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**Subject:** fantastic news !

<https://www.weekendpost.co.bw/33832/business/botswana-global-mining-darling-moagi/>

Gentlemen,

With the Minister confirming to the world that the rule of law is paramount in Botswana, I am encouraged by his words and feel confident that our licenses will be granted to us shortly so that we can continue work on the biggest project in Botswana and one that is far larger than all the others combined. The Minister's words could not be more welcome at this time and some 9 months after we filed the renewals.

## Botswana, global mining darling – Moagi

[Business](#)

18th March 2022

By [Rearabilwe Ramaphane](#)



Botswana holds one of the top spots in the global mining space, because of its competitive policies and strict laws and good business environment that allows investment in mining to flourish, this was reiterated by Minister of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security, Lefoko Maxwell Moagi in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates last Friday.

Minister Moagi was the headline speaker at the Invest in Botswana Mining & Minerals business seminar held during the Dubai Expo, organised to tell Botswana's mining story and present opportunities that lie ahead for smart and sustainable mining to diversify the economy and create more jobs.

"As government we encourage competitive returns for the nation and the Investor, this is evidenced by our competitive policies and regulatory framework that allows investors to enjoy fruits of their labour" he said.

Minister Lefoko cited annual surveys by independent institutions and global policy think tanks, who continuously place Botswana above other countries on various measures of mining easy of doing business.

The Fraser Institute 2021 – policy perception index placed Botswana number 1 in Africa, 15 out of 77 countries in the World. "This talks to policy attractiveness in a particular jurisdiction, we are also top of the continent in the investor attractive index, which speaks to fiscal regimes, easy of doing business, tax incentives, policy and regulation."

The Minister highlighted that in the past 10 years Botswana has seen an influx of mining companies from prospecting, exploration to developing new mines and resuscitating old operations.

"We have seen Lucara in 2012, Khoemacau, Sandfire now Premium Nickel Resources, these are companies from all corners of the world, Canada, Australia and the UK, this buttresses and proves our robust and very strict mining regulations, on labour, safety and rule of law in general, our investors enjoy security of tenure, doing business with easy knowing their money is in a good jurisdiction," he said.

Dubai Investors were further told the audience that Botswana possess ample human capital to aid the extractive industry.

"We have a very highly skilled and trained workforce, that we have built over the years as a country, this is a key requisite to ensure the investment pays off into operational and profitable business enterprises without exorbitant costs of importing labour, where our local workforce runs short we allow you to source special skills from abroad," he said.

In terms of the text regime Botswana has a competitive tax regime, the Minister revealed, company tax at 22 percent, down stream and beneficiation 15 percent to encourage local processing (5 percent basic rate, 10 percent company tax).

“The taxes are based on profits, so they are adjusted from time to time depending on your company’s revenue and profits for a particular year” he said.

In terms of royalties, it varies depending on the minerals extracted; precious stones rate at 10 percent, precious metals 5 percent while all other minerals are charged 3 percent royalties.

Minister Lefoko also highlighted that the other advantage that comes with investing in Botswana’s mining sector is the relaxed import duty on mining vehicles, equipment and spares, these are zero rated or exempted while other commodities are charged 14 percent VAT.

Currently new mining activities in Botswana include massive exploration and development of new mines in the Kalahari Copper belt to extract base metals such as silver and ore.

There is also Iron Ore mining in Ikongwe near Shoshong, energy mineral (manganese, cobalt) in Kanye, Lobatse and Otse areas, lithium prospecting in Makgadikgadi pans.

Minister Lefoko said manganese exploration in Kanye is at definitive reserve stage and soon Giyani Metals, the company developing the project, will apply for a mining license.

“We are encouraged because manganese is a battery mineral, opportunities present itself for battery factories for electric cars and solar PV, to unlock value chain opportunities for our renewable energy and manufacturing ambitions in the process creating jobs and diversifying our economy.”

The Minister highlighted continued Infrastructure development that would aid movement of commodities from mining sites to exit ports in transit to shipment bays cross border.

“We have North West transmission grid that is currently underway to connect electricity to all major mining projects, the Mohembo and Kazungula Bridge will make it easy for goods, materials and the product to come in and out of the country, easily reaching the export market.”

“Botswana also has favorable exchange controls, you can repatriate your money elsewhere, and we have good labour relations and good relationships with labour unions” the Minister added.

He also highlighted the Botswana Geoscience Institute Aeromagnetic data project which evaluates areas of mineral potential in Botswana, with primary focus on Base metals, Rare Earth Metals, Precious metals and platinum group metals (PGMs).

“This now means cadastral information on minerals and areas of interest will be readily available online, investors can browse through before they even land in Botswana making the investment decision very easy and quick,” he said.

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