

## Botswana Oil Limited participates at the Global Expo Botswana 2023

n its intensive efforts to raise awareness about its mandate, as well as celebrating a decade of existence, national oil company, Botswana Oil, last week participated at the 14th edition of the Global Expo Botswana 2023.

Hosted under the theme "AfCFTA as a springboard for improved intra-Africa trade", the Expo was officially opened by His Excellency the President Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, and was headlined by the European Union EU-Botswana Business Forum.

When speaking at the Global Expo Botswana 2023 Business to Business Matchmaking Lounge sponsored by Botswana Oil, the Senior Manager Marketing and Communications, Mpho Victoria Mokgosi, said the company was set up by Government ten years ago to support its mandate of ensuring that there is sufficient fuel supply and distribution in the country.

"We serve as a transformation agent in the oil industry. Our mandate is three-pronged: ensuring security and efficiency of supply and distribution of petroleum products in Botswana. We also manage and maintain government owned strategy facilities and strategic stocks. Botswana Oil ensures that there is meaningful participation of citizen owned oil companies in the petroleum industry."

Botswana Oil has been participating in the Global Expo Botswana for many years, predominantly because it provides Business to Business opportunities, in as much strategic partnerships, networking and sharing ideas and industry knowledge with key stakeholders is concerned.

"The Global Expo Botswana is a platform that usually attracts local, regional, and international companies. It provides an opportunity for all of us to engage as players within the petroleum industry, to be abreast of new trends and standards in the industry. We also seek to identify

opportunities for partnerships particularly that we are growing as a company looking into the future of Botswana Oil, Mokgosi said.

She further highlighted that Botswana Oil is mandated to facilitate citizen empowerment initiatives; therefore, they are inviting prospective players in the oil industry to engage with themselves, so they become knowledgeable on how they can participate in the value chain. "The opportunities available include customs clearance of fuel at the borders, logistics management, fuel supply, truck stops, transport and trucks that can import petroleum products from South Africa, Mozambique and Namibia."

When talking about the future of Botswana Oil, Mokgosi said they will with effect from April 1st, 2024, be importing 90% of fuel coming into the country, a mandate they are ready to embark on.

"We are also running a couple of major projects such as the expansion of the Francistown depot, with a holding capacity 38 million litres of fuel, that we are expanding by an additional of 60 million litres capacity. Botswana Oil is in a process of starting construction of the Ghanzi storage facility that is on the Ghanzi-Mamuno road which will provide additional storage capacity for 60 million litres of fuel. It will be used to supply the Western part of the country, while the Francistown one will help in the Northern part of the country."

In addition to fuel, there will be introduction of new PPP projects through the Ikaegeng Coal to Liquid (IXTL) Project projects which will produce more fuel and also lead to production of products such as biofuel, biogas and other products which will provide opportunities for development and production of diverse products, creation of new industries and jobs within their own value chains. The Tshele Hills storage project will provide an additional 187 million litres of storage.















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