



THE AFRICAN CAPACITY
BUILDING FOUNDATION

FONDATION POUR LE RENFORCEMENT
DES CAPACITES EN AFRIQUE

ACBF's cooperation with **Botswana**



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACBF	African Capacity Building Foundation
ACR	Africa Capacity Report
CPIA	Country Policy and Institutional Assessment
PSMT	Public Sector Management Training
SMTP	Medium Term Strategic Plan
USD	United States Dollars

ACBF STRATEGIC PLANNING	
PHASE 1	1991-1997
PHASE 2	1998-2001
SMTP 1	2002-2006
SMTP2	2007-2011
SMTP3	2012-2016
ACBF STRATEGY	2017-2022
ACBF STRATEGIC PLAN	2023-2027

INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Botswana is one of the 12 African countries which in cooperation with their bilateral and multilateral partners, established the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) on 9 February 1991. Since then, partnership between the African Capacity Building Foundation and the Republic of Botswana has grown from strength to strength. To date, Botswana has been a shareholder and member of the African capacity Building Foundation for 29 years. The country is represented by its Deputy Secretary for Macroeconomic Policy in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development in the ACBF Board of Governors.

ACBF'S INVESTMENTS IN BOTSWANA

The Foundation's investment in Botswana, has reached about US\$ 6.49 million. ACBF is proud to have supported human and institutional development in the country. This support has gone to the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA). The Foundation has also supported Civil Society Organizations in the country such as the Botswana Council of Non- Governmental Organisations (BOCONGO), Humana People to People (HPP) and the Anti-Tobacco Network (ATN). With this support from ACBF, the afore-mentioned institutes have become more valuable and are playing significant roles in the country's development agenda.

Table 1: ACBF-supported projects and programs in Botswana (USD)

National Projects/Programs	Phases	Investments
Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA I)	Phase I	2,663,329
Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA II)	SMTP I	1,498,763
Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA III)	SMTP I	1,475,746
BIDPA	ACBF Strategy (2017-2022)	10,402
Botswana Council of Non- Governmental Organisations (BOCONGO)	SMTP I	548,501
Anti-Tobacco Network (ATN)	ACBF Strategy (2017-2022)	139,674
Anti-Tobacco Network (ATN)	ACBF Strategy (2017-2022)	89,632
Humana People to People (HPP)	ACBF Strategy (2017-2022)	124,557
Humana People to People (HPP)	ACBF Strategy (2017-2022)	58,915
HPP Botswana	ACBF Strategy (2017-2022)	14,000
TOTAL		6,487,166

Table 2: Current ACBF-Supported projects benefiting Botswana (2023)

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DETAILS
African-Finnish Partnerships on Taxation Capacity in Africa	The aim is to strengthen the capacity of selected African governments and pan-African organizations to increase Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) through informed policy-making and effective tax administration
African Union Transformative Climate Finance program	The project aims at addressing the capacity gaps in climate change adaptation in Africa. Key activities include scoping and mapping of green growth landscape in Africa, conducting of a Capacity Needs Assessment and Development of a Capacity Development Program.

In addition to the above programmatic support, the Foundation has also conducted several research studies to inform policy formulation and implementation in Botswana. ACBF has also organized various training and knowledge sharing events and networks from which Botswana has benefitted. Details of the knowledge products and services prepared for Botswana are listed in Annex 1.

BOTSWANA'S CONTRIBUTION TO ACBF

The Foundation has benefitted from the African and global political influence of the Government of Botswana. The country has contributed significantly over the years to ACBF and has made a cumulative contribution of US\$1.25 million since 1991.

With the support of the Government of Botswana, ACBF has been able to leverage resources from the international community to support capacity development across Africa and to achieve significant results in support of the continent's development process. Notably, ACBF has been catalyzing change in Africa by investing in capacity development initiatives in the public and private sectors and in civil society organizations; providing technical assistance in implementation of capacity development interventions; generating, managing and sharing knowledge on best practices in capacity building and development management.

The Foundation has strengthened public policy across Africa, produced highly skilled public sector economists and managers, strengthened institutions of financial accountability and enhanced the effectiveness of non-state actors. ACBF has also supported the creation of platforms for dialogue on, and coordination in capacity development, supported improvements in trade and regional integration, empowered women and strengthened parliaments.

Table 3: Botswana's contributions to ACBF

Financing Phase	Pledge	Payments
Phase I (1991-1997)	250,000.00	250,000.00
Phase II (1998-2001)	300,000.00	300,000.00
SMTP I (2002-2006)	-	-
SMTP II (2007-2011)	700,000.00	700,000.00
SMTP III (2012-2016)	-	-
ACBF STRATEGY 2017-2022	-	-
TOTAL	1,250,000.00	1,250,000

ANNEX 1: SELECTED ACBF KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BENEFITING BOTSWANA

Name of Project	Key objectives/Focus
BIDPA	To provide institutional capacity to facilitate policy analysis in Botswana. To provide research support and policy analysis services to key economic ministries and agencies. To undertake and promote policy research in development policy issues of relevance to Botswana and the Southern African region. To develop local capacity for policy analysis and management through in-service training and fellowship programs. To produce and disseminate information on development policy issues.
Anti-Tobacco Network (ATN)	To improve knowledge of Tobacco Control Actors in Tobacco Industry Monitoring and Accountability. To improve commitment of policy makers in counteracting Tobacco Industry Interference in policy formulation and capacity of ATN to support TC policy formulation and implementation in Botswana. To facilitate and encourage networking amongst NGOs, CBOs, Government, donors, and other development partners. To facilitate a coordinated response by NGOs on the issues of National interest.
Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations. (BOCONGO)	To facilitate and coordinate capacity building to strengthen NGOs to participate fully and effectively in the development arena. To establish and maintain on a regular basis a national database for NGOs in Botswana. To facilitate the development of policy that could improve the working environments of NGOs. To facilitate and encourage networking amongst NGOs, CBOs, Government, donors, and other development partners. To facilitate a coordinated response by NGOs on the issues of National interest.

Table A: Selected knowledge products to support AU agenda, policy and development programs.

Year	Type of Knowledge Products	Title/Theme	Coverage for the Republic of Botswana
2019	Africa Capacity Report 2019	Fostering Transformative Leadership for Africa's Development	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2017	Occasional Paper	Youth Unemployment in Africa: Capacity Building and Innovative Strategies	Case study from Botswana
2017	Africa Capacity Report 2017	Building Capacity in Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa's Transformation	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2016	Occasional Paper	Policy and Institutional Dimensions of Africa's Political Economy in an Age of Globalization	Case study from Botswana
2016	Occasional Paper	The Challenge of African Youth Unemployment	Case study from Botswana
2015	Africa Capacity Report 2015	Capacity Imperatives for Domestic Resource Mobilization in Africa	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2014	Africa Capacity Report 2014	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2013	Africa Capacity Report 2013	Capacity Development for Natural Resource Management	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2012	Africa Capacity Report 2012	Capacity Development for Agricultural Transformation and Food Security	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2011	Africa Capacity Report 2011	Capacity Development in Fragile States	Botswana country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics

Table B: Selected knowledge sharing events and networking to support AU agenda, policy and development programs.

Year	Knowledge event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Botswana	Date and venue
2019	2019 Africa Think Tank Summit	Tackling Implementation Challenges for Africa's Sustainable Development	1 participant from the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA)	24 – 26 April NAIROBI, Kenya
2018	2018 Africa Think Tank Summit	Tackling Africa's Youth Unemployment Challenge: Innovative Solutions from the Think Tanks	1 participant from BIDPA and 1 from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) sponsored to attend	5 – 7 April ACCRA, Ghana
2017	2017 Africa Think Tank Summit	African Think Tanks and Industrialization in Africa	4 participants: 1 from BIDPA, 3 from the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) sponsored to attend	6 – 8 April ABIDJAN, Côte d'Ivoire

Year	Knowledge event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Botswana	Date and venue
2017	2019 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Fostering Transformative Leadership for Africa's Development	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	29 May to 1 June HARARE, Zimbabwe
2016	2016 Africa Think Tank Summit	African Think Tanks and Industrialization in Africa	2 participants from BIDPA sponsored to attend	8 – 10 April VICTORIA FALLS, Zimbabwe
2015	2017 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Building Capacity in Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa's Transformation	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	16–19 November HARARE, Zimbabwe
2015	5 th Meeting of the ACBF Policy Institutes Committee (PIC)	Knowledge and Experience Sharing for Effective Capacity Building in Africa	1 participant from BIDPA sponsored to attend	22-23 October KIGALI, Rwanda
2015	ACBF Board of Governors' Meeting	Domestic Resource Mobilization	2 participants from SADC sponsored to attend	2 – 4 September ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia
2015	2015 Africa Think Tank Summit	The Rise of Africa's Think Tanks – Practical Solutions to Practical Problems	1 participant from BIDPA sponsored to attend	7 – 8 April ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia
2015	4th Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee and its Contribution to Policy Direction in Africa	1 participant from BIDPA sponsored to attend	9 April ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia
2014	3 rd Policy Institutes Committee meeting	Toward Africa's Sustainable Development: Role of ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee	1 participant from BIDPA sponsored to attend	24–25 October MBABANE, Eswatini
2014	2015 Africa Capacity Report data collectors training workshop	Capacity Imperatives for Domestic Resource Mobilization in Africa	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	12–15 February HARARE, Zimbabwe
2014	2014 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa'	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	17–21 October

Year	Knowledge event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Botswana	Date and venue
				HARARE, Zimbabwe
2014	Validation Workshop of the Position Papers on the US-Africa Relations	Validation of Draft position papers on U.S.-Africa relations	2 participants from BIDPA sponsored to attend	18 – 19 July ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia
2014	2 nd Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee (PIC) - Rethinking Capacity Development Solutions in Africa	1 participant from BIDPA sponsored to attend	25 – 26 April NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania
2013	2013 Africa Capacity Report data collectors training	Capacity Development for Natural Resources Management	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	8 – 11 October HARARE, Zimbabwe
2013	2014 Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) Workshop and ACR 2013 National Launch	2013 ACR National Launch and 2014 CPIA Training	1 participant from BIDPA sponsored to attend	24–27 September BUJUMBURA, Burundi
2012	2012 Africa Capacity Report Book Launch and Panel Discussion	Official Launch of the ACR	1 participant from the Embassy of Botswana in Washington, DC	17 May WASHINGTON, DC USA
2011	7th Annual Meeting of The ACBF Technical Advisory Panels & Networks (TAP-NETs)	Bilateral Aid, Governance and Africa's Development Agenda – Implications for BUSAN 2011	1 participant from SADC sponsored to attend	21-22 November YAOUNDE, Cameroon
2011	2012 Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) training workshop	Training on 2012 CPIA	1 participant from BIDPA	1 – 3 August HARARE, Zimbabwe

Year	Knowledge event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Botswana	Date and venue
2011	2012 Africa Capacity Report data collectors' training workshop	Capacity Development for Agricultural Transformation and Food Security	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	13 – 18 June HARARE, Zimbabwe
2010	2nd Gender Budgeting Dissemination Workshop	Gender Budgeting	3 participants sponsored to attend: 1 from the American and African Business Women's Alliance (AABWA), 1 from the Women Finance House and 1 from the Parliament of Botswana	22–24 November ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia
2010	2011 Africa Capacity Report data collection training workshop	Capacity Building in Fragile States	1 data expert hired and sponsored to attend training workshop	13 – 16 July HARARE, Zimbabwe

ANNEX 2: SUCCESS STORIES

The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) supported two institutions in Botswana, being, the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) and the Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (BOCONGO) between 1995 and 2011.

Using its the three-pronged support to capacity development, ACBF funding to these institutions entailed (i) institutional strengthening (covering staffing, procurement of equipment and supplies, establishment of operational structures, systems and organizational development); (ii) technical support (monitoring, advise, mentorship, development and training in program management tools, guidance in work planning, reporting etc.) and (iii) capacity building support (provision of sponsorship for long-term training in masters and doctorate degrees for staff and training programs for Civil Society Organizations).

1. Professional Training Scholarship To Government Officials – A testimonial from one of the beneficiaries.

Dr. Khaulani FICHANI had been employed as Chief Minerals Officer at the Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources (MMEWR). As a middle manager, he was responsible for general administration of the copper and nickel mines, serving in various mineral administration committees, chairing technical working groups and managing consultancies. Despite his cocktail of responsibilities at the Ministry, he states that he had capacity limitations in research and policy analysis. He needed to advance his academic qualifications to be able to offer more specialized services at a higher level in mining and natural resources economics. He realized that for him to be promoted and be effective in that position, he would require additional skills and specialized capacity to take up higher-level responsibilities.

Thanks to ACBF, Dr. Fichani was offered a PhD scholarship in 1999, through the Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) and graduated in 2003 with a **PhD in Natural Resource Economics**. Finally, he acquired the research and academic skills he needed most to advance his career. He lauds the relevance of the training and how it served as an effective complement to his position. "The training I received, with support from ACBF, efficiently added value in my ability to successfully negotiate major mining agreements such as the Jwaneng Diamond Mining Licence on behalf of the Government of Botswana," he says.

Beneficiaries of this training scholarship describe the intervention as a gratifying and motivating factor that met both employment and personal development goals, upgraded both professional skills and level of service (leadership position) necessary for high output, specialization, confidence and assumption of higher-level roles and positions of influence.

Stakeholders also appreciate the timelines of the intervention that preceded a time when high-level and well-informed decisions ought to be made towards transforming the mining sector profitability and sustainability in the wake of the decline in diamond markets.

Direct impact of the training scholarships on the National Policy and Research is unpacked by Dr. Fichani as successful completion of the following projects:

1. A Case Study titled "Beyond the African Peer Review Mechanism: Botswana's experience in its approaches to extractive resources governance" completed in November 2015 and followed by presentation at the Expert Group Meeting on "Mainstreaming the Governance of the Extractive Sectors in the APRM", 15-16 December 2015, Lagos, Nigeria.

2. Country Study on “Assessing the skills in the Minerals Sector in the SADC Region”, for the Africa Mineral Development Center (AMDC) – May 2015.
3. Country Study on the “Africa Mining Vision in Botswana” for the Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection “MISTRA” –Final Report submitted in April 2014.
4. Lead Consultant in partnership with SixPlusOne Consulting - A Study on Institutional Framework and Capacity for the Administration of the Zambian Mining Sector -Final Report submitted in July 2013.
5. Lead Consultant in a Study on Minerals and Energy Exports and Revenue Projections as the first stage of a project on the diversification of the economy of Botswana, commissioned by the Botswana Confederation of Commerce Industry and Manpower (BOCCIM) and coordinated by the Botswana Institute of Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) in 2012.
6. Coal Market Analysis for a Coal Prospecting Company – Subcontracted by Geoflux (Pty) Ltd (2011).
7. Mining Licence Applications for Quarries (Quarry design and Production Planning, Quarry Reclamation and Quarry Project Evaluation / Financial Modelling) (current – since 2010).

Apart from enabling Dr. Fichani to take up, and successfully deliver on international level assignments, the ACBF intervention added value through his active and efficient participation in Boards of Establishments such as the BCL Limited, the Tati Nickel Mining Company, Debswana, BCL Limited and De Beers Group Services. He reckons that ACBF is well placed to address the prevailing capacity gaps in Government departments to administer their sectors by identifying and deploying (on short-term contracts) retired professionals from countries with a good track record to assist those who are still struggling.

“Creating opportunities for exchange of skills, ideas and professional experiences among African countries through workshops, short courses, attachments and exchange visits may be just what the continent needs to move a few notches higher,” Dr. Fichani advised.

2. Enhanced Inclusiveness and Effective Participation of Non-State Actors Especially Women in National Development processes.

ACBF provided capacity building support to the Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (BOCONGO) to enable the council to strengthen the voice and participation of member Civil Society Organizations for effective participation in national policy and program development processes.

BOCONGO has over 170 member organizations which represent 11 sectors, being; Agriculture and Environment, Arts and Culture, Development Arm of the Church, Disability, Gender and Development, Health and HIV/AIDS, Human Rights, Media, Microfinance, Credit and Empowerment, Science, Technology and Training, Youth and Children. BOCONGO is mandated to facilitate, coordinate, and capacitate for the effective participation of these organizations.

The interview with BOCONGO management revealed that the funding they received from the African Capacity Building Foundation has enabled the Council to facilitate regular meetings of the networks to discuss policy related issues, draw plans, share ideas and experiences, as well as prioritize issues for lobbying and advocacy, thereby better improving the organization's contribution to the economic mainstream of Botswana.

Among others, ACBF supported and funded two study trips to Lesotho and South Africa as benchmarking missions on pro-poor budgeting and gender budgeting, respectively. Informed by the knowledge acquired from these missions, budget dialogues themed '**National Budget Analysis Community Dialogues: Budgeting For All**' were conducted in 2011, around the country where the public, Civil Society Organizations and community leaders were brought together to contribute to the national budget and ensure it addressed gender and other issues.

ACBF support to BOCONGO has had long lasting impact on the organization's capacity to effectively deliver on its mandate. 10 years after weaning the Organization from ACBF financial support, the organization has remained very active and effectively contributing to national policy dialogue in Botswana.



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