

# The Patriot

on Sunday

EST. 2012 'BALANCED & FAIR'

JULY 07, 2024 | ISSUE 583

P13.00



Battlelines drawn!

## Who will win?

Dikoloti or Serame; Letsholo or Rammidi; Radisigo or Billy; Mzwiniila or Molebatsi

### DPSM, Unions agree on private Arbitrator

- Appoint a South African consultancy company, Tokiso
- Three of its best employees to form a mediation panel
- DPSM rejected Unions 15% salary adjustment demand

FULL STORY ON PAGE 3



Dikoloti or Serame



Mzwiniila or Molebatsi



Billy or Radisigo



Letsholo or Rammidi



STAFF WRITER  
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

WITH THE BOTSWANA Democratic Party (BDP) having announced the date of its long-awaited Primary Elections – it is now an all-out race for candidates as they make last ditch campaigns to ensure they come out top.

The party has announced July 20-21, 2024 as the date for their primary elections across the country.

The party has been under pressure to call the primary elections as candidates became anxious, particularly with the General Elections – set for October – drawing close. The party encouraged some candidates to withdraw to allow for consensus candidates to run and promised to return their application

fees. However, not all have been keen on withdrawing and have instead intensified their campaigns. Party leadership at some point faced accusation of having their own preferences among candidates.

Among the highlights of this year's BDP primary elections contest remains one between two ministers for the Goodhope/ Mmathethe parliamentary seat. The Minister of Health Dr Edwin Dikoloti is facing the Minister of Finance Peggy Serame in a highly contested duel that will result with one minister losing out. Other candidates here include Kopo Mononi and Ogone Gaboutloeloe.

It remains to be seen who will prevail. In Francistown East the city mayor Godisang Radisigo is taking on the incumbent MP and Assistant Minister of Youth Buti Billy in a

tough duel that is likely to go either way. Serving as a mayor for the past five years has given Radisigo more time in the area, something that could go against the MP.

It is in the new Kanye East where an intriguing contest is playing out between two former Southern District Council chairpersons – Kentse Rammidi and Thamiso Chabalala – who are taking on the incumbent MP Thapelo Letsholo for the area. Rammidi is the former MP for the area and rose to the level of Secretary General of the BDP while serving also as an Assistant Minister. This is a contest that could go either way. Mmadinare is another interesting constituency where two ministers Molebatsi Molebatsi and Kefentse Mzwiniila are taking on each other. Barulaganyi Mogotsi is also staking his claim for the area.

The three contested for the area in 2019 with Molebatsi coming out on top. Mzwiniila is eager to re-establish himself as he is unlikely to receive another favour from the President by making a Specially Elected Member of Parliament.

The allure of political office appears to have attracted most people with the majority of constituencies having more than two people challenging each other. Only Molepolole South, Palapye, Serowe West, Boteti West, Shashe West and Kanye West have seen one representative – meaning Kobo Morwaeng, Kungo Mabogo, Forster Seretse, Slumber Tsogwane, Fidelis Molao and Lemogang Kwapa respectively have a pass to stand at General Elections.

Maun East was the only constituency where the party had not named candidates.

## UDC looks to Ndaba

... As Boko misses key activities

- NEC questions Boko's commitment to the 2024 elections
- Boko has missed key UDC elections preparations activities
- NEC endorse to coordinate UDC in Boko's absence, silence
- Boko, Khama's absence will harm UDC performance - Analyst



Ndaba

in Jwaneng last weekend. Boko was expected to be present with Ndaba but only Ndaba showed up with some NEC members.

"Boko is quiet, and his body language isn't showing any commitment to the project anymore. There is a lot of work that needs to be done and that requires the collective effort of the UDC leadership. He also missed two meetings of NEC and his apologies were not convincing at all," said impeccable source within the UDC NEC.

Efforts to contact Boko for a comment proved unsuccessful as he didn't answer calls to his mobile phones despite several attempts of contacting him at press time.

Sources intimate that the recent revolt by the UDC partner, Alliance for Progressives (AP) has been linked to Boko's inactivity in addressing the issues that AP had raised.

AP has been unhappy about a number of issues such as the failure to conclude wards negotiation and the dissent by some of Botswana National Front (BNF) members who launched parallel campaigns in the constituencies allocated to AP being Molepolole South, Mmopane-Metsimothabe and Kgatleng East.

BNF's duo Dr Tlamelo Mmatli

BAKANG TIRO  
editors@thepatriot.co.bw

THE UNHAPPY NATIONAL Executive Committee (NEC) of the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) has backed the party vice president Ndaba Gaolathe to take charge of the election's preparations amidst the continuous absence of coalition president Duma Boko who continues to miss important UDC activities.

The Patriot on Sunday has it on good authority that the coalition central committee has called on Boko to explain himself over his commitment towards UDC collective elections preparations and mobilisation.

The central committee is said to be disappointed by the continuous absence of Boko at important gatherings such as the candidates manifesto workshop, which was held

TO PAGE 3

**NEW**

# STREETWISE<sup>®</sup> BOZZA

FROM 34<sup>90</sup>

STREETWISE<sup>®</sup> BUCKET FOR 1



STREETWISE<sup>®</sup> 5

**2 DRINKS FREE**





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



# BoMRA trains district AEFI committees



**B**oMRA IN COLLABORATION WITH Expanded Programme on Immunisation, Ministry of Health, supported by World Health Organisation (WHO) will embark on a nationwide campaign in promoting and training healthcare professionals on the use of VigiMobile, a medicines and vaccines safety reporting App. An Adverse Event Following Immunisation (AEFI) is any untoward medical occurrence which follows immunisation and does not necessarily have a causal relationship with vaccine usage. It may be an unfavourable symptom about which a vaccine recipient complains or may be an abnormal laboratory finding, sign or disease found by medical staff. Monitoring and reporting of AEFIs is an important aspect of safety surveillance of medicinal products. VigiMobile is a free of charge app

developed by the Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC) specifically for AEFI field reporting. Health care workers can use it to collect data on their smartphone or computer even when they are offline. VigiMobile uses the WHO standard AEFI reporting form based on the 25 core variables recommended by WHO for collecting AEFI data. If the healthcare worker has internet connection, the report will be transferred to VigiFlow within seconds. If they are offline, the report will be queued for later transmission. The VigiMobile system also enables decision makers at district, national and international levels to obtain AEFI reports, review the vaccine safety data and respond promptly. Dr Seima Djeng, CEO of BoMRA says: "Every report is important in building more knowledge and understanding of the benefits and risks of

medicines in clinical use and allows action to be taken to minimize risks. "Reporting suspected side effects to the Authority helps to make medicines/vaccines safer for patients all around the world. In some cases, it can result in better prescribing advice, which can improve patient outcomes". With the intention of improving safety surveillance for vaccines and to facilitate the reporting of AEFIs, BoMRA and EPI, Ministry of Health through came up with a plan to capacitate all the District EPI programme officers across the country to empower them to promoting reporting of all AEFIs and investigate serious AEFIs. The teams will travel to places such as Hukuntsi, Gumare, Tsabong, Ghanzi, Molepolole, Selibe Phikwe, GoodHope, Serowe and Francistown to raise awareness about the importance of reporting side effects of medicines/vaccines.

# Satcoms first for Botswana's BIUST and EnduroSat

**T**HE BOTSWANA INTERNATIONAL University of Science and Technology (BIUST) and aerospace manufacturer EnduroSat have announced that they are together building the country's first satellite, BOTSAT-1. The satellite will launch on the SpaceX Transporter-13 mission during or after February 2025. EnduroSat says BOTSAT-1 will directly benefit local agriculture and mining industries by using an onboard hyperspectral camera payload to provide key intelligence on the contents of grounds and soils. With this data, BIUST will be able to empower decision-makers with information useful for long-term planning and investments. EnduroSat says this mission is also designed to generate hands-on technical and mission operations experience in Botswana. BIUST engineers will join the EnduroSat team in the company's HQ in Sofia, Bulgaria, to complete the satellite's assembly and payload integration. Furthermore, BIUST will take full advantage of the satellite's software-flexible architecture via the SpaceOps software. EnduroSat and BIUST's collaboration will extend beyond the completion of



the mission and help to make Botswana a space hub. The organisations will work to create exchange opportunities, based on EnduroSat's newly founded Master's Programme in Space Engineering and Technology. EnduroSat designs, builds, and operates cubesats and nanosatellites for commercial

and scientific missions and is developing inter-satellite linking and data applications. The company says it is on a mission to transform the complex satellite industry into a streamlined data service, enabling instant access and transactions with space data from hundreds of sensors in orbit. [developingtelecoms.com]

## DEPOSIT & LENDING INTEREST RATES

As at July 2024  
Interest earned is Tax-free

## Kgari names Thamaga leader

**K**GOSIKGOLO KGARI SECHELE III has officially declared Bone Gobuwamang as the rightful heir to the Thamaga chieftaincy. In her acceptance speech Kgosi Bone indicated that she will uphold the principle of Botho and Consultations in the community. [Duma FM]

## Fly Namibia touches down in Maun

**F**LY NAMIBIA FLIGHT WAS USHERED with a water salute when arriving at Maun International Airport on Wednesday. Fly Namibia has launched its inaugural flight, a new route connecting Windhoek, Namibia to Maun, Botswana. The flights will run three times a week on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. The new Windhoek-Maun route highlights Botswana's strategic role as a top tourism destination in Southern Africa. Fly Namibia, General Manager Commercial, Ms Nerine Uys said the inaugural flight of Fly Namibia connecting Windhoek and Maun is a journey that opens up possibilities for the two nations and beyond. Uys further highlighted that the connection between Botswana and Namibia is not just a new route on a map but a bridge that brings together cultures, people and shared aspirations. "It is a testament to our commitment to fostering closer ties, enhancing tourism, and creating opportunities that will benefit both countries," she stated.

## SADC, India Renew MOU on Economic Cooperation

**S**OUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT Community (SADC) Secretariat based in Gaborone and the Republic of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Economic Cooperation between the Southern African Development Community and the Government of India to update the already signed MOU on Economic Cooperation on 14 October 1997. The MOU was signed by SADC Executive Secretary, Elias Mpedi Magosi on behalf of the SADC and H.E. Bharath Kumar Kuthathi, High Commissioner of India to Botswana and Special Representative of India to the SADC. The objective of the MOU is to establish a framework for strengthening economic cooperation between India and SADC in the priority areas of economic and technical cooperation such as industrialization; human and social development; new and emerging technologies; trade and investment; disaster risk management; women-led development; private sector development; space cooperation; green growth and green infrastructure development; and research and innovation in areas of mutual interest.

### DEPOSIT RATES

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (Pula)
Current	NIL	NIL	
Savings			
Sesigo	1.75% - 2.75%	1.76% - 2.78%	200.00
Ordinary	1.75% - 1.75%	1.76% - 1.76%	50.00
SAYE	1.25% - 2.00%	1.26% - 2.02%	200.00

### Fixed Deposits

Term	Nominal Interest Rate	Actual Interest Rate	Minimum Opening Balance
3 months	0.80% - 1.00%	0.80% - 1.00%	1,000.00
6 months	1.40% - 1.75%	1.41% - 1.76%	1,000.00
12 months	1.85% - 2.20%	1.87% - 2.22%	1,000.00
24 months	2.25% - 2.55%	2.27% - 2.58%	1,000.00
Over 24 months	3.35% - 3.80%	3.40% - 3.87%	1,000.00

### PRIME LENDING RATE

6.26%	6.26%	6.26%	6.26%
-------	-------	-------	-------

### LENDING RATES

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rate	Average Effective Interest Rate
MoPR	2.15%	2.15%
Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	6.26%
Mortgage Facility	Prime to Prime + 4.50%	Prime to Prime + 4.59%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit lines)	N/A	N/A
Credit card	N/A	N/A
Eezi Auto	Prime +3.50% to Prime +5.50%	Prime +3.56% to Prime +5.64%
Lease Loans	N/A	N/A
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdraft, mortgage and credits cards)	Prime +12% to Prime +22%	Prime +12.68% to Prime +24.36%
Other Long - Term Loans	N/A	N/A

Contact Us Now on: 367 0001 or Visit a BSB branch near you for more information.

Member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana

www.bsb.bw



# Bangwato decry police brutality

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

- Elderly woman complains of being tripped and beaten
- One man left with swollen ribs
- Police deny any brutality

**M**EMBERS OF BaGammangwato have condemned law enforcement officers for the use of unnecessary force on peaceful marchers.

Bagamangwato, who last week Saturday embarked on a march from Former President Ian Khama's residence where they were camped to Gammangwato main kgotla to clean and convene a kgotla meeting, said the attack by the law enforcement officers who were armed to the teeth with riot gear, guns, sjamboks, batons, armored and water canon vehicles was unprovoked and unjustified.

When narrating her story Nkobi Keitshokile said after their attempt to gain access to their kgotla failed as it was barricaded by law enforcement officers they sat down as way



of protesting. She said it was then that the police gave them five minutes to disperse or face arrest.

She said they chose to disperse peacefully. She, however, said their ordeal started some metres away

from the kgotla when law enforcement officers who were tracking them since their retreat from the kgotla suddenly started intimidating and pounced on them.

Keitshokile said out of nowhere she suddenly found

herself down after getting tripped by one of the officers who continued to assault her using a baton while she laid helplessly on the ground. She said the same officer proceeded to grab her by hand, dragged and handed her to other officers

to arrest her. "Even when I voiced to the officer that he was hurting me as I was not resisting, my pleas seem to fall on deaf ears as the officer didn't bother to ease on his attack," recounted Keitshokile emotionally. "I did not provoke them because when we were told to disperse, I obliged. They arrested me when we were already far from the kgotla walking back to where we were camped," she added.

Keitshokile indicated that, after being released from custody that evening, she went to the hospital as she experienced painful ribs and she was referred for an x-ray the following day. Obolokile Kapisa (74) said he was also yanked from inside a car as they were trying to leave, dragged around by the police towards their vehicles.

Kapisa, who was already using a crutch to assist him with his mobility due to lower back

problem, said the incident left him with swollen ribs.

Bonolo Letsididi (71) said though she did not get a beating like the others, she was however appalled by the insensitive behaviour that the officers who arrested her displayed towards her. "I was escorted back to the car by two officers who insisted on me walking faster, even though I told them I couldn't walk any faster. They acted like they didn't care," she said.

Letsididi said she didn't do or say anything to the police that prompted their reaction towards her. She said just like other marchers she obeyed the police instruction when they warned them to disperse. She also said she was also set free without any charges.

For his part Balwela Kgosi Chairperson Ronald Mojakgomo, who was also arrested and remanded in custody overnight, said they intend to open a case of assault

against the overzealous law enforcement officers for their shameless unprovoked assault on their members who were mostly the elderly.

"Those police officers who participated in assaulting these people, some elderly women in their 70s will be brought to justice and account for their actions," he said.

He said though they are aware that the justice system under the current regime is no longer fair, they hope they will be lucky to have their case handled by someone who is not captured.

Mojakgomo said the continuous persecution of Bagammangwato by President Mokgweetsi Masisi's regime is not going to discourage them on their mission of regaining access to their Kgotla, and to install their chosen Motswarela kgosi among other issues.

Meanwhile, No. 2 District

Officer Commanding Senior Superintendent Paul Ooketsang denied any use of force on the marchers by the law enforcement officers. He said there was no interaction with the marchers when they dispersed voluntarily.

He said they have not received any report at the police station of anyone indicating he was assaulted.

"I don't have information of anyone who was beaten or forcefully arrested, or anyone who went to hospital due to complications from the arrests. What I can confirm is that there were people who were arrested and jailed overnight and they have since been released," he said.

Ooketsang advised those who say they were assaulted to open cases with the police.

He said even though those who were arrested were released without any charges, however, investigations are still ongoing.

## DPSM, Unions agree on private Arbitrator

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

**T**HE STALLED CIVIL servant's salary negotiations between the employer, the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) and five cooperating sector trade unions (5CTU) will resume after the two parties agreed and finalised the appointment of a South African-based dispute settlement company - Tokiso - as an arbitrator.

Tokiso on its website introduces itself as a private and independent dispute resolution company. It says it provides dispute resolution processes and support services for commercial, employment and community disputes with mediations, arbitrations, facilitations and tailored processes as key areas of their service.

DPSM and the unions adjourned the 2024-25 financial year salary adjustments negotiations after the two parties failed to reach agreement with DPSM which proposed five percent hike while the unions demanded 15 percent.

In an interview on Friday, the Coordinator of 5CTU Tobokani



Rari

Rari said the employer and union party had a meeting last week and collectively agreed to appoint Tokiso Dispute Settlement company as arbitrator.

Rari said the appointment of the company cemented the process of recruitment of an international private arbitrator and the company stood as the best from those shortlisted.

"The process of looking for an international private arbitrator has been amicably conducted by the two parties and we both agreed on principle. We have also agreed that the consulting company must give us its five best arbitrators specialising on issues related to our dispute at hand and we are upbeat," he said.

According to Rari, DPSM and

unions will select the best three arbitrators from Tokiso based on their skills and competence, who will be appointed as arbitration panel to mediate and decide on the way forward.

Rari also said employer and union party agreed to conduct the selection of three arbitrators from Tokiso through writing a joint letter to invite the company to avail credentials of

its highly competent arbitrators. "We are meeting next week, and the meeting will focus on agreeing on the terms of reference that will guide the arbitrators during the mediation process.

The employer and the union party have agreed to constitute a task force of four members, two from DPSM and 5CTU to work on the terms of reference. After that we will then move into coming with timelines under which arbitration will end," said Rari.

Rari noted that so far, the union party is satisfied by the entire progress in the buildup to arbitration, adding that they expect to work constructively with DPSM.

He urged their members to remain calm. DPSM and unions decided to take the arbitration route after they reached a deadlock in their negotiations. Unions demanded 15 percent salary increment for civil servants but DPSM on the other hand remained firm that it would only adjust salaries with five percent which had been agreed upon for the three financial years commencing from the 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial year. Unions later proposed 13% adjustment but DPSM still resisted.

## UDC looks to Ndaba

**FROM PAGE 1**

and Gilbert Watshipi are said to be campaigning in Molepolole South and Mmopane-Metsimothabe respectively - making AP candidates Shima Monageng (Molepolole South) and Pushi Manyaneng at Mmopane-Metsimothabe uncomfortable.

### SERIOUS CONCERN

Political and Administrative lecturer at University of Botswana (UB) Dr Adam Mfundisi has said the UDC Primary Elections and the role of Boko in the 2024 general elections are a cause for concern to many voters as the UDC is a major political player in Botswana politics and by a large extent an alternative government in waiting.

Dr Mfundisi said the absence of Boko in UDC activities as well as the absence of BPF Patron Ian Khama in UDC politics is likely to negatively impact on the performance of the coalition in this year's elections.

"This is in addition to polarisation and partisanship within the UDC compromising the preparedness of the formation with four months left before the polls. The AP



Boko

supreme Ndaba is an intelligent man but lacks the charisma and charm which both Boko and Khama possess. UDC seems not prepared for the 2024 general elections," buttressed Dr Mfundisi responding to the UDC dynamics.

Observers are also of the view that the mother of all campaigns that was pulled by the UDC in 2019 elections will not be repeated in this year's elections campaign more so that Khama campaigned for both UDC and BPF.

This time around the BPF has also distanced itself from the UDC. Khama and Boko's combined campaign charm

caused harm to the ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP), especially in the central district where both UDC and BPF marched to victory ousting Domkrag in its stronghold constituencies such as Serowe, Mahalapye, Palapye, Tswapong and Bobirwa respectively.

With political party funding on the horizon, it would be seen if the UDC campaign trail would move at a fast pace with Boko expected to launch several UDC parliamentary candidates comprising of BNF, AP and Botswana People's Party (BPP) candidates. UDC is also expected to launch its Manifesto this month.

## The women behind the world's most precious diamonds

**ROSA SANCHEZ**

- Three Botswana women creating De Beers's magnificent stones speak to Harper's Bazaar about the beauty below the surface

**T**HIS WEEK IN PARIS, luxury jeweller De Beers debuted its "Forces of Nature" collection, which pays homage to the wild, natural world of Botswana, where it sources its gems. Inspired by eight animals native to the African country, the range includes cascading diamond chokers, twisted and layered earrings encrusted with the shimmering clear stones, and red-carpet-worthy statement pieces inspired by horns, flowers, leaves, and waves.

Ahead of the collection's debut, Harper's Bazaar spoke to three women behind the diamond brand's show-stopping creations—engineer Tumisoang Sebeso, Onneile Moroka from the Round Stones department, and Lame Sebobi from the Fancy Stones department—about the story ingrained deep in the Earth's most precious stones, and the impact these glittering minerals have had on their own lives, and on Botswana.

De Beers Group, which in 2023 produced around 32 million carats of conflict-free diamonds, employs hundreds of men and women in its different departments—each which specializes in a different kind of diamond cut.

Onneile Moroka is the head behind the company's round stone polishing department. With 15 years of experience, she



Women shake up the diamond industry

assists with diamond repairs and trains others in polishing large, multi-carat stones.

Her team at Finestar Diamonds—a polishing company that De Beers Group partners with—is mostly made up of women, and she says that in the span of her long career, she has seen a big "boost in employment opportunities, benefiting many of us," as more and more diamond polishing companies have been opened in Botswana to meet the demand for the stones.

Amid De Beers' Building Forever movement, which, among other things, promises to achieve gender parity across their workforce by 2030,

Tumisoang Sebeso, an engineer at Orapa mine, explains that she feels especially fortunate to be working with and learning from a group of women in all the different leadership positions across diamond production.

"The industry and Debswana have come a long way in closing the gender disparity in the industry, and I look forward to playing my own role in ensuring that the existing gap is further closed, to pave the way for a future where seeing women in mining and leadership is a norm rather than an anomaly," she says. Sebeso is in her third year of the Engineer-In-Training graduate program at Debswana

Diamond Company, and her job at the mine is, essentially, to keep things running and ensure there are no structural defects that could negatively impact the quality of the stones.

Lame Sebobi, who is a diamond polisher at Finestar's Fancy Stones department, also notes with a smile what we have not said so far: Diamonds are beautiful objects to be around!

"As a woman in this women-forward industry, I take pride in understanding how women appreciate their jewellery and strive to create pieces that reflect their unique style and elegance," she says. But the business is not only about superficial beauty, she insists.

Debswana, where Sebeso works, is one of the world's most important diamond producers, and an equal partner of the Government of the Republic of Botswana and De Beers.

It operates four diamond mines in the area—Jwaneng, Orapa, Lethakane and Damtshaa—run by local professionals, and has a Corporate Centre in Gaborone. It also runs several primary schools in the area, as well as a hospital, for the community.

And, the diamonds themselves have many other uses. "As much as diamonds are well known for adorning priceless pieces of jewelry, they play a much bigger role in our industry than most people are aware of," Sebeso notes.

"Industrial diamonds, for example, play a crucial part in the lives of everyone here, as they are used in manufacturing industries for cutting and drilling machinery [for things like] construction and metalworking."

For these women in the mines, seeing the economic impact the diamond industry continues to bring to Botswana is incredibly emotional.

Sebobi says her people absolutely "rely on diamond mining," and it brings her "immense pride" to play a role in both transforming rough diamonds into exquisite heirlooms, and in transforming her country's history for the better. [harpersbazaar.com]

Bank of Baroda (Botswana) Ltd.

Month - July 2024  
Effective from 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
<b>BWP</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(P' 000)</b>
Current	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	3000
Call	0.00-1.00%	0.00-1.01%	1000
Savings	0.00-2.00%	0.00-2.03%	100
91-Days Fixed Deposit	1.25-1.25%	1.25-1.26%	500
6 months	1.50-1.50%	1.50-1.51%	500
12 months	3.75-3.75%	3.75-3.82%	500
24 months	4.00-4.00%	4.00-4.07%	500
Over 24 months	4.25-4.25%	4.25-4.33%	500
<b>USD</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(USD)</b>
3 months Fixed Deposit	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	No Minimum Balance
6 months	0.45-0.45%	0.45-0.45%	5000
Over 12 months	0.70-0.70%	0.70-0.70%	5000
<b>ZAR</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(ZAR)</b>
6 months	1.75-1.75%	1.75-1.76%	1 million
Over 12 month	2.75-2.75%	2.75-2.78%	1 million
<small>Baroda Prime Lending Rate (BPLR) 6.26% p.a. w.e.f 13.06.2024</small>			
<b>Lending Rates</b>	<b>Nominal Interest Rates (%)</b>	<b>Average Effective Interest Rates (%)</b>	
MoPR	2.15 %	2.15 %	
Baroda Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	6.44%	
Mortgage Facility	6.26-11.75%	6.44-12.40%	
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	6.26-11.50%	6.44-12.12%	
Credit Card	NA	NA	
Lease Loans	6.26-11.50%	6.44-12.12%	
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgages, and credit cards)	8.25-14.50%	8.56-15.50%	
Other Long-Term Loans	6.26-11.50%	6.44-12.12%	

Bank of Baroda (Botswana) Ltd. is a member of Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana

**CONTACTS:**  
Head office: Old Nokia, G-west, Gaborone, Ph: 3992700, Email: ho.botswana@bankofbaroda.com.  
 Gaborone Branch: Main Mall, Gaborone, Ph: 3188878, email: gaborone@bankofbaroda.com.  
 G-West Branch: Kamushungo Road, Gaborone, Ph: 3992705, Email: gwsbo@bankofbaroda.com.  
 Francistown Branch: Haskins Building, Francistown, Ph: 2413440, Email: francistown@bankofbaroda.com.  
 Palapye Branch: Madibis Complex, Palapye, Ph: 4920041, Email: palapye@bankofbaroda.com.

WE'LL HELP YOU TO SAVE FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



# The use of scribes for Special Needs Students



LAGAGO TAMOCHA\*

**EDUCATING THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY LEARNER**

## Shortcomings in the Implementation of Scribes in Botswana

Despite the benefits of scribes, their implementation in Botswana has faced significant challenges. In Botswana, the recommendation of scribes has become a default solution for all special needs children during national examinations. The use of scribes for special needs students has become a widely implemented accommodation, particularly during national examinations. This practice has been driven by the need to support students with various disabilities, such as physical impairments, dysgraphia, and other learning difficulties, ensuring they can effectively demonstrate their knowledge without the barrier of writing. This reliance on scribes stems from a lack of effective instruction and other accommodations being implemented from the beginning of the students' education. Many schools have not integrated comprehensive special education strategies, such as differentiated instruction, use of assistive technologies, and individualised support plans. Consequently, students with special

needs often do not receive the necessary accommodations that could help them thrive throughout their academic journey. This reactive approach—focusing primarily on examination periods—fails to address the broader educational needs of these students and may limit their overall educational development and independence. However, the implementation of scribes has faced several shortcomings. Primarily, there has been a lack of consistent, early intervention and comprehensive support throughout the students' academic journey. The education system often fails to provide necessary accommodations and specialised instruction from the beginning, leading to a reliance on scribes as a last-minute solution during assessments. This approach has been criticised for not addressing the root educational needs of special needs students and for potentially limiting their development of independent learning skills.

Further, while scribes are crucial during examinations, the absence of other supportive measures, such as assistive technologies and personalised educational strategies, means that many students do not receive the holistic



support they need. This reactive rather than proactive approach underscores the gaps in Botswana's inclusive education policies and practices.

## Benefits of Using Scribes

- Academic Achievement:** Scribes help students articulate their knowledge and understanding without being hindered by their writing difficulties. This can lead to better performance in assessments and classroom activities, as students can focus on content rather than the physical act of writing.
- Increased Engagement:** With the assistance of a scribe, students are more likely to participate in class discussions and activities. This can boost their confidence and encourage active involvement in their education.
- Reduced Anxiety:** For students who struggle with writing, the presence of a scribe can alleviate the stress associated with written tasks. This reduction in anxiety can create a more conducive learning environment,

allowing students to concentrate on learning.

- Individualised Support:** Scribes can provide tailored assistance that addresses the specific needs of each student, ensuring that they receive the appropriate level of support to succeed academically.

## Effective Use of Scribes

- Training and Preparation:** Scribes should be well-trained to understand the specific needs and accommodations required by the student. This includes familiarity with the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and the accommodations specified within it.
  - Collaboration with Educators:** Effective communication between scribes, teachers, and special education staff is essential. This collaboration ensures that scribes are aligned with the educational goals and teaching methods used in the classroom.
  - Creating an Inclusive Environment:** Scribes should work in a way that promotes inclusivity, helping students to integrate with their peers and participate fully in classroom activities. This might involve using assistive technologies or adapting classroom materials to suit the student's needs.
  - Monitoring and Feedback:** Regular monitoring and feedback sessions with the student can help adjust the scribe's approach to better support the student's learning process. This ensures that the assistance provided is continuously optimized for the student's benefit.
- The use of scribes for students with special needs offers significant benefits, enhancing their academic performance, reducing anxiety, and promoting greater engagement in the classroom. By ensuring proper training, collaboration, and continuous monitoring, scribes can effectively support these students, helping them to overcome their challenges and achieve their full potential.



**Stanbic Bank**

## Stanbic Bank Botswana DEPOSIT, LENDING AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT INTEREST RATES July 2024

Stanbic Bank Botswana Prime Lending Rate (SBBPLR) - 6.26%



### BWP Deposit Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance
Current	NIL	NIL	P50
Youth Account	2.00%	2.02%	P50
Call	0.05% - 1.00%	0.05% - 1.00%	P10,000
Premium Call	0.80% - 1.80%	0.80% - 1.81%	P50,000
32 Day Notice	0.25% - 1.00%	0.25% - 1.00%	P1,000
Savings (Pure Save)	0.25% - 0.75%	0.25%-0.75%	P50
Koketso Savings	2.40%	2.43%	P100
Matshelo Savings	0.50% - 1.50%	0.50% - 1.51%	P500
Maitlamo Savings (12 - 36 months)	2.30% - 2.80%	2.32% - 2.84%	P100
91 day fixed deposit * <sup>2</sup>	1.90%	1.92%	P1,000
6 month fixed deposit <sup>2</sup>	2.10% - 2.30%	2.12% - 2.32%	P1,000
12 month fixed deposit <sup>2</sup>	2.20% - 2.35%	2.22%-2.38%	P1,000
24 month fixed deposit <sup>2</sup>	2.55% - 2.80%	2.58% - 2.84%	P1,000
Over 24 month fixed deposit <sup>2</sup>	2.80% - 3.30%	2.84% - 3.35%	P1,000
Stanbic Bank Prime Lending Rate	6.26%		

\* Reference rate  
<sup>2</sup> Rate applies to Flexi - Access Account  
 All interest rates quoted are on annual basis

### Lending Interest Rates

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rates % (Lowest - Highest)
MoPR	2.15%	2.15%
SBBPLR Lending Rate	6.26%	6.26%
Mortgage Facility	SBBPLR +2% - SBBPLR + 5%	SBBPLR +2.02% - + SBBPLR 5.12%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit lines)	SBBPLR +5% - SBBPLR +12%	SBBPLR +5.12% - SBBPLR +12.68%
Credit Card	28% - 32%	31.89% - 32.14%
Lease Loans	SBBPLR +2% - SBBPLR +5%	SBBPLR +2.02% - SBBPLR +5.12%
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage and credit cards)	SBBPLR +8% - SBBPLR +20%	SBBPLR +8.30% - SBBPLR +21.94%
Other Long-Term Loans	NIL	NIL

\*Scheme related lending is per the scheme contract and is negotiable.  
 All interest rates quoted are on annual basis

### Foreign Currency Deposit Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rates (%)	Actual Interest Rates (%)	Minimum Opening Balance
<b>SA RAND</b>	<b>SA RAND</b>	<b>SA RAND</b>	<b>SA RAND</b>
Current	0.0%	0.0%	100.00
Call	0.00%-1.75%	0%-1.76%	500.00
1 Month	1.50%-2.50%	1.51%-2.53%	1,000.00
2 Months	1.60%-2.60%	1.61%-2.63%	1,000.00
3 Months	1.70%-2.70%	1.71%-2.73%	1,000.00
6 Months	1.80%-2.80%	1.81%-2.84%	1,000.00
12 Months	2.20%-3.20%	2.22%-3.25%	1,000.00
Over 24 Months	2.40%-3.50%	2.43%-3.56%	1,000.00
<b>U.S. DOLLAR</b>	<b>U.S. DOLLAR</b>	<b>U.S. DOLLAR</b>	<b>U.S. DOLLAR</b>
Current	0.0%	0.0%	50.00
Call	0.05%-1.00%	0.05%-1.00%	100.00
1 Month	0.25%-0.35%	0.25%-0.35%	100.00
2 Months	0.35%-0.42%	0.35%-0.42%	100.00
3 Months	0.37%-0.45%	0.37%-0.45%	100.00
6 Months	0.40%-0.60%	0.40%-0.60%	100.00
12 Months	0.45%-0.75%	0.45%-0.75%	100.00
Over 24 Months	0.75%-1.25%	0.75%-1.26%	100.00
<b>BRITISH POUND</b>	<b>BRITISH POUND</b>	<b>BRITISH POUND</b>	<b>BRITISH POUND</b>
Current	0.0%	0.0%	50.00
Call	0.05%	0.05%	100.00
1 Month	0.05%-0.07%	0.05%-0.07%	100.00
2 Months	0.07%-0.09%	0.07%-0.09%	100.00
3 Months	0.09%-0.10%	0.09%-0.10%	100.00
6 Months	0.10%-0.15%	0.10%-0.15%	100.00
12 Months	0.20%-0.30%	0.20%-0.30%	100.00
Over 24 Months	0.25%-0.40%	0.25%-0.40%	100.00
<b>EURO</b>	<b>EURO</b>	<b>EURO</b>	<b>EURO</b>
Current	0.0%	0.0%	50.00
Call	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
1 Month	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
2 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
3 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
6 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
12 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00
Over 24 Months	0.00%	0.00%	100.00

All interest rates quoted are on annual basis

Member of Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana

## Orange Money expands Duela Easy Service across Botswana



Pilane

**I**N A BOLD MOVE TO DEEPEN ITS footprint in digital financial services, Orange Money Botswana has extended the reach of Duela Easy, its innovative mobile payment method, across the nation. This expansion aims to empower more Botswana by making seamless mobile transactions accessible in various sectors including retail, public transport, and street vending.

Initially launched with limited availability, Duela Easy now spans all Choppies outlets, Motovac stores, some public transport systems and street vendors across Botswana. This broad adoption highlights Duela Easy's versatility and the growing appetite for digital payment solutions in the country.

"Duela Easy's expansion is a critical step in our mission to bring convenient, secure, and inclusive financial solutions to every corner of Botswana," said Seabelo Pilane, CEO of Orange Money Botswana. "We are thrilled to see this service being embraced by diverse sectors, from large retail chains to individual street vendors, making everyday transactions easier and more efficient."

Duela Easy allows users to make purchases directly from their mobile phones via Orange Money. The service is designed to cater to individuals, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs), and larger businesses, providing a flexible and reliable payment option. This nationwide rollout comes at a time when digital transformation is crucial for business operators, offering multiple advantages such as reduced operational expenses, improved cash flow, enhanced customer convenience, better payment security, and simplified bookkeeping.

"The growth of Duela Easy is not just about expanding a service; it's about enabling a more inclusive financial ecosystem that benefits all Botswana," Mr. Pilane emphasized. "By leveraging mobile payment technology, we are providing tools that empower both businesses and individuals to thrive in an increasingly digital world."

Businesses and consumers alike have welcomed Duela Easy with enthusiasm. For instance, a street vendor in Gaborone commented, "Duela Easy has made it so much easier for me to manage my sales. I no longer worry about handling cash, and my customers appreciate the quick and secure payment option."

As Botswana continues to embrace digital solutions, Orange Money Botswana's extension of Duela Easy reaffirms its leadership in the digital financial services sector. This move not only aligns with global digital trends but also addresses the specific needs of the local market, fostering a more efficient and secure financial environment.

## Stanbic sponsors Boer Goat, Dorper Breeders' Society Show

**I**N ITS CONTINUED EFFORTS TO SUPPORT agriculture, Stanbic Bank Botswana sponsored the Annual Boer Goat and Dorper Breeders Society Show & Auction to the value of P200 000.00. This was yet another means through which the Bank reaffirmed its dedication to supporting community initiatives that improve the lives of Botswana through initiatives such as these.

The main purpose of the event was to promote the stud breeding and trading of quality genetic Boer goats and Dorper sheep, which support Botswana's agricultural development and sustainability. By bringing together breeders, buyers, and enthusiasts from across the region, the event served as a critical platform for knowledge exchange, showcasing best practices in small livestock farming, and facilitating economic growth within the agricultural sector.

Stanbic Bank Botswana's sponsorship accentuates its commitment to agricultural excellence and community empowerment. Speaking at the event, Stanbic Bank Botswana's Head of Commercial, Banking, Lesego Osman emphasised the importance of supporting local farmers and breeders in their efforts to enhance productivity and quality within the livestock industry. "We believe that agriculture is a cornerstone of our nation's economy, and by supporting events such as these, we are investing in

the future of Botswana's agricultural sector, Botswana is our home, we drive her growth."

The event featured a variety of activities, including livestock exhibitions, auctions, and educational seminars led by industry experts. Attendees had the opportunity to network, share insights, and explore new business opportunities, all aimed at strengthening the agricultural value chain. The highlight of the program was the auction, where top-quality Boer goats and Dorper sheep were sold to the highest bidders, ensuring that local farmers gain access to superior livestock genetics.

Said Annual Boer Goat and Dorper Breeders Society Show & Auction organiser, Phillip Van Niekerk, "The resources and exposure gained through this program enhances livestock farmers breeding practices and opens up new avenues for growth. It is heartwarming to see a bank like Stanbic Bank Botswana invest in the future of agriculture and stand beside us as we strive to uplift our communities and contribute to the national economy."

As Stanbic Bank Botswana continues to champion community-centered initiatives, the Annual Boer Goat and Dorper Breeders Society Show & Auction stands as a shining example of the positive impact that collaborative efforts can have on the agricultural sector and the broader economy.





# BOTTEPCO PARTICIPATES AT THE 2024 NATIONAL Teachers Day Celebration



The Botswana Teaching Professionals Council (BOTTEPCO) led by the Board Chairperson Ms. Selang Mogatwane, and team led by the Registrar Dr. Raphael Dingalo joined the "Mother of all Professions", the teaching fraternity in celebrating the 2024 Teachers Day, on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at the Big Valley Lodge in Lobatse.

This year's celebration was held under the theme; "Positive Teacher Mindset; Key to a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner", and was officiated by the President of the Republic of Botswana, His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi.

"Today's theme resonates well with Government's commitment to prepare and produce school graduates whose mastery of the subject-matter is anchored on the possession of 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills, so that they become a globally competitive human resource, capable of handling the demands of our modern information world.

In this vein, my Government continues to prioritise implementation of the following key pedagogical reforms, among others, towards the realisation of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learner, namely: (i) the implementation of programmes that focus on learner-centered teaching methodologies, (ii) mapping learner profiles to inform personalised learning and assessment experiences, and, (iii) a robust digitalisation drive meant to ensure a technology-driven learning approach, offering seamless access to, and interaction with, content in line with the current times", His Excellency the President of the Republic of Botswana, Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi.

In his opening remarks, the Minister of Education and Skills Development Dr. Douglas Letsholathebe stated that this year's celebration was especially momentous as his ministry had the privilege of honoring 200 exceptional teachers with excellence awards, being a significant increase from 2023, where a total of 116 medals were awarded.


Asked about the significance of the Theme, the Registrar Dr Raphael Dingalo noted that it is in line with the path championed by His Excellency Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, – PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA through his "mindset change" Agenda. "To the teaching cadre, mindset change is the hallmark of transformation of the profession to enable teachers to unlock the 21st century learner's potential which in turn would influence the quality of life for all at both national and global perspective".

Boitumelo Primary School Teacher, Ms Elizabeth Lebogang Taunyane who received her Mid-Career Service Medal was thrilled, "I am truly proud of myself for this recognition, and having been a teacher for nineteen (19) years, I am ecstatic and over the moon". The Botswana Teaching Professional's Council is a newly established Body Corporate mandated to professionalize teaching by: maintaining professional and ethical standards; registering and licensing teachers; advocating for the teaching profession amongst others.



+267 3933472  
+267 76634994

 [www.botepco.org.bw](http://www.botepco.org.bw)  
[enquiries@botepco.org.bw](mailto:enquiries@botepco.org.bw)

 Plot 63726, Fairgrounds,  
Gaborone



# Parties, Govt clash over funding conditions

BAKANG TIRO

editors@thepatriot.co.bw

THE POLITICAL PARTIES ARE HEADED for a showdown with the government over its budgeted political party funding of P34.4 million.

Discussions at this week's All-Party Conference (APC) that was convened on Thursday suggest that political parties particularly the opposition are opposed to a requirement that they must submit audited financial statements for them to access the funding.

They view this requirement as unfair and also an attempt by Government to know who their donors are.

The Minister of State President Kabo Morwaeng convened the APC with political party funding top of the agenda. A bill on Political Party Funding is due to be tabled in the upcoming July Parliament session.

It is said Morwaeng and government staged the meeting to gauge the mood of the parties in the build up to the finalisation of the bill.

The Patriot on Sunday has learnt that during the meeting, the opposition parties were united in one voice and demanded an equal and transparent distribution of the funds between them and the ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) which is expected to get big share based on the number of its sitting MPs.

It is said the opposition bloc also demanded that the funding be released swiftly as soon the bill has been presented and adopted by Parliament as that would allow parties to fund their campaigns right away.

"One of the most contested issue was a suggestion that all parties that would be eligible for funding should submit their audited financial statements to the Auditor General (AG) with the objective behind the idea being to assess the parties' strength to utilise funds well and how they can be capacitated where there is a need to. It is an unfair exercise and will be detrimental to

- Govt demand parties to avail their updated financial reports
- BCP dismisses Govt commitment on funding, calls it all zero talk
- Morwaeng assures that elections will be held as per normal schedule



Morwaeng

the parties' preparations," a source said.

Addressing the forum, Morwaeng reiterated government's commitment to implementing political party funding as it has been budgeted for in the 2024/25 financial budget. He urged parties to use funds responsibly.

Morwaeng also allayed fears that the elections will not be held as scheduled as guided by the constitution that elections will be held every October after five years of electoral cycle. He called on the nation to remain calm.

## BDP INTERESTS

University of Botswana (UB) political studies lecturer, Dr Adam Mfundisi, said the BDP, and its leadership have shown that they cannot be trusted because whatever policy they propose and implement, they promote their own interests at the behest of the masses.

Dr Mfundisi said the political party funding is a good idea which is long overdue but coming on the eve of the 2024 general elections creates problems of implementation that would benefit political

parties competing in this year's polls.

He said competitive elections are essential for the country's nascent democracy that has been dominated by a single party since independence however, he said the proposed allocation has been unilaterally crafted by the ruling BDP which is an interested party in the distribution of state

funds to political parties.

"This begs the question on the objectivity and fairness of the distribution formula. The All-Party Conference should be a forum to discuss this funding of political parties. All political players must partake in the dialogue and resolutions that would be satisfactory to all to have legitimacy in the eyes of the voter," he added.

## BCP DOUBTS

Meanwhile, BCP Publicity Secretary Dr Mpho Pheko said the BCP is doubtful on the commitment by the government to implement political party funding, adding that the BCP had expected Morwaeng to bring before the APC meetings proposals on the political party funding bill and for parties to discuss them.

Dr Pheko said the BCP would continue to monitor the developments surrounding political party funding and will determine whether it would make its proposal for the share of its demand after the actual bill is out.

According to the proposed funding criteria as submitted by the Presidential Commission in the Review of the Constitution, only political parties that participated in 2019 general elections are bound to benefit.

This means that BCP would not be eligible for funding as its mark didn't appear in the 2019 ballot paper as it contested under Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) colours. The BCP has since pulled out of the UDC.

The government political party funding dispensation comes after submissions in support of public funding of political parties were raised to the Presidential Commission on Constitutional Review that was led by former Chief Justice Maruping Dibotelo.

Submitting its final report, the

commission then recommended that "Political party funding be introduced based on parliamentary seats won by parties in the immediate past general election at the rate of not less than P50,000 or such amount as may be determined by Parliament from time to time per

Member of Parliament"

The commission also recommended that political parties, which received public funding should account for the use of such funds to the Office of the Auditor General following General Elections.

## UNFAIR CRITERIA

Dr Mfundisi said the use of the 2019 general elections results is problematic as the new political players would not benefit from the policy. In the current environment, the BDP would substantially benefit from the policy notwithstanding its near monopoly in private funding of parties.

"The business community in Botswana bankrolls the BDP as it controls the commanding heights of the economy. Government tendering and procurement processes are used as baits for contributions to the BDP coffers by private interests. The BDP treasury is controlled and dominated by big Asian business interests. Rent-seeking has become an economic weapon to motivate businesses to contribute to the BDP," he said.

He said the BDP has preempted the implementation of the political party funding by mobilising finances from the corporate world, adding that under normal circumstances, state funding of political parties would bar corporate financing.

Dr Mfundisi also noted that the private funding of political parties in Botswana since independence has been the domain of the BDP as the ruling party controls all government business.

## Wilderness' CITW launches in Kenya, Tanzania

WILDERNESS' NON-PROFIT community programme, Children in the Wilderness (CITW), has officially launched in Kenya and Tanzania. With more than two decades of successfully running the programme in Southern Africa, and Rwanda since 2018, the CITW programme is now fully operational in Kenya, managed by partner Governors' Camp Collection, and in Tanzania by Wilderness.

"Children in the Wilderness is the flag-bearer for the Educate pillar of Wilderness' Impact strategy, its programmes focusing on the next generation of rural decision makers", noted CITW Group Co-ordinator, Lindy Nieuwenhuizen. "It is one of the few programmes facilitating sustainable conservation through leadership development of African children in rural areas near wildlife reserves and national parks, aiming to bridge the divide that exists between communities and wildlife."

Through immersive wilderness experiences, educational workshops, and community outreach initiatives, CITW instils a deep appreciation for natural heritage in children, while equipping them with the knowledge and skills to become future conservation leaders.

The CITW programme is managed by Eco-Mentors who run Eco-Clubs at partner schools; these environmental clubs introduce primary school children to the programme. The Eco-Clubs are followed by Youth Environmental Stewardship (YES) Clubs, aimed at secondary school students who continue to show an interest in conservation and the environment.

Veteran CITW Manager in Wilderness' Zambezi Region, Sue Goatley, led workshops for the new Eco-Mentors in the two countries during June 2024. These Eco-Mentors are local community members, teachers, and in some instances, camp staff, who attended the comprehensive training sessions – held in Kenya's Masai Mara and Loldia House in Laikipia County, and at Manyara Secondary School outside Lake Manyara National Park in Tanzania.

Community and educational outreach programmes have naturally been in place in Kenya and Tanzania through our partners for some time already, but with the formal implementation of the CITW curriculum now, even more impactful projects have been initiated.

The goal is to expose children to wildlife and environmental conservation in an engaging and compelling way, in order to create positive long-term perceptions towards wildlife and wild spaces. Other activities include clean-up events, conservation talks, debates and discussions, game drives, screenings and discussions of wildlife films and documentaries.

In Kenya, CITW is managed by Alisa Karstad, Governors' Impact Manager, who facilitates the support of vulnerable



school children across its areas of operation – from providing the TAFE Foundation with football uniforms and field trips to conservation projects supported by Governors', to memberships to the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya for 30 new Mara Rianda Primary School students.

Building on the thriving foundation of Wilderness Tanzania's Community Liaison Doctor Tipay's impact work in a number of communities, the CITW programme here formally commenced with Sue's Eco-Mentor workshops.

From partner school Eco-Clubs showcasing their successful reforestation efforts outside Serengeti National Park to productive vegetable gardens outside Lake Manyara National Park, the students and mentors are justifiably delighted at their

environmental achievements in this East African safari hub.

"We could not be more pleased at having officially launched CITW in these two countries, adding meaningful members to the approximately 2 500 children who participate in Eco-Clubs at present", concluded Lindy. "Over time we look forward to the newest members graduating to the next level of environmental clubs while at secondary school through the YES Club programme."

CITW was founded over 23 years ago, and we are extremely proud to note that to date, at least 11 374 children have attended Eco-Clubs over the decades – given the multiplier effect of the children's learnings in their communities, this has a significant impact indeed".



## TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER

**Job Title:** Technical Services Manager  
**Reports To:** Concession Manager

**Function:** Operations Maintenance  
**Location:** Botswana

### PURPOSE OF THE JOB:

The purpose of the Technical Service Manager position is to serve the needs of the operational teams in the concession to ensure that the mechanical requirement run smoothly and the teams are able to serve our guests and our colleagues at the highest standards without concerns whether the equipment is working. Further to the technical and mechanical duties this position is expected to assist to manage the concession to ensure in line with company objectives. To assist by providing all guests an exceptional experience in the concession.

### Key Responsibility Areas

- Align and refine the maintenance standards of the concession to match the Philosophy of GPC.
- Manage the conservative usage of the concession's energy and water resources and ensure energy saving initiatives are implemented.
- Ensure the correct procedures are followed in maintaining of all concession solar plants.
- Ensure the correct procedures are adhered to by staff and guests with regards to the sewage plant.
- Maintain technical standards and quality control procedures in all areas of concession maintenance.
- Maintain underground and aboveground infrastructure records, plans and drawings of all services.
- Maintain all concession vehicles including game drive vehicles, camp utilities and heavy duty vehicles in accordance with maintenance programs.
- Maintain all boats and associated equipment in accordance with maintenance programs
- Maintain the concessions road network to an acceptable guest comfort level and as defined by GPC maintenance standards and the regulatory body (CAAB).

- Ensure proper planning with operational management to minimise impact on guests during maintenance programs.
- Interact with guests on an informative basis as required.
- Assist in the correct waste management procedures being adhered to in the concession and conduct regular checks to ensure control of pests in the concession.
- Proper management of the annual operational and CAPEX budgets.
- To manage orders within the budgets and system developed for the concession.
- To understand and respect the ordering system and manage orders accordingly to company policies.
- To ensure proper stock control procedures are in place in order to manage: purchasing, issuing, storing, counting and obsolete stock.
- To count and record all stock monthly, incorporating; stock item, stock location, stock condition, stock quantity and stock value.
- To have set standards for the corrective and preventative maintenance procedures for each asset under management.
- Maintain and control an updated tools list and carry out a monthly inventory and daily issues of power tools as required.
- To be familiar with and manage the systems involving the handling and reporting of incidents of whatever nature (fire, safety, health, accident etc) and reporting thereof to the concession manager at the earliest possible convenience.
- Maintain hygiene standards in the maintenance work areas to recognised international levels.
- Assist with DWNP, BDF and any other Government departments.
- Assist with Anti-poaching and report any suspicious behavior to the relative parties.
- Assistance with maintenance and management of water drainage systems within camps.

- Assist with DWNP, BDF and any other Government departments.
- Assist with Anti-poaching and report any suspicious behaviour to the relative parties.
- NB: This is not an exhaustive list of responsibilities.

### Qualifications

- Relevant diploma or degree in the related field.
- At least 5 years' experience in a similar position or related field.
- Experience in the luxury tourism industry with extensive experience in maintenance, landscaping, environment, health and safety an added advantage.
- Proven experience in managing team of technical support staff and/or workshop.
- Preferred technical qualifications in any of the following: Diesel mechanics, Vehicle mechanics, Electrical mechanics, Plumbing mechanics.
- General knowledge of road/ airstrip maintenance principles.
- Botswana Drivers' License Class B.
- Class C or PRDP added advantage.

### Personal abilities

- Excellent leadership, communication, management and interpersonal skills.
- Fluent in spoken and written English and any other languages would be advantageous.
- Experience in report writing and budget control.
- Ability to build and manage relationships with staff, guests and suppliers.
- Familiarity with industry's latest trends.
- Flexibility.
- Team player
- Attention to detail
- Deadline and results orientated.

**CLOSING DATE: 17H00 ON MONDAY 22ND JULY 2024.** Interested applicants should email a cover letter and updated CV to the below listed email address. The subject heading of the email should be written as: **Technical Services Manager.**

To: [hr@greatplainsconservation.com](mailto:hr@greatplainsconservation.com)

THE REMUNERATION PACKAGE WILL BE OFFERED ACCORDING TO EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE. WE DO NOT ACCEPT HAND DELIVERIES. PLEASE NOTE, DUE TO THE HIGH VOLUMES OF APPLICATIONS ONLY THOSE WHO ARE SHORTLISTED WILL BE CONTACTED.

[WWW.GREATPLAINSCONSERVATION.COM](http://WWW.GREATPLAINSCONSERVATION.COM)



# Opinions, Reviews & Analysis



**ADAM PHETLHE**  
ON SUNDAY!

**C**RITICAL COMMENTARY ON THE Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services (DIS) will not stop as long as the directorate is in the news for all the wrong reasons. The directorate, by and large, has been in the news for such reasons since it was established back in the day because it has been perceived if not truly so, as a political tool to persecute other members of the population across the board. Because of the propensity by the directorate to trample on the rule of law, it is fair to suggest such leads to the ruining of careers and reputations to those who come into unlawful contact with the directorate. The directorate is solidly immune from all the widely accepted precepts of good

## What further damage should Magosi commit until he is fired?

governance, the rule of law, transparency and accountability. It is law unto itself and, the President seemingly, is comfortable with it because he is not acting. Because the directorate does not subscribe to these binding precepts, such render it a national security threat. The Director General of the Directorate of Intelligence Services (DIS) Rre Peter Magosi is the most feared public officer in the Republic of Botswana across the strata of the citizenry. The only person who may be spared the fear to some extent, is the President due to the fact that he is the appointing authority. This fear is stated tellingly in the recent judgement delivered by Kebonang J between Applicant Rre Isaac Kgosi and the DIS as one of the Respondents where the Judge refers to what Rre Kgosi said at paragraph 7 that 'Mr Magosi has used the DISS office and his close proximity to the President not only to lie about everyone but to instil fear in the President, Government officials and Judicial Officers that their lives were at risk.' While the same could be said about Rre Kgosi given how he reportedly managed the DIS in a similar manner during his tenure, I am nevertheless compelled to agree with his observation. At some point, Rre Magosi said the President's life was under threat only to

Court came to their rescue. These are but some of the examples of just how the directorate under Rre Magosi has gone to the extreme of being rogue.

There are reports to the effect that some Cabinet ministers and some high-profile public officers have confided in some that they fear Rre Magosi such that they are unable to officially call him out where relevant and appropriate. There are some like the immediate past Director General of the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime (DCEC) Rre Tymon Kathlo who tried his best to call him out but was disappointedly failed by those who should have. In fact, Rre Kathlo became a victim when he tried to put Rre Magosi to his rightful place. Only if we had many

Katholos in the public service would Rre Magosi be cut to size. Rre Magosi's trump card should without any shadow of doubt, be his solid protection from the President presumably because Magosi knows where the dead bodies are buried.

Put differently, shouldn't it be fair to suggest the President is beholden to Magosi for one reason or the other? The President's indifference to Rre Magosi's actions is in conflict with someone who prides himself as being an addict to the rule of law. With this colossal amount of the largely uncontroverted evidence not from the general population but from the High Court and the Court of Appeal, the immediate question should be why is Rre Magosi still at the steering wheel of the directorate? What

further damage should he commit until the President fires him? I have already answered these questions at the beginning of this conversation: that possibly and presumably, he knows where all the dead bodies are buried. Frankly, I cannot for the life of me, think as hard as I possibly can of any other explanation.

While the untold harm is meted on the directorate itself, it is equally meted on Botswana in terms of the near if not total reputational harm the Republic will suffer and has already suffered.

The perennial court cases the directorate continues to suffer at its own creation it must unflinchingly be said, does not come cheap to the taxpayer. Such cost is presumably huge and unnecessary. There is

every reason to suggest it will become huge with time.

The quicker the President acts, the easier the protection to the public purse. It is all in his hands. I am prepared to be persuaded otherwise as always. Judge for Yourself!

*\*On a sad note, let me join the family and friends of the departed Rre Sexton Matshediso Kowa in mourning his death. While we mourn his death, we should also celebrate his colourful life in football. His contribution to football in this country will remain printed in the annals of football history and etched in the minds of many football lovers. Fare thee well Tshidi. You have run the race. adamphetlhe08@gmail.com*



Magosi

[PIC:PRESSPHOTO]

**Publisher**  
Inskip Investments (Pty) Ltd  
Tel: +267 318 7951 / 40  
Fax: +267 318 7952

**Managing Editor**  
Mpho Dibeela  
dibeela@thepatriot.co.bw

**Editor**  
Ditiro Motlhabane  
ditiro@thepatriot.co.bw

**Advertising Manager**  
Boikanyo Mudongo  
boi@thepatriot.co.bw  
advertise@thepatriot.co.bw

**Finance & Administration**  
Ogopoleng Sebetlela  
ikgopolengm@thepatriot.co.bw

**Circulation/Distribution**  
circulation@thepatriot.co.bw



### 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.

Please write to us:  
Plot 28562, Unit F3, Fairgrounds Mall,  
Tel: +267 318 7951 / 40. Fax: +267 318 7952  
Postal: P.O. Box 404583, Gaborone, Botswana or  
email to dibeela@thepatriot.co.bw /  
ditiro@thepatriot.co.bw

find him driving himself around Gaborone. The President is fully aware of just how Rre Magosi has become law unto himself notwithstanding the fact that he is under strict obligation to perform the mandate of the directorate in conformity with the Constitution and the law. Yet, the President has decided to look the other way to ignore the avalanche of evidence and proof that the DIS under Rre Magosi has itself become a serious national security threat to the Republic and its citizens. Such avalanche of evidence is provided by none other than the High Court and the Court of Appeal in various scathing judgements against Rre Magosi. It will be remembered that during one of the debates on the directorate in parliament, Minister Morwaeng said those who are speaking against the directorate are guilty of being afraid of their own shadows. The implication of this statement is that the presidency to which the directorate is accountable to, all but approved the way the directorate is terrorising everyone in its crosshairs. Not only is Rre Magosi a threat to the general population but to members of his own senior staff. His deputy, Rre Tefo Kgothane was suspended under controversial circumstances yet to be explained. Busang J recently declared the suspension unlawful, further stating that it was hard to understand why he was suspended in the first place. 'In my view, there is no explanation for the indefinite suspension, and why it has been in existence for a period of close to two years.' Recently as well, three senior staff members of the directorate were arrested and detained under Rre Magosi's instructions under controversial circumstances. The High



Reference: BE 3/8/7 Date: 02/07/2024

## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

FOR

## REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER/ ADVISOR FOR LAND ASSETS

- 1. Introduction**  
BUAN Enterprises (PTY) Ltd (BE) is seeking a qualified and experienced Real Estate Development Manager/Advisor company to facilitate the development of various land assets within the Company's property portfolio. We invite expressions of interest (EOI) from consultancy companies with proven expertise in large-scale investment and land development. The successful candidate will play a key role in overseeing and advising on various real estate development projects within the property portfolio.
- 2. Eligibility Criteria**  
Interested consultancy companies must demonstrate:
  - Strong Market Intelligence: The ability to provide comprehensive research and insightful analysis of the real estate market, including trends, opportunities, and risks.
  - Proven Track Record: A solid history of successfully facilitating large-scale investment and land development projects. Evidence of past projects and outcomes must be provided.
  - Record of transactions Broking: a strong background in broking large scale transactions.
  - Registered Real Estate Consultancy: The company must be officially registered and affiliated in Botswana as a real estate consultancy firm in Botswana and also have international affiliations such as Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) or equivalent.
  - Risk Management: the company must be risk averse and have Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance above P50 Million.
  - Financial Management: excellent financial management and analytical skills.
  - Project Management: Demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.

To request the EOI document, please contact **Procurement Officer** at [lbadirang@buanenterprises.co.bw](mailto:lbadirang@buanenterprises.co.bw) or [kmoroanare@buanenterprises.co.bw](mailto:kmoroanare@buanenterprises.co.bw) , on or before **30<sup>th</sup> July 2024**, Midday.

Private Bag 0027  
Gaborone, Botswana

+267 36 501 00    +267 39 287 53    info@buan.ac.bw



# Starmmer hails 'sunlight of hope'

## ... as Britain wakes up to Labour landslide

**L**ABOUR LEADER PROMISES 'AGE of national renewal' in which his government will 'start to rebuild our country'

Keir Starmer has said the "sunlight of hope" is now shining in Britain again as Labour won a landslide UK election victory, bringing a crushing end to 14 years of Conservative rule.

The Labour leader is expected to officially become prime minister later on Friday after Rishi Sunak conceded, with voters giving Starmer a large mandate to bring about change in Britain.

Speaking at the Tate Modern in London, Starmer said people would be waking up to the news of a Labour victory and Tory defeat "relieved that a weight has been lifted, a burden finally removed".

Sunak's party is on track to record its worst performance in a general election, with a record number of cabinet ministers set to lose their seats and big names such as Liz Truss, Jacob Rees-Mogg, Penny Mordaunt and Grant Shapps ousted.

Labour had won 411 seats, while the Conservatives were on just 119, with five left to declare by 9.30am. The government's likely majority is set to be about 170 seats. The party dominated in Scotland, with the SNP reduced to eight seats so far, while the Liberal Democrats gained at least 71 seats – their best performance ever.

A surge in votes for the Reform party suggested it would win at least four seats, with Nigel Farage, the party leader, becoming an MP in Clacton on his eighth attempt to enter parliament.

The Greens also won four seats, after surprise victories in Waveney, North Herefordshire and Bristol Central, as well as holding on in Brighton.

There were five shock victories against Labour for pro-Palestine independent candidates, with Jonathan Ashworth, one of Labour's election chiefs, voted out in Leicester South, and the former Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn winning in Islington North. Plaid Cymru was expected to win four seats.

Labour's huge majority was gained despite a 34% share of the vote

that was only slightly higher than their performance in 2019 and less than Corbyn's 40% in 2017. The Conservatives' vote share plummeted by 20 percentage points to 24%, while Reform came third on 14% with the Liberal Democrats just behind on 12%.

Ed Davey's party benefited from tactical voting against the Tories and strong showing in a limited number of areas, which accounted for its high seat count of 71 compared with four for the Reform party.

In his victory speech, Starmer told a rally that change "begins now".

"It feels good, I have to be honest," he said. "Four and a half years of work, changing the party. This is what it is for. A changed Labour party, ready to serve our country, ready to restore Britain to the service of working people."

Starmer promised an "age of national renewal" in which Labour would "start to rebuild our country" but he also acknowledged that change would not be easy.

The Labour leader said the "sunlight of hope was ... shining once again in a country with an opportunity after 14 years to get its future back".

In remarks conceding Labour had won, Sunak said power would "change hands in a peaceful and orderly manner, with goodwill on all sides. That is something that should give us all confidence in our country's stability and future."

In a speech at his election count, the prime minister said it had been a "difficult night" for his party and there was lots to reflect on.

He held his seat in Richmond, North Yorkshire, by more than 12,000 votes, and said he looked forward to continuing to serve his constituents in the "weeks, months and years ahead".

"The British people have delivered a sobering verdict tonight, there is much to learn ... and I take responsibility for the loss," he added.

"To the many good, hard-working Conservative candidates who lost tonight, despite their tireless efforts, their local records and delivery,



Starmer

and their dedication to their communities. I am sorry."

The results appeared to confirm that Labour's "time for change" message had struck a chord with voters after years of chaos and division under the Tories, including the Brexit vote and its fallout, the handling of the Covid pandemic and the Partygate scandal.

At the last general election, in 2019, the Conservatives had a majority of 80, with 365 seats to Labour's 203. The SNP won 48 seats and the Lib Dems had just 11.

Labour secured a huge swing away from the Conservatives, who are on course to suffer their worst ever performance, and away from the SNP in Scotland, where John Swinney's party will have been decimated, losing more than 40 seats.

Reform's wins in four seats came as the hard-right party squeezed the Conservative vote across the country. Lee Anderson, the former Labour councillor and ex-Tory MP, became

Reform's first confirmed MP after winning Ashfield.

Farage won the seat of Clacton in Essex, pledging to take the fight to Labour next. "We're coming for Labour, be in no doubt about that," he said. The Reform chair, Richard Tice, won in Boston and Skegness, previously the second safest Tory seat in the country.

The rise of Reform, which split the rightwing vote, could pose a major challenge for an incoming Starmer government, which will have to devise a strategy to fight the rise of the hard right, a trend mirrored across Europe.

Labour's victory will nonetheless be seen as a beacon of hope for progressive parties across the globe, amid fierce election battles against the populist right in countries including France and the US.

Results showed Labour had won back vast swathes of the north of England and Midlands, the so-called "red wall", taken by the Tories in

iron out our differences in private and then be united in public."

Sunak held his seat, as did Kemi Badenoch, the business secretary; Oliver Dowden, the deputy prime minister; Victoria Atkins, the health secretary; and Claire Coutinho, the energy secretary. James Cleverly, the home secretary, also retained his seat.

Voters appear to have punished the party for years of scandals under Johnson, the financial crisis caused by Liz Truss, and Sunak's failure to keep his pledges to turn the country around.

The loss of office follows a weak Conservative campaign by Sunak, marred by a gambling scandal and the prime minister's early departure from a D-day ceremony, which led cabinet ministers to concede defeat even before polling day.

Labour has less than two weeks before presenting its first package of legislation in the king's speech, including legislation to bolster workers' rights and to set up Great British Energy, the energy generation company at the heart of Labour's green plans.

A meeting of the European Political Community will follow immediately afterwards in London – Starmer's first chance to lobby officially for improved trading relations and to begin work on a new deal over cross-Channel asylum seekers.

Having led a tightly controlled campaign with little in the way of spontaneous interaction with the public or new policy ideas, Starmer is under pressure to spell out in greater detail how he intends to begin tackling problems ranging from Britain's prisons crisis to record NHS waiting lists.

Rachel Reeves is likely to present her first budget in the autumn, where she is expected to announce Labour's first tax policies, including tightening non-dom tax breaks, extending the oil and gas windfall tax and taxing private school fees.

Reeves has also drawn up plans for increases to capital gains tax and inheritance tax, as Labour aims to avoid the swingeing public sector cuts that are implied by the current fiscal forecasts. [BBC]

The Patriot on Sunday

# SAAPA Condemns the KBL sponsored Sunday soccer

**S**OUTHERN AFRICA ALCOHOL Policy Alliance (SAAPA) Botswana and its partners has noted with disappointment the news that Kgalagadi Breweries Limited has launched a sponsorship package targeting social clubs commonly referred to as Sunday Soccer Teams/ Social Clubs. While KBL's act may seem like a good gesture to the gullible eyes of the public, it is important that the nation first scrutinizes and establishes the resulting harm before getting excited.

Botswana is a signatory to the Global Alcohol Action Plan (GAAP) 2022 – 2030 which is aimed at accelerating evidence-based policy, legislation and programs to reduce alcohol attributable harm. Our Minister of Health, Hon. Edwin Dikoloti is also the Chairperson of the World Health Assembly, increasing the moral necessity for Botswana to guard against the industry tricks.

The GAAP 2022- 2030 builds

up on the WHO 3 best buys which have been adopted as a strategic entry point into reduction of alcohol harm through policy. Among the key calls of the plan is for nations to adopt measures that will Reduce the availability of alcohol among our communities; Regulate advertising of alcohol, sponsorship and marketing; and Increase prices or tax to reduce access.

These deceptive gestures that KBL continues to advance to government and the public directly are in total contradiction to the principles of the GAAP 2022-2030 which Botswana has acceded to. By accepting such, government or the public will become complaisant to exposing the general populace to alcohol related harm. It is in this regard that SAAPA Botswana and its partners have taken a position to oppose and condemn this Football tournament/League under the flagship of KBL.

**Local football structures**  
The local football continues to



Prisca Mokgadi SAAPA Botswana Chairperson

struggle because of low appetite of corporates to sponsor sport including the professional leagues in the country. BFA has on several occasions decried lack of funds even to run the basic needs to kick start

the local professional leagues. The association has even considered risking the jobs of its people by cutting down the numbers of teams playing the premier league in a desperate attempt to rescue the situation. If KBL is to be allowed to run this league which has a more attractive price offer compared to existing BFA structures, BFA will suffer a loss in professional players to an unprofessional league as players will choose Sunday football as a means for their survival. This will deny both the BFA football structure and the national team off the talent that will be lost to Sunday football. It is therefore imperative for the association to unite with other progressive stakeholders to campaign against and oppose this deceptive gesture by KBL and others that may follow.

Public health security  
As more people are initiated in to drinking alcohol, they get more exposed and vulnerable to alcohol related harm thus compounding to the challenges of our already struggling health care system. According to studies by WHO, Alcohol consumption is a causal factor to over 200 diseases, injuries and other health challenges. Alcohol

consumption is therefore a threat to the nation's health as well as economic security in many ways.

**Promote irresponsible drinking**

The said football league/ tournament is punctuated with beer drinking festivities as it will be launched and played in different communities across the country. The promotions will be sponsored by Black Label beer will get all the advertising millage from this whole initiative. The marketing team have lined up a number of promotions where the title beer will be sold at a cheap price if not won for free, encouraging people to drink more. Alcohol is psychoactive substances that can cause many undesirable/ regrettable actions of humans and promotion of reckless consumption may result people behaving in a way that might course harm to themselves, families and the community they live with.

**Initiation of youth to start drinking**

KBL is well aware of the dominance of youthful population (more than two thirds/ 70 per cent of the population) of our society and have made a deliberate investment on marketing campaigns aimed at exploiting this group. We have recently witnesses a number of youth targeted initiatives unleashed by the company building up to an aggressive and well calculated strategy to recruit more youth into drinking alcohol. This tournament in particular is presented a CSI initiative but in reality is a sales promotion drive for Black label Beer.

Sunday soccer games are watched by all ages including children as they are the most accessible games for local communities. The display of beer branding and other promotional activist at the said games will expose even the underage populace to such marketing material bound to persuade them into drinking at a young age.

**Conclusion**

Botswana has adopted Sustainable

Development Goals (SDG's) which through Goal 3 calls for Good Health and Wellbeing. It is on this basis that, SAAPA Botswana calls upon the government of Botswana to enact laws based on evidence to: 1. Reduce availability of alcohol within our communities 2. Regulate alcohol marketing and prohibit direct sponsorship particularly in sports, 3. Regulate interaction of the alcohol industry and the public by promoting public health.

Botswana is among the highest drinking countries in the world with adult per capita alcohol consumption (APC) of 8.4 litres of pure alcohol per annum which is over the average APC of Africa at 6.3 litres as per the WHO Global Status Report on Alcohol and Health of 2018. About a third of Botswana's population drinks alcohol with about 60% being heavy episodic drinkers / people drinking alcohol at harmful levels.

Botswana should learn from developed and progressive economies most which we envy and hope to emulate, by putting in place Corporate Social Responsibility law(s) that make sure enough funds are collected in a central pot from businesses to support sports and other developmental projects. This will hedge against corporate taking advantage of needy communities to propagate their marketing campaign under the pretext of sponsorships.

SAAPA Botswana also appeals to the public to adopt a health conscious position against harmful use and consumption of alcohol rescue the nation from the current challenges within the health care system.

The collective efforts of individuals, civil society and government is required to resist the alcohol industry tactics to normalise alcohol in order to increase the profit for their shareholders, whilst ignoring the impact on the health and economic costs of alcohol harm to the country.

**Signed by:**


Prisca Mokgadi  
SAAPA Botswana Chairperson

**IN THE SMALL CLAIMS COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA HELD AT EXTENSION II**  
**CASE NO: CCSEX-000641-24**  
**TUMELO SHAUN SANTHO**  
**And**  
**LAWRENCE LARSON DARKO**  
**PLAINTIFF**  
**DEFENDANT**

---

**NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION**  
**BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE** that pursuant to judgment of the above honourable Court the following property of the above – mentioned Respondent/Defendant will be sold by public Auction by **Deputy Sheriff Zachariah F Mashamaite** to the highest bidder as follows;  
**DATE OF SALE:** 09 AUGUST 2024  
**VENUE:** BROAD HURST MAGISTARTE(GABORONE)  
**TIME:** 10: 00 hours  
**PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:** 1x SAMSUNG WASHING MACHINE,1x HISENSE MICROWAVE,1xBosch fridge,6X DINNING CHAIRS,1x DINNING TABLE,1x LSHAPE COUCH,1x TV STAND,1x COFFEE TABLE, 1x SAMSUNG TV,1x MAT  
**TERMS OF SALE:** Cash or Bank Guaranteed Cheque and can further be viewed at the office of the Deputy Sheriff.

**DEPUTY SHERIFF ZACHARIAH F MASHAMAITE**  
**P O BOX 30426, FRANCISTOWN**  
**Contact Mr. Mashamaite #74271019, 77638433**



TO ADVERTISE  
CALL US ON  
+267 318 7951 / 40



# Business

2024/25 COLLECTION TARGET

## BURS targets P70 billion

- Commissioner General upbeat on BURS meeting target
- BURS turns to technology to drive voluntary compliance
- The tax collector exceeded the 2023/24 target



BURS Commissioner General (CG) Jeanette Makgolo

**BAKANG TIRO**

editors@thepatriot.co.bw

Botswana Unified Revenue Service (BURS) is expected to collect a whopping P70.756 billion in tax revenues in the 2024/25 financial year.

BURS Commissioner General (CG) Jeanette Makgolo disclosed their new target from the Ministry of Finance when briefing the media on Tuesday. She was adamant that

they have the capacity to meet the collection target.

Oozing with confidence, Makgolo said BURS takes confidence from the previous collections where BURS in numerous occasions exceeded the initial collection target set by the finance ministry.

In April this year, BURS revealed that as at 31st March 2024, preliminary accounts indicated that the tax revenue collected was P59.566

billion, surpassing the target of P59.199 billion by about P367 million or 0.62%.

Makgolo said as a revenue service, BURS is expected to take the lead in Domestic Resource Mobilisation through tax revenue collection.

"This is demonstrated by the call by the Minister of Finance when laying the 2024/25 Budget Estimates, when assigning BURS to collect P70.756 billion, which makes approximately

70% of the Government funding requirement," said Makgolo.

The BURS is mandated to collect various taxes being Corporate Income Tax (CIT), Individual Income Tax (IIT), Pay As You Earn (PAYE) and Value Added Tax (VAT). Firstly, the employer starts with the obligation to submit PAYE, followed by the individual fulfilling their obligations of filing Individual Income Tax.

## Letshego financial results



Letshego Africa Holdings Limited Group CEO, Aupa Monyatsi

[PIC:PINOKILANO]

Letshego Africa Holdings Limited has commenced preparation of financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2024. The process will continue for a period that will not extend beyond 30 September 2024, by which date the half-year results will have been formally published.

In line with corporate governance standards and in compliance with national listings regulation, the company affirms that it has entered a closed period effective from 1 July 2024 until the date of publication of the Company's half-year results.

During this period, members of the Letshego Board and employees are advised not to trade in Letshego securities to mitigate potential internal trading risks associated with possible access or exposure to unpublished, price sensitive information. Unpublished price sensitive information is defined as information affecting a company that, if released, could materially affect the company's share price. This notice is also applicable to Brokers and Transfer Secretaries required to support the adherence to national corporate governance standards and regulation. [bse.co.bw]

## P408.8m: Access Bank's Net Interest Income

- Higher than 2022's P399.2 million
- Strong profitability at 83% growth
- Deposits increased by 4%

**BAKANG TIRO**

editors@thepatriot.co.bw

Botswana Stock Exchange listed Access Bank Botswana has recorded growth on its Net Interest Income (NII) reaching P408.8 million in 2023 compared to the P399.2 million posted in 2022.

The bank revealed the development in its 2023 annual report that has published on the BSE website.

According to Access Bank Botswana Finance Director, Ratang Icho-Molebatsi the bank has achieved consistent growth across net interest income and non-funded revenue lines during the period under review resulting in double digit growth on the top line.

Icho-Molebatsi said the profitability for the year is 83% higher than for the full year 2022 profits, adding that moderate cost growth was anticipated and in line with strategic investments made by the bank in the previous periods.

According to Icho-Molebatsi, the balance sheet growth remained key with emphasis on driving efficiency.

"Interest income went up by 11% from 31 December 2022, albeit on a contracting loan book. The increase was mainly due to income from short dated instruments which repriced quickly thereby increasing returns," she said.

She also said interest expense rose by 20%, though lower compared to the growth in 2022 on the back of a conscious effort to contain cost of funds through growing transactional banking type products being current accounts, call, and savings accounts.

This was made possible due to the revamped transaction banking



Access Bank Botswana Finance Director, Ratang Icho-Molebatsi

offering among other initiatives. Net fees and commission income increased by 44% during the year 2023, compared to the full year 2022.

"Growth was recorded across all the major fee lines, with impressive growth from digital products and increasing by 66% - a demonstration of the bank's strong digital capabilities and high utilisation from our customers. Trading income was relatively flat year-on-year mostly due to depressed margins and volumes due to a stronger United States Dollar," said Icho-Molebatsi.

She said the bank continued to refine the expected credit loss (ECL) modeling to arrive at the most appropriate best estimate to be held against the credit risk portfolio. With time data inputs improved, and during the current financial year this has had a significant impact on the increase in the expected credit loss.

Overall, there is a net impairment charge of P15m largely driven by ECL adjustments on the back of further enhancements to the ECL model.

Overall, total expenses are 8% higher than the previous year.

"The bulk of the increase in cost is due to the full impact of investments in line with the strategic expansion of the Bank where more than 50 new ATM sites were opened and added 8 new Sales and Service Centres, since June 2022," she added.

For his part, the Managing Director Sheperd Aisam said their recent initiatives have proven to be exceptionally worthwhile investments, underpinned by substantial efforts to expand their presence and enhance customer offerings.

He said while these endeavours did lead to increased operational expenses, it's important to emphasize

that these strategic moves have yielded positive results in terms of income.

"Although there may be a temporary impact on our financial performance during this period, we want to underscore the vital importance of these strategic investments.

They have not only fortified Access Bank but have also positioned us favourably for a period of imminent growth and prosperity," said Aisam.

He said the loan book contracted by 21% as a result of prioritising high yielding Government Purchase Orders for the Business Banking segment.

"Deposits grew by 4% in comparison to December 2022. This was due to the focus on customer transactional activities and a change in the funding strategy," he added.

Bank of Baroda (Botswana) Ltd.

Quarterly Disclosure on Actual Interest Rates for April 2024 to June 2024

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rates (%)	May 2024 Interest Rates (%)	June 2024 Interest Rates (%)	Range Interest Rates (%) during the quarter
<b>BWP</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>
Current	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%
Call	0.00-1.00%	0.00-1.00%	0.00-1.00%	0.00-1.00%
Savings	0.00-2.00%	0.00-2.00%	0.00-2.00%	0.00-2.00%
91-Days Fixed Deposit	1.50-1.50%	1.50-1.50%	1.25-1.25%	1.25-1.50%
6 months	1.75-1.75%	1.75-1.75%	1.50-1.50%	1.50-1.75%
12 months	4.00-4.00%	4.00-4.00%	3.75-3.75%	3.75-4.00%
24 months	4.50-4.50%	4.50-4.50%	4.00-4.00%	4.00-4.50%
Over 24 months	4.75-4.75%	4.75-4.75%	4.25-4.25%	4.25-4.75%
<b>USD</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>
3 months Fixed Deposit	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%	0.00-0.00%
6 months	0.20-0.25%	0.20-0.25%	0.45-0.45%	0.20-0.45%
Over 12 months	0.45-0.50%	0.45-0.50%	0.70-0.70%	0.45-0.70%
<b>ZAR</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>	<b>(Lowest-Highest)</b>
6 months	2.00-2.00%	2.00-2.00%	1.75-1.75%	1.75-2.00%
Over 12 months	3.00-3.00%	3.00-3.00%	2.75-2.75%	2.75-3.00%
<b>Lending Rates</b>	<b>April 2024 Interest Rates (%)</b>	<b>May 2024 Interest Rates (%)</b>	<b>June 2024 Interest Rates (%)</b>	<b>Range Interest Rates (%) during the quarter</b>
MoPR	2.40%	2.40%	2.15%	2.15-2.40%
Baroda Prime Lending Rate	6.51%	6.51%	6.26%	6.26-6.51%
Mortgage Facility	6.51-12.00%	6.51-12.00%	6.26-11.75%	6.26-12.49%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	6.51-11.75%	6.51-11.75%	6.26-11.50%	6.26-12.21%
Credit Card	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lease Loans	6.51-11.75%	6.51-11.75%	6.26-11.50%	6.26-12.49%
Unsecured Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgages, and credit cards)	8.50-14.75%	8.50-14.75%	8.25-14.50%	8.25-15.49%
Other Long-Term Loans	6.51-11.75%	6.51-11.75%	6.26-11.50%	6.26-12.21%

**Bank of Baroda (Botswana) Ltd. is a member of Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana**

**CONTACTS:**

**Head office:** Old Nokia, G-west, Gaborone, Ph: 3992700, Email: ho.botswana@bankofbaroda.com.

**Gaborone Branch:** Main Mall, Gaborone, Ph: 3188878, email: gaborone@bankofbaroda.com.

**G-West Branch:** Kamoshungo Road, Gaborone, Ph: 3992705, Email: gwesbo@bankofbaroda.com.

**Francistown Branch:** Haskins Building, Francistown, Ph: 2413440, Email: francistown@bankofbaroda.com.

**Palapye Branch:** Madiba Complex, Palapye, Ph: 4920041, Email: palapye@bankofbaroda.com.



# Air Botswana opens new routes to SA

**A**IR BOTSWANA HAS ANNOUNCED the details of an upcoming major route network expansion, after muscling up its fleet with three new 50-seater Embraer jets.

The airline announced it will be adding and reinstating destinations into its network,

connecting Botswana to more destinations in neighbouring countries, including South Africa.

Mogolo Mokgosi, Sales and Marketing Manager for Air Botswana announced that the new routes include flights Kasane-Cape Town, Maun-Cape Town, Kasane-KMIA and Kasane-Windhoek. Kasane is a hub for

a large number of lodges in the immediate areas of Caprivi (Namibia), northeastern Botswana, western Zimbabwe and southern Zambia, Maun is known as the gateway to the Okavango and the Makgadikgadi Pans.

The capital city of Botswana will also now be connected to a third city in South Africa, with the addition of flights between



## Know Your Corporate Leader



**Full Name:** Ronald Ontefetse Ketshabe  
**Position:** Managing Director  
**Institution:** Chartered Insurance Brokers  
**Date Started:** November 2021  
**Nature of business:** Insurance Brokerage



standard chartered

### Wealth and Retail Banking - July 2024

#### Deposits Interest Rates

##### BWP - Botswana Pula

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (BWP)
Call	0.10% - 0.25%	0.12%	10,000
Savings (Tema)	0.50% - 2.75%	0.65%	500
Ordinary Savings	0.00% - 0.50%	0.07%	100
30-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.30% - 0.50%	0.25%	1,000
90-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.30%	1.29%	1,000
6 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.50% - 2.20%	1.21%	1,000
12 Months (Upfront Fixed Deposit)	2.20% - 2.40%	2.63%	100,000
12 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	2.25% - 2.60%	2.41%	1,000
24 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	2.85% - 3.20%	3.07%	1,000

##### GBP - British Pound

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (GBP)
Call	0.00%	0.00%	2,000
30-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	2,000
90-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	2,000
6 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%-0.20%	0.00%	2,000
12 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%-0.25%	0.00%	2,000

##### ZAR - South African Rand

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (ZAR)
Call	0.40%	0.04%	15,000
30-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.30%	0.33%	200,000
90-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.80%	0.00%	200,000
6 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.25%	1.81%	200,000
12 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.80%	0.00%	200,000

##### EUR - Euro

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (EUR)
Call	0.00%	0.01%	2,000
30-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	2,000
90-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	2,000
6 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	2,000
12 Months (Upfront Fixed Deposit)	Not available		
12 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	2,000

##### USD - American Dollar

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Actual Interest Rate (%) (Lowest - Highest)	Minimum Opening Balance (USD)
Call	0.00% - 0.015%	0.001%	3,000
30-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.10%	0.00%	3,000
90-Days (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.11%	0.03%	3,000
6 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.15%	0.00%	3,000
12 Months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.20%	0.58%	3,000

#### Lending Interest Rates - Personal and Priority Clients

Product	Nominal Interest Rate (%)	Average Effective Interest rate (%)
MoPR	2.15%	NA
Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	NA
Mortgage Facility	Prime + 0.50% to Prime + 6.00%	6.79%
Credit Card	Up to 34.80%	38.02%
Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage, and credit cards)	Prime to Prime + 18.00%	11.01%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit)	Prime+2.00%	6.09%

Debit Interest Rate on Unauthorized Overdraft: Prime Lending Rate + 12%

The Prime Lending Rate of 6.26% as published, has been independently determined by SCBB.

1- Nominal Interest Rate: This is the real interest rate + inflation rate

2- Average Effective Interest Rate: This is the actual interest rate which can be earned on an asset over a given period of time.

Please contact our 24/7 Client Care Centre on +267 3615800 for more information.

Standard Chartered Bank is a member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana.

Terms and Conditions apply

Gaborone and Durban. Flights between Gaborone and Windhoek will also soon come into operation.

The airline also announced the reinstatement of routes that were halted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Air Botswana's flights connecting Kasane-Johannesburg, Maun to Johannesburg as well as Francistown to Johannesburg will soon be available.

Currently, Air Botswana operates three daily flights between Johannesburg and Gaborone and three weekly flights between Gaborone and Cape Town.

"The new fares ... are designed to stimulate demand, increase sales and provide affordable air travel, particularly

within the specified new markets," said Mogkosi. At this stage, a flight schedule is not available.

The airline announced that it had taken delivery of three Embraer aircraft in June. Airline CEO Lulu Rasebotsa said that, with Air Botswana's expansion plans, it is likely that it will need to purchase a fourth aircraft soon.

"The airline views the acquisition of the Embraer jets and the expansion of routes as crucial steps towards achieving financial stability and operational efficiency," Rasebotsa said.

APG South Africa represents the airline in the South African market. [travelnews.co.za](http://travelnews.co.za)

## Diamond industry under pressure



**D**AMOND PRICES DECLINED IN JUNE as sales dropped and inventories grew, Rapaport said in a release. Indian manufacturers reduced production, but sales fell at a sharper rate due to weak demand. This led to an oversupply and pressure to sell, it explained.

Synthetics continued to take market share from natural diamonds and will likely do so throughout 2024, Rapaport predicted. Chinese diamond demand remains very weak as consumers turn to gold jewellery as a store of value. US retail sales were mixed in June. Indian jewellery demand, while healthy, saw a seasonal lull, Rapaport noted.

The RapNet Diamond Index (RAPI™) for 1-carat goods — reflecting round, D to H, IF to VS2 diamonds — fell 3.6% in June. This was a slightly gentler decline than in May. However, the drop in the 0.30-carat RAPI accelerated to 6% in June. The index for 0.50-carat diamonds fell 4.8%, and prices of 3-carat stones went down 2%. Prices for round, 1-carat, D to H, SI diamonds slid 0.5%.

The number of diamonds on RapNet rose 6% between 1st April and 1st July, and now stands at 1.67 million. Indian manufacturers have continued producing polished to keep workers employed and maintain access to rough supply and credit lines.

The secondary rough market was quiet due to sluggish polished demand. De Beers' 2024 rough sales through June fell 20% year

on year to \$1.95 billion. Some sightholders refused boxes that would result in losses. Rapaport said it expects De Beers' revenue to continue to decline in 2024 due to competition from synthetics.

Rapaport believes synthetics will dominate the US bridal segment in 2024, accounting for over 50% of engagement-ring purchases. However, the synthetic bridal market will collapse in 2025 as their very low prices will make them unsuitable for engagement rings. Natural diamond demand will come back strong as consumers return to traditional engagement rings whose value is appropriate for the gift of marital commitment.

The secondary rough market was quiet due to sluggish polished demand. De Beers' 2024 rough sales through June fell 20% year on year to \$1.95 billion. Some sightholders refused boxes that would result in losses. Rapaport said it expects De Beers' revenue to continue to decline in 2024 due to competition from synthetics.

Rapaport believes synthetics will dominate the US bridal segment in 2024, accounting for over 50% of engagement-ring purchases. However, the synthetic bridal market will collapse in 2025 as their very low prices will make them unsuitable for engagement rings. Natural diamond demand will come back strong as consumers return to traditional engagement rings whose value is appropriate for the gift of marital commitment. [\[Rapaport\]](http://Rapaport)

## BIHL's closed period



BIHL, Group CEO Catherine Lesetedi

2024. During this period, members of the BIHL Board and staff of BIHL are expected to have finalised all their share dealings in BIHL shares as it could be implied that they were aware of unpublished price sensitive information.

Unpublished price sensitive information is information affecting the company, which if released, is likely to materially affect the company's share price. Members of the BIHL Board and BIHL staff are therefore expected to have finalised their share dealings in BIHL shares by June 30, 2024.

It is anticipated that the results will be published on or before August 30, 2024.

In line with good corporate governance and in compliance with the Botswana Stock Exchange rules, BIHL declares a closed period from July 01, 2024 to August 30,

Any changes will be communicated in writing. This notice is also circulated to all the brokers and transfer secretaries to ensure compliance. [\[bse.co.bw\]](http://bse.co.bw)



# Botswana households experience improved financial wellbeing

ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AND insights company TransUnion's latest Consumer Pulse Study, Botswana's economic landscape is showing positive shifts in the second quarter of 2024. Household incomes improved, with 41% of consumers reporting income increases over the past three months, a notable rise of four percentage points from the previous year, and a figure that is almost double the number of households that saw a decline in income (21%).

This improvement aligns with 25% of households starting new businesses to increase their income, as well as Botswana's formal sector earnings, which saw a 13.1% increase by the end of last year, compared to 8% wage growth in 2022. Further compounding the positive macroeconomic climate, the inflation rate has decelerated significantly, to 3.4% (January – April) in 2024, down from 5.1% in 2023 and a peak of 12.2% in 2022. While inflation is expected to average out at 4% for the year, this significant decrease is contributing to a feeling of improved financial wellbeing and buoyancy. Optimism about future income has risen, with 77% expecting an increase over the coming 12 months (up three percentage points compared to 2023).

Kabelo Ramaselwana, Country Manager at TransUnion Botswana, notes that the slowdown in inflation supports disposable income growth and these economic improvements and income increases are being managed responsibly by Botswanan consumers.

"However, it is possible that the high unemployment rate combined with income inequality are putting the brakes on and could further limit household spending growth in the near-term."

**Ability to pay bills is vastly improved**  
According to the study, 74% of consumers expect to be able to pay their bills in full, with the proportion of households struggling to make payments down by eight percentage points to 26% compared to the same time last year. Of this struggling segment, 43% plan to make at least partial payments.

A further 21% plan to dip into their savings to service their debt responsibilities and, in an increase of seven percentage points from 2023, 11% plan to take out a

personal loan to cover their bills.

As households gain traction towards financial stability, 25% are focusing on paying down their debt faster and 29% are building financial resilience with increased contributions to emergency funds.

Consumers are also cutting back on non-essential expenditure, with 56% of respondents reducing their discretionary spending over the past three months, with 28% cancelling subscriptions and memberships. Looking ahead, consumers plan to focus on paying bills and loans (46%), boost retirement funds and investing (45%), and pay for medical care and services (42%).

**Credit and financial inclusion**

Access to credit remains crucial for Botswana's consumers, with 96% considering it important. Perceived access to credit improved markedly by 10 percentage points from last year as 45% felt adequately served, notably among Millennials (27–42 years old) at 48% and Gen X (43–58 years old) at 49%. Looking ahead, 33% of consumers plan to apply for new or refinance existing credit, with Millennials (34%) showing the highest demand.

Among those planning to apply for new or refinance existing credit within the next year, 37% indicated a demand for new personal loans, reflecting a notable nine percentage-point increase from the prior year. Gen Zs (48%) and Millennials (35%) were the most interested in acquiring personal loans while, overall, 34% were considering new home loans, a significant 12 percentage-point rise from the previous year.

However, 50% of potential borrowers abandoned their plans to take out new credit, with 31% citing the high cost of credit as the reason for this decision.

**Monitoring credit reports**

Monitoring their credit status is viewed as extremely, very or moderately important by 85% of consumers, yet only 44% review their credit reports monthly. A growing number of consumers (55%, up from 46% last year) believe that incorporating alternative data, such as rental payments would improve their credit scores.

**Fraud and consumer education**

Digital fraud remains a concern, with 72% (up nine percentage points) of respondents having been targeted by fraud schemes,



although only 5% fell victim, a decrease from 8% the previous year. Vishing (47%), phishing (40%), and smishing (38%) are the most prevalent scams. Surprisingly, 23% of consumers reported being unaware of any targeted fraud schemes. Nearly all (96% in Q2 2024, up from 94% the previous year) consumers expressed concerns about sharing personal information. Their main concerns included fear of invasion of privacy (84%), worries about identity theft (77%), and receiving unsolicited marketing communications (36%).

"These findings highlight the importance of robust data protection measures and privacy policies. Addressing these concerns is crucial for businesses to build consumer trust and ensure responsible data handling practices. At the same time, consumers should check their credit reports regularly to flag any possible fraud that affects their credit scores, as early as possible," says Ramaselwana.

Consumers can learn more about their credit profile from TransUnion here.

## First National Bank Interest, Lending and Foreign Currency Deposit Rates July 2024



The following standard Savings, Lending and Investment rates will apply

### Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	Nominal Rate per Annum (NACM)	Annual Effective Rate	Minimum Opening Balance
	(Lowest – Highest)	(Lowest – Highest)	(Pula)
Current	-	-	Nil
Call	0.00% - 0.46%	0.00% - 0.46%	1,000
Money Maximiser	0.00% - 3.35%	0.00% - 3.40%	100,000
Savings (Poloko)	0.00% - 3.00%	0.00% - 3.04%	100
FutureSave	0.00% - 0.40%	0.00% - 0.40%	100
Future Forward	0.00% - 0.40%	0.00% - 0.40%	50
Savings Pocket	0.00% - 1.60%	0.00% - 1.61%	-
Flexi Fixed (3 Months)	2.20% - 2.45%	2.22% - 2.48%	100
Flexi Fixed (6 Months)	3.30% - 3.60%	3.35% - 3.66%	100
Flexi Fixed (12 Months)	4.00% - 4.50%	4.07% - 4.59%	100
7 Day Notice	0.25% - 1.50%	0.25% - 1.51%	100
32 Day Notice Plus	1.50% - 2.25%	1.51% - 2.27%	1,000
1 Month Fixed Deposit	0.90% - 0.95%	0.90% - 0.95%	1,000
3 Months Fixed Deposit	1.60%	1.61%	1,000
6 Months Fixed Deposit	2.10% - 2.15%	2.11% - 2.16%	1,000
12 Months Fixed Deposit	2.15% - 2.75%	2.15% - 2.75%	1,000
24 Months Fixed Deposit	2.60% - 3.05%	2.60% - 3.05%	1,000
Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit	4.25%	4.25%	1,000
Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	6.26%	

\*\*\*For term deposits the minimum amount is BWP 1 million to qualify for a special rate

### Lending Rates

Lending Rates	Nominal Interest Rate Per Annum (%)	Average Effective Interest Rate
MoPR	2.15%	2.15%
Prime Lending Rate	6.26%	6.26%
Mortgage Facility	Prime +3.5% to 4.48%	Prime +3.72% to 4.8%
Overdraft Facility (Revolving Credit Lines)	Prime +10%	Prime +11.06%
Credit Card	17.75% to 23.75%	19.02% to 26.26%
Lease Loans (VAF)	Prime +3.5% to 5.5%	Prime +3.72% to 5.93%
Unsecured Personal Loans (Excluding Overdraft, Mortgage and Credit Card)	Prime +8% to 22%	Prime +8.75% to 25.79%
Other Term Loans		

\*Scheme related lending is as per the scheme contract

### Foreign Currency Deposit Rates

ZAR - South African Rand***	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Actual Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Minimum Opening Balance (ZAR)	EUR - Euro	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Actual Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Minimum Opening Balance (EUR)
Current	2.00%	0.00% - 2.00%	1,000	Current	0%	-	100
Call	Nil	-	Nil	Call	Nil	-	Nil
1 Month Fixed Deposit	1.00%	-	1,000	1 Month Fixed Deposit	These rates are quoted on request	-	100
2 Months Fixed Deposit	1.05%	-	1,000	2 Months Fixed Deposit		100	
3 Months Fixed Deposit	1.25%	-	1,000	3 Months Fixed Deposit		100	
6 Months Fixed Deposit	1.50%	-	1,000	6 Months Fixed Deposit		100	
12 Months Fixed Deposit	2.00%	0.00%	1,000	12 Months Fixed Deposit		100	
24 Months Fixed Deposit	2.50%	-	1,000	24 Months Fixed Deposit		100	
Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit				Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit		100	
AUD - Australian Dollar	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Actual Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Minimum Opening Balance (AUD)	GBP - British Pound Sterling***	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Actual Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Minimum Opening Balance (GBP)
Current	0%	-	100	Current	0%	-	100
Call	Nil	-	Nil	Call	Nil	-	Nil
1 Month Fixed Deposit	These rates are quoted on request	-	100	1 Month Fixed Deposit	0.07%	-	100
2 Months Fixed Deposit		-	100	2 Months Fixed Deposit	0.09%	-	100
3 Months Fixed Deposit		-	100	3 Months Fixed Deposit	0.10%	-	100
6 Months Fixed Deposit		-	100	6 Months Fixed Deposit	0.15%	-	100
12 Months Fixed Deposit		-	100	12 Months Fixed Deposit	0.20%	-	100
24 Months Fixed Deposit		-	100	24 Months Fixed Deposit	0.20%	-	100
Over 36 Months Fixed Deposit							
USD - US Dollar***	Nominal Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Actual Interest Rates/Annum (%)	Minimum Opening Balance (USD)				
Current	0%	-	100				
Call	Nil	-	Nil				
1 Month Fixed Deposit	0.40%	-	100				
2 Months Fixed Deposit	0.47%	-	100				
3 Months Fixed Deposit	0.80%	-	100				
6 Months Fixed Deposit	1.05%	1.50%	100				
12 Months Fixed Deposit	1.30%	-	100				
24 Months Fixed Deposit	1.80%	-	100				

**\*\*\*Note:**

- For term deposits the minimum amount is BWP 1 million to qualify for a special rate
- Interest rates are linked to the Monetary Policy Rate (MoPR)
- Special rates offered for amounts of ZAR 1 000 000 and more
- Special rates offered for amounts of USD 100 000 and more
- Special rates offered for amounts of GBP 100 000 and more

For more information please enquire at your nearest

Visit FNB Branch

Visit [fnbbotswana.co.bw](http://fnbbotswana.co.bw)

## FNBB, The NeoHub launch The FirstPreneur Development Programme



THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED LAUNCH day of The FirstPreneur Development Programme has finally arrived following the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between First National Bank Botswana (FNB) and TheNeoHub in March 2024. This groundbreaking initiative aims to foster growth and innovation within the small, medium enterprises (SMEs) sector in Botswana.

The FirstPreneur is a comprehensive two-year programme designed to nurture, support, and accelerate entrepreneurs in building sustainable businesses. This strategic partnership aims to leverage the strengths of both organisations to create a synergistic force that accelerates the development of SMEs. A first of its kind, The FirstPreneur represents a collaborative effort between First National Bank of Botswana and TheNeoHub to empower existing SMEs with the tools, resources, and support needed to succeed in today's competitive business landscape.

Officiating at the event, Karabo Gare, Minister of Entrepreneurship, said "Entrepreneurship stands at the heart of our economic strategy, propelling economic expansion and innovation across Botswana. Entrepreneurs are pivotal drivers of our economy, making substantial contributions to our GDP and strengthening value chains in critical sectors such as mining and agriculture. The FirstPreneur Development Programme exemplifies a robust support system designed to empower our entrepreneurs."

On his part, Steven Lefentse Bogatsu, CEO of First National Bank of Botswana, stated, "Today, we are not just launching a program; we are igniting the flames of entrepreneurship through shared prosperity across our nation. Our collaboration with TheNeoHub represents a powerful synergy—a union of vision and purpose. This initiative leverages the strengths of

both organisations to create a synergistic force that will undoubtedly accelerate the development of SMEs across Botswana."

The objective of the launch was to announce the 150 businesses that were selected from the applicants received across Botswana. A thorough and vigorous vetting process was conducted by expert judges to select the 150 businesses that will make the first cohort of this programme for the next two years.

The programme's call for application criteria was open exclusively to 100% citizen-owned entities that have been in operation for at least two years. It is an intentional programme designed to provide an extra push to entrepreneurs who have already demonstrated resilience and staying power but need additional support to accelerate their growth journey. One of the unique features of The FirstPreneur programme is the availability of a dedicated banking relationship manager from First National Bank

Botswana to journey with the entrepreneurs. This personalised support ensures that participants have access to tailored financial solutions and expert guidance to navigate the complexities of running and scaling their businesses.

First National Bank Botswana sees The FirstPreneur as an opportunity to play a crucial role in empowering SMEs to contribute to the economy and build bankable businesses. Partnering with a locally owned hub like TheNeoHub to execute this programme is testament to the Bank's shared value mandate and the importance of partnering and empowering others. The shared vision of this programme extends beyond immediate goals, encompassing employment creation, financial growth, and SMEs support. It aspires to contribute to broader objectives such as community impact, financial literacy, and the establishment of a robust financial ecosystem for SMEs.



# ATIDI posts impressive FY 2023 results

**A**FRICAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT Development Insurance (ATIDI) recorded a remarkable performance for the financial year ended December 2023 despite a volatile regional and global economic environment.

The results were validated during the Company's 24th Annual General Meetings (AGM) held in Livingstone, Zambia last week.

The AGM, held under the theme "Empowering tomorrow, enabling investment" was officially opened by the President of the Republic of Zambia, His Excellency Hakainde Hichilema.

It also covered an Investor Roundtable to discuss how to sustainably spur access to finance for sovereigns and private sector in Africa in the present global and regional economic environment.

### Outstanding performance

Despite a lingering environment and significant geopolitical and economic challenges in Africa and globally, ATIDI

posted record results in 2023, as reflected by the highlights below:

- Profit for the year increased by 205% to USD69.1 million;
- Insurance revenue grew by 14% to USD155.7 million;
- Gross exposures grew by 19% to USD9.6 Billion;
- Total assets grew by 27% to USD837.1 million;
- Equity grew by 25% to USD699.3 million; and
- Insurance revenue grew by 14% to USD 155.7 million.

Commenting on the results, ATIDI Chief Executive Officer Manuel Moses thanked Board of Directors, Management team and staff for their hard work and dedications that have been rewarded with best financial performance in the year 2023.

"We are happy to report that 2023 has been the best financial performance in ATIDI's history. This performance is all the more outstanding given our

operating environment, which is marked by uncertainties, slow global economic recovery, tight financial conditions and geopolitical tensions. It is a testament to the soundness of our business fundamentals and strategy, our resilience and the quality of the risk-mitigating solutions we provide and lays a solid foundation for more rewarding years ahead," Mr. Manuel said.

"As we look to maintain our performance, we will notably continue to work closely with our Member States to uphold our Preferred Creditor Status in order to support them in attracting much needed and affordable development finance. We will also pursue our efforts to strengthen our partnerships, optimize our processes and grow our footprint to further contribute to Africa's economic emergence."

In 2023, ATIDI pursued the implementation of its ambitious corporate strategic plan for the 2023 – 2027 period, which is geared at optimizing the organization's governance processes

and performance to strengthen its developmental impact. The organization notably put in place its new climate policy to complement its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) framework and help sustainably address the increasingly pressing challenge of climate change.

The multilateral development insurer also rolled out its new brand and grew its footprint in 2023. Indeed, during the year, Angola and Mali became Member States in the organisation, while Japan's Export Credit Agency, the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI), joined ATIDI as an institutional shareholder. More recently, in early 2024, Burkina Faso and Chad became the latest joining Member States in the organization. The dynamic membership drive has been supported by ATIDI's strategic partners, notably the African Development Bank (AfDB), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and KfW Development Bank. It also highlights the organization's solid bond with regional



ATIDI Chief Executive Officer Manuel Moses

bodies, namely the African Union, COMESA, ECOWAS and the West African Development Bank (BOAD).

The next AGM is scheduled to take place in Angola, in 2025.

## standard chartered

### Quarterly Actual Deposit Interest Rates

### Wealth and Retail Banking

#### BWP - Botswana Pula

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rate (%)	May 2024 Interest Rate (%)	June 2024 Interest Rate (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Current	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Call	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%	0.10% - 0.25%
Savings (Tema)	0.50% - 2.79%	0.50% - 2.79%	0.50% - 2.79%	0.50% - 2.79%
Savings (Ordinary)	0.00% - 0.50%	0.00% - 0.50%	0.00% - 0.50%	0.00% - 0.50%
1 month (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.30% - 0.50%	0.30% - 0.50%	0.30% - 0.50%	0.30% - 0.50%
3 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.31%	1.31%	1.31%	1.31%
6 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.50% - 2.21%	1.50% - 2.21%	1.50% - 2.21%	1.50% - 2.21%
12 months (Upfront Fixed Deposit)	2.20% - 2.40%	2.20% - 2.40%	2.20% - 2.40%	2.20% - 2.40%
12 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	2.25% - 2.60%	2.25% - 2.60%	2.25% - 2.60%	2.25% - 2.60%
24 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	2.85% - 3.20%	2.85% - 3.20%	2.85% - 3.20%	2.85% - 3.20%

#### EUR - Euro

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rate (%)	May 2024 Interest Rate (%)	June 2024 Interest Rate (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Call	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
1 month (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
3 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
6 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
12 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

#### USD - American Dollar

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rate (%)	May 2024 Interest Rate (%)	June 2024 Interest Rate (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Call	0.00% - 0.015%	0.00% - 0.015%	0.00% - 0.015%	0.00% - 0.015%
1 month (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.10%	0.00% - 0.10%	0.00% - 0.10%	0.00% - 0.10%
3 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.11%	0.00% - 0.11%	0.00% - 0.11%	0.00% - 0.11%
6 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.15%	0.00% - 0.15%	0.00% - 0.15%	0.00% - 0.15%
12 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.20%	0.00% - 0.20%	0.00% - 0.20%	0.00% - 0.20%

#### GBP - British Pound

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rate (%)	May 2024 Interest Rate (%)	June 2024 Interest Rate (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Call	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
1 month (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
3 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
6 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.20%	0.00% - 0.20%	0.00% - 0.20%	0.00% - 0.20%
12 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.00% - 0.25%	0.00% - 0.25%	0.00% - 0.25%	0.00% - 0.25%

#### ZAR - South African Rand

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rate (%)	May 2024 Interest Rate (%)	June 2024 Interest Rate (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Call	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%	0.40%
1 month (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%
3 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%
6 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%
12 months (Regular Fixed Deposit)	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%

#### Quarterly Actual Lending Interest Rates

Type of Deposit Account	April 2024 Interest Rate (%)	May 2024 Interest Rate (%)	June 2024 Interest Rate (%)	Range* Interest Rates (%)
Monetary Policy Rate	2.40%	2.40%	2.15%	2.15% - 2.40%
Prime Lending Rate	6.51%	6.51%	6.26%	6.26% - 6.51%
Mortgage Facility	*Prime + 0.77% to Prime + 6.85%*	*Prime + 0.77% to Prime + 6.85%*	*Prime + 0.77% to Prime + 6.85%*	*Prime + 0.77% to Prime + 6.85%*
Credit Card	Up to 34.84%	Up to 34.84%	Up to 34.84%	Up to 34.84%
Personal Loans (excluding overdrafts, mortgage and credit cards)	*Prime + 0.23% to Prime + 21.32%*	*Prime + 0.23% to Prime + 21.32%*	*Prime + 0.23% to Prime + 21.32%*	*Prime + 0.23% to Prime + 21.32%*
Overdraft Facility (Revolving credit)	Prime + 2.00%	Prime + 2.00%	Prime + 2.00%	Prime + 2.00%

Debit Interest Rate on Unauthorized Overdraft: Prime Lending Rate + 12%  
The Prime Lending Rate of 6.26% as published, has been independently determined by SCBB.

\*Range: Minimum and Maximum Value Limits

Please contact our 24/7 Client Care Centre on +267 3615800 for more information.

**Standard Chartered Bank is a member of the Deposit Insurance Scheme of Botswana.**

Terms and Conditions apply

here for good™

## Battery vs Petrol: The Great Debate

- Battery-operated outdoor power equipment is a game-changer



**D**O YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR outdoor power equipment but you're not sure if battery or petrol-operated is the better option? With the recent advancements in technology, choosing between the two makes for an interesting debate.

Samuel Thornycroft, Director at Water Africa, says the benefits of each are more evenly matched than ever: "When it comes to power and durability, you can't go wrong with Husqvarna's petrol tools. However, with the advancements being made in their battery products, they're more than just a replacement for older petrol-operated equipment - they're an upgrade."

Battery power is transforming the way people work. Chainsaws, brush cutters, hedge trimmers and blowers, once thought to be too underpowered, are fast becoming the equipment of choice for groundsman, forestry workers, farmers and landscapers. "Convenience and cost efficiencies have transcended the gardeners' electrical products into the everyday working life of professionals using outdoor power tools," Thornycroft adds.

So which power option should you choose? He shares his top reasons why battery-operated equipment is a serious consideration:

**1. Silent performance**  
The main benefit of fully electrical power equipment such as Husqvarna's battery series is the low noise levels. Battery power whispers in at 65 to 83 decibels, so you probably couldn't tell if your neighbour was operating a chainsaw or hedge trimmer next door. For professionals, these low noise levels are the solution for working in sports grounds, schools, hospitals and other areas where noise pollution is an issue.

**2. Power**  
We are often asked if petrol-operated equipment is more powerful than its battery counterparts. The simple answer is "yes". There is still a difference in power and Husqvarna's petrol tools remain the best choice for heavy jobs. Battery power is, however, now widely recognised as the smarter way to power through everyday tasks, delivering a new level of performance and dependable power. With extensive and impressive run times and minimal charge times, Lithium-ion batteries offer a reliable power source and the tools are tough enough to handle most jobs.

**3. Safety**  
Battery products provide improved safety

as they remove the need for fuel filling and on-site storage. No more teaching crews how to mix and handle fuel properly. There's no engine oil, reducing the risk of engine damage and there's no tugging away with recoil starts.

**4. The healthier option**  
Battery power is clean, and operators are exposed to fewer emissions. For professional users, another benefit is the huge reduction in vibration. This makes battery tools more ergonomic to use, particularly when operated all day and reduces the risk of Hand-Arm-Vibration syndrome, a common occupational hazard.

**5. Convenience**  
More user-friendly, battery-powered tools are easier to operate and start instantly, allowing crews to perform their work more efficiently. It's a simple case of charge-and-go. At the press of a button, instant full power is available. Batteries are also easily swapped on-site, minimising downtime. And, Husqvarna's batteries are designed to fit a wide range of tools, making them interchangeable among hedge trimmers, brush cutters, blowers, chainsaws, and even lawnmowers. This versatility enhances productivity and reduces the need for multiple battery types.

**6. Cost-effective operation**  
Ultimately, battery products are also good for your bank balance. Once the initial investment has been made, the running costs are incredibly low as electricity is significantly cheaper than petrol.

You will also save on maintenance as there are fewer moving parts and no need to change filters, oil or spark plugs. This adds up to significant savings in the long term - certainly, a factor to consider when purchasing equipment for professional teams.

It's easy to see why many professionals are turning to the 'charge and go' option, given the numerous benefits of battery power. These tools offer all the necessary power while providing advantages for the environment, operators, and those nearby: lower emissions, reduced noise, less vibration, greater safety, and decreased costs. "Battery vs petrol? Ultimately, the choice depends on what suits the user's needs and working environment best," Thornycroft says.

For more information or to view Husqvarna's range of battery-operated products, visit <https://www.husqvarna.com/bw/>



MEDIA RELEASE



## **Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority (BOCRA) Extends Appreciation to Customers and Stakeholders for a Successful SIM Card Registration**

BOCRA informs the public of the successful Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) Card Registration process which concluded on **30 June 2024**. BOCRA is pleased to announce that 86.18% of active SIM cards were successfully registered. Simultaneously, 609,222 of unregistered SIM cards were suspended from service.

We also wish to express our sincere gratitude to the various stakeholders who played a pivotal role in supporting BOCRA throughout this crucial process. Your support and collaboration have been instrumental in achieving this significant milestone. The registration of SIM Cards is a critical step towards improving the security of our network, combating fraud and ensuring that our telecommunications infrastructure is robust and secure.

As previously communicated, the deadline for compliance with SIM card registration requirement was 30 June 2024. We would like to reaffirm that there will be no further extension to this deadline. However, we notify the public that those who have had their SIM cards suspended can still recover their SIM cards by registering at their respective mobile network providers.

Failure to do that within the prescribed SIM card lifecycle period would lead to their SIM cards being recycled and reallocated to other users.

Thank you.

**-ENDS-**

For further inquiries regarding SIM Card Registration, please contact the Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) or Masego M. Jeremiah, **Head of Broadcasting and Corporate Communications on [info@bocra.org.bw](mailto:info@bocra.org.bw)**

BOTSWANA COMMUNICATIONS  
REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
PLOT 50671 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE  
PRIVATE BAG 00495, GABORONE, BOTSWANA  
TEL: +267 3957755 FAX: +267 3957976  
[info@bocra.org.bw](mailto:info@bocra.org.bw) | [www.bocra.org.bw](http://www.bocra.org.bw)





# lifestyle

## Molosi wins Award worth R3.5m

**B**OTSWANA-BORN international actor and writer Donald Molosi has been awarded the Santu Mofokeng Fellowship 2024.

The award will enable a partnership between the Market Theatre Photo Lab and Molosi where Molosi will curate an exhibition and performance to re-introduce the story of 1976 Soweto Uprisings to younger generations of South Africans. The fellowship comes with a cool R3.5 million for Molosi.

"It is an honour to curate for South Africa a story that is so quintessentially South African. Even without being South African myself I have been invited to lend my expertise as a consultant and an international theatre practitioner and I think that speaks to the calibre of my work," Molosi says from London where he is currently curating a solo theatre festival on London's famous West End.

As a Santu Mofokeng Fellow, Molosi will be given access to archives and key people that he may need for the research. He will also be awarded a budget of about R3.5 million in order for him to create the exhibition.

The Santu Mofokeng Fellowship annually attracts world-renowned artists to South Africa to assist in curating the history of South Africa for generations to come. The fellowship was inspired by the legacy of pan-African South African photographer Santu Mofokeng.



Donald Molosi

"I am a storyteller, performer and historian. These skills combine to

make me an effective consultant and curator. I am excited that my

work will ensure that South African children and the world will know

the story of 1976 from newer perspectives," says Molosi.

Previously, Molosi helped curate similar events around the globe when countries marked their milestones. "Through the Upright African Movement, I helped curate some of the events around Uganda's 50th anniversary and also Taiwan's 100th. I also curated at the European Development Days 2021 that were scheduled for Belgium but ended up being virtual because of COVID. Countries realize that without a sensitively and properly curated story, they will not exist in the future. They need storytellers to save them from extinction."

As to whether we can expect to see Molosi do the same curation of the Botswana story he says, "The present Botswana government shakes in the boots at the thought of inviting a Mswana expert who is non-partisan like myself as a consultant. Let's hope that one day we tire of propaganda in Botswana."

Donald Molosi this year marks 20 years in professional theatre performance that saw him having a decade-long career off-Broadway. In 2010 Molosi became the first Mswana to perform on Broadway and he has since won several awards off-Broadway for his performances in "Blue, Black and White," "Mswana," "Today It's Me," and "Black Man Samurai" among others all of which he wrote and executive-produced. As a Santu Mofokeng fellow, Molosi establishes himself as one of the emerging players in South Africa's competitive curating industry.

## Mascom Batanani Walk



## 2024 DTC Botswana Women Football Championship



The semi finals of the 2024 DTC Botswana Women Football Championship got underway at Lekidi Centre in Gaborone on Friday and were to culminate with the finals on Saturday. Gaborone United FC beat Makgabz City FC by 25-0, whilst Tawana Top Girls FC beat Granada FC 2-0. Gaborone United will face Tawana Top Girls FC in the finals.

[PICS: OMANG KILANO]



**M**ASCOM WIRELESS IS thrilled to announce the 6th edition of the Mascom

Batanani Walk, taking place on Saturday, August 10, 2024, at the Francistown Council Stadium.

This year's theme, "Step Up for Digital Safety," emphasizes the importance of online safety for everyone in our increasingly digital world. In today's digital age, everyone, regardless of age, is exposed to potential risks online. As internet usage and reliance on digital platforms grow, so does the need for awareness and education on cybersecurity.

Further, the Government of Botswana is equipping schools with digital devices, highlighting the national commitment to digital transformation.

However, this progress necessitates addressing digital safety concerns like cyberbullying, online predators, privacy issues, and inappropriate content.

As Botswana's leading mobile network provider, Mascom takes a proactive approach to online safety. We implement robust cybersecurity measures to safeguard our network and users. Equipping everyone with the knowledge to navigate the digital world responsibly is paramount. By understanding potential risks and practicing safe online habits, we can collectively create a safer digital environment.

"I cannot overstate the critical importance of cyber security in today's interconnected world. At Mascom, cyber security is not just a priority for us; it is ingrained in our culture and operations, reflecting our commitment to protecting the trust our customers place in us. This year's theme, 'Step Up for Digital Safety,' aligns with Mascom's core mandate and supports government initiatives to provide online safety education.

The program, in partnership with CyberSmart Botswana as the beneficiary of this year's proceeds, will benefit Botswana and people across the country" - said Mascom CEO, Ms Dzene Makhwade-Seboni.



# GABORONE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



## DEGREE PROGRAMMES

- Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
- Bachelor of Commerce in Purchasing & Supply Chain Management
- Bachelor of Commerce in Project Management
- Bachelor of Business in Tourism Management
- Bachelor of Business Administration Logistics & Transport Management
- Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting
- Bachelor of Commerce in Business Management
- Bachelor of Commerce in Human Resources Management
- Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship
- Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing Management
- Bachelor of Community Development
- Bachelor of Commerce in Digital Marketing
- Bachelor of Technology in Construction Engineering
- Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education
- Bachelor of Education in Special & Inclusive Education
- Bachelor of Law LLB (Hons) – Leeds Beckett University
- Bachelor of Law & Public Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Occupational Health & Safety
- Bachelor in Public Health
- Bachelor of Arts in Human Development & Family Studies



**July 2024 Intake SPECIAL OFFER**



**Self Sponsored Students: 10% DISCOUNT on Tuition Fees**

**GUC Former Students 15% DISCOUNT on Tuition Fee**

**For SPECIAL OFFER T's & C's Apply**

**Government Sponsorship Available**

**Flexible Mode of Study: Full Time, Part Time & Distance Learning Available**

**REGISTER NOW!!**

**Main Campus**  
Lot 6398, Lejara Road  
Broadhurst Industrial  
Tel: (+267) 318 5596  
Fax: (+267) 318 6018  
Cell: (+267) 72469089

**BBS Campus**  
Plot 13142/3  
Professional House  
Tel: (+267) 391 8420  
Cell: (+267) 76177224

**Mmopane Campus**  
Lot 4738  
Mmopane  
Tel: (+267) 396 0520  
Cell: (+267) 76667708

**Maun Campus**  
Plot 2994  
Boseja Ward Maun  
Tel: (+267) 686 1202  
Cell: (+267) 77162620

**Delta Campus**  
Plot 1283/4, 1st Floor  
Along Old Lobatse Road  
Tel: (+267) 390 1531  
Cell: (+267) 75965611

**Main Mall Campus**  
Plot 169, Queens Road  
Sreeram House  
Tel: (+267) 318 5660  
Cell: (+267) 76230414

**Francistown Campus**  
Plot 903  
Tati River Mall  
Tel: (+267) 241 7295  
Cell: (+267) 74736605

**Apply Conveniently Whatsapp:**  
+267 77 008 948  
**Follow link to apply:**  
admissions.guc.ac.bw:8081

**enquiry@guc.ac.bw**

**www.guc.ac.bw**



# Sport

# Letsile vs Lyles

... 200 metres Monaco Diamond League



Lyles

Botswana's fastest man Letsile Tebogo goes head-to-head with the world's leading short distance runner USA's Noah Lyles in a 200 metre dash in the Monaco Diamond League event on July 12, 2024. This being a precursor to the coming Paris 2024 Olympics Games means that athletics followers will get a window of what is set to go down in Paris between the greatest athletes of this generation. "The track at Monaco's Stade Louis 2 stadium is regarded as one of the fastest ones in the Diamond League tour. Numerous top records made year after year, especially for running events, back up this claim. Monaco also favours running events in their selection of disciplines, as does this year's event as well," said the event organisers. Tebogo is Botswana's best bet for an Olympic medal following on the footsteps of Nigel Amos who won a silver medal at the 2012 London Olympics in 800 metres. He leads of team of 400m runners and relay team to the event.



Letsile

## Afcon 2025 qualifying draw

... Botswana drawn against Egypt



Zebra [Blue and White] vs Guinea

**A** DRAW FOR THE 2025 AFCON finals qualifiers was conducted in Johannesburg, South Africa on July 04, 2024 with the 48 teams divided into 12 groups.

Botswana has been drawn in a tough Group C which has former AFCON champions Egypt and Cape Verde and Mauritania.

The top two teams will qualify for the finals that will take place in Morocco from 21 December 2025 to 18 January 2026. [BBC]

**Group A:** Tunisia, Madagascar, Comoros, The Gambia.

**Group B:** Morocco, Gabon, Central African Republic, Lesotho.

**Group C:** Egypt, Cape Verde, Mauritania, Botswana.

**Group D:** Nigeria, Benin, Libya, Rwanda.

**Group E:** Algeria, Equatorial Guinea, Togo, Liberia.

**Group F:** Ghana, Angola, Sudan, Niger.

**Group G:** Ivory Coast, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Chad.

**Group H:** DR Congo, Guinea, Tanzania, Ethiopia.

**Group I:** Mali, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Eswatini.

**Group J:** Cameroon, Namibia, Kenya, Zimbabwe.

**Group K:** South Africa, Uganda, Congo, South Sudan.

**Group L:** Senegal, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Burundi.

### Lyles Personal Bests

Distance	Time (s)
100 m (outdoors)	9.83 (2023)
150 m (outdoors)	14.41 NR (2024)
200 m (outdoors)	19.31 NR (2022)
60 m (Indoors)	6.43 A (2024)

### Tebogo's Personal bests

Distance	Time (s)
100 meters	9.88
200 meters	19.50
300 meters	30.69
400 meters	44.29

# The Sexton Kowa I knew

ASHFORD MAMELODI\*

**S**EXTON KOWA WAS DIFFERENT THINGS to different people. He was an accomplished football man. A top notch goalkeeper, coach, club owner, Technical Director and an Association Vice President at different times of his football journey. Away from football he was an insurance man specialising in short term insurance. In his free time, he was also a dedicated dog breeder. Whatever he did was with commitment. His passion for football was second to none.

To me he was a brother and a friend. Apart from playing together at school we were later to meet in the corridors of the Botswana Football Association (BFA); he as a football technician and I as an administrator, where we did not always agree. That we disagreed when we did, did not take away our mutual respect for each other. We found out that we were tied at the hip when it came to our support of one Manchester United FC in England. The last warm conversation that we had on the club was when they emerged champions of the FA Cup after being second best to Manchester City the year before in the same

event.

Tshidi hated losing a game of football. When we played together at school more often than not he would break down after losing a game. I recall when we were playing for Gaborone Secondary school at the National Stadium in a crucial game. After losing the game, he was infuriated and uncontrollable with tears running down his cheeks. Instead of catching the school bus he decided to run all the way back to GSS. Although disappointed Tshidi was ready to fight another day.

Another occasion was in 1976, when GGS lost away to Swaneng Hill School in the finals of the Secondary School Championship. We did Tshidi proud the following year when we emerged champions by beating the same team that had humbled us the year before, even though he had left GSS.

I recall on a rare occasion that I travelled with the national team to Windhoek, Namibia for an international friendly game as Head of Delegation with Sexton the National Coach. I recall that Col Sello Katse was the team manager. The Zebras were humiliated 6 - 1 and the whole team was disappointed. Our flight back home was via



Sexton Kowa

Johannesburg. On arrival in Johannesburg, unknown to the Head of Delegation, Tshidi decided to get off the plane in order to watch a dog race of sorts somewhere in the city. On enquiry from the manager on the whereabouts of the coach, I was informed that he had dropped off in Johannesburg

to watch a dog race and that he would find his way home. This upset me a little, as I was denied the courtesy to be informed as the HOD. When a subsequent decision was taken by the BFA National Executive Committee following the Namibia game, to disband the National Team, Tshidi was

deeply hurt.

Tshidi had a very humane side. He worried about the fate of footballers in Botswana after they had retired and particularly when they could not fend for themselves. He felt the 'system' had abandoned them, despite a huge contribution they had made to the game. He not only made it his business to attend funerals of most former players who passed on, where he would make whatever contributions that he could afford. When asked to speak on these occasions he would end his speech with a rendition of a jazz song, followed by him breaking down.

He made it his business to follow up on former players when the latter were unwell. He would sometimes suggest that him and I should just put some cash together, buy groceries and visit some of these players. A great Samaritan indeed!

I am of the strong view in retrospect that football in Botswana has failed Kowa. It was abundantly clear to all and sundry that the man was a hands on Grassroots Football technician. He had done it of his own accord in the dusty fields of White City and Bontleng among other similar venues. His own club started with him working with

young boys at such venues. He was by all accounts a grassroots coach and that was his calling. Tshidi was a hands on coach who loved working with the youth whom he referred to as 'my babies'. He was not a Technical Director, nor was he a Vice President of a Football Association. He was given these positions but it became clear that he was not doing what he loved and knew best.

As Molefi Sexton Kowa is laid to rest in his home village of Moshupa, he deserves a sendoff reserved for royalty. He has indeed run his race. I pray that his legacy lives on and those in football leadership must make grassroots football an integral part of football in Botswana.

All successful football nations have grassroots football as the foundation of their development strategies. In honoring his memory, we should invest far more than we have previously done in this important part of our football.

On behalf of Botswana Football, we thank his family for allowing Tshidi to be part of our football. We pray that Xoleca and children find healing following his departure and celebrate a life well lived. Uhambe kakuhle mntakwethu!

\* Ashford Mamelodi is former Botswana Football Association (BFA) Secretary General, COSAFA Secretary General, FIFA Development Officer and author of 'Protecting the Game' - a book on his reign at the BFA.