

AFRICA FORESIGHT NETWORK DIALOGUE SESSION

19th - 22nd

JANUARY 2026


"ADVANCING REGIONAL CAPACITY
FOR STRATEGIC FORESIGHT"



Africa Foresight Africa Foresight Network (AFN), in collaboration
with the Human Resource Development Council of Botswana



Consult



The imperative for foresight capability building in Africa has never been greater. In an era defined by rapid and disruptive change, African nations must confront and navigate a shifting global landscape characterised by profound demographic transitions, accelerating technological and scientific advancements, volatility in geopolitical and economic power relations, and the convergence of multiple, deeply interlinked crises often described as “polycrises” comprising climate challenges, social and economic inequalities, health emergencies, and governance dilemmas. In parallel, the continent stands at the threshold of a historic moment, with a burgeoning youth population, expanding regional integration, vast natural and human resources, and unprecedented opportunities for leapfrogging into new development paradigms. African policy makers, academics, and civil society actors are increasingly aware that

traditional reactive and short-term approaches to planning are insufficient for addressing the multidimensional risks and opportunities shaping the continent's future. The complexity and interconnectedness of emerging issues ranging from digital disruption, artificial intelligence, and biotechnology, to migration, urbanisation, and environmental shocks require the cultivation of anticipatory governance and the institutionalization of futures thinking across all sectors. Yet, a persistent capability gap endures. While the imperative for foresight is recognised, too few decision makers and institutions have access to world-class knowledge, training, and methodologies contextualised to African realities and grounded in local knowledge systems, values, and aspirations. As the pace of global transformation accelerates, the cost of inaction or misaligned policy choices becomes ever more pronounced. This is manifested not only

in missed opportunities for growth, but also in increasing vulnerability to external shocks and internal stresses.

Moreover, many African societies are navigating evolving power dynamics at regional, continental, and global levels. The ability to anticipate, strategically position, and proactively shape these dynamics will be central to advancing Africa's collective interests and realising the Agenda 2063 of the African Union which calls for the continent's transformation.

The three-in-one program to be held in Botswana will begin to address these urgent needs of equipping a cadre of leaders and practitioners with the skills, mindsets, and networks necessary to harness futures thinking for transformative impact at the regional and national levels. The first element will focus on capacity building in foresight for decision makers within the region. The second is a policy dialogue on the future of Botswana. The dialogue will focus on the ramifications of global trends and changing

dynamics on Botswana, with an economy highly dependent on export of diamond. The third will be a learning workshop to upgrade the capacity of local decision makers in foresight.

By grounding practical foresight methodologies in African worldviews, including indigenous knowledge, gender equal and socially inclusive perspectives, the program will move beyond generic capacity building to foster contextualised, inclusive, evidence-informed, and actionable approaches to long-term strategy and planning.

Ultimately, the activities in Botswana are not only a response to the challenges of today, but also an investment in Africa's capacity to seize the opportunities of tomorrow empowering participants to move from crisis management to strategic anticipation and from fragmented action to collaborative, visionary leadership.

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PROGRAMME |

13:45 - 14:00hrs	Arrivals & Seating	All
14:00 - 14:10hrs	Welcome Remarks	Dr Andrew Molwane, HRDC Board Member
14:10- 14:20hrs	Framing of the Dialogue	Prof Geci Karuri-Sebina, Africa Foresight Network
14:20 - 14:30hrs	Official Opening	Permanent Secretary Prof- Richard Tabulawa, Ministry of Higher Education
14:30 - 14:45hrs	Keynote Address What future for Africa?	Mr Koffi Kouakou, Sessional, Lecturer, Wits School of Governance
14:45 - 15:45hrs	Dialogue 1 Futures of Agriculture, Minerals and Manufacturing: What are the implications for Botswana?	
Moderator: Dr. Olugbenga Adesida Panellists: 1. Dr. Julius Gatune, Agriculture 3. Tanja Hichert, Food Systems 2. Mr. Koffi M. Kouakou, Minerals 4. Ms Jamah Mudarikirie-Gopane - Manufacturing		
15:45 - 16:45hrs	Dialogue 2 Futures of Digital Transition, Culture, Creative Arts and Tourism: What are the Implications for Botswana?	
Moderator: Prof Geci Karuri-Sebina Panellists: Speakers: 1. Ms Passy Amayo - Youth & Culture 3. Mr Ontlametse Gaothuse - Digital Transitions 2. Ms Marang Selolwane - Creative Arts 4. Mr Dawson Ramsden - Tourism		
16:45 -17:00 hrs	Synthesis: What Lessons for Botswana?	Moderator: Mr Goitsewang J. Khutsafalo Speakers: Prof. Geci Karuri-Sebina; Dr. Olugbenga Adesida
17:00 - 17:10hrs	Vote of Thanks	Prof. Alinah K. Segobye, HRDC CEO



PROFESSOR RICHARD TABULAWA

Professor Tabulawa is the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Higher Education, Botswana. Professor Tabulawa has extensive experience in education policy, curriculum development, and pedagogy. Professor Tabulawa has served as Dean at the University of Botswana and Acting Director at the Centre for Continuing Education. Professor Tabulawa has authored influential works on teacher education and culturally responsive pedagogies in Sub-Saharan Africa.



DR ANDREW MOLWANE

Dr. Andrew B. Molwane is an educationist who has operated for over 30 years in the education and training field. He was instrumental in the establishment of the National Credit and Qualifications Framework Unit. He also coordinated the development of the Botswana Qualifications Authority Bill which led to the enactment and promulgation of the Botswana Qualifications Authority Act of 2013. This milestone resulted in the establishment of the entity now called the Botswana Qualifications Authority (BQA). Dr. Molwane also participated in the development of the National Curriculum and Assessment Framework (NCAF), where he provided guidance to ensure that NCAF was aligned to the National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCQF).

Dr. Molwane is a member of the Human Resource Development Council Board. He also serves in two committees of the Board, the Funding Committee and the HRD Planning Committee. Dr. Molwane holds a PhD with a major in Curriculum and Instruction and a Minor in Instructional Systems Technology from Indiana University (USA), a Masters in Science Education from Indiana University (USA), a Masters of Arts in Education (Computers in Education) from the University of London, a Bachelor of Arts and a Concurrent Diploma in Education from the University of Botswana and Swaziland.



PROF ALINAH K. SEGOBYE

Professor Alinah K. Segobyé is the Chief Executive Officer of the Botswana Human Resource Development Council, where she provides strategic leadership and policy advice on national human resource development. With a distinguished academic background, she previously served as the Dean of the Faculty of Human Sciences at the Namibia University of Science and Technology and held the position of Deputy Executive Director at the Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa.

A Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences, Professor Segobyé has held various prestigious academic roles, including Extraordinary Professor at North West University and Research Scholar at the African Futures Institute. Her extensive research and consultancy experience spans archaeology, culture, heritage management, and gender development, with a focus on the decolonization of education and indigenous knowledge. A published writer and active advocate for gender and youth development, she is also involved with several non-governmental organisations.



GECI KARURI-SEBINA

Geci's work spans the fields of governance, anticipation, and innovation, grounded in her interest in the intersections between people, place, time and technological change. Her scholarship continues to shape local, national and international conversations on transformative, future-oriented thought, governance and action.



KOFFI KOUAKOU

Kouakou is a sessional lecturer with focus on anticipatory governance at the Tayarisha Research Group at the Wits School of Governance at Wits University and a senior fellow at The Centre for Africa China Studies at the University of Johannesburg, both in South Africa.

He is a member of the OECD Expert Group on Strategic Foresight, a group of 10 globally renowned foresight experts and an alumnus of the Oxford University Said Business School Scenarios Programme.

He is the managing director of Stratnum Futures, a scenario planning, futures, strategy consulting and advisory firm.

DIALOGUE 1

Futures of Agriculture, Minerals and Manufacturing:
What are the implications for Botswana?



MODERATOR: DR. OLUGBENGA ADESIDA

Olugbenga consults widely on foresight, innovation and strategy issues for governments, international organizations and companies. He is also the co-founder and managing director of the Africa Innovation Summit (AIS) and co-Convenor of the African Foresight Network. He is the co-founder of Bonako (a tech company) and Muska (music tech startup).



PANELLIST: DR JULIUS GATUNE

Dr Julius Gatune is a policy analyst and a futurist. He is the UNESCO Chair of Future Literacy Laboratory and Associate Professor of Anticipatory Socio-Technical Systems at Dedan Kimathi University of Science and Technology (DeKUT). He is also a Senior Project Consultant and Assistant Professor with the Maastricht School of Management (MSM), Netherlands. He is also a Senior Fellow with the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET). Dr Gatune has previously worked at McKinsey & Co as a management consultant (at Johannesburg South Africa office). He also worked at the Frederick S. Pardee Centre for Study Longer Range Futures at Boston University and the Frederick S Pardee Centre for International Futures at the University of Denver. He is an editor with the Journal of Future Studies. He holds a Ph. D in Policy Analysis for the Pardee RAND Graduate School in California USA, and Masters in Computer Science from the University of Cambridge, UK. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (First Class Honors) and an MBA from the University of Nairobi, Kenya.

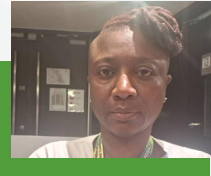


PANELLIST: TANJA HICHERT

Tanja Hichert is founder of Hichert & Associates futures/foresight consulting firm and a Fellow at the Centre for Sustainability Transitions where she is co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Complex Systems and Transformative African Futures at Stellenbosch University.

DIALOGUE 1

Futures of Agriculture, Minerals and Manufacturing:
What are the implications for Botswana?



PANELLIST: JAMAH SEGOMOTSO MUDARIKIRIE-GOPANE

I am a seasoned Business Administration Specialist and PhD Candidate in Strategic Management (2023–present, Philipian’s Christian University), with a robust academic foundation that includes a Master in Business Administration (University of Botswana) and a Bachelor of Honors in Fashion Design (2002, Linea Academy). Leveraging over 20 years of experience across public service, private entities, and the banking sector in Botswana, I have developed expertise in financial services, regulatory compliance, and strategic policy implementation.

Currently serving as a Fellow at the Institute of Administrative Management, I bring expertise in industrial policy development, project management, stakeholder engagement, and regional integration through active participation in SADC, SACU, and UNIDO forums.

DIALOGUE 2

Futures of Digital Transition, Culture, Creative Arts and
Tourism: What are the implications for Botswana?



PANELLIST: MS PASSY AMAYO

Passy Amayo Ogolla is currently a Programme Manager at the Society for International Development's Regional Office for Africa, leading the implementation of two programmes; the Energy, Environment & Climate Futures Programme in East and Southern Africa and the Fairer Futures for Africa Programme.

DIALOGUE 2

Futures of Digital Transition, Culture, Creative Arts and Tourism: What are the implications for Botswana?



PANELLIST: MARANG SELOWANE

Marang Selowane is a cultural policy practitioner and creative economy specialist with two decades of experience across performing arts, arts education, film and television, digital media, and creative entrepreneurship. She currently serves as Creative and Cultural Development Coordinator at the National Arts Council of Botswana (NACB), where she supports nationwide programme implementation, ensuring equitable access to resources and opportunities for artists and cultural practitioners across Botswana, and strengthening creative and economic activity in both rural and urban communities through regional collaboration.

Her experience spans university lecturing, theatre and film production, creative enterprise development, and digital media campaigns across banking, investments, insurance, food and beverage (FMCG), lifestyle, and development finance institutions (DFIs). She brings hands-on expertise in arts management, research, strategic communications, brand development, stakeholder engagement, and sector programme delivery, bridging the creative arts with skills development, employment creation, and economic growth.

Marang holds a BA in Drama and Film (University of Pretoria), a BA (Hons) in Drama and Film, and a Master's in Cultural Policy and Management (University of the Witwatersrand), combining academic depth with extensive practical experience across Botswana's creative sector and the wider creative economy.



PANELLIST: ONTLAMETSE GAOTHUSE

Mr Gaothuse holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree and MSc. In Management Sciences [a postgraduate degree focused on using scientific and mathematical methods to solve complex problems].

Highly accomplished Technology & Emerging technology Futures/ Foresight professional based in the Ministry of

Communications and Innovation. A results-driven Management Science & Technology professional with over 10 years of progressive experience in strategic planning, policy development, technology implementation, innovation funding and stakeholder management. Demonstrated expertise in leading complex projects, fostering international partnerships, and driving organizational effectiveness within government and public sector environments. Proven ability to translate strategic vision into actionable plans, optimize operations, and enhance policy frameworks, particularly in the realm of technology and innovation.



PANELLIST: MR DAWSON RAMSDEN

Dawson Ramsden – Tourism Strategist & Industry Leader

Dawson Ramsden is a seasoned tourism professional with over two decades of experience spanning destination marketing, high-end safari operations, and strategic leadership across Southern Africa's premium tourism sector.

He holds a degree in Tourism Marketing and Development from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) in Cape Town. Dawson began his career in the private tourism sector in Northern Botswana, where he worked extensively in iconic wilderness areas including the Okavango Delta, Savuti, Chobe, Makgadikgadi Linyanti. During this period, he built a strong operational foundation, serving both as a professional safari guide and a high-end lodge manager, gaining firsthand insight into luxury hospitality, conservation-based tourism, and guest experience excellence.

In 2011, Dawson joined the Botswana Tourism Organisation (BTO), where he served until 2022 as Marketing Executive – International Markets. In this role, he was responsible for positioning Botswana as a premier global tourism destination, managing key source markets, developing international marketing strategies, and working closely with government, private sector partners, and global trade stakeholders.

From 2022 to 2025, Dawson was appointed Chief of Staff for Wilderness Safaris Botswana, one of Africa's leading conservation tourism operators. In this senior leadership role, he supported executive management.

Dawson currently runs his own tourism consulting company, Monkey Orange, where he advises destinations, tourism businesses, and conservation-focused enterprises on strategy, marketing, product development, and sustainable tourism growth. His work is grounded in deep regional knowledge, international market expertise, and a strong commitment to responsible, high-value tourism.

SYNTHESIS: WHAT LESSONS FOR BOTSWANA?



MODERATOR: GOITSEMANG KHUTSAFALO

An astute visionary Author, Entrepreneur, Leader & Radio Personality clothed in undeniable brilliance, contagious humour, and a heart for the future of Africa. With over 12 years of experience; Goitsewang is the Founder & CEO of Launchit International, Founder & Patron of All Brilliant Minds Organization (ALBRIMO), Executive Director of Project124 Africa, and host of life changing and nation building shows on RB2 FM. An Accounting & Finance graduate, a Mandela Washington Fellow, a renowned published author, and an associate at the Northwestern University in Chicago, USA.