

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



eicb
EXPLORATION
INVESTMENT
COMPANY
BOTSWANA

EICB Showcases Bold Vision for Botswana's Mineral Future at Trade Up North 2026

Francistown, Botswana | 23 July 2026 – The Exploration Investment Company Botswana (EICB) reaffirmed its commitment to unlocking Botswana's vast mineral potential through strategic exploration and investment during the Trade Up North 2026 exhibition, where Chief Executive Officer Mr. Olefile Cisco Mashabila, delivered a keynote presentation titled "Bold Steps Towards Mineral Prosperity."

Addressing government representatives, investors, industry leaders and members of the business community, Mr. Mashabila outlined EICB's role as Botswana's catalytic exploration investment company, established to accelerate mineral discoveries by connecting capital to opportunity and advancing projects from exploration to investment readiness. He highlighted the company's purpose of de-risking high-potential exploration projects while creating long-term national value through strategic partnerships, innovation and responsible resource development.

Mr. Mashabila noted that Botswana is entering a transformative phase in its mining sector, underpinned by progressive government policies, an attractive investment environment and world-class geological potential. Despite the country's strong mineral endowment, he observed that significant opportunities remain to diversify beyond diamonds by accelerating exploration for copper, gold, critical minerals and other strategic commodities.

"Botswana possesses one of the world's most attractive exploration environments. Our priority now is to deliberately convert geological potential into economic opportunity by strengthening exploration, attracting investment and creating sustainable value for Botswana," said Mr. Mashabila.

Email: info@eicb.co.bw | **Tel:** +267 3700015

Physical Address: Ground Floor, Acacia House, Plot 74358, Prime Plaza, New CBD, Gaborone

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



eicb
**EXPLORATION
INVESTMENT
COMPANY
BOTSWANA**

The presentation highlighted Botswana's competitive advantages, including its globally recognised mineral potential, improving investment environment and emerging opportunities in the Kalahari Copper Belt, as well as the Tati and Vumba Greenstone Belts, which offer significant potential for future gold discoveries. Mr. Mashabila emphasised that these opportunities present a strong platform for expanding Botswana's mineral economy while supporting industrialisation and inclusive economic growth.

A key focus of the presentation was the need to close the early-stage exploration funding gap by strengthening access to risk capital, improving geological data, enhancing stakeholder coordination and creating effective mechanisms to de-risk exploration investment. These interventions, he noted, are essential for increasing the conversion of exploration projects into producing mines and ensuring Botswana remains globally competitive as demand for critical minerals continues to grow.

Mr. Mashabila also underscored the importance of developing a responsible and commercially viable small-scale mining sector. He highlighted ongoing efforts to establish a comprehensive Small-Scale Mining Framework aimed at empowering citizens, formalising participation and creating sustainable economic opportunities while maintaining responsible environmental stewardship.

The CEO further emphasised that the future of Botswana's mining industry lies not only in discovering new mineral deposits but also in retaining greater value within the country through beneficiation, local supplier development, skills transfer and increased citizen participation across the mineral value chain. These priorities align with Government's vision of transforming Botswana into a diversified and industrialised economy.

Email: info@eicb.co.bw | **Tel:** +267 3700015

Physical Address: Ground Floor, Acacia House, Plot 74358, Prime Plaza, New CBD, Gaborone

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



eicb
**EXPLORATION
INVESTMENT
COMPANY
BOTSWANA**

Trade Up North provided EICB with an important platform to engage potential investors, strategic partners and entrepreneurs while showcasing the company's mandate to unlock Botswana's mineral potential and position the country as a premier destination for mineral exploration investment.

As Botswana continues to reposition itself for the next generation of mineral discoveries, EICB remains committed to working with industry and development partners to build a sustainable exploration ecosystem that attracts investment, supports economic diversification and delivers long-term prosperity for the nation.

About EICB

The Exploration Investment Company Botswana (EICB) is a State-owned company established to unlock Botswana's mineral potential by connecting capital to opportunity. Through catalytic investment, strategic partnerships and exploration project development, EICB works to accelerate mineral discoveries, de-risk early-stage exploration and create long-term national value by supporting a sustainable pipeline of future mining developments

.....**ENDS**.....

Media Enquiries

Marketing & Communications

Exploration Investment Company Botswana (EICB)

info@eicb.co.bw

www.eicb.co.bw

Email: info@eicb.co.bw | **Tel:** +267 3700015

Physical Address: Ground Floor, Acacia House, Plot 74358, Prime Plaza, New CBD, Gaborone