



2014-2019 MANIFESTO



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Ready to Lead

Leading Botswana out of the crossroads

Our social contract with the people for 2014 – 2019

Botswana is still in the crossroads

- Our economy is on a free fall
- Crisis in water and power supply
- Corruption and mismanagement in abundance
- Unemployment is rife
- Aggrieved workforce
- Unhappy Batswana (the happy planet index)

1

“Our economy is on a free fall” BCP’s way out... Delivering a citizen led economic alternative

- Shall prioritise investment in infrastructure; water, modern roads, expanded rail network, in all areas with potential for economic activity
- Shall attain a minimum of 50% beneficiation for most of our mineral products by the year 2019
- Promote cattle related by product industries
- Protect local infant industries in sectors such as cement, bricks, glass and dairy products
- Shall formulate a citizen economic empowerment law compelling involvement of citizen owned companies in major economic activities
- Shall re-formulate the citizen reservation policy to target more high value ventures
- Infrastructure development; roads, telecommunications, dams and electricity to aid rural development and agriculture
- Green energy for agricultural production and use of solar power shall be promoted
- Development of tourism infrastructure to exploit tourism for sustainable economic growth shall be undertaken
- Private sector shall be invited to run lodges under some management contract
- All concessions shall be localised including hunting and photography while international investors could only enter into joint venture with citizens

2**“Crisis in water and power supply”****BCP’s way out...****Development and management of energy and water resources**

- Beneficiate coal resources.
- Invest in research and utilisation of clean renewable energy programmes such as solar, wind and biomass
- Households and businesses that utilise renewable energy shall be subsidised by the state.
- The power generation regime shall be liberalised and an independent regulatory authority be instituted to ensure quality and price monitoring.
- An audit shall be instituted on the Morupule B project to establish the true extent of its problems.
- Small and medium size dams shall be constructed in different localities to meet the demand of for agriculture and domestic use.
- The use of pit latrines shall be prohibited in areas identified as potential sources of underground water.
- The optimal utilisation of the Chobe and other waters shall be explored.

3**“Unemployment is rife and an aggrieved work force”****BCP’s way out...****Establishing a conducive work environment and decent wages**

- Collective bargaining will be the chief instrument for determining working conditions and salaries
- Ministry of labour to be a stand- alone ministry and to focus on implementing labour laws and ensure compliance of training and localisation programmes
- Recognise trade unions as integral part of economic and social development strategy; treated as equal partners in the development process.
- To improve dispute resolution mechanism as a matter of urgency. Dispute resolution in the work place shall be removed from the ministry of labour.
- An independent body for mediation and arbitration shall be established with powers to adjudicate over disputes in time.
- The industrial court shall be removed from the ministry of labour and there shall be court of appeal specifically for labour matters.
- A living wage for workers shall be introduced and aligned to the cost of living.
- Compulsory pension legislation for all workers shall be established.
- The scope of essential services shall be realigned according to the definition and scope of essential services to the 1994 ILO committee of standards.
- Workers shall be facilitated to own share in public corporations

4**“Crisis in education”****BCP’s way out...****Ensuring an educated and skilled Batswana**

- Basic education to consist of early childhood, primary, junior and senior secondary schools.
 - Free and compulsory basic education shall be provided.
 - All schools shall be provided with information and technology infrastructure.
 - An autonomous educational inspectorate that audits quality in educational provision shall be established.
 - Mother tongue as a medium of instruction from early child hood shall be introduced in relevant localities.
 - All teachers shall have first degree at minimum.
 - College of education institutions shall offer degree programmes.
 - A teaching council shall be established.
 - Teachers shall be remunerated fairly.
- Curriculum to underscore vocational skills acquisition shall be pursued.

5**“Land and housing crisis”****BCP’s way out...****Delivering equitable land distribution and providing decent housing**

- A comprehensive land audit shall be undertaken
- Impose development of undeveloped free hold land.
- Substitute tribal land certificate system with the title deed.
- Provision of land without services shall be prohibited.
- The waiting list for land shall be reduced to 12 months by 2018.
- BHC shall be transformed to focus on building affordable housing.
- BHC’s mandate shall be shifted from commercial undertaking to basic need for citizens.
- Private businesses that promote home ownership to their staff shall be tax rebated.
- Value added tax on home purchasing shall be abolished for the first time home owners.
- Multi residential units by private property developers. shall be constructed for sale at pre-determined prices.

6**“Expensive health model and declining health status”****BCP’s way out...****Promoting a healthy nation**

- The public health act shall be reviewed to remove human rights infringements.
- Free public health services at point of delivery.

- Health workers shall be provided with high quality training.
- Health workers shall be remunerated fairly and better than currently.
- Health workers shall be increased at all health facilities.
- The health referral system shall be strengthened.

7**“Botswana’s democracy under siege”****BCP’s way out...****Ensuring good governance**

- A constitutional review commission shall be set up
- Press freedom shall be guaranteed in the constitution and parliament to be forbidden from passing any law restricting press freedom
- State broadcasters, both radio and television shall be transformed into public run by independent boards
- Community media, including radio shall be facilitated
- An independent parliamentary service commission to oversee the operations of parliament shall be established.
- The position of speaker shall be confirmed as head of legislation and leader of the house.
- Parliamentary sessions shall be broadcast live.
- The executive shall be compelled to implement parliamentary resolutions.
- The leader of opposition shall be entrenched in the constitution and account to the speaker.
- The composition of the judicial commission shall be reviewed.
- There shall be transparency in the appointment of the judges with introduction of public hearings by parliamentary select committee.
- The chief justice shall be the head of judiciary as well as the president of the court of appeal.
- First past the post electoral system shall be mixed with proportional representation.
- The IEC shall be more autonomous.
- The date of elections shall be reflected in the constitution.
- Political party funding shall be introduced.
- The ombudsman and auditor general shall be directly accountable to parliament.
- Freedom of information law shall be enacted.
- Improve remuneration for security forces, including prison and police officers.
- The welfare of prison service officers shall be improved and their salary structure reviewed.
- Introduce community sentencing as alternative to prison to reduce congestion.
- Local authorities shall be empowered to expand their revenue generating opportunities.
- Decentralisation of services shall be prioritised.

8**“Disillusioned youth”****BCP’s way out...****Sports Development and Youth Empowerment**

- Affirmative action shall be entrenched in the youth policy.
- A youth entrepreneurship development agency shall be set up.
- Employment tax incentive shall be introduced for companies that employ youth under the age of 36.
- Youth development skills centres shall be set up across the country.
- Professionalization of sports shall be treated with urgency
- Unearth, develop, nurture and promote youth talent in the creative industry.

9**“Women remain marginalised”****BCP’s way out...****Promote gender equality**

- The mainstreaming of gender in all government ministries shall be coordinated at a specific ministry of Home affairs, gender development and culture.
- A curriculum geared at promoting gender equality shall be introduced.
- The SADC gender protocol shall be adopted, domesticated and complied with.
- Companies that support women’s economic projects shall be offered tax incentives.
- Civic and leadership training programmes shall be introduced to empower women, especially into politics.
- Affirmative action shall be established to ensure a fair representation of women at both local and national levels.

10**“Influence in global community minimal”****BCP’s way out...****Foreign affairs and international trade**

- Trade shall be placed at the core of the country’s diplomatic relations
- The appointment of diplomatic officers at foreign missions shall be influenced by ability to attract investors to the country
- Botswana Development Corporation shall be repositioned as government investment arm
- The country shall actively participate in regional, continental and international organisations to advance good governance at a global level
- Botswana shall participate in the peer review mechanism under NEPAD.