



INSIDE BOTSWANA'S STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENSION

- Grappling with growing Covid-19 cases Botswana's President Mokgweetsi Masisi seeks to extend state of Emergency by another 6 months

A close-up portrait of President Mokgweetsi Masisi, looking slightly to the right with a serious expression. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a red tie.

Drone technology helps boost healthcare supply chains in Africa

A black and white drone with four rotors, shown from a top-down perspective.

page 3

Wealth in Africa: Home ownership looming crisis

A small, two-story house with a porch, held gently in the palm of a hand.

page 8

Brady Armstrong; Botswana's Motorcycle Racing Virtuoso

A motorcyclist in full racing gear, including a helmet and protective suit, riding a dirt bike.

page 16

A top-down view of a white office desk with a keyboard, pens, glasses, and a cup of coffee.

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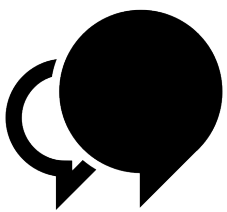
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Echo is published by YMH Publishing

YMH Publishing,
Unit 3, Kgale Court, Plot 128,
GIFP, Gaborone
Postal address:
P O BOX 840,
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Telephone: (267) 3933 805/6.
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'Inside Botswana's State of Emergency extension'

At a time when some of Botswana's neighbours are easing their State of Emergency regulations and even exiting completely, Botswana President Mokgweetsi Masisi has sought to extend the country's State of Emergency by a further six months.

The National Assembly of Botswana meets today (Monday) to endorse President Mokgweetsi Masisi's request to extend the State of Emergency by a further six months to fight Covid-19, and observers say is highly unlikely that Parliament will reject the request.

Masisi's ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) commands a majority in the country's Parliament and whatever the President seeks endorsed get an outright support from his MPs. The Opposition in Parliament had rejected the SOE that was effected in April, arguing that the six months was too long to allow the President to rule under a state of emergency. They also posited that a State of Emergency could open room for corrupt practices by the government. There also have fears of encroachment on the civil liberties of the public as members of the security forces are engaged to enforce SOE regulations.

Some MP in the opposition have indicated that they are opposed the request for another

extension. One opposition member Dithapelo Keorapetse of the main Opposition Umbrella for Democratic Change has said he is opposed to the extension because nothing was achieved which could not have been with a State of Emergency.

"The only thing we saw was unprecedented elite corruption," he said.

Botswana started off with very low cases of Covid-19 in the region while its neighbours cases skyrocketed. South Africa has seen its numbers cross the 600 000-half mark with over 16 000 deaths, becoming the fifth in the world when it comes to Covid-19.

The Botswana national Covid-19 Presidential task team had among other control measures divided the country into Covid zones and required people to apply for interzonal permits to travel, and also emphasised on the observance of health protocols like washing of hands with soap, social distancing and making the wearing of masks compulsory.

Local transmission was also very low and contact tracing in the country was seen to win the day. However, the numbers started rising, most of which were import cases reported at the borders. These cases were found on truck drivers who were bringing essentials mainly

from neighbouring South Africa.

Currently Botswana is battling local transmission which has seen number of cases and deaths related deaths go up.

The Coordinator of the country's Covid-19 Task Team, Dr Kereng Masupu said on Thursday last week that local cases stood at 1730, with 701 recoveries and 16 deaths. He said there were 1013 recoveries. Masupu indicated that the increase in local transmission is attributed to people not adhering to covid-19 protocols set out to control the disease. Masupu urged the nation to avoid unnecessary travel as the Independence Holidays come up.

Hard on the heels of an update of the update by Masupu, on Friday Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipiyagae also

made an update in which he said non-essential movement across zones will no longer be tolerated, and that those who had obtained permits should re-apply as they were not valid. He however then sent a press release the following day correcting his initial statement and that permits will be given on a case by case basis, and the new travel protocols will be issued today.

The updates by the two members of the Task Team was interpreted that to mean that another lockdown was looming immediately after the endorsement of the SOE extension later today. Fears of another lockdown was dismissed by Tshipiyagae.





Drone technology helps boost healthcare supply chains in Africa

Health workers serving remote communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) must often undertake a six-day return journey to collect vaccines, traversing dense tropical forests and often the raging Congo River and its tributaries. Drone technology is offering a lifesaving solution to the challenges, including helping to ensure that cold chains are maintained, and vaccine quality is not compromised.

In a presentation at the recent Africa Supply Chain in Action virtual conference, which was hosted by The Professional Body for Supply Chain Management (Sapics) and Smart Procurement, Freddy Nkosi, DRC country director for VillageReach, shared the Drones for Health success

story, a project focused on getting vaccines and supplies to hard-to-reach rural communities, however, the applications of drones in healthcare will extend to congested cities, too.

VillageReach is a non-governmental organisation that is striving to improve communities' access to healthcare and life-saving medicines and vaccines in remote rural areas in developing countries. In the DRC, with funding from Gavi (The Vaccine Alliance), VillageReach, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the Civil Aviation Authority of the DRC, is using drones to transport vaccines and other supplies to isolated villages and communities.

Nkosi says that the Drones for Health project is being piloted in

the DRC's northwest province of Équateur. "This is a province with many geographical challenges. It has 18 health districts, more than half of which are only accessible by river. This makes the supply chain and transportation of vaccines from the provincial storage to the remote health storage facilities exceedingly difficult, especially during the rainy season when there is often flooding."

A round trip to the Équateur province, which involves taking a non-motorised boat down a river, can take up to six hours. The drones completed the one-way journey in just 20 minutes. Nkosi explains that the drones are only being deployed for the hardest to reach locations in the DRC, which are inaccessible by

motorcycle or 4 x 4 vehicle.

Studies are underway to assess the affordability of drones versus conventional transport in other areas. He notes that the drones being used can fly up to 80km at a speed of up to 115km per hour. "The technology is still developing, so we can expect fewer limitations in the future. While our drones can fly up to 80km, we are setting up 'refilling stations' to reach health facilities beyond 80km.

For instance, if the health facility is located 400km from the distribution centre or warehouse, there will be five stations where the drone will land after 80km and the local team will change the battery to enable the drone to fly to the next station."

Since the drones do not include cameras, Nkosi says privacy is not an issue, and to date, there have been no safety problems. The drones are not operating within a 15km radius of an airport, he states.

Nkosi believes that it is only a matter of time before many countries and communities adopt drones for deliveries, even in urban areas. He says that in the DRC's capital Kinshasa, the blood transfusion service is exploring the use of drones for urgent deliveries of lifesaving blood due to the city's poor infrastructure and traffic congestion.

The inaugural Africa Supply Chain in Action Conference and Exhibition was one of Africa's biggest online event for the supply chain and procurement profession, bringing together hundreds of delegates from around the continent. "The Covid-19 crisis has put the spotlight on supply chains and pushed supply chain professionals to their limits. Expertise in supply chain and procurement management, logistics and distribution has never been more important than it is today. The imperative to ensure that businesses and economies can survive and thrive beyond Covid-19 gave rise to this important event and the collaboration between co-hosts Sapics and Smart Procurement," says Keabetswe Mpane, Sapics president.

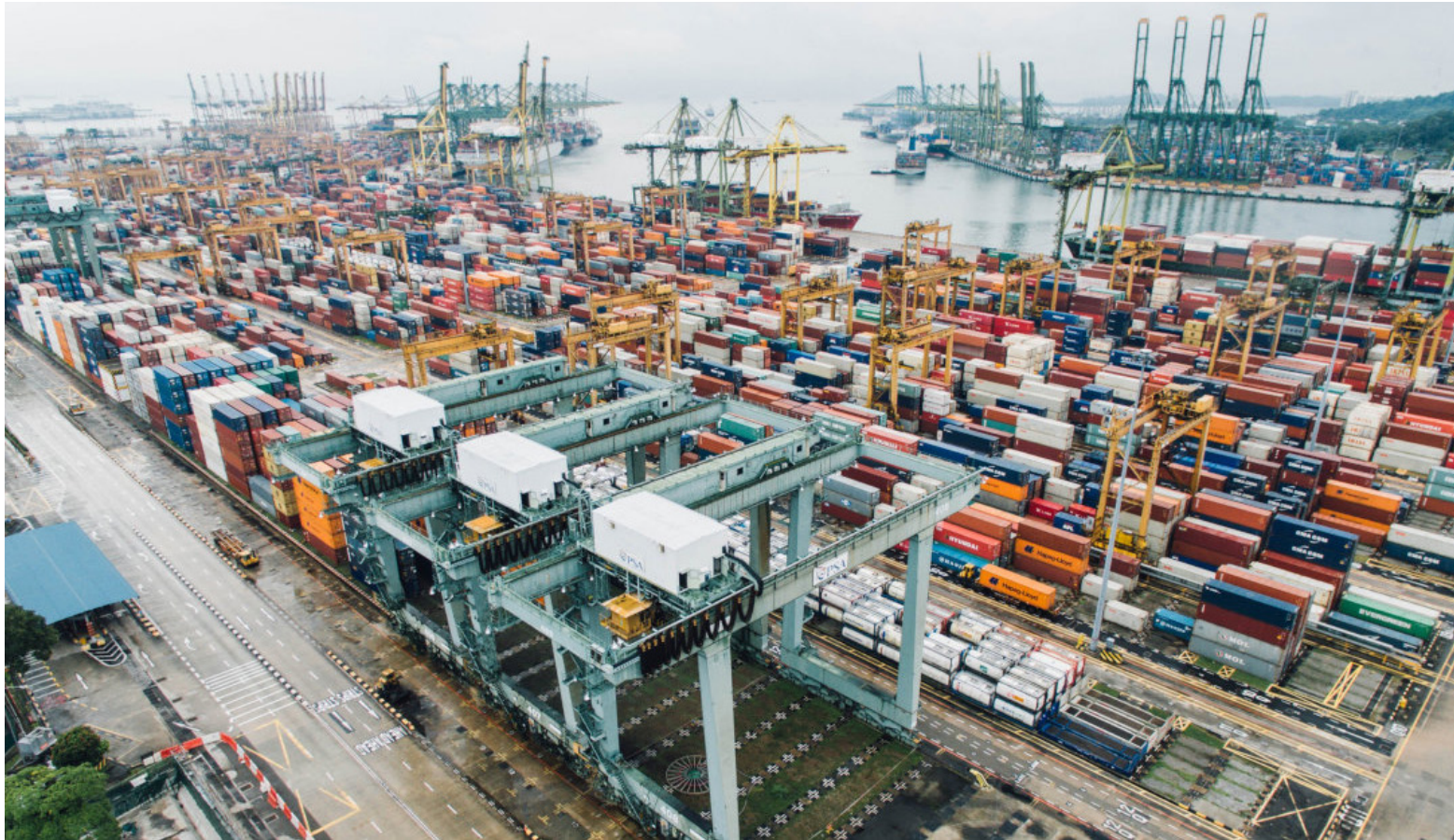
The event forms the foundation of the ASCAnation, which will provide supply chain professionals across Africa with a platform from which their voices can be heard.

(Bizcom.)



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South Africa and its neighbours anxious about EU and UK post-Brexit talks

As the deadline for the post-Brexit trade talks between the European Union (EU) and the United Kingdom (UK) looms, concerns have arisen as to whether the two parties will be able to conclude a deal. In terms of the Brexit divorce agreement, the UK is expected to leave the EU single market and customs union on 1 January 2021. A trade deal will govern future trade relations between the EU and the UK. The prospect of striking such a deal, however, has been thrown into doubt by the publication recently of a new controversial bill by the British government that seeks to overrule parts of the Brexit withdrawal pact.

The outcome of these talks will have implications for the South African economy, specifically trade. The EU as a regional bloc is South Africa's largest trade partner in the world, and South Africa is the EU's biggest trade partner in Africa. South Africa has longstanding and extensive trade relations with the UK. Prior to exiting the EU, the UK was South Africa's second largest trade partner, after Germany, in the EU regional community. The country is also South Africa's fourth biggest market for exports, behind only China, Germany and the United States.

Until the UK decided to leave the EU, it traded with South Africa under an economic partnership agreement (EPA) between the EU and some member states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The EU-SADC EPA entered into force on 10 October 2016. Under this agreement, the EU has fully or partially eliminated custom duties for South African exports, except for aluminium and various agricultural products.

The EU-SADC EPA specifies

rules of origin to fulfil in order for products to obtain preferential market access. Rules of origin refer to the criteria used to determine the national source of a product. The agreement provides for trade remedies to tackle unfair trade practices. It also contains safeguard measures to increase import duties in cases where a surge in imports unduly threatens to cause serious injury to the domestic market.

With the UK deciding to quit the EU it meant that it would no longer be a part of the EU-SADC EPA. This implied, in turn, that trade between the SADC countries and the UK would no longer enjoy the preferential terms that existed under the EU-SADC EPA framework.

The new deal

To prevent disruption to trade, the Southern African Customs Union nations struck a deal with the UK in 2017. The custom union countries are South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia,

and Eswatini – plus Mozambique (SACUM). The agreement in principle is that SACUM and UK will carry over the terms of the provisions of the EU-SADC EPA into a new bilateral trade agreement. The roll-over was intended to ensure continuity in trade ties after the UK had left the EU.

Following two years of negotiations, a new agreement, the SACUM-UK EPA, was concluded in September 2019. In essence, this entailed a transfer of the terms of the SADC-EU EPA into the new SACUM-UK EPA. These terms cover rules for:

- trade in goods,
- preferential tariff rates on all sides,
- trade remedies,
- technical standards for health and safety for agricultural and industrial products,
- protection of South African and UK's geographical indications, and
- dispute settlement.

But, there were some issues that needed further discussion and resolution. These are tariff-rate quotas, and the sourcing of inputs from across the EU region into production for export. There's also the treatment of bilateral safeguard measures, other transitional arrangements, geographical indications, and the built-in agenda.

SACUM countries are entitled to duty and quota-free access for their exports under the EU-SADC EPA. Given the developed nature of its economy, South Africa enjoys less favourable treatment for some of its agricultural, fish and aluminium exports. A new trade provision was agreed that allowed SACUM nations and the UK to source and use EU inputs for production to export to each other's markets. This ensured the continuity of integrated value chains across South Africa, the EU and the UK, particularly in the automobile industry.

The SACUM-UK agreement

provides for transitional arrangements. These enable the transfer to it of certain provisions from the EU-SADC EPA. These include, among others, customs matters concerning the protection of geographical indications. On the other hand, the UK is required to provide sufficient time for exporters from SACUM countries to adjust to new technical rules for manufactured goods in cases where those deviate from EU regulations.

An agreement was also reached on a built-in agenda to address areas of interest in future that could not be resolved during the negotiations. These include market access issues, regional cumulation, export taxes, technical barriers to trade, geographical indications, and electronic certification.

Need for certainty

There has been a great deal of anxiety on the part of SACUM countries about the final outcome of the EU-UK trade talks, and the impact this will have on the trade relationship between SACUM nations and the UK. A deal between the EU and the UK will help reinforce the certainty and continuity that the SACUM-UK agreement seeks to achieve when the UK exits the EU customs area. If the EU and the UK are unable to agree on any deal, their trade relationship will be regulated by the rules of the World Trade Organisation. This means the UK will be treated as any trading nation that does not enjoy preferential trade with the EU.

In this scenario, the SACUM-UK arrangement will be preserved, but it will also introduce new complications in trade and uncertainty concerning how certain issues, such as the level and quantity of local inputs in the production of motor cars in South Africa for export to the EU and UK markets, will be addressed. A deal between the EU and the UK, therefore, will be the most preferable outcome for SACUM countries.

(The Conversation.)





The minister had been given a formal reprimand, a “salary



The opposition Democratic Alliance had accused Mapisa-Nqakula of misusing state resources by letting the group from the ruling African National Congress (ANC) travel with her to Harare in September.

sacrifice” had been imposed on her for three months from Nov. 1 and she would have to make sure the ANC reimbursed the state for the costs of the flight, the presidency added.

A defence ministry spokesman did not immediately respond to requests for comment from the minister. Mapisa-Nqakula herself did not immediately respond to a message sen.

Ramaphosa has pledged to clean up the ANC’s reputation after a decade of scandals under his predecessor Jacob Zuma.

(Reuters.)

South African defence minister’s pay docked over use of military plane

South Africa’s president has reprimanded defence minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula and docked her pay for three months for taking a delegation to Zimbabwe on an air force plane, his office said.

The opposition Democratic Alliance had accused Mapisa-Nqakula of misusing state resources by letting the group from the ruling African National Congress (ANC) travel with her to Harare in September.

The presidency said late on Saturday Mapisa-Nqakula had been on an official trip. But her decision to let the delegation – who were travelling to Zimbabwe on unrelated business – join her on the flight had been an “error

of judgement”. It said President Cyril Ramaphosa had told Mapisa-Nqakula in a letter that this was not in keeping with her responsibilities as a cabinet minister.



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LEA assisted me to get funding to develop my business and to compile a tender document to supply bread to Government institutions. I encourage other businesses to work with LEA as that will help them to grow and ultimately improve their entrepreneurship skills.” said Mrs Nalebomo.

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UN concerned over governments' blocking path to carbon-neutral future

Governments worldwide are still putting obstacles in the way of economies making the transition to become carbon-neutral by mid-century, an effort needed to hold global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, the head of the United Nations said on Thursday.

Besides instituting their own plans to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, governments must create the conditions to allow companies, cities, civil society groups and other organisations to do the same, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged.

He called on governments to reform regulations and policies that currently go against action on climate change, such as financing coal-power plants and providing subsidies for the extraction and use of fossil fuels.

"Governments are an obstacle in many areas for (the) private sector and other entities to be able to establish their own (net-zero) transitions," he told the close of a virtual climate roundtable organised by the United Nations.

Guterres said one prime minister had told him it was hard to end subsidies for dirty fuels because it would hurt people's wallets. Another said he could not tax carbon pollution, as it would lose him voters.

Guterres said he advised the leaders to give financial support not to fossil fuels but to poorer people in need, and to reduce payroll taxes while boosting them on carbon emitters, a measure he said could help win elections.

The aim of government policies and regulations should be to "force everyone to have a transition plan to net-zero before 2050", he added.

Public development banks should also commit to halt lending to coal projects and boost their funding for renewables and energy efficiency, he said - a key expectation for the first global summit of those institutions in November.

Former Bank of England governor Mark Carney, now the U.N. climate finance envoy, said rules should be in place to require businesses to disclose climate risks they are exposed to by the delayed November 2021 COP26 climate summit.

At Thursday's event, Fiji's prime minister said the island nation would require all government departments to assess climate change risks to their work.

And Canada has made climate risk disclosure a condition for major firms to access COVID-19

recovery funds, Carney noted.

"What we want for COP26 is for the world to make that type of disclosure mandatory" everywhere, he said.

"It's not acceptable for our companies not to tell us where the risks are for them," he added.

At Thursday's event, many leaders said economic stimulus to boost recovery from the coronavirus pandemic should support clean energy and green

technology, which can create more jobs than dirty industries.

A report published this week by research coalition Climate Action Tracker, however, said most government recovery plans it had analysed from high-emitting countries showed "only a hint of green".

Leaders from Bangladesh, Antigua and Barbuda, and other countries also emphasised the need to ramp up protection

for vulnerable countries and communities facing worsening floods, storms, sea level rise and other climate change threats.

Guterres said not enough funding was being channelled into measures to adapt and become more resilient to the climate impacts that are already happening today.

He called for that work to be financed alongside efforts to reduce emissions.

"Many people are already suffering, so we need to massively support those (who) are suffering more," he said. Reuters.



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The logo for LEA Glen Valley Horticulture Incubator. It features the letters "LEA" in a large, blue, sans-serif font. To the right of "LEA" is a green graphic of a plant with two leaves. Below "LEA" is the text "GlenValley" in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font. Underneath "GlenValley" is the text "HORTICULTURE INCUBATOR" in a small, blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the logo is the tagline "Accelerating Business Growth" in a small, blue, sans-serif font.

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The logo for Botswana. It features the word "BOTSWANA" in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below "BOTSWANA" is the tagline "Our pride, your destination" in a small, blue, sans-serif font.

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Wealth in Africa: Home ownership looming crisis

By Emmanuel Allotey

Africa has been subjected to many misconceptions about wealth and prosperity. An infamous misconception is that Africans live on trees, however misconceived these assumptions are there is some hidden truth behind it. Home ownership in Africa is the lowest across all the

continents in the world.

Land and property rights and the systems to protect and nurture its growth is at infancy stages in many nations in Africa, a disappointing feat that buttresses misconceptions about the continent. Today’s youth are growing up faced with the harsh reality of the true cost of home ownership in Africa as

they work towards growing their personal wealth.

Property ownership is the most significant measure of wealth accumulation. Africa’s youth face an uphill battle to wealth and property accumulation with higher rates of unemployment, underemployment and limited economic opportunity. Africa has the largest concentration

of young people in the world at 200million and this number is forecasted to increase 42% by 2030, according to the United Nations report. The rapid growth in population will place a demand on the property market creating a further gap of housing deficits across many African nations. UN Habitat estimates that by 2030, sub Saharan Africa

will have more people living in urban than rural areas. Rural to Urban migration, a common plight facing African nations is a contributing factor to increased demand for houses. Rapid population increase in cities leads to shortage of housing and inflates the prices of property leading to further unaffordability.

This cycle can be addressed by deliberate action by governments to increase the supply of affordable housing. The International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Chinese multinational construction and engineering company, CITIC Construction have launched a \$300 million investment platform, CITICC (Africa) Holding Limited, to develop affordable housing in multiple African countries. The platform will partner with local housing developers and provide long-term capital to develop 30,000 homes over next five years.

African governments have identified this looming housing crises and have introduced housing schemes and programmes to support first time home ownership. Some initiatives include waiving transfer duty tax for first time buyers, providing housing subsidy for homeowners with earnings in a certain income bracket, others include providing affordable accommodation targeted to the youth within a certain age group. These initiatives require support from all stakeholders including Financial Institutions, Property developers to improve affordability and wealth accumulation in Africa.



Christmas vs COVID-19: will End of the Year spending survive?

By Emmanuel Allotey

The end of 2020 is fast

approaching and for consumer spending this is the busiest season in the retail calendar year. COVID-19 has subdued the

retail industry with significant impacts to consumer behaviour, product demand, and retail store, factory, and logistics

services availability.

The impact of COVID-19 on the economy has threatened the disposable income of many individuals. According to World Bank forecasts, the global economy will shrink by 5.2% this year with possibilities of business collapse and job layoffs among others. The emphasis on essential goods and services have placed discretionary spending on luxury goods on the backfoot. The Retail sector faces uncertainty whether they will experience a bumper End of the Year spending season or continued depressed sales as a result of COVID-19.

The End of the Year is a peak selling season for retailers in many nations around the world. Sales increase dramatically as people purchase gifts, decorations, and supplies to celebrate the end of the year. Strategic marketing campaigns and events such as Black Friday, Boxing Day specials, are known to drive exponential growth in consumer spending each year.

Financial Institutions are conscious of this phenomenon and compete amongst themselves to capture as much business as possible. Towards the end of the year, Financial Institutions usually advertise consumer spending related campaigns, promotions, give-aways to

encourage the usage of their products and platforms.

The internet is increasingly become an integral part of the shopping process as the virus continues to rampage the world. Social distancing rules and lockdowns have amplified the advantages of internet shopping. Retailers that are agile and provide the convenience for consumers to shop online with logistics in place to deliver the goods stand to benefit from the improved momentum in sales.

Travelling, which is usually a major activity undertaken towards the end of the year is currently impacted by national lockdowns linked to COVID-19. Borders remain closed to international travel and the tourism industry is reeling from the effects. Travelling and its ancillary activities contribute to increased retail spending.

The prevalence of COVID-19 stands to influence the End of the Year spending season. Retailers through innovation and agile strategies can mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and unlock opportunities to drive revenue success in the last quarter of the year, after a challenging start to 2020.

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Google and FAO launch new big data tool, Earth Map

Google and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations has developed a new tool anyone, anywhere can access to obtain multidimensional maps and statistics showing key climate and environmental trends wherever they are.

Earth Map, an innovative and free-to-use web-based tool provides efficient, rapid, inexpensive and analytically cogent insights, drawn from satellites as well as FAO's Hand-in-Hand geospatial platform – which allows anyone with basic Internet access to tap critical climate, environmental and agricultural information – with a few clicks on a computer.

Its development follows the successful Collect Earth platform jointly developed with Google under FAO's OpenForis suite of tools, which has already proven useful for forest assessments; land cover assessments and project design and implementation.

“I am convinced that transforming our food systems to feed the world will be achieved with a digital agriculture” said QU Dongyu, FAO's director-general. “We need to make digital technologies accessible to everyone.”

Earth Map makes available multi-temporal and quasi real-time satellite imagery and geospatial data sets that drive Google Earth Engine and complements them with more planetary-scale analytical capabilities, allowing for detection, quantification and monitoring of changes and trends on the Earth's surface.

It does so in a way that does not require users to master sophisticated coding techniques, thereby mitigating bottlenecks in terms of technical capacities of developing states and ultimately paving the way for smallholders to contribute to as well as access critical knowledge to sustain their livelihoods.

“At a time when environmental and societal challenges are paramount, we strive for Google's products to enable all countries with equal access to the latest technology in support of global climate action and sustainable development,” said Rebecca Moore, director, Google Earth. “FAO knows what information is needed, we specialise in information accessibility, and both of us are committed to boosting the resilience of people and communities worldwide.”

Google and FAO began their partnership in 2015, signing an agreement on the sidelines of the Paris Agreement. Initial efforts focused on forest and crop cover mapping techniques, and they are now rapidly extending to areas such as biodiversity conservation, pest control and water management.

Outputs from Earth Map are tailored to users' needs, and serve as “dashboards” as well as maps, Moore notes. More than 50 countries have already benefited from the FAO-Google tools and FAO already leverages the technology to prepare and monitor projects and help Members apply for grants from entities such as the Green Climate Fund and the

World Bank, including projects in Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines and Uzbekistan.

Buoyed by funding from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety's International Climate Initiative, Earth Map offers among else data ranging from temperature to precipitation, population, vegetation, evapotranspiration, elevation and soil.

The real-time capacities and constant updating make them particularly useful for those engaged with Hand-in-Hand, FAO's evidence-based, country-led and country-owned

initiative to accelerate agricultural transformation and sustainable rural development.

The new tool also underscores how FAO is transforming its ownership role regarding data into a custodial sharing function to maximize beneficial use. “That's what makes big data big, and why partnerships will have an increasingly central role in pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals,” said Maximo Torero, FAO's chief economist.

The power of the tool was highlighted recently when, with a few clicks, programme leaders working on a Green Climate Fund project pitch in Kyrgyzstan were

able to appreciate how actual precipitation patterns varied notably on a district-by-district basis from the broader average measures, thus enabling a more refined project design.

“The breakthrough here is that Earth Map brings the unparalleled power of Google Earth Engine to everyone's fingertips in a matter of seconds, so that basic Internet access enables even those without a background in coding or remote sensing to analyse big data,” says Danilo Mollicone, lead technical officer of the FAO's technical team that supports the new tool as well as Collect Earth.

FAO will train and assist users and, while the broad focus is on ease of use – including drop-down menus and aggregated charts – and narrowing the digital divide, the Organization can also help develop more bespoke and specialised Earth Map assessments when needed.

(Bizcommunity.)



Twin ‘crises’ of climate and COVID hammering millions - Red Cross

Weather disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic have simultaneously hit tens of millions of people worldwide this year, making them more vulnerable to both threats and hampering emergency response, the Red Cross said on Wednesday.

In a new analysis, the international humanitarian agency said about 70% of the 132 disasters linked to extreme weather in 2020 had coincided in place and time with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Globally, more than 51 million people – likely an underestimate – had been recorded as directly affected by an overlap of floods, droughts or storms and the pandemic, with nearly 3,500 people killed in the weather events, it said.

“The climate crisis has not stopped for COVID-19, and millions of people have suffered from the two crises colliding,” Francesco Rocca, president of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), told journalists.

“We have had absolutely no choice but to address both crises simultaneously,” he said.

While not all weather disasters have a direct link with global warming, the climate is becoming more volatile and weather more extreme as the planet heats up, he added.

The report, produced with the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, said the pandemic was complicating efforts to evacuate people, including a need for more shelters to respect distancing and prevent infection.

Aid agencies, meanwhile, face a double threat as they respond to COVID-19 outbreaks and climate disasters at the same time, beset by a reduction in frontline workers and resources.

Disrupted global supply chains have also slowed the flow of relief aid and recovery equipment, the report said, and the pandemic has increased the need for financial humanitarian assistance at a time of deep global downturn.

The places where the colliding threats have shown up most clearly are India and Bangladesh, where almost 40 million people were affected by the pandemic and monsoon floods or storms.

COVID-19 has made it harder to move people to safe places and provide food, accommodation and other aid safely and quickly, putting those affected at even greater risk, the report said.

The analysis also looked at the intersection between heatwaves and COVID-19. Nearly 432 million vulnerable people, including the elderly and infants, have struggled with the twin threat this year, including many in Europe and North America, it noted.

That situation has led to a

conflict of safe practices, with people enduring heatwaves advised to wear light clothing and remove restrictive coverings, for instance, even as many governments require the wearing of face masks in public.

Access to cooling centres and air-conditioned buildings has also been limited during the

pandemic.

On the West Coast of the United States, meanwhile, more than 2 million people have had to deal with major wildfires and the pandemic together, with smoke potentially hiking the likelihood of lung infections including COVID-19, the report said.

Rocca said the Red Cross

welcomed a rise in the number of volunteers helping out in their communities, particularly in developed Western countries, as well as a rise in donations for the COVID-19 response.

But Richard Blewitt, the IFRC’s permanent observer to the United Nations, warned of a “major gap” in funding for other

humanitarian crises, such as the current flooding in Sudan.

Wealthy countries may also not deliver the \$100 billion they had promised this year to help poorer countries tackle climate change, he added.

“The massive global investment in recovering from the pandemic proves governments can act decisively and drastically in the face of imminent global threats. We urgently need this same energy on climate,” said IFRC president Rocca.

(Reuters.)



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South African hit 'Jerusalema' inspires people worldwide to shake off COVID-19 blues



From Sao Paulo to Sweden, thousands of people around the world, including priests, police, ministers and frontline workers, have posted clips of themselves dancing to South African house song "Jerusalema".

With confirmed global coronavirus deaths nearing a grim milestone of one million, a vaccine still some time away and lockdowns and social distancing measures to curb the pandemic's spread weighing on public life, the up-tempo gospel groove has provided a moment's relief across borders and language barriers.

Yet 150 million YouTube views later, the song's producer is still not sure why. Master KG told Reuters on Thursday he was in "disbelief".

"Early this year, around January, I thought the song had reached its peak," said Master KG, real name Kgaogelo Moagi. "And then out of nowhere the song came back."

The "nowhere" was a group of Angolan friends, who posted themselves performing a self-invented dance routine to the song. In the video, a first group demonstrates the dance to another group, who interrupt their house chores to join-in.

From there the clip made its way to Portugal, the rest of Europe, the United States and South America under the #JerusalemaDanceChallenge tag, inspiring variations such as a group of Italian nuns in tunics and priests in robes, and nurses in

full scrubs at a Swedish hospital doing the dance.

"(Now the song is) number one on Shazam. Being posted by Cristiano Ronaldo. Posted by Janet Jackson. Just a lot of amazing things. Things I've been dreaming of," Moagi said.

In a televised address announcing the country was moving to the lowest level of lockdown restrictions, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa dared the entire nation to take the challenge.

Moagi said: "The music I make is for the people ... It's no longer my song, it's a song for the world. It's healing them and I'm blessed and honoured by that."

In Cape Town on Thursday at the studio where blockbusters like "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Invictus" were filmed, actors and crew who have mostly been on furlough due the pandemic came to film a short feature on the dance craze.

Director Abongwe Booi said the dance challenge was good fun but also a chance to highlight the struggles of the film industry.

"So many people have been out of work and they haven't had a chance to come together. For us to do this on a day like Heritage Day is amazing," Booi said, referring to Thursday's public holiday which celebrates South African heritage and cultural diversity.

(Reuters.)





4 sub-Saharan African countries to visit this spring



With the borders officially opening to the rest of Africa and the world on 1 October 2020, South Africa’s neighbouring countries in sub-Saharan Africa offer the perfect vacation spots for SA travellers who want to follow their wanderlust.

From Botswana to Cape Town and in between, sub-Saharan Africa offers travellers the full spectrum of what there is to be enjoyed in our natural world, along with options to suit any budget.

Cape Town, South Africa
An hour’s drive along Cape Town’s Atlantic Coast gives you access to a host of secluded secret beaches, perfect for cooling down after a hike on Table Mountain or en route to the Cape Point Nature Reserve.



The area is home to more than 8,000 species of indigenous plants, and September and October are the perfect time to enjoy the spring flowers in bloom as you drive along the coast. At Cape Point, you might catch an ostrich or a baboon running past while taking a lazy dip in the cooling ocean.

Zambia
Another well-kept secret only available to people travelling to Zambia between August and January next year (when the water is low enough), is the Devil’s Pool at Victoria Falls. After years of erosion, the area is full of natural pools and interesting rock structures. Walk along the edge of the falls holding on to the safety ropes, before

jumping right in. The force of the water propels you to the edge of the waterfall so you’re both immersed in water and watching the waterfall down below. It’s an exhilarating experience for those brave enough to experience it.

The Victoria Falls region is also full of native wildlife such as crocodiles and hippos. Visitors can book helicopter tours of the area for a thrilling view of the animals basking in the shallow waters below. The fact that the area is not gated means that you might catch a glimpse of a wandering elephant or warthog on a morning walk around your hotel grounds.

Botswana
October is also the best time for viewing wildlife in Botswana. Although temperatures begin to spike at that time of the year, grasses are low and the drying up of water sources means the game are more likely to collect en masse at larger water sources, making viewing easier.

September and October are the best months to visit Botswana’s famous Okavango Delta region, one of the world’s largest inland deltas. Take a boat cruise across the Delta or a guided walking tour to view elephants, zebras, lions, leopards and giraffe grazing happily across the vast lush green landscape for which the area is famous.

The famous Chobe National Park is another marvel to visit this time of the year. Game views on the mighty Chobe River bans from both the land (game drive) or

from the water (boat cruise) gives one unforgettable safari experiences. This is one place where you get to experience largest elephant herds.

One can equally enjoy the wildlife in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, or the Makgadikgadi.

Lesotho
If you’re seeking an outdoor (BizCommunity.)

experience that involves hiking and trekking, look no further than Lesotho. The spectacular mountain kingdom with its pristine natural vegetation offers beautiful landscapes that include the Tsehlanyane and Sehlabathebe National Parks, both gems for avid botanists, birdwatchers and hikers.

The hardy Basotho ponies, which were specially bred for traversing mountain terrain, are an absolute joy for guided treks in these parks. The ever-popular Malealea Lodge, the kingdom’s premier horseback destination, has hosted novice and experienced riders alike since it was founded back in 1986.

For more extensive hiking and pony trekking experiences, the exciting multi-day routes on offer include the 32km track connecting the Bokong Nature Reserve with the Tsehlanyane National Park via the Roof of Africa, and a 40-km escarpment footpath between Sani Top and Sehlabathebe National Park.

So whether you’re seeking a weekend getaway or a full exploration of the wonders of nature in Spring, anywhere you visit in sub-Saharan Africa at this time of the year is sure to offer you a chance to discover Africa’s natural landscape offerings, along with safe options to ensure social distancing.



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

CASE NO. CVHGB-004021-19

In the matter between:

ODIRILE NGWEBULA

PLAINTIFF

And

PK CONNECTIONS (PROPRIETARY) LIMITED
t/a EXECUTIVE MOTORS CLUB

DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF SALE IN EXECUTION

BE PLEASED TO TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a Judgment of the above Honourable Court the following moveable property of the Defendant will be sold by public auction by **DEPUTY SHERIFF OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA** to the highest bidder as follows:

DATE OF SALE : FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER, 2020

TIME : 10.30 A.M

VENUE : BROADHURST POLICE STATION, GABORONE

PROPERTY TO BE SOLD

: VOLVO S60 2.0T SEDAN GOLD IN COLOUR REGISTRATION NO. JG 49VP GP;
SAMSUNG LCD; SAMSUNG HOME THEATER; HP LAPTOP; CANON PRINTER; 2
PIECES SOFAS; DEFY FRIDGE; DEFY MICROWAVE; DSTV DECODER; 3 BAR
STOOLS; 2 X DOUBEL BED; WALL MIRROR.

TERMS OF SALE : CASH OR BANK GUARANTEED CHEQUE.

DATED AT GABORONE THIS 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020.

DEPUTY OMPHEMETSE PETER KAISARA
c/o YANDANI BOKO LAW FIRM
Plaintiff's Attorneys
Plot 27190 Block 3
Opp Itumeleng Primary School
P. O. Box 522AAH CBD,
GABORONE (YB/rv/588)

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

CASE NO: CCMVL – 000440-19

In the matter between:

GIBRALTA (PTY) LTD

PLAINTIFF

And

JOSIE'S DIVINE (PTY) LTD
JOESPHINE MOILWA

1ST DEFENDANT
2ND DEFENDANT

SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
(ORDER 8 RULE 4)

TO: JOSIE'S DIVINE (PTY) LTD a company duly registered in terms of the Laws of Botswana, with its place of operations situate in Botswana, and having capacity thereof to sue and be sued in its own name and whose address for purposes of this suit is P O Box 31, Mogobane. With further and better particulars unknown to the Plaintiff. (herein called the '1st Defendant').

AND TO: JOSEPHINE MOILWA, an adult female, resident in Botswana, of full legal capacity to sue and be sued in her own names, whose address for purpose of this suit is PLOT 8951, BLOCK 5, Gaborone, with further and better particulars unknown to the Plaintiff. (Herein called the '2nd Defendant')

TAKE NOTICE that by summary judgement application issued out of this court, you have been called upon to give notice within 14 days after publication hereto, to the **CLERK OF COURT** and to **AJAYI LEGAL CHAMBERS**, the Applicant's Attorneys, of your intention to oppose (if any) in an application wherein **GIBRALTA (PTY) LTD of c/o AJAYI LEGAL CHAMBERS, OFFICE 20B, PLOT 5648, CRAFT MARKET, BROADHURST INDUSTRIAL, P.O.BOX 228 ABG, SEBELE, GABORONE**, claims:

- a) Payment to the Plaintiff by the 1st and 2nd Defendants of the total sum of P34 290.49;
- b) 10% interest on the amount claimed calculated annually from the date of default to date of final payment;
- c) Costs of suit;
- d) Further and/or alternative relief.

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

DATED AT GABORONE ON THIS 14TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020.

AJAYI LEGAL CHAMBERS
PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEYS
OFFICE 20B, PLOT 5648, CRAFT MARKET
BROADHURST INDUSTRIAL
P O BOX 228 ABG, SEBELE
GABORONE

CAF participates in UN meeting on sport

Confederation of African Football (CAF) participated in the high-level virtual international expert group meeting on sport for preventing and countering violent extremism (PCVE) conducive terrorism, that took place from 21 – 23 September 2020.

The meeting was held within the framework of the United Nations global program on security of major sports events, and promotion of sports and its values as a tool to prevent violent extremism.

CAF was represented by Head of Safety and Security Department, Dr. Christian Emeruwa as a panelist of the Sport and PCVE: the engagement of sport bodies and federations.

CAF congratulated the United Nations on adopting this initiative, saying they are looking forward to using of football to recruit more sports towards achieving this target.

CAF representative Dr. Emeruwa suggested that international sport bodies should play a role in using their respective sports as a tool to prevent violent extremism. He advocated for an integrated and collaborative approach whereby sport bodies will be able to come with dedicated programmes targeted towards preventing violent extremism.

The meeting was considered as the first step in the preparation of the guidelines to be adopted by the United Nations to assist member nations on what to do and how to do them. The meeting was attended by representatives and senior experts from Civil society organizations working on sport and/or PCVE, including youth-led organizations, the United Nations, international and regional organizations, sport federations, sport foundations, private sector, academia, Member States, local and regional governments, Networks, Platforms and Associations in addition to media representatives.

Topics discussed included among others the role of athletes in promoting dialogue and preventing violent extremism, youth engagement in Sport and PCVE programmes, and the engagement of sport bodies and federations in Sports and PCVE.



IOC's Bach sounds optimistic note on Tokyo Games in 2021

International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach sounded an optimistic note last week about holding the Tokyo Olympics next year, taking heart from the recent resumption of major

sports events and progress in novel coronavirus vaccine development.

“We can see that sport is coming back slowly but surely which shows to us, shows to the world that

we can organise safe sports events even without a vaccine,” Bach told a meeting of IOC representatives and Japanese officials and organisers.

The opening of the online meeting was open to the media.

The Tokyo Olympics, originally scheduled for this summer, were postponed for a year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The virus has maintained its global spread in recent months, casting a shadow over the viability of the postponed Games but Bach was optimistic about efforts to fight it.

“We also have very encouraging news about the development of vaccines,” he said.

Bach and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga spoke by telephone last week and agreed to cooperate closely to stage a safe and secure Games for athletes and spectators.

“We are sitting together in one boat. The only thing we have to do now is to row in the same direction,” Bach told the meeting, in which Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike, Olympics Minister Seiko Hashimoto and other officials participated.

(Reuters.)



Legend Phiri still dedicated to serving Malawi football

Kinnah Phiri is regarded as one of the most prolific players to ever don the Malawi national team jersey. Phiri, who is set to turn 66 next month however shocked everyone when he made the decision to retire from international football at the age of 27.

Having starred for Malawi between 1974 and 1981, Phiri scored an astonishing 71 goals in 115 games for the national team as well as guiding them to several CECAFA Senior Challenge Cup titles.

After his active days, he went on to venture into coaching and the Malawian legend is also the last tactician to take The Flames to the Total Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) when he guided them to the 2010 tournament hosted by Angola.

In this interviews with Cafonline, Phiri where he talked

in broad about his career both as a player and coach as well as his stint in managerial positions within the Football Association of Malawi

How did your football career start and take off?

I started playing football when I was still in primary school. I was spotted by one of the officials from the Football Association of Malawi when I was in Secondary School. When I was in Form Two, there was a schools' competition and I was picked to play for the Malawi national schools team, and that is where my career started.

You also earned your first top flight team when still in secondary school and you were being flown to Blantyre for matches every weekend?

When Bullets signed me in 1972, they did not want me to be transferred to Blantyre

and also the headmaster at Chaminade liked me so much he did not want me to move. So, they made an arrangement to fly me from Karonga to Blantyre on Friday and then fly back on Monday after a game. It went on and on until I finished my secondary school.

You decided to retire from international football at 27 years, when most people thought you were at the prime of your career. Why did you make this decision?

I retired so early because I was a bit upset, as at that time when I was on top of the game, I had so many offers to play outside Malawi. I had an offer from Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe but I was not cleared by the Federation.

Also, there was a club that came from Brazil to play Malawi

in a friendly match the end of the game, they invited me together with goalkeeper Boniface Maganga to go to Brazil for trials but the Federation wanted us to be signed outright.

After this is when I decided to go to Swaziland and played there for six years for Manzini Wanderers as a player and in 1984, I was also a player-coach there.

After you retired from playing, you took up coaching and you came back home in 2001 to rejoin Bullets as coach.

What inspired that?

I was invited back by then President Bakili Muluzi. He is the one who called and asked me to come back and take the team for the Champions League assignments.

I took the team when it had already qualified for the CAF Champions League. We

did very well. We eliminated Orlando Pirates of South Africa, Zanaco of Zambia and SC Villa of Uganda and we qualified for the quarter-finals.

Still on coaching successes, you are the last coach to take Malawi to the Cup of Nations. How was the campaign to qualify for Angola 2010?

Our qualification to AFCON was very difficult. The Malawi FA called me from South Africa after Stephen Constantine had left the team in Mozambique. The team was already in camp. I took the team from there.

My first game was a friendly match against Tanzania and we drew 2-2. We went on into the qualifiers that also doubled up as World Cup qualification matches and we had good results to take us into AFCON.

Heading into the AFCON, we prepared very well. We played friendly games against Egypt, Swaziland and Ghana and I could see the team was ready for the tournament.

In our first game in Angola we played Algeria and we surprised everybody by beating them 3-0. After that game, I didn't even think we would lose in the qualifiers but in the second game, we lost 2-0 to Angola and in the third game, we lost 3-1 to Mali and we didn't go through.

You have been away from the coaching scene for a while. What next?

I would love Malawi to honour me with the same position that I was called for from outside to take up. I would like to continue with the position of director of football in Malawi so that I can work with the government and help improve soccer in Malawi.

(Cafonline.)

Baholo Motene, the game changer



At 28 years old, most female footballers are reaching the prime of their playing careers. Crystal Dunn and Julie Ertz have won more than 200 caps combined for the USA national team at that age and are world champions, while Dzsenerfer Marozsan just won her 100th international cap, to name just a couple of examples.

Baholo Motene made history at the same age when she was appointed the youngest president of the Lesotho

Women's Football Executive Committee. "It was a historic victory as it was a dream that I knew I would one day achieve one way or the other," Motene said.

"I never expected it to happen this year as I was still on a learning curve," she explained. "But most coaches and administrators approached me and asked me to stand for the elections that were held in July 2020. They convinced me that I was the perfect candidate. I thought long and hard about it until I told myself: never settle for second best. I had all the potential and the support to win the election."

The confidence being placed in the former Lesotho international is not surprising; after all, Motene knows what she is talking about. She began advancing her career in a male-dominated environment at a

young age, played street football and resists traditional gender roles suggesting that "a girl shouldn't play football as it's a men's game. A girl should clean the house, cook and so on," she explained.

"Thanks to human rights and gender equality, woman share the same power and opportunities as men. Yet dreams cannot be achieved without rules. To overcome the challenges I encountered, I had to make sure that I had the full support of my family."

Motene's love of football grew steadily. In 2007 she took part in the Lesotho National Vision 2020 Games, where her impressive performances earned her a call-up to the U-17 national team. But her journey was far from over.

She made appearances for Lesotho's senior team, competing at several international tournaments including the FIFA Women's World Cup™ qualifiers and COSAFA Women's Championship. In 2019 she was appointed team manager of the women's senior national

side by the Lesotho Football Association.

"My international career ended when I enlisted in the army in 2014," she said. "But that never stopped me from achieving my dreams. I set up a team in the army. I also saw an opportunity for my teammates in the newly-founded Lesotho Defense Force Ladies Football Club, many of whom were still struggling to get jobs."

"This all happened in 2016, and my team has been dominating since then. The positive outcome of this was that 15 players have now found permanent jobs. Helping other women through football has positively influenced my life."

It is this commitment to other women and determination to continue developing women's football in Lesotho that sets Motene apart. Although there has already been some development work on the women's side of the game, the dynamic 28-year-old still has plenty she wants to achieve.

"There has been a huge increase in the number of women's teams in Lesotho," she said.

"There is an active league, which is helping to improve the performance of the national teams. More than 15 players are playing football abroad. We have players in South Africa and two in the USA. My focus is on empowering more women to get involved with this beautiful game so that one day we can run it ourselves," explained the spirited Motene before setting out the next steps.

"We can have more teams and active leagues in the districts. As we have ten districts in Lesotho we can hold regular refresher courses specifically for women's football and more administrative courses for managers to enable them to attract sponsors."

"At the moment it is still the Association who fund the Women's Super League. The issue of incentives needs to be looked at to give the players something to motivate them. The football landscape has really changed, so companies could start investing in women's football as well."

(FifaOnline)

Brady Armstrong; Botswana's Motorcycle Racing Virtuoso

By Ryan Blumton

Brady Armstrong is one of Botswana's young riders, aged 19 and with 14 years of racing experience is about to enter International World Championship Cross Country Rally Racing.

Armstrong is in the OR1 Pro Class and races on the new 2020 FX450 Husqvarna and is a member of Francistown's Lobelo Racing Club riding internationally under HT Rally Raid Husqvarna Racing. Armstrong is currently working towards his matriculation in Grahamstown, Eastern Cape.

The FIM Cross-Country Rallies World Championship is a Dakar Rally Type Qualifier. Having completed one of these race

events successfully, Armstrong would subsequently be able to race the Dakar Rally and he would be the youngest Botswana racer to do so.

The qualifiers would be either in Abu Dhabi or Morocco and these determine the fitness of racers to be able to take on the Dakar rally, though these qualifiers and in fact the entire 2020 rally calendar have been disrupted by the ongoing global pandemic.

Speaking to Echo Sports regarding these qualifiers Botswana Motorsport Federation FIM head, McPherson Chibana said "As you know from Junior school you have to upgrade to senior school and that's how it works with Motorsport you start with the smaller races and

then you have to upgrade to the bigger ones such as Dakar because motorsport is dangerous and you can even get lost without the right navigation skills."

Armstrong is the first Botswana holding a Botswana Motorsport Federation license at this level of FIM racing and this is the first Botswana Motorsport FIM rally license listed in World Championship Cross Country Rally racing.

The FIM is the Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme, the governing body of motorcycle racing. Armstrong was an observer at the 2020 Dakar Rally in Saudi Arabia on invitation from his team. The Dakar Rally is the world's most grueling and mentally challenging rally in navigation, mechanical maintenance and competition. As such Armstrong has already tested the Arabian sands were many of the Dakar greats train.

Armstrong's father and manager, Gregory Armstrong, founder of Armstrong Racing and head of Lobelo Racing outlined some of the training areas that included the surrounding environment of Greater Gaborone. "We are potentially looking towards training in the Khawa Dunes to train navigational skills due to the dunes and out of country locations including Swakopmund, Namibia and also go back to Abu Dhabi. The Key thing in training and racing is the ability to ride fast and navigate at the same time," Armstrong said.

Botswana Motorsport President Kagiso Modibedi, speaking to Echo Sports said about this development in Brady Armstrong's career "It is very important to have somebody like Brady Armstrong going on to the international stage and running on a Botswana license. We have always had competitors

from Botswana running in the Dakar and other international races but they were not licensed through Botswana Motorsport. It also creates an issue where even where we were meant to support the rider, it gave us some limitations because it's difficult to support someone who is not affiliated to you."

He said Armstrong is under the Botswana Motorsport he is flying the federation flag very high.

"It creates a scenario where not just other riders in Botswana will want to take licenses from Botswana but neighbors as well such as Namibia or Zimbabwe.

This really puts our federation right up there with the best. He is a junior rider, up and coming and yet with many years under his belt so from my perspective in the future I will be expecting one or two Dakar titles from him."



ARTIST CREDITS: LOCAL ARTIST OCEAN LOTTERING



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