



BOTSWANA INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONS

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REPORT OF THE BIDP PRESIDENT TO THE 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Good evening ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the 33rd BIDP AGM.

I would like to begin by thanking all those who have taken the time to come to the AGM, and also those who have not been able to come but have sent proxy forms.

This has been a somewhat mixed year for the BIDP, leaving us with reasons to celebrate and also cause to reflect and consider the future.

Events.

I think this has been a record year for BIDP events, almost one a month!

The year started at the previous AGM with an interesting talk by Sandy Grant on the early history of Gaborone.

In November 2010 there was a talk by Bernard Hyde on Waste in the Construction Industry.

In February we visited the new SADC building and learned about the ins and outs of the PPP process that was piloted with this project. There was not time to tour the building, so this is still to be arranged.

In March we held a Symposium at Mokolodi Game Reserve on the topic: BIDP Building Contracts: Working for You. This was well attended and altogether a very successful event.

In April there was a talk by Letta Mosienyane on the subject: "Terms of Reference for Consultancy Services by Parastatals in Botswana".

Affiliated to

**African Union of Architects
Commonwealth Association of Architects
Commonwealth Association of Surveyors and Land Economists**

In May we were invited to contribute to the End of Year Exhibition of the Architecture Unit at the University of Botswana. We helped with refreshments and also attended the event.

Also in May we visited the SSK airport project, with a walk around the construction site followed by a very interesting talk. There are clearly important lessons to be learned from this project.

In June we hired a stall at the Property Investment and Construction Exhibition.

Also in June we facilitated a workshop for the AEMCB on tendering for small contractors.

In August there was a talk by Andreas Groth on Energy Efficient Building Design.

In September there will be a talk on the evening of the AGM by David Young on Firetraps of Gaborone.

There are plans to hold a Symposium on Project Inception, Initiation and Implementation in the near future.

BIDP Website.

More work has been done on the website, including an improved format for the discussion forums and provision for photo galleries. A website consultant has helped with this and is now able to make further improvements and changes as required.

Collaboration with Government

BIDP was represented on the Reference Group for the establishment of a Construction Industry Board. Following a number of meetings at which Terms of Reference were prepared for a consultancy to establish this Board, the project now appears to have gone dormant.

BIDP participated at the Annual Consultative Stakeholder's Meeting of the Ministry of Infrastructure, Science and Technology in February 2011.

We have been invited to nominate two representatives to the MIST Construction Pitso to be held on 6 October 2011.

Contracts Committee

The Contracts Committee have had another busy year and are currently working on a 'labour only' form of contract.

Membership

This has also been a record year in terms of membership. At each Council meeting we have had the privilege to consider several applications for membership, most of which have been approved and resulted in tired wrists from signing the Certificates, a number of which we are handing over this evening.

This has really been the most gratifying aspect of the year, as it confirms that our organization does have something unique to offer, namely an organization that

represents people working in many different fields related to development in Botswana and provides opportunities to come together and learn from each other.

Thank you.

Our Executive Secretary, Ellen Tshoganetso has again done a fantastic job of supporting BIDP. Many thanks for her hard work and commitment in keeping the office in order, preparing and circulating minutes, compiling the newsletters, arranging the Symposium and other events as well as many other tasks that she is given.

David Young, the Secretary has quietly and efficiently worked away for endless hours arranging events, setting up exhibition stands, fixing the website and much more. He has also kindly hosted the BIDP office and provided a venue for our monthly meetings.

Gerrit Vlug has looked after our finances for countless years as well as contributing to the Publications Committee and actively participating as member of Council.

A big thank you to the other members of Council, Joseph Musuku the Vice President, Kabelo Morake, Ontlametse Onneng, Paul Shimunza, Bernard Hyde, and Evans Moje who have contributed in many ways to keeping BIDP up and running for another year.

So why did I begin by saying it has been a mixed year, when it would appear to have been quite a success in many ways?

What I fear we have failed to achieve is a broadening of the carrying structure of the organization. Too much of the work has fallen on too few old shoulders some of which have carried it for many years. Some of these may not be able to do so for much longer. If BIDP is to continue to grow and develop it needs a bigger group of people, full of enthusiasm and appetite for doing the rather tedious and often thankless tasks that make it happen.

My hope is that these people will come forward and take their turn at carrying BIDP forward.

We wish the incoming Council all the best and trust that they will be able to build on what has been done in the past and help to bring about the BIDP of the future.

Andreas Groth.
September 2011