

BRIEF REPORT ON THE BIA/SMME Committee

The Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMME) Committee is quite active during the year 2007.

The basic purpose for which the SMME Committee worked throughout the last year has been to coordinate professional assistance to the clients of Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency (CEDA). The Committee's successful efforts in the previous year to include representatives from Peo Holdings (Pty) Ltd., CEDA and University of Botswana Business Clinic brought talents into the Committee not only to be able to conceive various aspects of the relationship with CEDA but also to implement action plans in this regard to the BIA Council's satisfaction. Progress achieved during the year on this matter may be summed up as follows:-

1. The profiling of CEDA clients to the BIA volunteers essentially became the single most important key deliverable for the SMME Committee.
2. The first volunteers then paved the way for the rest of the future members who stand to learn a lot from the experiences of the pioneer volunteers. A number of consultative meetings were held with the volunteers and potential volunteers to draw the roadmap and the scope of the project.
3. Each volunteer was then required to issue a report which outlined their field experiences from which it was hoped would provide a template of ideas which could be tapped into for some standardisation of the implementation process.

The SMME sector will continue to be an important component of the development of Botswana as a country to which the BIA must subscribe.

Undoubtedly there is so much to do in Botswana for the development of small, medium and micro enterprises; there is so much more to do for the development of entrepreneurial skills amongst Batswana. Membership in your SMME Committee or becoming a volunteer in the SMME / CEDA programme is an ideal opportunity for some of you having creative minds, an attitude to take constraints as challenges and commitment to excellence.