

CHAPTER 18

CULTURE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

18.1 This chapter reviews developments during National Development Plan 8 (NDP 8) and outlines strategies and policies to be pursued during National Development Plan 9 (NDP 9) by individual Departments under the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs (MLHA) and its related stakeholders. The chapter also outlines how the Ministry will facilitate attainment of Vision 2016 pillars through various activities.

18.2 Responsibilities for cultural and social services reviewed in this chapter fall under the mandate of various stakeholders namely MLHA and its affiliated Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), the Ministry of Local Government (through the Social Welfare and Social Benefit Divisions) and Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology (through the Department of Information and Broadcasting).

18.3 The Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs is a key provider of a wide range of cultural and social services that are essential for the social and economic development of our country. To fulfill its mandate the Ministry continues to employ the Performance Management System (PMS), a public sector reform which is a comprehensive and all-embracing approach geared towards efficient service delivery for the benefit and upliftment of the nation. To this end, the Ministry has formulated a

Strategic Plan for the period 2000 to 2006, through which various challenges will be addressed, amongst them, the mitigation of the impact of HIV/AIDS in the society.

Institutional Framework

18.4 The Ministry is responsible for the following:-

Cultural services

18.5 These are provided through the following Departments:-

- Botswana National Library Service
- National Museum and Art Gallery
- National Archives and Records Services
- Culture and Youth

Social services

18.6 These are provided through the following Departments

- Industrial Court
- Immigration and Citizenship
- Civil and National Registration
- Prisons and Rehabilitation
- Labour and Social Security
- Madirelo Training and Testing Center (MTTC)
- Women's Affairs
- Sports and recreation

18.7 The Department of Social Services develops, coordinates, monitors and evaluates implementation of social

services programmes, with particular focus on, among others, vulnerable groups such as children, destitutes, female headed households, women and people with disabilities. To fulfill its mandate, the Department networks with local and international agencies.

18.8 This mandate is in line with creating a compassionate, just and caring nation. Through the above activities, a caring and supportive environment is created by empowering and rehabilitating individuals, groups and communities with a view to creating sustainable social development.

18.9 Programmes offered by the division include;

- ♣ Family Welfare services.
- ♣ Child Welfare Services.
- ♣ Specialized Services which entail rehabilitation of juvenile offenders through probation services.
- ♣ Community Development
- ♣ Home Economics which deals with issues of nutrition, child care and development and its aim is to empower individuals, families and communities.
- ♣ Destitution and Elderly which develops policies and impart skills in economic empowering activities.
- ♣ Research, Information and Documentation.

18.10 The Division also gives financial support to NGOs that provide welfare services. They are SOS Children's Village, Botshabelo Rehabilitation and Crisis Centre, Botswana Christian Council (that helps street children), Childline, some day care centres and several other welfare providing NGOs.

Industrial Court

18.11 The Industrial Court was established by the Trade Disputes Act (Cap. 48.02) of 1992, to settle trade disputes, secure and maintain good industrial relations. The Court has jurisdiction in every matter brought before it and it has powers to prohibit any employee or employer, or any trade union or employer's organisation, from taking or continuing any industrial action. It thereby maintains good industrial relations, which among other things are a pre-requisite to attain the two pillars of Vision 2016 namely **a safe and secure nation and a productive, prosperous and innovative nation.**

Immigration and Citizenship

18.12 The Department is responsible for enforcing the Immigration Act and Citizenship Act. The overall mandate of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship is to protect the society against the entrance and residence of people with undesirable behaviour, while at the same time facilitating movement of genuine travellers in and out of the country. Specific services offered by the Department include processing applications for citizenship and residence permits, issuance of passports, visas, visitor's permits and exemption certificates.

18.13 The mandate augurs well with the promotion of **a safe and secure nation by 2016.**

Civil and National Registration

18.14 The Division of Civil Registration is responsible for the

registration of births, deaths, marriages, societies, Trade Unions and Employers' Federation as well as administration of the Lotteries and Betting Act and the Change of Name Act.

18.15 The Division of National Registration is mandated by the National Registration Act of 1986 to register all citizens aged sixteen (16) years and above and those who become citizens through registration or naturalisation for the purposes of issuing them with National Identity Cards (OMANG). The Division currently operates (25) twenty-five district offices throughout the country where registration and card distribution take place. In carrying out this mandate, the Division travels to all parts of the country in order to reach out to all citizens including those who are not able to travel to Omang district offices.

18.16 Following the Organisation and Methods Review (O& M), which was undertaken during NDP 8, the two divisions will be merged into one department.

Prisons and Rehabilitation

18.17 The Botswana Prison service is responsible for the safe custody, care, training and rehabilitation of people serving prison sentences. In order to fulfill its mandate, the service is guided by the Prisons Act and works closely with the National Parole Board, Prisons Council and Prisons visiting committees.

Labour and Social Security

18.18 The Department of Labour and Social Security provides labour administration services and these include mediation of labour disputes, provision of labour and factory inspectorate

services, work permit processing, apprenticeship training and testing, workers safety and health management and workers compensation administration. These services promote stable industrial relations which is an important pre-requisite for sustainable economic growth, prosperity and socio-economic development.

Botswana National Library Service

18.19 The Botswana National Library Service's mission is to "provide the nation with information and promote its utilisation for educational, research and recreational purposes. Provision of services is through a network of public, educational and special libraries at national and international level".

18.20 Core responsibilities of the Department are:-

- To provide and manage the public library system through the establishment of branch libraries, reading rooms, and mobile libraries.
- To advise government, parastatals and non-governmental organisations in the development of their libraries and information centres.
- To collect and preserve for posterity, the literary culture of Botswana.

18.21 These activities will contribute towards the achievement of an educated and informed nation, which will in the long run translate into a prosperous, productive, innovative and accountable nation.

National Museum, Monuments and Art Gallery

18.22 The primary goal of the National Museum is to preserve and promote Botswana's cultural and natural properties for now and for posterity. Oral traditions also form an integral part of this process.

18.23 This is achieved through:

- Collection of natural and cultural objects for storage and display.
- Information generation and dissemination to the public through available media.
- Research into art, natural sciences, ethnography, archaeology and education.
- Networking with other professional local and international organizations.
- Identification and establishment of cultural and natural monuments or landscapes.

18.24 Activities undertaken by the Department hinge on the following pillars of Vision 2016:-

- **An educated and informed nation (through dissemination of information related to heritage matters).**
- **A proud and united nation.**

18.25 Attainment of these goals is facilitated through the museum's objective of collaboration with communities and other stakeholders on programmes that seek to protect and sustainably utilise natural and cultural resources.

18.26 Regarding privatisation, the Museum does not envisage that any

service may need to be privatised during NDP 9.

Culture and Youth

18.27 The primary goal of the Department of Culture and Youth is to promote and preserve culture and to create an enabling environment for youth and the general public to participate in cultural development in this country.

18.28 The Department coordinates youth and cultural activities at the national level. In this regard, the Department is guided by its vision and mission statements that emphasise provision of excellent customer service, in a timely manner. In the long run, preserving culture will instil a sense of pride and unity in the entire nation.

18.29 To fulfill its mandate, the Department will be guided by the National Youth Policy which was adopted in 1996, the National Action Plan for Youth which was approved by Parliament in June 2001, and the National Policy on Culture which was adopted in December 2001.

18.30 The Department will strengthen collaboration with its implementing partners namely the Botswana National Youth Council and the Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations in an effort to achieve the desired goals.

Women's Affairs

18.31 In 1981, the Government of Botswana made a commitment to address women in development issues, through the establishment of the Women's Affairs Unit, which has since grown into a Department in 1997.

Sport and Recreation

18.32 The Department of Sport and Recreation was established in April 1997 as the primary government agency responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to the development of sport and recreation in the country. The department is charged with the responsibility of ensuring equal opportunities for all citizens to participate in sport and recreational activities of their choice regardless of their age, sex, physical ability or socio-economic background.

18.33 Sport is an alternative means of addressing some youth problems such as unemployment and drug and alcohol abuse. It can also be used to promote social harmony thereby promoting **unity and tolerance**.

National Archives and Records Services

18.34 The Department has the responsibility of providing an economic records management service to Government and the parastatals, and to preserve public records of archival value for posterity and information purposes, as mandated by the National Archives Act of 1978. This responsibility is achieved through Registries, Records Centres and the Archives Administration Services. Provision of these services will facilitate the attainment of **an educated, informed, open and accountable nation**.

18.35 There are potential areas, such as binding and microfilms, where costs could be recovered. However, due to capacity constraints and lack of appropriate equipment, this may not be feasible during NDP 9.

Information and Broadcasting

18.36 The functions of the Department of Information and Broadcasting, as laid down in the policy directive issued in 1969, are:

- ♣ To interpret the policy and actions of the Government to the people by continuing service of information and public relations and through campaigns and concentrated publicity on particular subjects.
- ♣ To encourage and assist the people of Botswana to take an increasing interest in and responsibility for the economic, cultural and political development of their country.
- ♣ To advise government on public opinion and in the field of public relations, generally.
- ♣ To develop and exploit media which will assist ministries and departments in performing their routine and extension duties.
- ♣ To publicise Botswana outside its borders.

REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE DURING NDP 8

Social Welfare Division

18.37 The following projects were completed during NDP 8:-

- o A situational analysis on street children in Botswana has been completed and recommendations will be used for programme development.

- ⊖ Review of the Affiliations Proceedings Act.
- ⊖ Review of the Children's Act.
- ⊖ Preparation of Alternative Care Regulations for Children.
- ⊖ Review of Destitute Policy
- ⊖ Construction of the School of Industry
- ⊖ Establishment of a Task Force to review the Home Economics Programme.
- ⊖ Review of Day Care Centre Policy.

- ⊖ Short Term Plan of Action for Orphans in Botswana
- ⊖ Introduction of the Home Based Care Programme.

18.38 In an effort to provide income maintenance to the elderly, a universal Old Age Pension Scheme was introduced in 1996. The scheme pays all Botswana citizens who have attained the age of 65 and is administered by the Ministry of Local Government in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning.

Industrial Court

18.39 Table 18.1 indicates the number of cases registered during NDP 8.

Table 18.1: Cases registered and heard by the Industrial Court

Year	No of Cases Registered	No of Cases Settled	No of Cases Withdrawn	No of Cases Decided	No of Cases Abandoned by Applicants	No of Cases outstanding	% Growth
1997	92	9	-	65	18	-	(58%)
1998	184	26	6	138	14	1	100%
1999	266	29	10	153	55	19	45%
2000	261	37	19	143	39	23	(2%)
2001	291	22	2	122	-	145	11%
2002	58	3	-	-	-	55	
Total	1,142	126	37	621	126	188	Average 47.25%

Source: Industrial Court Case Register

18.40 Due to implementation capacity constraints, the construction of the Gaborone Industrial Court which was planned during NDP 8 could not go ahead.

Civil and National Registration

18.41 In an effort to decentralise and bring services nearer to people, the Divisions of Civil and National Registration have constructed offices in Palapye, Sefhare, Letlhakane and Masunga during NDP 8, under the immigration and registration facilities programme.

18.42 The target for NDP 8 (203 000 additional applicants for OMANG) have been registered and their cards have been produced.

18.43 The production section of Omang cards and verification of fingerprints has been computerised.

Labour and Social Security

18.44 The construction of the four trade workshops at the Madirelo Training and Testing Center (MTTC) has been completed during the last year of NDP 8, while Gaborone West, Kanye and Sowa labour Offices will be carried over to NDP 9.

18.45 The review of the minimum wage and the preparation of a Statement of User Requirements (SOUR) for the computerisation of the Department will spill over into NDP 9.

Botswana National Library Services (BNLS)

18.46 The construction of the BNLS headquarters could not be implemented; however, design of the building was substantially completed during NDP 8.

18.47 Moshupa and Shoshong branch libraries were completed and became operational during NDP 8. The Francistown Branch Library was relocated to Shoprite complex, to facilitate provision of a more efficient service.

18.48 Due to lack of implementation capacity, extensions to Serowe, Ramotswa, Molepolole, Mahalapye, Mochudi and Kanye branch libraries were not implemented.

18.49 Thirteen Village Reading Rooms were established, bringing the total of Reading Rooms to 67 and 75 Book Box Service points for Primary Schools were established. There is a very high demand for this service due to the fact that the majority of government primary schools do not have libraries. However, the Book Box Service does not in any way serve as a replacement for school libraries.

18.50 In an effort to improve literacy, twelve titles were published under the publications programme Ipalele series, and additional six (6) titles will be published.

National Museum, Monuments and Art Gallery

18.51 The National Museum has not achieved much during NDP 8 due to implementation capacity constraints.

18.52 The following projects have been completed :-

- ♣ Tsodilo site Museum has been inscribed into the World Heritage List. However, the fencing component and the rectification of

the water problem will spill over into NDP 9.

- ♣ Designs for the Landscaping of the museum grounds and stormwater drainage.
- ♣ Designs for the development of a botanical garden

18.53 The National Museum has also reviewed the legislation on monuments to make it mandatory for environmental impact studies and archaeological impact assessments to be carried out before project commencement.



Ditholwana Traditional Dance Troupe



Botswana Music Camp 2002

Culture and Youth

18.54 The National Cultural Policy was drafted and adopted during NDP 8. The policy provides a strategy for building our national identity and pride. It also addresses national cultural issues with a view to meeting aspirations of Botswana citizens.

18.55 The Department has not been able to fulfill its objective for artist welfare and development due to shortage of manpower and financial constraints.

18.56 In order to facilitate implementation of the Youth Policy and Action Plan, an intersectoral committee on youth has been established.

18.57 In order to expedite the process of dealing with issues in the NGO sector, Secretariats for Botswana National Youth Council and Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations were established.

18.58 Twenty nine (29) district youth extension offices have been established and due to manpower constraints these have not responded adequately to the

concerns of young people. Additional manpower will be requested during NDP 9.

18.59 As an endeavor to stimulate and encourage talent development amongst the youth, the National Youth Awards that were planned for during NDP 8 have been established and the programme will continue into NDP 9.

18.60 The Department is currently working with organizations that deal with adolescent reproductive health, such as Botswana Family Welfare Association (BOFWA)

Women's Affairs

18.61 During NDP 8, major focus was on the integration of gender issues in the national development process with particular focus on the critical areas of concern to Botswana as outlined in the National Gender Programme. These areas are poverty, economic empowerment, power and decision-making, education and training, health, the girl-child and gender based violence including human rights.

18.62 Gender focal persons were appointed in each Ministry to facilitate the integration process and the Botswana National Council on Women which is the highest advisory board to government on gender issues was instituted.

18.63 The National Gender Programme was launched as a critical foundation for attaining the gender and development goals. The document serves as a reference point for a multi-sectoral and coordinated response to gender issues.

18.64 Through gender sensitisation programmes, a decline in gender disparities particularly in the representation of women in decision-making, and enrolments in the education system was achieved. Female representation in Parliament has increased from 12.5% as at 1994 elections to 18.18% as at 1999 elections.

18.65 Government's partnership with UNDP resulted in the implementation of supporting programmes to the National Gender Programme. Focus was on the promotion of the capacity of the Department, consultancies on gender mainstreaming by key ministries, strengthening of civil society to mainstream gender, implementation of strategies to eliminate gender based violence.

18.66 During NDP 8, reviews on all Laws Affecting the Status of Women, the Socio-economic implications of Violence Against Women, and an audit of economic activities were undertaken. Working committees to monitor implementation encompassing all stakeholders would be set up.

Sport and Recreation

18.67 During NDP 8, the Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) has been able to:

- ♣ Develop a National Sport and Recreation Policy, which provides a focus and guidance for harnessing the resources at the disposal of the country to ensure that sport contributes to the attainment of Vision 2016.

- ♣ Construct Integrated Sports Facilities at Maun, Masunga, Molepolole and Serowe.
- ♣ Utilise sport as a communication tool to reach out to a great number of citizens, especially the youth who represent the future of the country, as well as to ensure equal rights and opportunities in sport for all citizens regardless of ethnic background, gender, colour, creed or political affiliation.
- ♣ Project sport as an educational vehicle to promote health, fitness, pursuit of excellence and the protection of the environment by all citizens regardless of ethnic background, gender, colour, creed or political affiliation.
- ♣ Develop the sports facilities management plan.
- ♣ Disseminate information on HIV/AIDS by printing HIV/AIDS messages on tickets during major tournaments



Junior Sport Programme

National Archives and Records Services

18.68 The National Archives serves as a centre for public information and a guardian of the national documentary heritage. Botswana National Archives and Records Services through the implementation of its strategic goals, aims to promote quality information flow, through provision of effective records management as well as archives administration by acquiring, preserving and making accessible information on nation's documentary heritage to the public. To this end a Records Centre was constructed in Francistown during NDP 8.

Information and Broadcasting

18.69 During NDP 8 there was an increase in the number of newspapers, magazines, public and commercial broadcasting.

18.70 The government introduced a national television service, while Radio Botswana's commercial channel was developed into a fully-fledged commercial channel with a nation-wide coverage. Two commercial radio stations Gabz FM and Yarona FM were licensed.

18.71 The Department constructed a head-quarters building in Gaborone and one regional office in Serowe.

18.72 FM and MW transmitters were installed in the following areas:- Tsabong, Jwaneng, Ghanzi, Mahalapye, Maun, Shakawe, Kasane, Selebi Phikwe, Palapye, Kanye, Hukunsi, Letlhakeng, Bobonong, Masunga and Tutume to improve reception of Radio Botswana signals.

18.73 Botswana Television terrestrial transmitters were developed in Francistown, Selebi Phikwe, Palapye, Serowe, Mahalapye, Gaborone, Lobatse, Kanye, Masunga/Tutume, Orapa/Letlhakane, Maun and Jwaneng.

POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR NDP 9

18.74 The Department of Social services will pursue the following programmes;

Child Welfare Services.

18.75 These include Child Welfare and Protection of Children's Rights, Mpule Kwelagobe Children's Centre and Orphan Care Services. Specialised Services, through the School of Industry, Family Welfare Services which entail AIDS in the work place, Community Home Based Care Programmers and Casework will also be offered.

18.76 A National Child Welfare Policy will be developed to provide the necessary protection of children, strengthen capacity related to child rights and facilitate public awareness on the United Nations Convention of the Child (UNCRC) and the African Charter on Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACWRC).

18.77 To accomplish Mule Kwelagobe Children's Centre's objective which is to provide shelter, education, security, health care, recreation and psycho-social support to children in need of such services, 10 family houses will be renovated to make them children-friendly.

18.78 Due to an unprecedented increase in the number of orphans, Botswana has experienced, as a result of HIV/AIDS and other tragedies, the Division of Social Services will continue to:

- ⊖ Provide welfare and psychosocial support to orphans and vulnerable children as well as to their caregivers.
- ⊖ Implement Regulations governing alternative arrangement for children in need of Care.
- ⊖ Strengthen partnership and collaboration amongst government, NGOs/CBOs in the implementation of the Orphan care programme.
- ⊖ Upgrade the School of Industry to accommodate girl children.
- ⊖ Construct four (4) community based prototype workshops that will provide recreational and income generating programmes in Maun, Francistown, Mahalapye and Ghanzi for 50 juvenile delinquents.
- ⊖ Purchase computers for CHBC personnel and develop training manuals for caregivers and community leaders, provide death and bereavement counselling programmes and engage a consultant to evaluate the impact of the intervention of social workers in the programme.

The Department will also:-

- ⊖ Develop a policy on the elderly and enhance capacity of those who are now helping this group.
- ⊖ Support NGOs to establish Care Centres for the elderly.

- o Popularise the Early Childhood Care and Education Policy and support establishment of Child Care Centres' Association.
- o In view of the increasing rate of HIV/AIDS infection and loss of human resource, the Division will train peer counsellors, undertake peer counselling and carry out regular visits to families of the infected and affected.

18.79 Ministry Management will

- Provide technical assistance in planning and mobilisation of resources for HIV/AIDS activities in the Ministry.
- Develop and facilitate implementation of programs that address HIV/AIDS related stigma and ensure that the rights of PLWAs are protected.
- Develop a resource centre for ease of access to services and information on HIV/AIDS, for all departments.
- Build capacity for all department focal persons to ensure provision of care and support to infected and affected employees and their families.
- Create a safe environment for those infected and affected, including their families.
- Advocate for action research on areas of service delivery, prevention, care and support.

Industrial Court

18.80 Efforts to maintain good industrial relations will continue during NDP 9. To this end, both the design and actual construction of the Gaborone Industrial Court will be carried over to NDP 9.

18.81 The Industrial Court will collaborate with the Labour Department on HIV/AIDS related policies and guidelines that aim to address labour cases involving the rights of PLWAs.

Civil and National Registration

18.82 During NDP 9, the following activities will be implemented:-

- Develop mechanisms that will ensure monitoring of NGOs working on HIV/AIDS programs to reduce duplication.
- Construct integrated office blocks at Charleshill, Ghanzi, Mochudi, Selebi Phikwe, Jwaneng, Lobatse and Molepolole.
- Construct a gallery and visitors' reception facility at the Gaborone National Museum.

Labour and Social Services

18.83 Labour offices, carried over from NDP 8, will be constructed in Gaborone, Kanye and Sowa. Additional offices will be opened in Ramotswa, Bobonong and Masunga during NDP 9.

18.84 MTTC undertakes testing related to hotels, restaurants, and lodges. To this end, a kitchen and dining room and solar

workshop for testing and screen wall will be constructed during NDP 9.

18.85 To improve the processing of disputes, a unit that specialises in mediation and arbitration will be established.

18.86 A policy and legislation on social security will be prepared.

18.87 The Department will ensure that the rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWAs) are not infringed upon, as stipulated in the National HIV/AIDS Policy and any labour-related legislation that may be developed.

Botswana National Library Service

18.88 During NDP 9 the Department will undertake the following activities:-

- ♣ Extend computerisation of operations and services to the Public libraries to improve service delivery.
- ♣ Develop public libraries as multi-media resource centres in order to cater for the needs of diversified communities served.
- ♣ Construct a BNLS head-quarters building in the Central Business District. New branch libraries will be constructed in various locations, using the modified design which will provide more office accommodation, storage and public service areas. Appropriate measures will be put in place to provide for the disabled. Some of the existing facilities will also be extended.
- ♣ Extend services in the form of village reading rooms, book box

service and continue the expansion of mobile libraries.

- ♣ Continue the publication of the Ipalele Series in support of the literacy programme.
- ♣ Give priority to brailing of basic government documents and of popular material for the blind.
- ♣ Create database and resource centers on HIV/AIDS information and research.

National Museum, Monuments and Art Gallery

18.89 The National Museum will implement the following projects :-

- Erection of a monument in honor of the three chiefs Bathoen I, Sebele I and Khama III.
- Construct a museum component to complement the private sector initiated mini-cultural village in Kolobeng
- Develop a botanical garden
- Develop a Natural History Block
- Strengthen the use of art painting and sculpture as a means of disseminating HIV/AIDS messages

18.90 Landscape the National Museum grounds and construct stormwater drainage and fence the Tsodilo Hills Museum. The National Museum will also educate developers, consultants and the general public to ensure adherence to the amended Act and introduce entrance fees at selected monuments and sites.

Gender and Development during NDP 9

18.91 The primary focus will be on the National Gender Policy, which outlines strategic programmes and required actions on the critical areas of concern.

18.92 Botswana has signed the following international conventions in the area of gender.

- ◆ The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
- ◆ The African Charter on Human and People's rights of Women in Africa (ACHPR).
- ◆ SADC Declaration on gender and development.
- ◆ The convention on the rights of a child
- ◆ The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
- ◆ The Commonwealth Plan of Action on Gender and Development
- ◆ The Prevention and Eradication of Violence Against Women

18.93 The SADC Declaration on Gender and Development (1997) and the Commonwealth Plan of Action on Gender and Development (1995) stipulate a minimum target of 30% of women in positions of political decision-making. The Department and relevant stakeholders will intensify consultation and education efforts in order that this figure is reached by the year 2005.

18.94 To facilitate achievement of gender activities, the Women's Affairs Department will be re-organised during NDP 9 and a website will be developed.

18.95 The Department will increase support to women's economic empowerment projects, trade fairs, expositions, legal aid services and exchange programmes and extend gender mainstreaming to the Private sector, Parastatals and civil society. Gender issues will also be mainstreamed into HIV/AIDS interventions and in Government policies and programmes.

18.96 Relevant bodies responsible for women's capacity development and support such as the Botswana National Council on Women, the Women's NGO Coalition and Gender Focal points will be strengthened in order for them to function effectively.

18.97 The National Gender Programme will act as a critical tool for the attainment of development goals for Vision 2016.

18.98 The Department will give priority to opening offices in Maun, Kasane, Selebi Phikwe, Kanye, Tsabong and Serowe. A multi-purpose information centre will be built in Gaborone. It will house offices for the Gender Affairs Department, among other things.

18.99 The Department will venture into an intensive marketing strategy of its activities and intensify its public information and dissemination activities through exhibitions, radio and television presentations.

18.100 Research initiatives and activities will be developed and strengthened during NDP 9. Gender dis-aggregated data will be the pillar of all policy formulation.

18.101 The Policy on Women will be reviewed in order to formulate a Gender and Development Policy which is more encompassing and gender sensitive.

18.102 Support and strengthen programs that address female reproductive health including that of men and mainstreaming HIV.

Culture and Youth

18.103 The youth population in this country continues to grow and this poses a serious challenge to government. This increase results in unemployment, poverty and the general lack of opportunities for youth in a number of development areas. As such, Government and other development partners are challenged to respond by implementing the Action Plan and strategy for youth which outlines possible responses to the critical areas affecting youth. The Department hopes that collaboration with UNDP will yield more tangible programmes.

18.104 The Department will construct multi-purpose youth centres in Gaborone, Francistown, Mahalapye and Letlhakane.

Botswana National Youth Council

18.105 The feasibility of establishing a youth Development Fund will be explored.

Culture and Performing Arts

18.106 A national cultural village and a state theatre will be established during NDP 9. These projects arose out of lack of purpose-built venue for the promotion and preservation of Botswana's culture. The Village (to be constructed in Toutswe Mogala) will comprise multi-purpose traditional and modern structures depicting all facets of social and cultural life of Botswana, while the state theatre (to be constructed in Gaborone) will serve as a venue for the promotion of art, music, drama and theatre, among other things. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been undertaken at Toutswe-Mogala to pave way for the construction of the cultural village.

National Archives and Records Services

18.107 To facilitate the achievement of the twin policy objectives of collecting, preserving and making accessible the nation's documentary heritage and providing an efficient and effective records management service to the public, the Department will finalise the Disaster Management Plan, Conservation Policy and amend the National Archives Act to incorporate current records and electronic records. To this end, the Gaborone Archives building will be expanded and new records centres will be constructed in Gaborone and Kanye.

Sports and Recreation during NDP 9

18.108 The theme for sport during NDP 9 will be “**Sport for National Development: Maintaining the Momentum Towards 2016**”. This will be affected through the implementation of the National Sport and Recreation Policy in line with Vision 2016. During NDP 9, the Department, in liaison with the Botswana National Sports Council (BNSC) and Botswana National Olympic Committee (BNOC), will continue to play a catalytic role in implementation of the following programmes:

Sport facilities development

18.109 During NDP 9, additional sport and recreation facilities at Bobonong, Kasane, Ghanzi, Letlhakane, Kanye and Mahalapye will be constructed. The Lobatse and the Gaborone national stadia will be upgraded. The Tsabong and Francistown stadia will be carried over from NDP 8. Particular attention will be placed on the need to contribute to environmental protection and preservation of the historical, cultural and heritage sites.

Sport and Education

18.110 Physical education and sport are a fundamental part of the education of youth. They should be utilized in the social, physical and psychological development of the country's young people. Participation in sport will help to develop important values like discipline, teamwork, creativity and responsibility in youth, thereby contributing towards moulding the youth of this country to becoming **morally**

tolerant, united and proud members of the community.

18.111 Implementation of the Junior Sport Programme will assist in the upliftment of the standards of school sport in all schools. To this end, the Department of Sport and Recreation will work with the Ministry of Education to provide the teachers and young children with sporting skills in order to help them improve the quality and quantity of physical education and sport in all schools. Among other things, the formation of a Primary Schools' Sporting Body along the lines of Botswana Institutions Sports Association (BISA) will enhance service delivery at primary school level. The Department will continue to encourage private sector participation in sponsoring and supporting the Junior Sport Programme.

18.112 Network with the Botswana National Youth Council, Botswana National Sports Council, Local Authorities, Department of Youth and Culture to extend opportunities beyond the school day by encouraging these bodies to provide a range of after school activities for all pupils irrespective of their age. Sport for leisure, recreation and fun will be given serious attention during NDP 9.

Gender mobilization

18.113 The Department will work with other stakeholders on various initiatives to increase the participation of women in sport and physical recreation.

Sport, Health and Productivity

18.114 In conjunction with the Botswana National Productivity Centre (BNPC)

and other stakeholders, the Department will continue to promote the adoption of active and healthy lifestyles. This will contribute to enhancing productivity at the workplaces.

District Sport Committees

18.115 The Department will continue to cooperate with Local Authorities in empowering district sports communities as part of community mobilization through district sports festivals. These will also be strengthened to play a major role in fostering club formation and community mobilization for sport in the districts.

Sport and Environment

18.116 Through this programme, different communities will be mobilized to promote public health and protection of the environment.

Traditional/Indigenous sport

18.117 During NDP 9, the Department will revive some of the traditional games and recreational activities.

Elite sport

18.118 The BNSC, BNOC and the National Sport Associations will be encouraged to continue their role as the lead bodies in the coordination of elite sport during NDP 9. Among other things, the primary focus will be on the following programmes:-

-
- ♣ Talent development
- ♣ Centres of excellence
- ♣ Sport and HIV/AIDS
- ♣ Establishing and enhancing linkages with other countries, for purposes of exchanging ideas, information and

experiences through technical assistance and cooperation.

To address the problem of youth and HIV, the department will:

- establish sports and recreational centres to keep youth occupied,
- encourage the use of sports role models to enhance IEC on HIV/AIDS,
- strengthen activities directed towards reducing the risk of HIV transmission during contact sports and promotion of counseling services and VCT.

Information and Broadcasting during NDP 9

18.119 To publicise Botswana outside its borders, the government will enact a Mass Media Communications Law to regulate the print media. This law will be expected to complement the 1998 Broadcasting Act which freed the airwaves for commercial and community broadcasting.

18.120 To enhance the Department's efficiency, and ensure diversity in coverage, a review of its management and operational structures was conducted during NDP 8. However, implementation of the restructuring process will be done during NDP 9. To widen its coverage, the department will embark on an extensive terrestrial transmitter network development for both Botswana Television and Radio Botswana.

18.121 About 80% of the population has access to good quality radio signals in

the Medium and FM bands and 40 % have access to BTV through terrestrial transmitter coverage. There is a need for the expansion of both the national radio and television terrestrial network to cover the remaining areas with significant population densities. On the other hand, 100% coverage for radio and television is available via satellite. However, access to satellite receiving equipment is still considered expensive and unaffordable by the majority of viewers; hence the need to continue developing the terrestrial network which provides an affordable mode of reception.

18.122 The role of the Daily News will remain strong so long as the private newspapers are limited in their frequency and geographical coverage.

The Daily News, which still remains the only daily newspaper, will be improved in terms of quality and service delivery, including delivery to remote areas of the country.

18.123 A thorough review of the costs, management structure and appropriate long-term role of the Daily News will be undertaken during the first half of NDP 9. The printing of the Daily News and Kutlwano magazine will be contracted out to the private sector in line with government's privatisation policy.

18.124 The construction programme, which will include three regional offices and a number of district offices (at the rate of two per financial year) will continue during NDP 9.