

bokgabane

botoka le botoka – better and better

from THE ROYAL BAFOKENG Operations Room

April 2011

Issue 2 • Volume 4



IN THIS ISSUE:

Project Spotlight	02
Project Manager of the Month	04
www.rbnoperationsroom.com	05
Project Management Corner	05
Bokgabane Quiz	06



www.rbnoperationsroom.com

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

FEATURED PROJECT

Development of a Masterplan for Agriculture in the Royal Bafokeng

Project manager: Prof Sue Cook

The 'Development of a masterplan for agriculture in the Royal Bafokeng' project is aimed at identifying agricultural development projects; identifying agricultural opportunities in the RBN that are based on sound environmental and economic principles; and the development of a comprehensive, updatable, spatial decision support system for Royal Bafokeng land. The project started on 13 January 2011 and is intended to end on 31 March 2013.



This project will potentially benefit the entire Bafokeng community as it will take place in all five Bafokeng regions. In addition, it will contribute to economic sustainability and food security in the nation.

Despite the promise of potential benefits that this project holds, community buy-in is paramount to the project success and therefore a communication strategy is developed to involve and inform the community.

The project kicked off with an inception workshop, with representatives from the Royal Bafokeng, the North West University and other stakeholders, during which the aims and processes were finalised. This was followed by a thorough situation analysis, which entailed identifying agricultural stakeholders and their roles; developing a natural resource, environmental and infrastructure data set; and is working towards conducting SWOT analyses. The situation analysis will be followed by a dynamic commodity analyses, leading to the identification of economic opportunities, and viable development projects. These steps are envisioned to lead to the identification of viable development initiatives, which will be accommodated in the masterplan. All the information will be packaged into an integrated spatial agricultural decision support system. Part of the project scope is piloting a feasible agricultural project in RBN.

Today's world is a place of uneven development, unsustainable use of natural resources, worsening impact of climate change, and continued poverty and malnutrition. Poor food quality and diets are partly responsible for the increase of chronic diseases like obesity and heart disease. Agriculture is closely linked to these concerns, including the loss of biodiversity, global warming and water availability.



FEATURED PROGRAMME

School Feeding Scheme

Project manager: Hlalela Mathonsi

The School Feeding Scheme (SFS) aims to feed learners in order to provide them with sufficient energy to enhance concentration and attentiveness in class, and to keep them healthy. In short, the programme's main objective is that no child in the Royal Bafokeng Nation goes to school hungry. The RBI SFS operates in accordance to the Department of Education's National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP) scheme and works in association with local government NSNP officials to facilitate feeding in schools.



The RBI SFS is currently providing breakfast and lunch to learners at 20 schools daily and 10 more schools will be on boarded to the SFS in 2011. The meals are nutritionally balanced and contain the necessary vitamins and minerals to keep learners healthy, strong and focused. RBI has appointed 84 food handlers from the surrounding communities, who have all received the appropriate training needed to perform their duties.

RBI piloted the SFS project with 5 schools, one per region, in April 2009. The schools included three primary schools, one middle school and one high school with 24 food handlers feeding 2600 learners. By August 2009 the programme was fully operational, supplying food to 10 schools with 5000 learners and employing 46 food handlers. The SFS aims to increase its impact on the community by increasing the number of learners fed to 22 000 in 46 Bafokeng schools and expanding the secondary benefits of the scheme.

Additional economic opportunities have been created for the provision of fresh vegetables and transport. Community support of this initiative has been tremendous and the programme is envisioned to continue for many years to come. In fact, community support has been such that the programme manager's greatest challenge is answering questions on when the SFS would be rolled out to the remainder of the Bafokeng schools.



In conclusion, the school feeding scheme contributes directly to five of the RBN's key focus areas, specifically 'Education and skills development', 'Health and social development', 'Economic development', 'Food security' and 'Environmental management'. Clearly the SFS is an important cog in the RBN's vision to develop its people into a self-sustaining community.

PROJECT MANAGER OF THE MONTH: Ernie Kemm

- **What is your key role in the Royal Bafokeng Administration (RBA)?**

- *My responsibilities as Manager of the Physical Planning Unit, being the physical planning “mechanism” for the Royal Bafokeng Nation, includes Forward Planning and Development Control. Physical Planning, in consultation with the Planning and Infrastructure Department conceives and proposes projects to be implemented by the Planning and Infrastructure Department. Duties include managing functions consisting of the planning, organization and co-ordination of administrative functions in terms of compiling of reports and letters, finalizing correspondence and budgeting of projects. Planning tasks included development control by means of the stand allocation process and related policies, as well as the planning and maintenance of the Royal Bafokeng Geographical Information System (GIS). The future planning includes the compiling and implementing of the RBN Master Plan and incorporating the plans of all the relevant stakeholders (mines, local authorities, service providers, etc.).*



- **How long have you been with the organization?**

- 10 years

- **Tell us briefly about RBA and its importance in Bafokeng Nation.**

- *The RBA serves as the service delivery agent within the Royal Bafokeng Nation. It is therefore very important that the very best service is provided to Morafe. Without the RBA people within the Nation will not have clean drinking water, paved roads, community centers, etc.*

“Project Management with the PMO System makes work and especially the conducting of projects so much easier”
Ernie Kemm

- **How many projects have you managed and how many are you working on currently?**

- *I managed the two projects namely Phases 1 and 2 of the Enterprise Wide GIS (EGIS) System for the RBN, as one project, and Phase 3 of the Enterprise Wide GIS (EGIS) system for the RBN. Currently I only assist in projects and programmes related to my duties.*

- **What are some of the challenges you have experienced as a project manager?**

- *Since I am not trained in the GIS field, I had to, as Manager of the Physical Planning Unit, familiarize myself with GIS and what it entails in order to properly manage the projects. Also it was at some stages difficult to ‘sell’ the projects to the various RBA Departments and RBN Entities and to receive inputs from them on their needs in terms of the EGIS.*

- **How do you think RBA projects (specifically your projects) are making a difference to the people Royal Bafokeng Nation and why?**

- *The main goal of the implementation of an enterprise GIS (EGIS) for the RBN was to implement interoperable technologies, standards, and methods, so that existing and developing spatial (GIS) data and services can be used more effectively and efficiently between different departments in the RBA and RBN Entities. This approach helps the RBN in the following ways:*
 - *It starts to reduce the stove-piped approach to the collection of data.*

- *It reduces duplication of data and applications.*
- *It reduces staff time required to perform certain tasks.*
- *It helps with support to the public by generating reports or information quickly.*
- *It identifies lost revenue in terms of fees or taxes not collected.*
- *It supports the development and distribution of core GIS layers.*
- *It gives us a more user-friendly approach for helping users within the administration to understand and use GIS data layers and help decision makers to make more informed decisions.*

A fully implemented EGIS System, if maintained successfully, will help the officials to spend less time searching for data and spend more time on using the information for compiling reports or any other analysis procedures. It also gives the RBN the ability to centralize GIS software on a GIS server and deliver GIS capabilities to a large number of users over networks. E-GIS users connect to a central GIS server using traditional desktop systems as well as web browsers and mobile computing devices.

- **Has the PMO's project management workshops helped you in managing your projects?**
 - *Yes, they were very helpful.*
- **What are your views on the MPS (Manage-by-Project System)?**
 - *It is a wonderful system and benefits not only the RBA, but all the RBN Entities, as well as our outside stakeholders.*
- **Do you have any words of encouragement or advice to other project managers?**
 - *The better you manage your projects the better results you will achieve. Project Management with the PMO System makes work and especially the conducting of projects so much easier.*

 www.rbnoperationsroom.com

Web traffic on the Operations Room website:

Month	Site visits	% New visits	Average time on site	Average pages per visit
March 2011	1452 visits from 35 countries (1298 – SA; 47 – US; 10 – UK) 590 unique visits	31.27%	00:05:48	4.07
February 2011	1539 visits from 24 countries (1443 – SA; 15 – US; 8 – UK) 501 unique visits	24.89%	00:06:57	4.39
January 2011	1161 visits from 24 countries (1076 – SA; 16 – US; 7 – UK) 374 unique visits	23.86%	00:05:55	4.18

↓ PROJECT MANAGEMENT CORNER:

Importance of Projects and Programmes

Programmes and Projects are what we actually do to give substance to the mission of RBN. Programmes and projects bridge the divide between ideas and practice. Projects and programmes are the instruments by which strategies are translated into tangible benefits for Morafe.

The way in which this divide is crossed, is by establishing and creating new services and delivery mechanisms which, once established, are institutionalised and become part and parcel of the organisational 'habits' and activities. The setting up of new projects is similar to an entrepreneurial activity, while the institutionalisation of these projects is done through managerial and 'maintenance' activities linked to programmes.

↓ Bokgabane Quiz:

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

1. What is deemed to pose the greatest risk to the Agricultural masterplan project?
2. How many learners were fed daily during the pilot phase of the School Feeding Scheme?
3. How long has Ernie been working at RBA?

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

Congratulations to:

1. Mmaphehello Serapelo
2. Kabaro Neswiswa
3. Oageng Modise

BOKGABANE:

Publication of the RBN PMO

EDITOR

Dr Elmie Castleman

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR & PUBLISHER

Jean Slabbert

FLOATING PRODUCTION MANAGER

Nkagiseng Tuge

SUB-EDITOR

Martin Bekker

PHOTOGRAPHER

Theron Rapoo

MONTHLY CORRESPONDENT

Ernie Kemm

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