

bokgabane

botoka le botoka – better and better

From the Royal Bafokeng Operations Room

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PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

FEATURED PROJECTS

Construction of roads in various villages

Infrastructure plays a major role in generating economic and social benefits within a community. In addition, it contributes towards improving people's quality of life. It is important therefore for the Royal Bafokeng Nation to invest in infrastructure related projects such as the construction of new roads. In addition, these projects improve *Morafe's* access to public utilities such as clinics and schools, and promote economic growth and prosperity.



During 2012, four road construction projects were initiated across all five RBN regions, namely; 'Upgrading and construction of new roads in Raffredy village'; 'Construction of new roads and stormwater channels in Kanana and Luka South'; 'Construction of new roads and stormwater channels in Tantanana, Tsitsing, Kopman, Chaneng/Robega, Mafenya and Mogono'; and 'Construction of new roads and stormwater channels in Photsaneng, Thekwane, Mfidikwe, Marakana and Phokeng'.

The Upgrading and construction of new roads in Raffredy village was initially not budgeted for in the 2012 budget cycle, but was initiated as a result of a need that arose due to erosion on the roads in the area. The project was financed from the Road rehabilitation project which did not take place in 2012. The project is now at practical completion with the certificate already issued to the Infrastructure department by the consulting engineers. Raffredy village benefits from a total of 0.969 km of newly paved roads. The project started on the 5th of November 2012 and was initially scheduled to end on the 24th of January 2013. The revised completion date of the project is the 15th of April 2013 when the handover is scheduled to take place. The contractor fell behind schedule due to a delay in the supply of paving bricks.

Construction of new roads and stormwater channels in Kanana and Luka South is currently 72% complete. The project was scheduled for completion on the 14th December 2012; the revised completion date of the project is 15 April 2013. Upon completion the villages would have accumulated 5.183 km of paved roads. The project is currently behind schedule due to delays caused by inclement weather, unavailability of plant equipment and materials.

Construction of new roads and stormwater channels in Tantanana, Tsitsing, Kopman, and Chaneng/Robega, Mafenya and Mogono project is currently at 75% with a revised completion date of 11 April 2013. The villages will receive paved roads amounting to 4,923km. The contractor is behind schedule due to issues of poor planning, inclement weather and problems with the supply of materials.

The Construction of new roads and stormwater channels in Photsaneng, Thekwane, Mfidikwe, Marakana and Phokeng is 61% complete. The villages will benefit from 4,438km of newly paved roads upon completion of the project. The project is likely to finish 30 April 2013 due to poor planning by the contractor, inclement weather and problems with the supply of materials.

Community members in the benefiting villages will also benefit in the form of temporary employment, with a projected number of 120 local labourers to be hired across all four projects. In addition, four locally owned

companies will benefit from partnerships with more established companies, giving them exposure and mentorship in the civil construction industry. Locally owned companies will also benefit from the projects through sub-contracting opportunities.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

COMPLETED PROJECTS

RBED first quarter 2013 projects

In the welcoming note of the first issue of Tswelelopele, RBED's new quarterly newsletter, the Acting Managing Director Dr Elmie Castleman, remarked that "RBED has embarked on a drive to totally transform itself by focusing on rendering a drastically improved service without increasing the cost of rendering that service". To this end, RBED initiated a number of projects in the first quarter of 2013. These projects include; 'RBED Business Portal (SMME database and Client Relationship Management system Phase 1)', 'RBED First Newsletter (Tshwalelopele)', '2013 First RBED Outreach road show' and the 'RBED Business Directory 2nd Edition (2012)'.



In line with RBED's strategic objective of establishing and maintaining good relationships with its stakeholders, the RBED Business Development unit embarked on a project to develop a web-based business portal aimed at ensuring that there is improvement in communication between the unit and its clients – local RBN SMMEs. The portal has been developed as part of the existing RBN Operations Room website.

The RBED Business Portal was launched on the first of March 2013 and the project concluded later that same day. The Business Portal can be accessed via <http://www.rbnoperationsroom.com/>. The portal is fully equipped with an Image Gallery, Video gallery, Events Calendar, Digi Magazine and, most importantly, an SMME Business Directory with 159 company listings across various industries. It is hoped that the portal will bring about better quality reporting on SMME development and assist in keeping track of the growth of individual SMMEs. The portal will also showcase basic information of SMME's, thus acting as a marketing tool for local SMMEs, exposing them to a broader market.

In another attempt to improve communication and sharing of information with stakeholders, the first RBED newsletter, Tswelelopele, was published in January 2013. The newsletter is centred on the growth and transparency of the entity. The newsletter is accessible to the public, on the RBED Business Portal's Digi Magazine section.

The First RBED Outreach road show was initiated to inform *Morafe* about the RBED 2013 strategic goals and operational plans, as well as to gain input and suggestions from the SMME's as RBED's primary stakeholder. The outreach programmes were facilitated in all five regions, with various stops from the 5th to the 14th of February 2013. The outreach programmes were considered a success with 243 people attending the sessions.

The RBED Business Directory 2nd edition (2012) profiles local Bafokeng owned operating enterprises. The directory provides basic information for each enterprise and serves as an additional tool to promote and expose local SMMEs to different markets and opportunities, as the directory will be distributed to, amongst others, the local mines and municipalities.

The RBED first quarter 2013 projects all achieved what they set out to achieve; each playing a pivotal part in bringing RBED closer to achieving its mandate. Initiatives and results such as the aforementioned, coupled with their plans for the remainder of the year, bodes well for RBED and its beneficiaries.

PROGRAMME MANAGER OF THE MONTH: Tumelo Dikutle

- **When did you join RBA and in what capacity?**

- *I joined RBA in 2007 as an intern and later joined the Development Planning department in 2009.*

- **How many projects and programmes do you have on the MPS?**

- *I currently have one active programme (Management and Maintenance of RBN Intranet Based Enterprise Wide GIS (EGIS) System) and one completed project on the system (RBN Geographical Information System (GIS) awareness).*

- **What are your key responsibilities in Development and Planning?**

- *My key responsibility is to ensure that the GIS is fully functional and used to its full potential.*

- **What is it that you find most challenging about your job?**

- *The biggest challenge is to achieve all of the project goals and objectives in an attempt to adhere to the preconceived specifications. These specifications are provided by project scope, timelines, quality requirements and budget. The second, and perhaps more testing, challenge is to optimize the allocation of necessary inputs and integrate them in order to meet pre-defined objectives.*

- **Tell us more about the completed project that you managed.**

- *It was all about creating awareness about the Geographic information system among the RBN staff members. The project was initiated due to a lack of buy-in to GIS. Put differently, employees were not using the system since they were unaware of its existence.*

- **Do you find the MPS to be a helpful tool when it comes to managing your projects and programmes?**

- *The system keeps me focused and assists me to reach the project goals and objectives in a specific time. It also helps to plan, organize and manage resources. It reminds me of all the outstanding issues that need to be attended to.*



PROJECT MANAGEMENT CORNER:

What are “Project Triggers”?

A project by definition is “a temporary endeavour undertaken to produce a unique product or service”. By expansion, the fact that a project is temporary means that it has a definite point at which it starts and another point at which it ends and the uniqueness of the product or service relates to it being different to the product that the ongoing general management processes yields. The product or service that a project produces is in itself not temporary.

Projects can be triggered by a number of factors. They are triggered by an opportunity, a need, a problem or a bright idea.

From the [University of the Western Cape: School of Business and Finance](#)

www.rbnoperationsroom.com

Web traffic on the Operations Room website:

Month	Site visits	% New visits	Average time on site	Average pages per visit
March 2013	1995 visits from 53 countries (1491 – SA; 60 – US; 27 – UK) 974 unique visitors	41.15%	00:04:17	2.60
February 2013	1940 visits from 44 countries (1515 – SA; 43 – US; 22 – UK) 865 unique visitors	37.11%	00:05:03	2.87
January 2013	1758 visits from 51 countries (1283 – SA; 40 – US; 20 – UK) 842 unique visitors	41.13%	00:05:11	2.87

BokgabaneQuiz:

Have a go at the Bokgabane Quiz! Three winners will be randomly selected from the correct responses.

1. How many local SMMEs and how many local labourers will benefit from the four construction of new roads projects?
2. How many people attended the First RBED Outreach road show?
3. How many companies have been listed on the SMME business directory, accessible on the RBED business portal?

Last month's winners: Please come to collect your prizes from the OPMO.

Congratulations to:

1. David Ntuane
2. Millicent Mosue
3. Samuel Mekgoe

BOKGABANE:

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Please send your answers, queries and/or comments on Bokgabane to the OPMO at pmo@bafokeng.com