

# BOTSWANA DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY 2017

19<sup>th</sup> December 2018

AVANI, Gaborone

## STATEMENT BY STATISTICAN GENERAL

Representatives of Development Partners

Senior Government Officials

Officials from Universities

Members of SB Management and Staff

Representatives from the Media fraternity

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning to each and every one of you,

1. Today, as per the invitation that was sent out, Statistics Botswana is releasing and disseminating the report on the 2017 Botswana Demographic Survey. I am grateful that all of you have been able to grace this dissemination forum. This is especially so because as we all know at this time of year there is a very strong pull to focus not on matters like we are here for this morning but on matters relating to activities of the festive season.

### **Director of Ceremonies**

2. Botswana Demographic Surveys are part of the programme of household surveys conducted between the decennial

population and housing censuses. This programme of inter-censal surveys also includes the Botswana Multi-topic Household survey (BMTHS), Botswana Aids Impact Survey (BAIS), ICT survey, and Informal Sector survey. The composition of the inter-censal surveys does change from time to time and will now be change with the introduction of new Continuous Multi-Topic Household survey.

3. The Botswana Demographic Survey (BDS) is among others things meant to update statistics collected during the di-cennial 2011 Population and Housing Census and to also provide data on other socio-demographic indicators.
4. In many other developing countries, demographic and health survey modules are put together to form what is usually called the Demographic and Health Survey. The Demographic and Health Survey program follows from the international program commissioned by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) that provides continuous update and availability of socio-demographic and economic data. In many lower than middle income countries such Demographic and Health surveys were supported by the USAID. Botswana has not participated in this programme.
5. The previous BDS was conducted in 2006 while the first and second BDS were conducted in 1987 and 1998, respectively. For the 2017 survey, the fieldwork was conducted over a period of two months from 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017 to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017.
6. The specific objectives of the BDS are to;
  - Assess trends in demographic indicators, in particular fertility and mortality and migration.

- Estimate the population size, growth and distribution by gender and age groups.
- Provide statistics to monitor and evaluate population, health and nutrition programmes.
- Provide data on family planning and fertility behaviour of the population and thereby enable policymakers to evaluate and enhance family planning initiatives.
- Examine basic indicators of maternal and child welfare, including nutritional status, use of antenatal and maternity services.
- Assess the status of women and children at a national level
- Measure the level of infant and adult mortality including maternal mortality at the national level.

### **Ladies and gentlemen**

7. There is always continuation on efforts to have timely statistical results and this includes adoption of new innovative methods for collecting and processing data. In this regard, the 2017 BDS was the first in the series of BDS's to use the Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) tool for data collection. All the previous ones used the PAPI data collection tool. The PAPI tool is more prone to introduction of non-sampling errors as the data is first captured into the questionnaire and then later entered into a database while for the CAPI the data is entered directly into an electronic database and there is imbedded data entry controls in the system.
8. The use of CAPI has gained ground in most countries and has been shown over and over again to significantly reduce the

time between data collection and release of the survey report. This was indeed the case for the 2017 BDS in comparison to the previous BDS's.

9. Statistics Botswana acknowledges and is thankful for the support it received from the World Bank towards the development of the Survey Solutions CAPI system that was used to collect the BDS data. The request for the technical assistance was made at short notice but the World Bank rallied and provided the technical assistance that was needed.

### **Director of ceremonies**

10. The time series on demographic data now moves to the set to be produced through the conduct of the 2021 Population and Housing census. In line with the international guidelines on preparation for censuses Statistics Botswana has already commenced preparatory activities for the conduct of the 2021 Botswana Population and Housing Census. These activities include the pilot mapping exercise which started in November 2018.
11. I want to take this opportunity to call upon all stakeholders to support us to ensure the successful conduct of the 2021 census.
12. In conclusion I encourage all of you here and those that will be reached through the media coverage of this forum to consider and use the results of the 2017 BDS report. The report will immediately after this event be placed on our website. As you will have seen in the programme the sharing of the actual results will commence shortly after this statement. It is my hope that you will find the results useful now and into the future.

13.I thank you