



BUSINESSBOTSWANA

PRESS RELEASE

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BUSINESS BOTSWANA CALLS FOR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, AMIDST FISCAL STRAIN

Gaborone, 9th June 2025- Business Botswana has noted the current significant financial and spending difficulties facing the Government of Botswana. These challenges are severely affecting government operations, households, and a burden for the private sector businesses' confidence. As a result, investment decisions maybe delayed or reduced, with adverse effects on economic growth and job creation. This situation calls for swift fiscal responsibility while emphasising the need for continued support for the private sector.

We, therefore, urge a renewed focus on fiscal responsibility, transparent communication, and strategic collaboration. Further, we urge the government to implement policies that foster a stable and predictable economic environment for businesses to thrive and navigate the financial challenges. These are fundamental to safeguarding stability, sustaining essential services, and restoring business and household confidence.

Government agencies must prioritise efficiency and productivity, operating within their allocated budgets, akin to private sector enterprises. These include reducing the cost of government operations; investing in high-impact infrastructure projects with high return on investment to boost economic activity and create jobs; streamlining bureaucracy; and improving efficiency and strategic allocation of resources to address pressing socio-economic challenges and revitalise Botswana's economic landscape.

Some recommendations that the Government should implement to reduce the cost of Government operations include:

1. E-Gov services consolidation
2. Outsource routine maintenance
3. Streamline the government permitting process
4. Place more routine applications for service online

Business Botswana reaffirms its commitment to engaging constructively with the government to promote policy reforms and a conducive business environment. In particular, we urge the rapid implementation of ease of doing business reforms, which are critical to attracting private sector investment. Such reforms will stimulate business activity, unlock economic opportunities, and place the country on a sustainable path to recovery, growth, and the achievement of high-income status by 2036, in line with the national vision. **END**

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