

# Botswana Meteorological Services (BMS)

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# Outline

- Who we are, what we do and how we do what we do
- Government Support
- Service Contacts
- Cost Recovery

# Functions of BMS

- Measure, observe record and exchange weather data
- Weather Forecasting and Advisory  
(Issue warnings of floods, severe storms, cold spells and heat waves and other weather conditions likely to endanger life and or property)
- Provide climatological data, information and advisory
- Climate Research and Prediction
- Train of Meteorological Personnel
- Repair, maintain and calibrate meteorological instruments
- Publish meteorological bulletins
- Cooperate with other meteorological services regionally and internationally

# Strategic Foundations

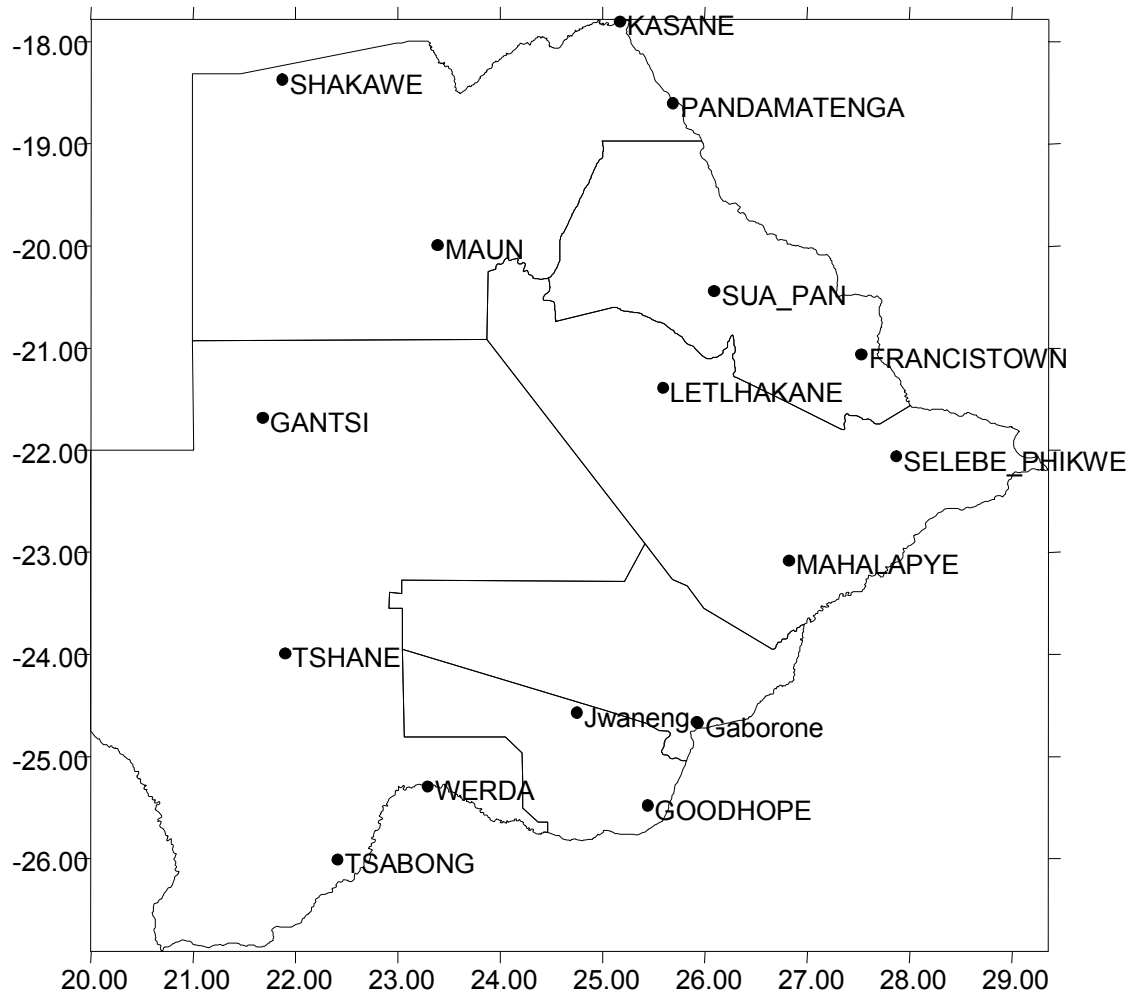
- Vision- A model of efficient, professional, scientific and technical leadership in the provision of quality weather and climate data and information.
- Mission-BMS exists to provide user oriented meteorological services through monitoring and prediction weather and climate and the use of up-to date technology to enable optimal utilization of resources
- Values- Botho, Transparency, Teamwork, Customer Focus, Equality, Accountability, Commitment, Integrity, Honesty, Tolerance

# Current Status

- The Department of Meteorological Services is a Botswana Government Department under the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism
- To effectively carry its mandate, the Department is structured into the following divisions and Units
  - Climatological Division
  - Training & Research Division
  - Weather Information Services Division
  - Engineering
  - Management Division
  - Data and Information Management Unit

# Current Status

- The current network consists of 17 synoptic station with one to open during the Financial year 2011/2012
- Department maintains 12 Climate stations, 11 Agrometeorological stations and over 400 rainfall stations
- Upper stations include Tsabong, Letlhakane, Maun and Sir Seretse Khama Airport
- The Department has a total staff complement of 486, over 30 of whom are professional meteorologist with BSc or higher. More than 20 other professionals provide support services to the Departments ( Engineers and Human Resource Managers)



# Financial Support

- As a government department BMS depends on the Government of Botswana to fund its activities.
- During the financial year 2010 /2011 the Department was allocated a total of P42 301 800.
- Of this an excess of P28M went to the remuneration vote and staff allowances. A further P300 000 was allocated to sub-votes including Temporary Assistance, Leave Travel Encashment and Casual labour.
- The Internal travel vote is allocated the next biggest percentage at over P5M while external travel is given only P0.5M



# Financial Support Cont

- General Expenses and Supplies was allocated P1.4M to cater for such expenses as Office supplies, Printing charges, Domestic and household requisites, Uniform and protective clothing etc
- Training vote includes student allowances ,course material and equipment was allocated 160 thousand.
- The Conferences vote which caters for Seminars and workshops and got close to half a million Pula.
- Subscriptions vote got about 160 thousand and lastly the Special Equipment vote was allocated over 1M Pula

# Development Projects

- These budgeted by the Planning officer in the Ministry. The Department sends its requests to the Ministry. Projects include, construction of staff houses at 3 stations, upgrade of offices at three other offices, construction of 2 new station and relocation of Sua Pan to a new site. Total funds allocated totaled 48M
- The SMHI& Botswana Met. Services Capacity Building Projects was allocated 1.6M Pula
- The Institutional Strengthening-Ozone Office was allocated 0.5M

# Other Projects

- The Climate Change project (Enabling activity) has 450 US\$ allocated to it . However, the funds reside at the local UNDP office and are accessed from there.
- The AMESD project has Botswana Government contribute 5% to the its budget. As BMS is the implementing agency, this has to be budgeted for by the office

# Service Contacts

- Three Service contracts signed by the Department with three other Governments Departments.
- Central Transport Organization (CTO) under the Ministry of Works &Transport. Funds are budgeted in the Recurrent exercise. 5.1 M of the 42M was transferred to CTO for purchase of petrol for the Department's fleet, maintenance, driver charges, accident charges and purchase of new vehicles under the development projects.
- The Department of Building & Engineering Services ( DBES) also has a service contract with DMS. Funds are also transferred to this Department. Services include, maintenance of building ( air conditioning, repair, painting etc), construction of new buildings etc.
- The Department of Information Technology under the Ministry of Science and Technology has a service contract to maintain and purchase computers for the Department.

# Cost Recovery

- Cost recovery activities have not yet started, but the Meteorological Act was passed in 2009 to enable the Department to undertake such activities.
- The newly established Civil Aviation Authority passes funds accrued from meteorological information to the Ministry.