluded on June 28, 2024, aligns with the Bank's listing conditions set forth during its December 2018 public offering.

"At Access Bank, we strive to meet all regulatory and international best practices that govern how we do business. Through this sell down, we have now achieved a critical element of compliance expected by the BSE, which not only adheres to regulatory standards but also presents an opportunity for enhancing market dynamics and our shared value story by welcoming new shareholders," said Sheperd Aisam, Managing Director at Access Bank Botswana.

"We will continue to work tirelessly, leveraging our global brand network and expertise in retail banking, to deliver exceptional value to our



Sheperd Aisam, Managing Director at Access Bank Botswana

shareholders and customers alike," he continued. Since 2021 (post Access Bank Plc acquisition of BancABC Botswana), the Bank has sustained impressive financial performance following an aggressive growth drive, resulting to an annual revenue growth of 13.4%, 21.02% and 58.37%, across its Net-Interest-Income, Non-Interest-Income and Profit-Before-Tax, respectively. Similarly, the Bank has aggressively ramped up its operations across retail, wholesale and trade, with total deposits growing from P6.6bn to P7.7bn. A detailed breakdown of the shareholder composition of Access Bank Botswana can be referenced via the Central Securities Depository Botswana (CSDB).

## Stanbic's profit jumps by P116m

**S**TANBIC BANK BOTSWANA LIMITED expects profit before tax for the half year ended 30 June 2024 to be between 40% and 50% higher than that reported for the comparative half year ended 30 June 2023. This translates to an increase of between P116 million and P145 million.

The profit before tax for the half year ended 30 June 2023 was P290 million. Full details of this performance will be included in the Bank's abridged unaudited financial statements for the half year ended 30 June 2024 which will be published by 30 September 2024. [bse.co.bw]



Stanbic Bank Botswana CE, Chose Modise

## Vivo, Perfect Pour announce strategic partnership



**V**IVO ENERGY BOTSWANA, THE COMPANY that markets and distributes Shell branded fuels in Botswana, has announced a new partnership with Perfect Pour, a 100% Batswana youth-owned coffee business.

Founded in June 2023 by Thapelo Kabo Edzani and Gaone Catherine Kefapogile, Perfect Pour is a fast-growing coffee kiosk concept offering a wide variety of food and beverages. Perfect Pour currently operates two kiosks, one in Extension 9, Gaborone and another within the Jeffmore Shell Convenience Store, near Riverwalk mall in Gaborone.

This exciting partnership brings together Vivo Energy Botswana's extensive reach and experience of Shell products with Perfect Pour's innovative coffee concept. The two companies are committing to exceptional customer service. The partnership presents a wonderful grow opportunity for young & passionate Batswana entrepreneurs.

The future for the Perfect Pour brand within the Vivo Energy Botswana network is limitless and we promise to guide and support them as we scale to offer customers a convenient and delicious coffee experience alongside their fuel purchases.

Speaking at the partnership sampling and tasting engagement, held in Gaborone on the 20 July, Vivo Energy Botswana Retail Manager, Poloko Mmusi outlined the importance of collaboration.

"As a business, we are duly alive to harnessing the power of collaboration in the execution of our business strategy. This is highlighted by the fact that you can now, more than ever, do more at

a Shell service station; it is a one stop shop rooted in customer convenience. We are indeed excited to partner with Perfect Pour," continued Mmusi.

"This collaboration perfectly aligns with our commitment to develop and support Citizen Economic Empowerment in alignment to the government's call and offering our customers an enhanced retail experience. Perfect Pour's dedication to quality and innovation is a perfect complement to the Shell brand."

For his part, Thapelo Kabo Edzani, co-founder of Perfect Pour, said, "This partnership is a dream come true for Perfect Pour. Vivo Energy Botswana's support will allow us to expand our reach and introduce our unique coffee experience to a wider audience. We are confident that this partnership will create jobs, boost the local coffee kiosk industry, and become a favorite destination for Shell customers."

Established in November 2012, Vivo Energy Botswana is a market leader in the distribution of high-quality fuels and lubricants under the Shell brand. With a focus on customer service, the company offers a comprehensive product range including fuels, lubricants, Convenience retail offerings, and Shell cards through its network of 82 Shell service stations across Botswana. Vivo Energy Botswana operates under the highest global Health, Safety, Security, Environment and Quality (HSSEQ) standards.

The Vivo Energy Botswana and Perfect Pour partnership marks a significant milestone for both companies. With a shared commitment to quality, innovation, and customer satisfaction, this collaboration is poised to become a success story for Botswana's retail landscape.





# BTC launches Innovation Suite

**B**OTSWANA TELECOMMUNICATIONS Corporation Limited (BTC) successfully hosted its Innovation Day 2024, a landmark event dedicated to driving digital transformation and fostering innovation within the ICT sector. Held at the BTC Headquarters, Megaleng House, the event brought together industry leaders, Government officials, innovators, and stakeholders to discuss and showcase the latest advancements in technology and innovation. Additionally, a panel discussion was held under the topic “Leveraging on the power of collaborative innovation to unlock opportunities in a digital economy”. Panelists used this session to share their insights, experiences and inspiration for thinking outside the box.

BTC is committed to evolving from a traditional telecommunications company (Telco) into a technology company (Digital Business) through its digital transformation strategy. This strategy aims to transform

the company's culture and services to meet the needs of the modern digital customer, ensuring that BTC remains relevant and competitive in the fast-evolving digital landscape.

“Our dedication to fostering a culture of innovation within BTC is unwavering. We are committed to adopting cutting-edge technologies and developing new digital services that cater to the dynamic needs of our customers. Moreover, BTC's Innovation Day aligns with Botswana's national vision of becoming a digitally transformed, knowledge-based economy. Hosting events such as the BTC Innovation Day, not only showcases our commitment to innovation but also supports the broader agenda of socio-economic development and competitiveness in the global digital economy,” said the Managing Director for BTC, Anthony Masunga.

The event featured a panel discussion with representatives from Local



Managing Director for BTC, Anthony Masunga

Enterpreneurship Authority (LEA), Brainstream and BTC, the panelists shared valuable insights on industry challenges and opportunities, reinforcing the importance of collaboration and innovation in driving growth. Attendees were also treated to an innovation offering showcase, where BTC's latest digital services and technologies were on display. The showcase highlighted BTC's dedication to adopting cutting-edge technologies and developing new digital solutions to cater to the dynamic needs of its customers.

A significant milestone of the day was the official opening of BTC's new innovation suite. The suite/lab will serve as a hub for innovation, providing a space for developing and testing new technologies and solutions. BTC also recognised and awarded the winners of the hackathon that was launched during the Botswana Innovation Day 2023. The hackathon finalists took the challenge to develop a health inventory management

system that can address challenges faced by the health sector and extend those functionalities to Botswana citizens.

The top three finalists were awarded as follows; TwoSix scooped 1st position, walking away with a cash prize of P30,000.00, LTE 10Mbps Prepaid 12 months, Free Smega account & prepaid visa card, BTC mobile airtime valued at P600.00, and the commercialisation of their solution. Yortek took 2nd position and walked away with a cash prize of P20,000.00, LTE 10Mbps Prepaid 6 months, BTC Mobile airtime valued at P300.00 and a free Smega accounts & prepaid visa card. The 3rd position went to Apex team who walked away with cash price of P15,000.00, LTE 10Mbps Prepaid 3 months, BTC mobile airtime valued at P300.00 and a free Smega account & prepaid visa card. Additionally, all top 10 finalists will receive training and incubation for a period of six (6) months.

## De Beers' H1 revenue falls 21% in 'weak' market

Lab-grown diamond sales in the United States and ongoing economic challenges in China are impacting natural diamond demand.



De Beers CEO Al Cook

**A** SHOT OF THE VENETIA DIAMOND mine in South Africa, owned by De Beers Group. The diamond miner and marketer saw revenue drop 21 percent and rough diamond sales decline 20 percent in a “weak” market for diamonds.

London—Revenue declined 21 percent in the first half of the year for De Beers Group, with the company cutting its annual production forecast as weaker demand for natural diamonds persists.

De Beers' results were announced Thursday as part of parent company Anglo American's half-year report for the period ended June 30.

The diamond miner and marketer's total revenue in the first half of the year fell 21 percent to \$2.2 billion, compared with \$2.8 billion in the same period last year.

Rough diamond sales totaled \$2 billion, down 20 percent year-over-year.

Total rough diamond sales volumes fell 22 percent, from 15.3 million in H1 2023 to 11.9 million carats in the first half of 2024. Underlying EBITDA decreased 14 percent to \$300 million (\$347 million a year ago) due to lower sales, high unit costs associated with lower production, and the costs associated with ramping up production at the underground portion of the Venetia mine.

The first half of 2024 was a tale of two quarters for De Beers. Following a “challenging” 2023, rough diamond demand started to pick up in the first quarter, with India lifting its ban on rough diamond imports and U.S. retailers looking to restock after the holiday season. However, conditions deteriorated in the second quarter, as midstream inventory levels remained high and retailers took a conservative approach to buying.

Diamond demand remains muted in De Beers' two biggest markets, China and the United States.

In the U.S., consumer confidence was “soft” due to economic uncertainty, and lab-grown diamonds continued to take a bite out of natural diamond sales, though De Beers maintains that this dynamic will soon change.

It said in its H1 results, “Given the rapidly deteriorating economics of selling lab-grown diamonds as their prices continue to drop, there are also signs that retailers in the United States are returning their focus to natural diamonds.”

In China, consumer confidence is also low as the country continues to grapple with its real estate crisis.

The first-half bright spot was India, where strong economic growth underpinned growth in demand for natural diamond jewelry. India is the also market where De Beers is looking to relaunch Forevermark as

a jewelry brand.

In response to weaker demand and the glut of inventory in the midstream, production dropped 19 percent in the first half of the year.

De Beers mined 13.3 million carats of diamonds through June 30, compared with 16.5 million carats in the same period a year ago.

In Botswana, the company's largest producer, production fell 24 percent year-over-year to 9.7 million carats.

De Beers and the government of Botswana tentatively reached a new 10-year agreement for divvying up Debswana's rough diamond production and a 25-year renewal of Debswana's mining licenses in July 2023.

While the two parties signed “heads of terms” three months later, the deal still has not been finalized.

De Beers said Thursday that they are “working together to progress and then implement the formal new sales agreement and related documents, including the mining licenses. In the interim, the terms of the most recent sales agreement remain in place.”

The company has lowered its annual production guidance to 23-26 million carats from the previous forecast of 26-29 million carats due to the “prolonged period” of lower demand, higher levels of inventory in the midstream, and a focus on working capital.

As previously reported, Anglo American is in the process of divesting or demerging De Beers.

As a result, De Beers has implemented a new strategy aimed streamlining the business. Dubbed “Origins,” the plan was introduced during the JCK Las Vegas shows in late May/early June.

It involves cutting costs across the board, shedding non-core assets, working with retailers to market natural diamonds, and getting out of the business of growing diamonds for jewelry.

On Thursday, De Beers CEO Al Cook said the company has made “great progress” on Origins.

He said, “We have streamlined the business, materially reducing our costs and ensuring we are best placed to grow value from mining to stores as conditions improve. We're revitalizing demand for natural diamonds for a new generation of consumers through our collaborations with Signet, Chow Tai Fook, and other leading jewelry retailers.

“While we expect the challenging rough diamond trading conditions to continue in the near-term, the actions we are taking will support the recovery in natural diamond demand and position De Beers well for the future.” [nationaljeweler.com]

# KOMATSU

## NOW HIRING

### Technical Service Manager - Jwaneng

Komatsu is a global leader in the supply of mining, construction, earthmoving and utility equipment. Komatsu Botswana is seeking an experienced Technical Service Manager to join their team. The position is based in Jwaneng. The successful candidate will hold Form 5 + NCC / Technical Qualification with 7 years technical experience and 3 years supervisory experience

#### Qualifications:

- Form 5 plus Trade (NCC) / Technical Qualification

#### Experience Requirement

- Minimum 7 years' experience in: Proven experience of Komatsu products or construction earth moving equipment Commercial Science experience i.e. finance, operations management and business management
- Minimum 3 years in supervisory experience
- Basic business fundamentals: financial reporting metrics

#### Additional Requirements

- Knowledge of industry norms and best practices
- Relevant systems knowledge, including sound knowledge of the full MS Office suite & SAP
- Excellent communication both written and verbal.
- Strong problem solving and decision-making abilities.
- Exceptional leadership skills
- People oriented and results driven.
- Basic knowledge of BM&QA
- Basic knowledge for Health & Safety Act
- Valid driver's license.

#### Job Specifications:

- Provides input into strategy of the department /function / discipline / strategic project
- Implement approved structures ( people, process and technology)
- Manages resources allocation and cost
- Collaborates with other organizational units to achieve objectives and results
- Manages mechanism for business result measurement, aligned with plans and objectives

- Devises corrective and preventative plans to achieve agreed objectives
- Participates in planning the human resources allocation, acquisition, retention and motivation within agreed people plan priorities
- Submits progress reports on tactical plan implementation, cost, progress and status
- Leads and Manages the team
  - (i) Field Service Foreman with subordinates
  - (ii) Product Support Representative
  - (iii) Specialist Komtrax
- Managing disciplinary actions
- Monitors implementation of individual development plans
- Interpreter and reports on statistics / feedback on development progress vs. approved learning and development plan
- Liaises with key stakeholder's / service providers and suppliers
- Manages and maintains contracts in contracts repository (either centralized or de-centralized)
- Informs subordinate staff of contractual details / terms / policies & procedure
- Manages training programs or other media which will increase proficiency in safe practices and promote safety consciousness
- Investigates and inspects safety compliance issues by identifying issues and providing hazards analysis and assessments

#### Closing Date August 2, 2024

Komatsu is an equal opportunity employer. For more information and to apply: [www.komatsu.co.za/company/careers](http://www.komatsu.co.za/company/careers) Req. No. (6543)

## NOW HIRING

### Senior Manager: Botswana Mining Operations

Komatsu is a global leader in the supply of mining, construction, earthmoving and utility equipment. Komatsu Botswana is seeking an experienced Senior Manager: Botswana Mining Operations to join their team. The position is based in Gaborone and will require travel to the various operational sites across Botswana. The successful candidate will hold a degree in Engineering (Mechanical or Mining) with 12 years commercial experience e.g. finance, operations management, business management

#### Qualifications:

- Degree in Engineering (mechanical or mining)
- Post graduate qualification (an advantage)

#### Experience Requirement

- Minimum 12 years' experience in: Commercial Science experience i.e. finance, operations management and business management
- Minimum 4 years in strategic management level
- Team leadership skills with an ability to lead through influence in a matrix environment.
- Additional Requirements
- Knowledge of industry norms and best practices
- Strategic management skill
- Relevant systems knowledge, including sound knowledge of the full MS Office suite & SAP
- People oriented and results driven.
- Excellent communication both written and verbal.
- Excellent organizational skills, and the ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment.
- High level of integrity and the ability to handle confidential information.
- Strong problem solving and decision-making abilities.
- Strong stakeholder relationship building, facilitation and partnering skills.
- Strategic thinking and enablement skills
- Valid driver's license.

#### Job Specifications:

- Formulates the Botswana Mining Operations business plan and strategies in conjunction with Komatsu Managing Director
- Conceptualises & anticipates short to medium -term strategies/business plans
- Anticipates and identifies business and industry risk for the Botswana

#### Operations

- Adapts mining operations strategic plans based on the changing market conditions locally / internationally
- Leads & directs the operations structures, resources, systems and marketing aligned with Botswana
- Proven track record of an unyielding champion of safety commitment
- Plan and prepares a Mining Operations Resources Plan
- Plans remuneration changes for staff based on approved business plan
- Guides and evaluates the work and performance of the team
- Directs and monitor the human resources competence, skills and performance level aligned to the HR Strategy
- Conceptualizes and formulates financial requirements and compiles annual budget for the Botswana Operations
- Prepares budget presentation and submits to executives
- Plans process for, and submit tender/bid documents for purchase of new goods/services
- Resolves legal issues with support from Manager: Finance or legal expert
- Directs and manages customers relationships
- Negotiates Services Level Agreements with suppliers and customers within operational and support lines of authority
- Monitors contractual compliance within operational and support lines of authority
- Monitors contractual business risk exposure for Botswana Operations
- Evaluates partnerships and outsourced agreements
- Creates an environment and culture where people are valued, inspired and developed so that they can reach their full potential

#### Closing Date August 2, 2024

Komatsu is an equal opportunity employer. For more information and to apply: [www.komatsu.co.za/company/careers](http://www.komatsu.co.za/company/careers) Req. No. (7390)



## The impact of exceptional Customer Service Strategy on Business Success



**TALITHA OFETOSE**  
BDC Senior Clients Officer

**I**N THE DYNAMIC LANDSCAPE OF financial services, exceptional customer service is more than a nicety; it is a

crucial driver of business success. Financial institutions that prioritise excellent client interactions build trust, foster long-term relationships, and positively boost their bottom line.

Take Botswana Development Corporation (BDC), for instance; as a key player in Botswana's economic development, BDC's commitment to exceptional customer service is central to its strategy. BDC operates across various sectors including manufacturing, services, property, Agricultural processing, and infrastructure. Under its strategic plan, one of BDC's focus areas is on providing outstanding customer service to enhance client satisfaction and strengthen stakeholder relationships. The Corporation has recently developed and launched a Customer Service Strategy which aims to elevate customer satisfaction for its clients by fostering a culture that values continuous improvement and personal accountability by staff. The rollout of this strategy is earmarked for acceleration in the coming strategic horizon.

Customer service excellence hinges on a mindset change that prioritises empathy, proactive problem-solving, and a genuine

commitment to exceeding customer expectations. Adopting this mindset involves viewing every interaction as an opportunity to build lasting relationships, rather than merely addressing immediate concerns.

The Corporation's approach underscores the importance of internal customer satisfaction. When employees feel valued and supported, they are more motivated and productive leading to higher staff engagement.

Engaged employees are more likely to collaborate effectively, sharing ideas and working together to solve problems. This collaborative spirit enhances service quality and responsiveness, directly impacting customer satisfaction.

This positive internal environment translates into exceptional external service, creating a virtuous cycle of satisfaction that benefits both staff and clients.

In a competitive market, exceptional customer service sets companies apart. It builds trust and credibility—vital in financial services where clients entrust institutions with their financial well-being. BDC's dedication to exceeding client

expectations is meant to cultivate and enhance stakeholder confidence, leading to enduring relationships.

Exceptional customer service is a strategic investment that delivers substantial returns. For BDC, it is a fundamental part of its mission to support sustainable business growth and economic transformation in Botswana. By prioritising customer satisfaction, BDC not only strives to meet immediate client needs but also to secure its position as a trusted partner in the financial services sector.

BDC's commitment to customer service is a strategic pathway for building and enhancing the Corporation's brand reputation.

This proactive approach is essential for the Corporation's future, as it mirrors the practices of many successful firms that invest heavily in customer service to solidify their brand reputation and strengthen their market position. BDC remains dedicated to maintaining and advancing this strategy, ensuring ongoing success and a strong, positive presence in the industry.

#AreChen Cheng #MindsetChange

## Ba Isago hosts S&J Digital Media's Leadership Expo



BA ISAGO University's Business Development Director, Amagolo Gabasiane

**S**&J DIGITAL MEDIA IN collaboration with BA ISAGO Events and Marketing proudly hosted the 2024 edition of the annual Business and Leadership Expo at the BA ISAGO Convention Centre, drawing a diverse crowd of Students, Professionals, Entrepreneurs and Industry Leaders. This prestigious event showcased the University's commitment to fostering Business acumen and Leadership Skills within its Community and beyond.

Speaking at the official opening, BA ISAGO University's Business Development Director, Ms Amagolo Gabasiane shared their delight as an Institution to be part of this influential event that is aimed at empowering and connecting the Business Community.

"This Expo provides an opportunity for our students to learn from the best and build connections that will help them in the future, contributing to their student experience - a key strategic pillar as envisioned in the 2023-2027 Strategy," she said.

According to Ms Gabasiane, BEM is a subsidiary of the BA ISAGO Holdings

Group, and is a 100% Citizen owned Events Management Company that offers state of the art facilities, such as the BA ISAGO Convention Centre, the Mabaleng Sporting Complex and the Pavilion. They offer these facilities, along with end to end Events Management solutions to meet the diverse needs of their customers.

"We believe in supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs, often seeking ways in which we can collaborate for the benefit of these businesses and ours, as well as the Communities we serve. Additionally, we recognise that success and sustainability cannot be achieved without collaboration, be it internal or external," she said when concluding why the Institution came on board as a sponsor for this event.

According to the Event Organiser, Mr Mokgethi the Business & Leadership Expo was conceived with a vision to create a dynamic platform where business minds, industry leaders, and aspiring entrepreneurs could converge, share insights, and foster collaborative growth. Mokgethi thanked Ba Isago Events and Marketing for recognising the value of this event and coming on board as one of the key sponsors.



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

The  
Second  
International  
Ombud  
Expo

Will be held from  
29<sup>th</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup>  
August 2024  
in Gaborone,  
Botswana.

The official opening ceremony will be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Gaborone International Convention Centre (GICC) at 0800hrs.

While the international exhibition to showcase oversight and governance institutions will be at Fairgrounds Holdings, Ditshupo Hall, from the 30th July to 1st August 2024.

The theme for the Expo is "Trusted Institutions: Righting Injustices, Bolstering Quality Governance". Be part of this momentous global gathering by registering to exhibit and participate using the link:

<https://www.internationalombudexpo.com/registration/>

**NB: Members of the public are invited to attend the exhibition for free.**

Contact the Ombudsman Public Relations Office on 3953322 or

Toll- free line 0800 600 014

or email address: cbogale-jaiyeoba@gov.bw.

## Hotwire convenes PR industry leaders for World PR Day Hotcon

**C**OMMITTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF the PR industry, leading PR consultancy Hotwire has been extensively commemorating this year's World PR Day, celebrated each year on 16 July., with a series of engagement.

Tapping into support from World PR Day organisers, Hotwire on the 23rd of July brought a special edition of its celebrated HotCon thought leadership webinar series, this time working to unpack the theme "Shaping our World's Narrative through Public Relations".

The episode witnessed remarkable engagement and turnout, setting the stage and peaking interest from communications and associated professionals alike on purposefully shaping public relations in a changing world.

Hosted by Hotwire's General Manager & Chief Consultant, Taazima Kala-Essack, the HotCon featured a distinguished panel of expert speakers: Molihi Molekoa, Managing Director of Magna Carta Reputation Management Consultants - a seasoned professional with over two decades of experience in the public relations and reputation management sector; Keabetswe Newel, one of the youngest editors in Botswana and Managing Editor of The Business Weekly and Review; Tebogo LebotseSebego PCH, Chief Corporate Affairs and Sustainability Officer at BotswanaPost and a corporate communications leader and sports administrator of repute; and Tarryn Gibson, Wilderness Group Head of Communications, and who wields over two decades of experience in conservation tourism, marketing and communications.

Addressing themes such as the role of public relations, authenticity and trust in public relations, transparency and what is expected of public relations professionals, the panelists sparked insightful discussions and provided valuable perspectives on navigating public relations in a changing world. Speakers emphasised the pivotal role of PR in shaping organisational narratives. Authenticity, consistency, and transparency were highlighted as essential elements for effective PR.

"Public relations should come from a place of authenticity and truth," remarked Tebogo LebotseSebego PCH, stressing that PR professionals must act as advocates for truth, with personal integrity directly impacting their organisation's reputation.

A major theme of the discussion was the need for a harmonious relationship between PR professionals and journalists. The panel agreed on the importance of this symbiotic relationship for effective communication, with both PR professionals and media recognizing the importance of each other for the common good. Keabetswe Newel noted, "Gone are the days when journalists should be viewed as adversaries. We should be viewed as transmitters of information," underlining the mutual respect and collaboration necessary for success in both fields.

The conversation also highlighted the continuous need for education about the



Molihi Molekoa

strategic role of PR, as panelists discussed the importance of internal advocacy, with PR professionals needing to demonstrate their value to senior management and other departments directly, with clear line of sight and engagement with the C Suite to be able to engage on, influence and quickly mobilise key issues. Tarryn Gibson emphasised, "Marketing and PR should work well together, and it's crucial for PROs to promote their role internally," reflecting the need for PR professionals to advocate for their function within organisations, while Molihi Molekoa made a strong argument for organisational structures as inherently challenged if housing PR or corporate affairs as under marketing.

A clear undercurrent was that of the ethical and moral professional responsibility of PR consultants in shaping corporate narratives with transparency and without bias. It was noted that brand reputation management should be a continuous effort, not just a response to crises. Molihi Molekoa stressed, "Brand reputation management shouldn't just come into play during a crisis; it should be a continuous effort," highlighting the proactive approach required to maintain a positive public image.

These were just some of the key areas explored during the session, with audience engagement from fellow communications professions, as well as media and those on other industries simply curious about the subject.

Said Kala-Essack, "The purpose of HotCon is to promote ideation and debate. This event fostered a dynamic exchange of ideas, encouraging participation from attendees and facilitating a collaborative learning environment. It is a topic people truly couldn't get enough of and makes clear the need for more forums like this, and even, as we learned, more local associations or bodies to shape support more sustainably. We are privileged to be able to create avenues for such engagement at the Hotwire family of Brands."



معرض الدول للمنظمات التي تتعامل مع المطالبين  
International Ombud Expo  
Exposition Internationale de Médiateurs  
Exposición Internacional del Defensor de los Derechos Humanos  
Exposición Internacional de Provedor de Justicia  
政府控制和上诉机构展览  
Gaborone 2024







## BOTSAT-1 Scholarship Opportunity for Master's and PhD Students

The Botswana Satellite-1 (BOTSAT-1) scholarship programme, hosted jointly by the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST), Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN), the University of Botswana (UB), and the Okavango Research Institute (ORI), invites applications from qualified candidates passionate about satellite technology, space exploration, and research-driven initiatives. This scholarship offers a unique platform for students to engage in innovative research and contribute to advancing satellite technology in Botswana.

### About BOTSAT-1

The BOTSAT project, hosted at the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST), aims to launch a CubeSat named BOTSAT-1. This satellite will support applications in agriculture, urban planning, environmental conservation, including the commercialisation of BOTSAT-1 products and services. One of the key goals of the project is Human Capital Development, and it is expected to benefit various government ministries. The main payload of the BOTSAT-1 satellite is a hyperspectral camera with over 120 spectrum channels, enabling researchers to observe a variety of Earth areas of interest. While the satellite is scheduled for launch in February 2025 on SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, the BOTSAT ground station can be configured to receive images from other satellites, allowing researchers to continue their work in the meantime. The project is an initiative commissioned by the President of Botswana, Dr. M.E.K. Masisi, in 2020.

### Scholarship Details

- Scholarships cover tuition fees, a monthly stipend, research funding, and travel necessary for field research or international collaboration (subject to availability of funds).
- Scholarships typically cover the full period of postgraduate study, subject to satisfactory progress based on monthly progress reports and presentations.
- Candidates will conduct research primarily focused on the scientific applications and beneficial uses of satellite data.
- Candidates will receive guidance from respective institutions' supervisors and experienced researchers and industry professionals.
- Resources and facilities include access to state-of-the-art resources and facilities at BIUST, BUAN, UB, and ORI.

### Eligibility Criteria

- Nationality: Citizens of Botswana only.
- Age: range of 18-35 years.

### Prospective candidates must:

- Qualify for enrollment in a postgraduate program at BIUST, BUAN, UB, or ORI in fields related to the BOTSAT-1 project objectives, such as satellite technology, remote sensing, or data analytics,
- Demonstrate high academic achievements as proven by a strong academic record (minimum of Second Class First Division at the undergraduate level) or equivalent,
- Demonstrate research capacity and aptitude, and
- Be interested in satellite technology or related domain areas.

### Application Process:

Interested eligible candidates should submit the following by the closing date of **15 August 2024**

- Curriculum Vitae
- Cover letter indicating research interests
- Letter of support from prospective supervisor(s) at the university where the application is being made, indicating their willingness to supervise your research
- Research proposal developed in consultation with prospective supervisor(s) which should include: the research topic, key research questions and problems to be addressed.
- Contact details of two academic referees.
- Certified academic certificates and transcripts.
- Any documents demonstrating relevant work experience, training, publications, etc

### For inquiries and application submissions, please contact:

- **BIUST Postgraduate School:**

Email: pg\_records@biust.ac.bw;  
Tel. +267 4931761, +267 4931762

- **UB School of Graduate Studies:**

email: sogras@ub.ac.bw;  
Tel. +267 3552960/2861/4712/4690/2862;  
ORI: +267 6817213

- **BUAN Faculty of Research & Graduate Studies:**

Email: sngwako@buan.ac.bw;  
Tel. +267 3650117; +267 3650100

**The closing date for Applications is 15 August 2024**







Welcome remarks by BLLAHWU President Cde Thatayaone Kesebonye



Director of Proceedings 1st Vice President of BLLAHWU Cde Kakulu Manyelela



Objectives of the conference by TUI PS&A Regional Secretary Cde Kethalefile Motshywa

# TUI- PS&A, BLLAHWU host Collective Bargaining Conference



DPSM representative Deputy Director Cheneso Maphorisa presenting on Employers in collective bargaining



Coordination of Public Sector Unions for collective bargaining by Cde Tobokani Rari



Strategies for defending and strengthening collective bargaining by Cde Thusang Butale

Trade Union International Public Services Workers and Allied (TUI- PS&A) and World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), in collaboration with Botswana Land boards, Local Authorities and Health Workers Union (BLLAHWU), hosted a Collective Bargaining Conference in Gaborone, Botswana last Thursday under the theme: Defending Collective Bargaining.

Hosted by Africa English Speaking Region, stakeholders at the conference discussed the importance of collective bargaining in the public service and emphasized the need to close the gap that exists in the private sector, especially in the context of Botswana.

Different stakeholders, including trade union leaders, academics and government representatives attending the conference were engaged in rigorous discussions around the theme. Speakers at the conference reiterated that Collective Bargaining is the heart of social dialogue and is a process where labour agreements that regulate working conditions are reached and implemented amicably both by the union party on behalf of workers and public service employer; the government. Giving an overview of the conference, the Regional Secretary of Trade Union International Public Services Workers and Allied (TUI- PS&A) Kethalefile Motshywa said collective bargaining helps to ensure that workers and employers have an equal voice in negotiations and that the outcomes are fair and equitable.

Motshywa, who is the Secretary General of both BLLAHWU and the opposition Botswana National Front (BNF), said the realization of freedom of association is an essential pre-condition for the effective realisation of the right to collective bargaining. "The Collective Bargaining Conference and International Relations Symposium was an insightful and informative event. We had the privilege of presentations from a range of dynamic speakers who shared their expertise, experiences, and ideas on issues related to collective bargaining, public policy, and international solidarity," said Motshywa.

Touching on the origins of WFTU and its scope of work, Motshywa said it is a leftist-oriented international labour organization founded in 1945 by the World Trade Union Congress. He said the organization was initially oriented toward the Soviet Union, adding that despite vigorous attempts to reconcile the differences between communist and noncommunist factions within the WFTU, the intensification of the Cold War finally led to a split.

Motshywa also said the noncommunist elements withdrew from the WFTU and in 1949 formed the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. "The largest WFTU affiliates are now in the developing nations of Asia, Latin America, and Africa, although France and Italy also have sizable affiliates. The WFTU maintains its headquarters in Prague, Czech Republic," he added.

He said WFTU'S mission was to bring together trade unions

across the world in a single international organization, much like the United Nations, buttressing that those unions, including those from Yugoslavia and China, left later when their governments had ideological differences with the Soviet Union.

Collective Bargaining serves as a neutral space not only for conflict resolution but for both parties to negotiate and come to an amicable agreement. Conference delegates learnt that only 16.3% of workers in Africa are members of trade unions and this poses a threat to improving working conditions through Collective Bargaining, where public service unions have more strength which puts private sector unions at a disadvantage.

Strengthening unionisation puts unions at a greater level to bargain with employers, Thusang Butale – former Botswana Federation of Trade Unions (BFTU) Secretary General said, adding that advocating for legal reforms will also put trade unions in a positive space to bargain. From the employer's perspective collective bargaining needs to complement statutory laws of which Butale mentioned that they should be reformed.

Speaking at the conference, Tobokani Rari- the former Deputy Chairman of the defunct Public Service Bargaining Council (PSBC) who doubles as Botswana Sectors of Educators Union (BOSETU) Secretary General said the collapse of the Bargaining Council in Botswana was inevitable as government representatives attended negotiations without any mandate from the employer, which led to discussions not being fruitful. He said an attempt by Government to force recognized trade unions to work with those that were not registered with the PSBC was yet another reason that led to the collapse of the bargaining forum.

Rari said other reasons for the total collapse of the PSBC include the Secretariat i.e. that it was led by the Office of the President representatives who kept on backtracking as the former president, Ian Khama disregarded the forum and made unilateral announcements in kgotla meetings on matters that affect the existence and operation of the council. Meanwhile, Assistant Deputy Director at Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM), Cheneso Maphorisa said government recognizes the importance of collective bargaining and this has been demonstrated by the signing of Collective Labour Agreements (CLA) with trade unions. He said DPSM is committed to revive the bargaining council although the process is still lagging behind, adding that Botswana's collective bargaining is still at a developmental stage and will grow with time. "There are some challenges that need to be addressed and there are positives as well. There have been several collective labour agreements that have been signed despite us having some implementation issues. There is need to strengthen capacity building and ensure that we have skilled and experienced negotiators when it comes to issues like salary negotiations," said Maphorisa.



BLLAHWU delegates from different regions





# BOCRA



# BOARD PROFILES



Mr. Tefo Modise Setlhare

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON**

Mr Tefo Modise Setlhare has been appointed Chairperson of the Board of Directors. He has more than 20 years' experience in corporate and commercial law, non-bank financial services and mining.

He joined Debswana Diamond Company in 2014 as Head of Risk Management and transitioned to leading the Entrepreneurship & Enterprise Development Programme (EEDP), which has successfully delivered the following:

- Supplier entrepreneurship development
- Employees entrepreneurship development
- Outsourcing & Privatisation
- Naledi Mining Services Company (a Debswana subsidiary)

Currently, he is the lead for Strategic Finance Special Projects in Debswana.

Mr Setlhare has held several Board positions including Trustee of Debswana Pension Fund, Chairperson of Sesiro Insurance Company and Independent Non-Executive Director at BPOMAS.

He holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Botswana, Master of Laws from the University of South Africa and has completed a management programme with the University of Stellenbosch Business School, senior executive programmes with Gordon Institute of Business Science and Harvard Business School.



Dr. Bokamoso Basutli, PhD

**BOARD MEMBER**

Dr Bokamoso Basutli is a Professional Engineer and a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. Dr Basutli is currently working as a Senior Lecturer at the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) offering and coordinating modules under the Telecommunications and Computer Engineering programmes including Satellite Communications, Digital Signal Processing and Artificial Intelligence (AI). His research activities include serving as the leader of the Signal Processing, Networks, and Systems Research (SPNS) Group, Principal Investigator (PI) and originator of BotswanaSat-1 project (2020-2021). Dr. Basutli has published several peer reviewed papers in high impact journals including IEEE, IET, Hindawi, and MDPI.

He worked as an Installation Engineer and a Lead Engineer with Singapore Technologies Electronics (Info-Software Systems), from 2007 to 2010. In addition, he worked as a Senior Telecommunications Engineer with the Civil Aviation Authority of Botswana (CAAB), from 2010 to 2012. He served as the Vice-Chairperson and then Chairperson of the IEEE Botswana Sub-section in 2019 until 2023. Dr Basutli currently holds the position of Past-Chairperson of the same subsection.

Dr. Basutli received Ph.D. Degree in Electronics, Electrical, and Systems engineering from Loughborough University, U.K.



Ms. Senwelo Modise

**BOARD MEMBER**

Ms Senwelo Modise is a specialist attorney practising in Botswana. She has a wealth of experience in the technology inclined niche areas of law, amongst them being data protection, cybersecurity, laws of emerging technologies and public policy.

She is a Partner at Bookbinder Business Law where she leads the Technology, Cyber and Data Protection division.

Ms Senwelo holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Botswana and is a Fellow of Information Privacy. She is currently pursuing a Master of Research and Public Policy (MRPP) with the University of Botswana.



Ms. Kago Mmolawa

**VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Ms Kago Mmolawa is a dynamic and business executive with a remarkable 13-year career spanning diverse industries - Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), Banking, Mining, and Government. Ms Mmolawa currently serves as Group Head-Culture, Change and Organisational Effectiveness, at the JSE-listed company, AECI Limited.

Ms Mmolawa brings a comprehensive perspective to her leadership, deep understanding of human resources management, drive for change, talent optimization, and organizational development. An experienced leader, Ms Mmolawa has successfully guided organizations through transformative phases, aligning talent and organizational goals seamlessly.

Ms Mmolawa holds a MA in Human Resources Management and a BA in Social Sciences, from the University of Botswana.



Ms. Tsholofelo Bogosi

**BOARD MEMBER**

Ms Tsholofelo Bogosi is a Chartered Management Accountant (CIMA- UK) and a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) by profession and holds a BComm (Accounting) Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, and a Post graduate Certificate in Risk Management from the Botswana Accountancy College. She is a Member of both Botswana Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA) and Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA).

Ms Bogosi is currently the Head of Risk Management for Debswana Diamond Company under the broader Governance, Risk, and Compliance Function. She has previously held various management roles still within Debswana, of Senior Support Services Manager (A) (Orapa, Letlhakane and Damtshaa Mines-OLDM), Audit Manager- (IT and Projects) and Audit Manager (OLDM).

Prior to joining Debswana she held various management positions at Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) and Water Utilities Corporation (WUC) including the role of Head of Internal Audit at Water Utilities Corporation, Internal Audit Manager with WUC and Manager- Accounts Operations with BPC. Her career began with a junior role with the Office of the Auditor General (Botswana). She holds over 20 years of professional experience in areas of governance, risk, and compliance.



Ms. Mpho V. Motlhabane

**BOARD MEMBER**

Ms Mpho Motlhabane is a marketing professional with over 17 years of progressive experience across a broad range of marketing and communication functions working with world class, multiple brands and categories to drive strong and sustainable financial gains through leveraging corporate potential and enhancing top notch marketing and communication solutions, innovative brand strategies .

Ms Motlhabane is currently with Puma Energy as the sub -regional marketing manager for Africa overseeing five- markets -South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Botswana and Lesotho to maximize the success of Puma Energy products in Africa through creating world -class commercial output to deliver business and category growth. Prior to joining Puma Energy Ms Motlhabane was the Head of Marketing for Vivo Energy Botswana ( Shell and Engen licensee). She has also held various leadership roles at Kgalagadi Breweries , Standard Chartered Bank , Population Services International and Botswana Olympic Committee.

Ms Motlhabane holds a Bachelors degree in Communications majoring in Public Relations, Marketing and Advertising from the University of Northwest in South Africa. She is currently pursuing her Masters of Business Administration with University of Suffolk. She also holds a certificate for Finance for Non -Finance Managers from Botswana Accountancy College.

Ms Motlhabane sits on the Botswana National Olympic Committee Marketing and Communication Committee



Dr. Mokaedi Monnane Monnane, PhD

**BOARD MEMBER**

Dr Mokaedi Monnane Monnane is an independent consultant with over 25 years of experience as a researcher and consultant where he has led and been part of research teams for clients such as the Government of Botswana, SADC, UNDP, and African Development Bank. His work in research has engaged him in various areas such as economic diversification, local manufacturing sector and Development of the SADC Private Sector Engagement Mechanism. In addition to research, Dr Monnane has published in international journals and co-authored on Competition Scenario in Botswana. He is also a member of the Botswana Economics Association.

Dr Monnane has worked for institutions such as the Central Bank of Botswana, Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis and SADC Secretariat.

Dr Monnane holds a PhD in Economics from the Lincoln University, New Zealand. He is also a member of the Botswana Minimum Wage Board.



# lifestyle

## Thandiswa Mazwai Makes Waves

■ Appears as Featured Guest on Ebro Darden's The Message

**S**OUTH AFRICAN MUSIC SENSATION Thandiswa Mazwai made South Africa and Africa proud overnight on Apple Music as a special guest on The Message with Ebro Darden on Apple Music 1. #TheMessage is a series to further the dialogue about unrest and inequalities in the United States and abroad.

Two decades since the release of her seminal debut album Zabalaza, the iconic Thandiswa Mazwai marks the occasion with the release of 2024's Sankofa.

In a wide ranging with Ebro she speaks about its significance "My message is Sankofa - which means to go back and fetch

what has been left behind, to look back to be able to go forward. It is about reclaiming what is important, what honours you, and what needs healing," says Mazwai.

She delves into her upbringing, injustice and the country reckoning with its apartheid past.

"Having grown up during the 80's in South Africa, the apartheid project to erase our identities and proud histories, was in full force. This year South Africa celebrates 30 years of freedom for "black" people from the violence of the Apartheid system, but racism and all types of imperialism still persist."



Thandiswa Mazwai

"And so the work of the past 30 years has been in part about reclaiming all that has been lost, stolen, erased. Our cultural identities, our spiritual identities, our land, our sense of home. I am also an African queer woman and that really demands that you claim and vehemently protect all that brings your peace and joy. A sense of community, history and possibility," she adds.

"The greater message is always LOVE - Of self, freedom, justice, knowledge, truth. The proverbial, OneLove."

Listen to the full interview on Apple Music: <http://apple.co/Ebro>

## No gatecrashers please! -CSI Concepts



Bush walk

**C**SI-CONCEPTS FOUNDATION AND The Desert Bush Walk Local Organizing Committee (LOC) would like to inform Great Hikers that due to insufficient sponsorship, we were compelled to limit the number of participants to only 4,000. All tickets for this year's event have been sold out. Ticket sales closed on June 23rd, 2024.

Therefore, we kindly request all individuals who were unable to purchase tickets not to attempt attending the event without a ticket, as that would constitute trespassing, and legal action will be taken against offenders.

As part of our safety and risk management plan, security will be strengthened at the start and finish points, along the route, and at the water points. We are pleased to announce that we have formed a Security Cluster supported by the Botswana Police, Private Security, and other

Security Agencies.

Our ticketing partner, Webtickets, will scan tickets at the gates and wrist tags will be used throughout the trail. We urge all ticket holders to ensure they have their tags before the event.

We also caution non-ticket holders to exercise caution when purchasing tickets from individuals claiming they are no longer participating. The organizers will not accept any responsibility if the tickets are unscannable at the gate or along the trail.

Lastly, we would like to express our gratitude to all ticket holders for their support and encourage those who were unable to purchase tickets this year to buy early next year to avoid disappointment. We also appreciate their interest in this community service.

Olivia Nthoi  
CSI-Concepts Foundation Board Secretary

## '36 Summer Olympics Were More Than Just Games

■ New Book Sounds Real-World Alarms

**S**PORTSWRITERS WILL SAY that their job is often mockingly referred to as the "toy department" of news, as if fun and games are unimportant. A newly released book, PLAYED: The Games of the 1936 Berlin Olympics, illustrates just how significant and historic the sporting world can be.

Co-authors Richard Kaufman and Glenn Allen take readers into a time and place when the world felt like it was teetering on the brink of war, Nazi Germany was rattling its sabers, and one of the most memorable of all Olympic Games was taking place in Berlin.

PLAYED blends politics, sports, espionage and courage, all in a real-world setting where the most popular hero was American sprinter and long jumper Jesse Owens, who won four gold medals. That stuck a needle in Adolf Hitler's attempt to use the games to prove his theory of Aryan racial superiority.

PLAYED feels real because it is based on real events, real outcomes and real people, including American Olympic Committee President Avery Brundage, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Charlie Chaplin, Joseph Goebbels and Eva Braun.

The authors say the most important message of their story is that history must not repeat itself... a poignant thought in this, the year of the 2024 Paris Olympics, where Russian and Belarusian athletes are banned from participating in team sports due to the war in Ukraine.

Dr. Thomas Law gave PLAYED five stars



and wrote in his review, "To those of us who are history buffs, this must-read,

is especially if you are enthralled with the events leading up to the Second World War, xenophobia, lust for power and their current implications... Although the book presents itself as 'a novel,' the people and events are real. This makes the dialogue (the fictional parts, I presume) come alive and seem likely to have happened."

About the Authors

Richard Kaufman and Glenn Allen have been writing together for over 25 years. They have numerous projects in development, including scripted feature films, a docuseries and television series, and they have co-written and produced two award-winning independent films, all under the banner of their company, Green Bandana.

# GIMC

10th Anniversary

# JAZZ

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VVIP INCLUDES RESERVED PARKING, FOOD, FULL BAR, MARQUEE SEATING





# Africa Reading Conference to foster inclusive education

**T**HE STANDARD CHARTERED BANK Botswana Education Trust (SC BET) is proud to announce its sponsorship of the inaugural Africa Reading Conference (AFREAC24), taking place on the 19th to the 20th July 2024 at the UB Conference Centre. Organised by the Lowapi Study Centre, AFREAC24 aims to bring together thought leaders, educators, researchers, policymakers, parents, and organisations dedicated to transforming and impacting the educational landscape.

Lowapi Study Centre is an educational consultancy centre that works with children who struggle with literacy. They provide educational therapy for learners with learning disabilities and differences.

The Conference is a groundbreaking initiative by Lowapi Study Centre, designed to foster dialogue on evidence-based practices and interventions, with a focus on advocating and educating the nation about the impact of improved literacy levels on learning. This conference serves as a crucial platform to inform and educate, with significant implications for advancing reading and reading research in Botswana and across Africa.

The theme for this year's conference is

“Reinventing Learning: Structured Literacy and Access.” A key focus of the conference will be on ensuring that learners with learning differences and challenges receive the support and resources they need to succeed in their educational endeavours. With a generous sponsorship of P291,000, the SC BET is enabling 150 teachers from across the country to attend this pivotal event. This initiative underscores the Trust's commitment to enhancing educational opportunities and fostering an inclusive learning environment in Botswana.

The conference agenda features a rich variety of sessions aimed at deepening understanding and support for learners with learning differences and disabilities. Key panel discussions include:

- Breaking Through the Barriers: A Dyslexic Perspective
- Demystifying Reading Problems
- Effects of Translanguaging as an Intervention Strategy in Teaching Students with Intellectual Disabilities in Botswana TVET College
- Cooperative Reading: Strategy of Choice in Economically Challenged Countries?
- The Role of Language Acquisition and Literacy Development



Bonolo Boitshwarelo

- The Role of Government and Corporate Institutions in Creating an Inclusive Environment for Dyslexics in Schools and Workplaces

“At Standard Chartered Botswana Education Trust, we believe that literacy is the foundation of personal and national development. The Africa Reading Conference 2024 aligns with our mission to enhance educational opportunities and outcomes in Botswana. By sponsoring this conference, we hope to contribute to the development of effective literacy interventions that can make a significant difference in the lives of learners across the nation. We invite all stakeholders within the educational ecosystem to join us in this mission to create lasting impact on literacy in Botswana and to establish a more inclusive and equitable educational system that leaves no child behind.” said Standard Chartered CEO, Mpho Masupe.

SCB BET is a foundation dedicated to advancing the Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme in Botswana. The Trust aims to initiate, establish, supplement, and promote charitable and educational activities with a primary focus on developing and nurturing early childhood development.

## Joburg hosts Natural Products Expo Africa 2024



**T**HE LEADING INDUSTRY EVENT, THE Organic and Natural Products Expo Africa, proudly sponsored by Standard Bank, is returning to Johannesburg for its fourth edition at the Sandton Convention Centre from 12 to 14 September 2024.

As Africa's only dedicated event for the organic and natural products industry, this expo is the ultimate platform for traders and exhibitors to showcase their offerings to a diverse and influential audience. Designed as a hybrid event that caters to trade buyers while allowing retail sales directly to consumers, the expo features local and international manufacturers, producers, suppliers, importers, exporters and distributors.

### Unique exhibition

“This is looking to be our biggest event yet and we are delighted to bring the expo for its fourth consecutive year to Johannesburg,” says Organic and Natural Product Expo Africa's head of sponsorships and partnerships, Warren Hickenbotham. “Last year, over the three days we attracted over 4,000 visitors! The expo provides a unique opportunity for exhibitors to connect with top industry leaders, buyers, and decision-makers from across the continent and Europe.”

Bringing together suppliers, buyers and eco-enthusiasts to celebrate greener, healthier, and more sustainable living, the expo showcases product categories such as health, body & beauty, lifestyle, home, food & beverages, and baby & kids.

“It really gives unparalleled exposure and the chance to network and build lasting business relationships,” explains Hickenbotham. “With the added benefit of 365 days of visibility through our leading trade portal, this expo is a must for anyone serious about expanding their footprint in the organic and natural products market.”

The expo has attracted significant interest from across Africa and will open doors to new business opportunities from countries including Botswana, Namibia, Madagascar and Malawi. Further interest from the German Chamber of Commerce promises to drive European traders to the event.

### Natural, wellness sector

Both locally and internationally, the organic and natural industry continues to witness remarkable growth, driven by rising consumer awareness and demand for healthier, more sustainable products.

According to data provided by Spherical Insights, the global organic food and



Head of Show Partnerships and Sponsorships, Warren Hickenbotham

beverages market is expected to grow from \$227-billion in 2023 to \$786-billion by 2033, at a compound annual growth rate of over 13% for the forecast period 2023-2033. The billion dollar natural and organic personal care market is likewise expected to grow annually by approximately 10%.

### Unparalleled visibility

More than just an expo, the event offers a memorable, informative and exciting experience - including exclusive networking opportunities, live demonstrations, product tastings, interactive sessions, engaging potential clients and showcasing products in real-time. Additionally, attendees will gain valuable industry insights, staying ahead of market trends and learning about the latest innovations in sustainability and wellness.

As a member of the International Organic Trade Fair Alliance, the Organic and Natural Products Expo Africa promises to attract key players in the market, fostering national, regional, and international trade opportunities, providing brands with unparalleled visibility and credibility.

The event is supported by the South African Organic Sector Organisation (SAOSO), the Health Products Association, Slow Food South Africa and The Cosmetic Export Council of South Africa (CECOSA).

Don't miss this opportunity to elevate your business and be a part of Africa's foremost event, showcasing your organic and/or natural product brand to a global audience. Mark your calendar for 12 <https://www.organicandnaturalportal.com/expo/>



## TENDER NOTICE

**TENDER REFERENCE NUMBER: WUC 055 (2024)**

**TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL WATER BALANCE FOR WATER UTILITIES CORPORATION, BOTSWANA**

**PROCURING ENTITY: Water Utilities Corporation**

1. Sealed Tender offers are invited for the Consultancy Services For Development Of The National Water Balance For Water Utilities Corporation, Botswana.

2. Procurement Method is: **OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING**

3. Tenderers must, to be considered for the award of the contract, be registered with the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) in the following categories:

**Code: 317 – Other Consultancy Services, Sub code(s): 01 - Management Consultancy Services,**

Or Equivalent Registration from Country of origin in similar codes, Foreign bidders must provide a document defining their constitution or legal status, place of registration and their principal place of business.

4. Preference Margins will be applied to qualifying bidders in line with the following schemes: **Economic Diversification Drive (EDD)**

5. Contact Persons: **Senior Manager Supply Chain Contact: Z Mmolawa/ R. Mosomane**

**Tel: 360 4407**

**Email: [procurement@wuc.bw](mailto:procurement@wuc.bw)**

6. Tender documents shall be obtained by visiting web address <https://www.wuc.bw/wuc-tenders-new> . Documents will be available for purchase from 24 July 2024.

7. A non-refundable deposit of **P150.00** payable to Water Utilities Corporation. Youth (18 – 35) owned Companies shall pay half price. **Bidders are to process payment on the website.**

8. Queries relating to this tender should be addressed to the Senior Manager-Supply Chain at [procurement@wuc.bw](mailto:procurement@wuc.bw) and should reach the office not later than ten (10) days before the tender closing date.

9. The closing date and time for receipt of sealed tender offers is **1400hrs on 22 August 2024.**

10. Late tender offers will not be accepted.

11. The Bid Submission Method is: **Two Envelope Submission**

One (1) original tender document marked ORIGINAL, two (2) duplicate copies of the original document marked COPY all in one sealed envelope clearly marked: **“Consultancy Services For Development Of The National Water Balance For Water Utilities Corporation, Botswana”**.

Bids shall be delivered to: **The Senior Manager: Supply Chain, Tender Room, Water Utilities Corporation, Sedibeng House, Plot 17530, Luthuli Road, Old Industrial Site, Gaborone, Botswana.**

GABORONE HEAD OFFICE

Sedibeng House, Lot 17530 Luthuli Road, Private Bag 00276, Gaborone  
Tel: 399 2500 | Toll Free No. 0800 555 555 | Email: [contactcentre@wuc.bw](mailto:contactcentre@wuc.bw)

**We keep it flowing, for you.**





# Sport

## Choppies splashes millions



Choppies Enterprises and Botswana Football Association (BFA) on Tuesday announced a partnership deal worth over P5 million

### P5.2m for youth football

**C**HOPIES ENTERPRISES AND BOTSWANA Football Association (BFA) on Tuesday announced a partnership deal worth over P5 million. In this latest partnership, Choppies will sponsor youth region leagues and the Choppies Cup for a

total of P5,250,000, spread over three years. "This is a big deal. And at BFA, we are thrilled that once again Choppies has chosen to dedicate such resources towards football development," said BFA president McClean Letshwiti during the partnership announcement. Win gold, take P1 million

The Paris 2024 Olympics were officially opened on Friday with Botswana's swimmers in action on Saturday, while track and field athletes will begin their competition next Friday (August 2, 2024). Botswana's athletes have received a substantial morale boost ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympics, thanks to Choppies

Enterprises. The company has announced generous incentives for top performers including 1. Gold Medal: P1 million and P2,500 grocery for a period of 1 year; 2. Silver Medal: P500,000.00; 3. Bronze Medal: P250,000.00; 4. Finalists or Top 8 finishers: P25,000.00. **Tebogo, Maxine lead**

Team Botswana is led by Chef de Mission Oreeditse Marakagoro, while sprint sensation Letsile Tebogo and swimmer, Maxine Egner have been chosen as Botswana's flag bearers for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, which started on Friday and continue until August 11. The pair joins the likes of Gilbert

Khunwane, Khumiso Ikgopoleng, Amantle Montsho, Justice Dipeba, Rajab Mahomme, among others, who have been given the opportunity to hoist the Botswana flag during the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympics. The practice of hoisting the nations flags first began at the 1908 London Olympics. Each country is preceded into the Olympic stadium by an athlete or a representative carrying their country's flag. And for the first time in the Olympic Games history, countries will parade their flags outside the stadium to show their presence at the Games. The Olympics opening and closing ceremonies are not only about festivities, but also about athletes and technical staff having the opportunity to parade in their best attires for all to see. For Botswana, they will be draped in the traditional attire of Leteise during the ceremonies. Meanwhile, Team Botswana athletes who checked in at the Olympic Village for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games had already received a Samsung Z flip 6 from Samsung, who are sponsors of the Olympics, on Thursday afternoon. The phone is a gift to all athletes at the Paris 2024 Olympics and Paralympics, and is exclusively designed and customized for all 17,000 athletes competing at the Games and the Paralympic Games. **Nijel Amos support**

"With just a few days until the Olympics begin, my heart swells with pride and hope as Botswana's first and only individual Olympic medalist. I wish Team Botswana all the best at the Olympic Games. Twelve years ago, I stood on that podium, feeling the weight of our nation's dreams and aspirations. Now, I pass that torch to you. Compete with the passion, determination, and resilience that define our beautiful country. Every step you take, every challenge you face, know that the entire nation is cheering you on. Make us proud, make history, and let the world see your talent, strength, and spirit of Botswana. 'Tatamilani woloto,' Amos posted on Facebook early this week.

## OLDM GM Charity Walk 2024

**LESEGO MOSINYI**  
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

**T**HE 2024 ORAPA, LETLHAKANE AND Damtshaa Mines (OLDM) General Manager's annual Charity Walk will be held in Orapa on the 31st of August, organized to raise funds for charity to complement Debswana Diamond Company's Corporate Social Investment (CSI) efforts to make life brilliant within Boteti district. In their continuous efforts to help in the development of the education and the health sector, the tune of P2.6 million from the proceeds for 2022, 2023, and 2024 walks will be channeled towards the construction of a classroom block comprising of two classrooms at Mmea village. From the same proceeds, P4.2 million pula will be used for the refurbishment of a

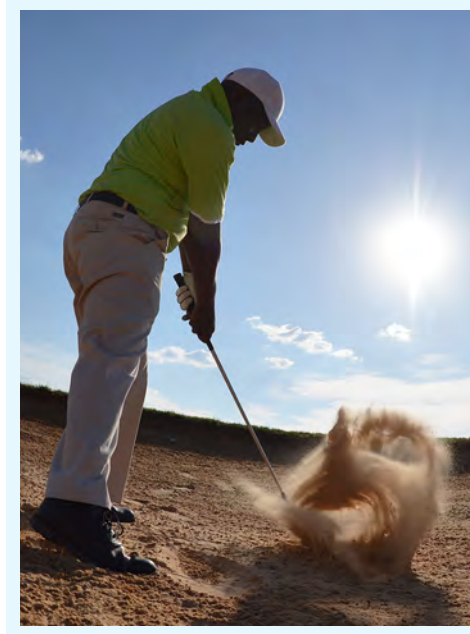


theatre at Rakops Primary Hospital which currently does not offer theatre services but refers patients to other hospitals.

This development will go a long way in improving clinical outcomes of emergencies in Boteti.

Speaking during the recent Debswana 55 minutes Fun run/ walk which was held to commemorate the Debswana 55 years anniversary in Orapa, the General Manager of OLDM Mogalolodi Maoketsa implored Batswana to register for the Charity Walk in large numbers as the funds raised during the walk are used for good causes. "I urge you to start registering for the walk as the tickets are already on sale," he said. Maoketsa said the funds they raise during walk gives them the opportunity to bring developments, make a difference and give back to the community that provided them the opportunity to be where they are now at the moment. He said some of the activities that precede the walk include Kiddies walk which will be held on the 15 of August, therefore he also urged parents to encourage and bring their children to take part in the walk.

## UB Foundation Golf Day



2024 starting at 10am. Now in its 17th year, the UB Foundation Golf Day is a key event for raising funds to sponsor graduate students pursuing Master's degree programmes. The initiative supports the University of Botswana's mission to become a research-intensive institution. Since its inception in 2000, the UBF has sponsored over 379 graduate students and aims to increase the number through this year's fundraising efforts. The Foundation calls on the corporate sector, government departments and ministries to continue supporting the philanthropic efforts of the UB Foundation. All proceeds will contribute to the Graduate Endowment Fund. The UBF Golf Day attracts a diverse range of participants from the corporate world, private businesses, government and other stakeholders. It is a significant event on the country's sporting calendar and demonstrates the University's commitment to sport development. The event also serves as a platform for building partnerships with the private sector, alumni and the public. **UBFoundation@ub.ac.bw**

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA Foundation (UBF) will host its Annual Fundraising Golf Day at the Stanbic Bank Gaborone Golf Club on the 26th of July



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