

PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS INDICATORS FRAMEWORK STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP AND LAUNCH OF THE NEW STATISTICS BOTSWANA WEBSITE AND SERVICE CHARTER

Statistics Botswana will host a stakeholder consultative workshop on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Indicator Framework during which the new Statistics Botswana Website and Service Charter will be launched on 10-11 October 2016 at Masa Square Hotel.

Sustainable Development Goals

As the final piece of architecture for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the proposed global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was agreed upon by the 47th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The international development of the indicators is led by the International Agency Expert Group (IAEG) formed by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), of which Botswana is a member of. Dr Burton Mguni, Deputy Statistician General, Statistics Botswana represents Botswana in the IAEG.

Botswana like other countries has the responsibility for follow-up and review of progress made in the process of implementing the SDGs, which requires quality, accessible and timely data collection. Through this workshop, the country will be able to reflect on its position with regards to finalisation of the proposal on the tier system for indicators, Botswana's initial measurable SDGs indicators, Tier I and II indicators requiring capacity building and refinement of indicators and Tier III consultations which will feed into the international process.

New Statistics Botswana Website

Statistics Botswana has developed a new website that is responsive, easy to navigate and modern. The new website presents sector statistics through sector descriptions, live database driven interactive charts and graphs, and live tabular data, with publications for each sector referenced from the online repository. Selected statistical indicators are presented through interactive maps that are based on actual GPS data. Statistical publications, infographics, catalogues, and other important statistical reference material are available on the website's online repository. The website is linked to the Statistical Data Portals which provide online access to various statistical data and information that can be exported to external formats such as TXT, CSV, XLS, PPT. Through the data portals, statistical users are able to perform multi-dimensional queries on various data sets. Users of statistics can access and search for publications in the Statistics Botswana Information Resource Center online through the new website as it is integrated with the internal Library Management System. The new website has many other interactive features that allow users to request data online, access information about strategic events and activities implemented by Statistics Botswana and provide feedback on products and services. The website is live and can be accessed on: <u>www.statsbots.org.bw</u>

New Statistics Botswana Service Charter

Statistics Botswana developed a five year corporate strategic plan for the period 2015 – 2020. Efficient and effective implementation of the strategic plan requires high level service standards, hence the development of the Service Charter. The Service Charter was developed through a process that included benchmarking on international best practices, and has taken into account input provided by staff, management, and stakeholders through a consultative process. The Service Charter, which is the first for the organisation, demonstrates Statistics Botswana's commitment to increasing availability and access to Botswana's wealth of statistical information by delivering timely, relevant and accurate statistical information, the use of which contributes to informed decision-making, research and discussion within government, the private sector, the international community, and Batswana in general. The charter is aligned to the provisions of the Statistics ACT of 2009. The Service Charter outlines the organisation's commitment to providing quality customer service, and specifies what can be expected when the organisation is approached for statistical and/or other related services through any of the service channels.

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