



**PRESS CONFERENCE**  
**THE 2016/17 CENSUS OF ENTERPRISES AND ESTABLISHMENTS PHASE II**  
**LAUNCH STATEMENT**  
**06 JUNE 2017, CRESTA LODGE**

**Background:**

1. Statistics Botswana is today launching the Census of Enterprises and Establishments phase II. The Census of Enterprises and Establishments (CEE) phase II is a large scale statistical survey which will be collecting information from all enterprises and establishments across all cities, towns and rural areas in Botswana. The survey covers both the public and private sectors.
2. Statistics Botswana, like any other statistical agency has to provide the government and other stakeholders with statistical information that is useful in policy formulation, decision making as well as in monitoring the performance of the economy and evaluation of the various programmes geared towards facilitating the country's economic diversification and general economic development.

**Objective**

- 4 The main objectives of CEE II is to collect information from businesses pertaining to the type of business activity, revenue, expenditure, assets, stock, employment, ownership status, among other things. Most of the information required by CEE II is found in the business' financial statements (audited or unaudited). Once collected, this information, will be used for many purposes including profiling the structure of the economy, serving as a benchmark for economic statistics and also as an input for the compilation of national accounts aggregates such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF), etc.

**Data Collection:**

5. Questionnaires will be sent to businesses and establishments during the second week of June 2017, starting tomorrow. The businesses and establishment will be given 30 days to complete and send them back to Statistics Botswana. Statistics Botswana will be readily available to assist all businesses that will need

assistance in completing the questionnaire. The contact details are provided in the questionnaire.

6. All enterprises and establishments are urged to furnish the required information, and by filling out the questionnaire during the stated data collection period. Enterprises and Establishment are reminded that as per the provisions of the Statistics Act, it is mandatory for individuals, businesses and households to furnish information required in any survey conducted by Statistics Botswana.
7. Failure to provide the required information by enterprises and establishments is not only a breach of the law but also adds to erosion of the quality of the economic indicators that will be produced at the end of this census. Such erosion has to be avoided by all means so that the resultant indicators articulate a very close or accurate picture of the existing reality. In this way, the decisions made on the basis on these indicators would be more likely to achieve the intended outcomes. Such decisions would include those made by the business community on the basis of the same indicators.
8. Statistics Botswana assures all those who will be respondents to this survey that confidentiality of all information gathered is guaranteed. Any person employed to execute any duty under the Statistics Act of 2009, signs an Oath of Secrecy before a Commissioner of Oaths and understands what this means, its importance and the consequences of failure to comply.
9. Once again, Statistics Botswana requests that business enterprises and establishments in the public and private sector cooperate and provide the requested information. We all need timely and accurate information for decision making. Accordingly we should all join efforts and support these data gathering and summarisation initiatives and help build a better Botswana.