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BUSINESSBOTSWANA

NEWS LETTER

PRIVATE SECTOR DISASTER RESPONSE
FUND (PSDRF)

ONE YEAR OF IMPACT

FOREWORD



Mr Butler Phirie

Chairperson

Private Sector Disaster Response
Fund (PSDRF)

When the Private Sector Disaster Response Fund (PSDRF) was launched in March 2025, it was founded on a clear purpose, to enable Botswana's private sector to respond swiftly, collaboratively, and effectively when disaster strikes.

From inception, the Fund has represented a collective commitment to national resilience, demonstrating the power of partnership between business, government, and communities in strengthening preparedness and accelerating recovery. One year on, that purpose is being realised.

Through the support of our partners, the Fund has mobilised over P9 million in cash and more than P15 million in kind, with contributions from over 40 companies nationwide. These resources have been strategically deployed to address immediate needs, reinforce

public health systems, and restore essential infrastructure across affected communities.

From the outset, the PSDRF Board of Governance was established as an independent body, mandated to ensure that every pula delivers visible, measurable impact. The Board's role is clear, to provide strong oversight, uphold transparency, and drive success through agility, accountability, and results oriented management. Working closely with national disaster authorities, the Board ensures that all interventions are aligned with national priorities and delivered with urgency and precision.

Looking ahead, we recognise that disaster response must evolve to meet emerging challenges. To that end, a comprehensive PSDRF Strategy is being developed to guide the Fund's next phase. This strategy will:

- Maintain the Fund's operational readiness beyond immediate crises
- Strengthen rapid response capability while embedding long term resilience
- Deepen private sector participation and strategic partnerships
- Establish the PSDRF as a permanent, structured national disaster response mechanism.

This next stage will be key to expanding both the scale and effectiveness of the Fund's interventions.

The progress achieved to date reflects the remarkable partnership of Botswana's private sector and its unwavering belief in shared responsibility.



Every financial, in kind, and technical contribution has played a part in protecting lives and livelihoods, and in shaping a more resilient national response system.

On behalf of the Board of Governance, I extend appreciation to all partners for their commitment and trust. Together, we are building not only stronger disaster response capacity, but also a lasting foundation for national resilience and sustainable progress

Happy Reading

PSDRF ACTIVITY UPDATES

Infrastructure & Flood Response

Desilting of Segoditshane River

Flooding along the Segoditshane River has long posed a risk to surrounding communities. Through an investment of P1.5 million, the Fund supported major desilting works at the Maoka Bridge (Section H). Clearing years of sediment build up restored water flow and significantly reduced flood risk during the rainy season. The project also revealed a bigger challenge, more sections of the river will require similar work to provide lasting protection.



Potholes Repairs

In Gaborone and Francistown, the Fund invested P2.5 million in urgent pothole repairs on key roads identified by local councils. The improvements have already made travel safer, reduced vehicle damage, and re opened access to both residential and industrial areas. However, these repairs made clear that some roads now need full rehabilitation, not just patchwork fixes



Public Health Emergency Response

MALARIA OUTBREAK

To help strengthen national readiness for malaria outbreaks, the PSDRF directed P1.3 million to the Central Medical Stores (CMS) for essential malaria control supplies, including 1,000 test kits and 500 units of second line treatment medication. Delivered in November 2025, the support enhanced Botswana's capacity to detect and manage malaria risks quickly and effectively, protecting the most vulnerable communities.



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SANITATION

Mochudi Sewerage Project

Through a P1 million investment, the Mochudi Sewerage Project is tackling a long standing sanitation challenge that affects households close to the riverbank. The project will connect 50 homes to the sewer network, directly improving sanitation and reducing public health risks. Construction spans eight weeks, with commissioning set for April 2026, a practical step forward for both community well-being and environmental safety.



FLOOD MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS

Kuke Flood Mitigation Project

In partnership with SandFire and HSNV, the Fund is developing the Kuke Flood Mitigation Project, a community driven initiative designed to protect homes and infrastructure from recurring floods. A technical reconnaissance survey, scheduled for the week of 27 April 2026, will inform the engineering design so that solutions match local conditions on the ground.



TARGETED RELIEF AND EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Response Support

When Botswana faced renewed Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) challenges, the PSDRF committed P1 million to strengthen national containment efforts. This included P205,342.50 for an autoclave machine to boost diagnostic testing, and P132,738.00 to provide food and essential supplies for frontline teams in Bobirwa. The result has been faster testing, improved field coordination, and stronger response capability.ence and sustainable progress



Palapye District Flood Relief Support:

After flooding in Palapye, the Fund provided support worth P109,000, delivering food hampers to 7 families, six water tanks, and tents for displaced households, with a focus on students.



Tonota District Flood Relief Support:

In Tonota, following the December 2025 floods, P53,500 was used to distribute food baskets, offering immediate relief and stability to affected families.



LEVERAGING IN KIND SUPPORT

Beyond monetary assistance, corporate partners extended generous in kind support that significantly increased outreach and resilience building capacity. Donations included food and clothing for relief operations, blankets and household goods for displaced families, school supplies for affected children, fuel and logistics for evacuation and delivery efforts, as well as internet connectivity, airtime, and drone services for coordination and damage assessments.

This collaborative support network has improved response speed, operational efficiency, and national coverage, strengthening Botswana's ability to respond when disasters strike.



GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Governance excellence remains central to the PSDRF's credibility. The independent Board of Governance ensures sound oversight and measurable results through transparent decision making, disciplined fund allocation, and alignment with national disaster management priorities.

Working in partnership with the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC), the Board ensures that resources are directed to the most urgent needs whilst maintain clear accountability for outcomes. Rigorous monitoring and reporting frameworks guarantee that every pula invested delivers tangible, traceable impact, reinforcing the Fund's principle of integrity through action.

As climate and disaster risks grow more complex, the Fund's next phase will focus on institutionalising its structure, broadening partnerships, and ensuring long term sustainability.

Together, we will continue to strengthen preparedness, rebuild faster when crises occur, and secure a more resilient future for Botswana.



OUR SPONSORS

