



**REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA**

**COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY STATEMENT FOR  
ORGANISATION 1800**

**2026/2027 CONSOLIDATED AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS  
ESTIMATES**

**BY**

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MINISTER OF WATER AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. **Chairperson**, allow me to present the Ministry of Water and Human Settlement budget proposal for the Financial Year 2026/2027 for consideration and approval by this Honourable House. My presentation of the 2026/2027 budget and planned activities will be preceded by a summary of the 2025/2026 budget performance and an update of key activities undertaken by the Ministry in 2025/2026.

## II. OVERVIEW OF THE 2025/2026 BUDGET

2. The 2025/2026 budget for the Ministry of Water and Human Settlement amounted to **Three Billion, Three Hundred and Ten Million, One Hundred and Thirty - Five Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighteen Pula (P3,310,135,818)** which consists of Two Billion, Eight Hundred and Thirty - Eight Million, Three Hundred and Forty - Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighteen Pula (P2,838,346,218) for the Development Budget, and Four Hundred and Seventy - One Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty - Nine Thousand, Six Hundred Pula (P471,789,600) for the Recurrent Budget. By end of February 2026, expenditure on the development projects amounted to Two Billion, Two Hundred and Sixty - Eight Million, Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand, and Eight Pula (P2,268,350,008) or 79.9% of the Development Budget, while operational expenditure amounted to Three Hundred and Thirty - Two Million, Four Hundred and Twenty - Six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eight Pula (P332,426,708) or 70.5% of the Recurrent Budget.

3. Projects that contributed most to the expended development budget include the following: the NSC 2.2 Water Supply Pipeline and associated projects with an expenditure of about P408.2 million; Maun Water and Sanitation at P516.9 million; Kanye Sanitation at P323 million; Molepolole Water Supply and Network at P244.4 million; and Molepolole Sanitation with an expenditure of P246.7 million.

### **III. REVIEW OF 2025/2026 MAJOR ACTIVITIES**

#### **HUMAN SETTLEMENT**

##### **a. Social Housing**

4. **Chairperson**, in pursuit of increasing access to adequate and affordable housing, Government has developed and continues to implement a range of housing schemes designed to meet the needs of different income groups. These include, among others, the Bonno Turnkey Development Loan Scheme, the Home Improvement Scheme, the Bonno D4 and Below or Equivalent Housing Loan Scheme, as well as the Targeted Housing Scheme, which is a private sector-led initiative. Collectively, these programmes cater for households across the income spectrum, from low-income earners to middle and higher-income groups, with particular emphasis on improving access for the most vulnerable segments of our society.

5. **Chairperson**, during the 2025/2026 Financial Year, a total of nine hundred and seventy - nine (979) housing units were targeted under the low-income housing programme. To date, construction has commenced for sixty - two (62) housing units under the Bonno Turnkey Development Loan Scheme while one hundred and forty - eight (148) are at award and mobilization stages. Out of the sixty - two (62) ongoing projects, fifty - four (54) units have been completed and handed over to beneficiaries. The remaining seven hundred and sixty - nine (769) units across the various schemes are yet to commence, largely due to financial constraints. Besides the above stated projects under the low income housing programme, the Botswana Housing Corporation is also constructing a total of nine hundred and twenty - eight (928) under its Commercial Housing programme. These ongoing housing projects (both the government funded and BHC Commercial houses) have employed a total of 1311 people.
  
6. **Chairperson**, with regard to the private sector - led Bonno Targeted Housing Scheme, to date a total of 36,865 units have been committed and are currently at mobilization stage, pending full implementation. These projects are anticipated to create about 221,190 jobs in total.
  
7. **Chairperson**, the Ministry is also undertaking a comprehensive review of its housing policies to ensure alignment with the evolving socio-economic needs of the nation. The Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis (BIDPA) has been engaged to guide this process, with an overall objective of developing a housing policy which is coherent with national policy standards.

## **WATER AND SANITATION**

### ***a. Water and Sanitation Management and Planning***

8. **Chairperson**, a comprehensive review of the legislation governing the water sector, together with an assessment for the establishment of a regulatory authority has been completed. The drafting of the enabling Bill is currently underway at the Attorney General's Chambers.
  
9. **Chairperson**, in an effort to attain water data and information digitalisation, the Ministry is currently undertaking the Development of an Integrated Water Resources Management System. The project will install equipment at seven hundred and eighty - nine (789) observation points across the country, for continuous monitoring of rainfall, surface water (in rivers and dams) and groundwater resources. The Project will also establish five (5) Command Centres for online monitoring purposes. The installation of equipment commenced in February 2026 and it is planned for completion by end of 2027.
  
10. To improve availability of water for Batswana, six hundred and seventy - four (674) Water Rights have been issued during the current financial year, mainly to support socio-economic activities such as farming.

## **Water Conservation and Pollution Control**

11. **Chairperson**, the systematic ambient water quality monitoring programme continues to play a pivotal role in safeguarding Botswana's water resources. This programme remains a national priority, ensuring water security by detecting pollution sources that pose risks to human health, biodiversity, and economic development.
  
12. **Chairperson**, the monitoring of groundwater resources also remains robust, with surveillance of forty (40) wellfields across the country. I am pleased to report that no significant impacts on groundwater quality were observed during the financial year 2025/2026. Our major river basins of Okavango and Chobe-Kwando/Linyanti, have retained their pristine status, a testament to effective management and conservation efforts.

## **Trans-boundary Water Cooperation**

13. **Chairperson**, the Government of Botswana through the Ministry of Water and Human Settlement continues to participate in international water cooperation under River Basin Organisations. Through the Orange Senqu River Water Commission (ORASECOM), the government is currently undertaking feasibility studies for the development of Lesotho - Botswana Water Transfer. To date the study to identify and confirm the Conveyance Route and Dam Site for the project has been completed while the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and the Finance, Legal and Institutional Studies are still ongoing and scheduled to complete in 2027.

14. **Chairperson**, a feasibility study for the development of Chobe Zambezi Water Transfer Scheme (Kazungula to Molepolole with off-takes to Maun and Boteti) is under review to include into one document the operating rules and Agro Commercial development and expected to be completed in May 2026.

## **b. Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Development**

15. **Chairperson**, a significant proportion of the Ministry's 2025/2026 Development Budget was allocated for completion of the North South Carrier (NSC) 2.2 project. The project is substantially complete with the last two sub projects expected to be finalized as follows:

- Mmamashia Water Treatment Plant currently at 99.5% progress and scheduled to completed by March 2026. However beneficial use was realized in October 2024.
- Tswapong South Water Supply Scheme - Phase 1 currently at 97% progress and will be completed by May 2026.

NSC 2.2 has significantly improved the water supply situation particularly for the Greater Gaborone (covering Barolong, Kweneng, Lobatse, Kanye) as well as Palapye and Mahalapye demand nodes.

16. **Chairperson**, the other water supply projects financed under the 2025/2026 budget include the following:

- Goodhope Water Supply Scheme Contract 2 is substantially complete and under defects liability period. The project supplies water to a total of twenty - one (21) villages from Pitsane up to Sekhutlane.

- Kanye Water Supply Network Rehabilitation and Expansion (Emergency Water Works) has also been completed and under defects liability period.
- Boteti Southern and Central Cluster Villages Water Supply project is complete and also on defects liability. The project supplies water to 8 villages from Mokoboxane to Rakops.
- The second phase of Boteti Southern and Central Cluster Villages which includes development of eight (8) additional boreholes and pipelines from Wellfield 4 to Mokoboxane Treatment Plant is planned for completion by May 2026.
- Goodhope Water Supply Scheme Contract 3 is 71% complete. The project will supply six (6) villages from Metlojane to Mmathethe. This project is scheduled to be completed by June 2026.
- Sowa Water Master Plan is currently at 46% progress and it is scheduled for completion by November 2026. The project supplies water from Dukwi Water Treatment Plant to eight (8) villages within the area.
- Kgalagadi Cluster Network (Werda, Makopong, Kokotsha) which includes development of three (3) boreholes, treatment plant in Kokotsha. The project is at 83% progress and expected to be completed by June 2026.
- Dimajwe project being the construction of a water treatment plant is 90% complete and it is scheduled for completion by March 2026.

17. **Chairperson,** in an effort to improve efficiency of both the water supply and sanitation systems in Molepolole, the Ministry is also implementing various projects in a phased out manner. The first project being Molepolole Wastewater Treatment Plant is currently at 87% progress and expected to be completed by October 2026. The second project being construction of water supply pipelines and associated works for Molepolole is 51% complete and is scheduled to be completed by August 2026. The other sub projects are planned to commence in 2026/2027.
  
18. **Chairperson,** Maun Water and Sanitation - Contract 1 which involves extension and upgrading of water and sanitation network is currently at an overall progress of 86% against planned progress of 99%. The project is currently on suspension of works by contractor due to delays in payments. The project is partially operational, as it is currently supplying water to Maun residents. On the sanitation component, some major institutions have been connected to the sewerage system. The project is anticipated to be completed by end of March 2026.
  
19. Maun Contract 2 being development of boreholes, transmission pipelines and water treatment plant is at 93% progress against 100% planned. The project has been delayed by power connection to the boreholes. The team together with BPC is working on connecting all the boreholes and the treatment plant to facilitate the project completion by March 2026.

20. Maun Water and Sanitation - Contract 3 being construction of two Wastewater Treatment Plants; and Contract 4 being construction of transmission line connecting Maun Satellite Villages are both complete and currently on defects liability period.
21. Kanye Sanitation is 99% complete. The project involved construction of 472km of primary, secondary and tertiary pipeline of which about 466km has been completed. To date eighty - six (86) households and one thousand, four hundred and sixty - two (1462) institutions have been connected to the scheme. The project is almost complete and is expected to be fully operational by March 2026.
22. The ongoing water and sanitation projects have employed a total of two thousand, three hundred and sixty - nine (2,369) people while 2026/2027 proposed new projects are expected to generate about two thousand, five hundred (2,500) new jobs.
23. Overall, the ongoing water, sanitation and housing projects implemented by the Ministry have cumulatively employed three thousand, six hundred and seventy (3,670) people, of which five hundred and twenty - two (522) are females and three thousand and eighty (3,087) are males. Out of this number one thousand, six hundred and twenty – three (1,623) employees are youth and twelve (12) are people living with disabilities.

## 2026/2027 BUDGET PROPOSALS

24. **Chairperson**, before I table my budget proposals for the Financial Year 2026/2027 I wish to bring to the attention of this August House, that the budget allocation has inadequately catered for ongoing projects at the exclusion of some new proposals.
25. **Chairperson**, the Ministry's proposed budget for the Financial Year 2026/2027 is **Four Billion, Ninety Three Million, Five Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifteen Pula (P4,093,517,315)** which consists of Three Billion, Six Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Six Hundred and Fifty - One Thousand, Three Hundred and Seventy - Five Pula (P3,622,651,375) for the Development Budget, and Four Hundred and Seventy Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty - Five Thousand, Nine Hundred and Forty Pula (P470,865,940) for the Recurrent Budget.

### a) RECURRENT BUDGET

26. **Chairperson**, the proposed Recurrent Budget amounts to **Four Hundred and Seventy Million, Eight Hundred and Sixty - Five Thousand, Nine Hundred and Forty Pula (P470,865,940)**. This represents a marginal decrease of Nine Hundred and Twenty - Three Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixty Pula (P923,660) which is about 0.2% of the previous year's budget of P471,789,600.

27. The largest share of this budget being One Hundred and Eighty - Six Million, Six Hundred and Thirty - One Thousand and Two Hundred and Forty Pula (P186,631,240) or 39.6% is allocated to the Department of Housing, mostly to cater for rental of properties to augment the housing pool for public officers.
28. The second largest share being One Hundred and Fifty - One Million, Five Hundred and Fifty Thousand, Four Hundred and Ten Pula (P151,550,410) or 32.2% of the Recurrent Budget goes to the Department of Water and Sanitation mostly to cater for water resources monitoring, assessment of sanitation facilities and coordination of transboundary water initiatives.
29. The Ministry Headquarters is allocated One Hundred and Eighteen Million, Seven Hundred and Ninety - Seven Thousand, Nine hundred Pula (P118,797,900) or 25.2% of the budget mostly for Personnel Emoluments and the general operation of the Ministry.
30. The Department of Technical Services is allocated the smallest share being Thirteen Million, Eight Hundred and Eighty - Six Thousand, Three Hundred and Ninety Pula (P13,886,390) or 2.9% mainly for Personnel Emoluments to cater for supervision and monitoring of water projects.

## **b) DEVELOPMENT BUDGET**

31. The proposed Development Budget amounts to Three Billion, Six Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Six Hundred and Fifty - One Thousand, Three Hundred and Seventy - Five Pula (P3,622,651,375), predominantly for ongoing projects.
32. The largest share of the budget is allocated for **Water Supply and Sanitation Networks** at Two Billion, Ninety - Seven Million, Six Hundred and Eleven Thousand, One Hundred and Seven Pula (P2,097,611,107) or 57.9%. The budget will cater for completion of the following projects; Maun Water and Sanitation, Kanye Sanitation, Molepolole Water Treatment Plant, Molepolole Water and Sanitation Networks. In addition, Mambo Waste Water Treatment Plant will be refurbished and expanded to curb pollution downstream. Projects under this programme are aimed at enhancing infrastructure for improved efficiency in delivery of water and sanitation services.
33. **Water Supply Pipelines** will be allocated One Billion, One Hundred and Fifty - Four Million, Four Hundred and Eighty - Four Thousand, One Hundred and Nine Pula (P1,154,484,109) or 31.9% mainly to continue with the implementation of NSC 2.2 Palapye - Mmamashia Water Pipeline and associated projects, Goodhope Water Supply, Boteti Southern - Central Cluster Villages Water Supply Scheme, Boteti Wellfield 4 and Sowa Water Supply Scheme. The budget will also cover Kgalagadi North / Ncojane Water Supply, Gugamma, Metsiamanong and Molapo Water

Supply Projects as well Transactional Advisory Services for Chobe - Zambezi Water Transfer Scheme.

34. **The Housing Programme** will be allocated Three Hundred and Seventy Million, Five Hundred and Fifty - Six Thousand, One Hundred and Fifty - Nine Pula (P370,556,159) or 10.2% to cater for social housing projects. The targeted number of housing units are as follows: Bonno Turnkey Development Loan Scheme - **402 housing units**; Turnkey for D4 Scale and Below / Equivalent Loan Scheme - **219 housing units**; Home Improvement Scheme - **610 housing units**; Home Improvement for D4 Scale and Below / Equivalent - **610 housing units**; District Housing - **14 housing** and Procurement of ten (10) Conventional Brick moulding machines.

## CONCLUSION

35. **Chairperson**, as I conclude my presentation of the 2026/2027 budget proposals, I move that the sum of **Four Billion, Ninety - Three Million, Five Hundred and Seventeen Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifteen Pula (P4,093,517,315)** which consists of **Three Billion, Six Hundred and Twenty-Two Million, Six Hundred and Fifty- One Thousand, Three Hundred and Seventy-Five Pula (P3,622,651,375)** for the Development Budget, and **Four Hundred and Seventy - One Million, Seven Hundred and Eighty - Nine Thousand, Six Hundred Pula (P470,865,940)** for the Recurrent Budget be approved and stand part of the 2026/2027 Appropriation Bill (No. 1 of 2026) for Head 1800.