The People’s Ministry recently held a national school feeding stakeholder’s workshop in Gaborone to discuss the Home Grown School Feeding (HGSF). Its aim is to link school feeding Programme to locally sourced products thereby benefitting both local school children and smallholder farmers.

HGSF has been identified by the millennium hunger task force as a quick win in the fight against poverty and hunger through nationally owned, sustainable programmes aimed at improving smallholder farmer food security.

The general objective of the workshop was to create appreciation of Home Grown Feeding as an approach to school feeding and sensitize stakeholders to an analytical process that identifies technical needs for strengthening Programme sustainability and implementation.

When addressing the stakeholders, NEPAD representative Boitshepo Giyose said the overall objectives of the HGSFP is to:

- Improve poor children’s nutrition and education
- Act as a vehicle for promoting local development and fighting food & nutrition insecurity and disease
- Link local small producers to markets (schools) and stimulate agriculture production and development

Furthermore Ms Giyose mentioned that food security and sound nutrition are the foundations of survival, health, productivity and national economic growth.

The most alarming piece of information that Ms Giyose shared was that 5 million children die of malnutrition every year - one every 6 seconds and over 50 million African children suffer from chronic malnutrition. She also stated that malnourishment can lead to loss of 10% earning potential => 3% annual GDP loss.

When giving the note of address Hon Minister Mr. P. L. Siele said that government has a long standing commitment of feeding children, so this feeding Programme should be closely observed.

The ministry of local governance is exploring how the school feeding Programme can be strengthened, particularly with respect to linking local farmers to the school feeding market, development of policy, tools and guidelines, accountability, the quality of school menus and monitoring and evaluation.

Makgabana Tsametsi
The Department of Technical Services heeded the message of keeping our bodies and health in check by doing various exercises to keep fit. There are various physical fitness exercises that one can choose from and the department undertook a noble one of going up Kgale Mountain during their Wellness Day recently.

The participants, mainly from The Peoples Ministry, were very excited at the beginning and you could see it on their faces that they were quite ready for the big exercise. From their expressions, except for the few, they were new comers to what awaited them. Mountain climbing, though a good exercise for the body, mind and soul, is not for the faint hearted because it involves essentially all of the major muscle groups in the body.

The event which was held under the theme, A healthy lifestyle begins with me, was well attended. Amongst those in attendance was Deputy Permanent Secretary (TS), Ms. Mbulai, Acting Director of Technical Services, Mr. Modisa Segokgo, MLG staff, members of the Botswana Police officers as stakeholders who also provided the needed safety of the participants as well as members of the general public.

Overall the event was a great success as most people managed to reach the apex of the hill and some due to fatigue could not even break the half way mark and depended heavily on the bottled waters they were provided with to struggle their back to the starting points of Gaborone technical College.

During his brief words of encouragement, Mr Modisa who also managed to complete the exercise applauded the participants for taking timeout of their busy schedule to make the event a success. “This is actually good for everyone health wise and we need to do this regularly for us to be a healthy workforce” he pleaded.
Bokspits

So far-flung
And out and out of the way
Perched at the very bottom
Of the southernmost tip of Botswana
Precariously hanging on an international borderline
Separating a people
Bound together by a common culture
History
And familial ties
Its unique and gigantic sand-dunes
Glowing surreally against the setting African sun
The expansive shrub savanna surrounding it
Teeming with the jittery springbok
Wildebeest
And the black-maned desert lion
And out of nowhere
Comes a new tarred road
Shattering the age-old isolation of this pristine and forgotten corner of nowhere
Linking it to both the district headquarters in Tsabong
And the world beyond Yonder
Whose collective impact on the lives of this community
Is only now unfolding
And as yet remains uncertain

Staff Notice

MLG staff are invited to submit articles to be published within the Batho Pele e-Bulletin.

- Maximum length is 300 words.
- Deadline for submission is Wednesdays at 12 noon.

Articles should be forwarded to amokwena@gov.bw or call 3658502

Batho Pele e-Bulletin, Fridays on intranet at 1430 Hrs
Motivation in the workplace is valuable in terms of both revenue and production. You can improve employee motivation quickly and easily by following these five steps:

**Improve the Work Environment**

Look for simple ways to make it more pleasant for employees to come to work and to enjoy working for your organisation. This can mean providing a clean, well-stocked break room with free coffee and snacks, or it could mean elevating the dress code (to make a more professional environment) or relaxing the dress code (to promote a more hip, enjoyable working environment). Consider the office lighting, parking, equipment and work schedules. The physical environment can make a big difference in motivation in the workplace.

**Assign Value to Work**

It is important that your employees know why the work on which they are toiling for 40+ hours a week is of value. Thank your employees for doing work well and on time; furthermore, explain how their work improves the organisation or makes a difference. Look for ways to integrate an employee’s desire for learning and growth into the job at hand. Organisations are urged to fund training, and assign each employee tasks that will be interesting and challenging for him or her. It is important to facilitate personal fulfilment from the task at hand whenever possible.

**Celebrate a Job Well-Done**

Everyone appreciates a pat on the back. For those devoting many hours to a task, kudos need to be given as often as possible, especially if the task has been tedious or difficult. This can be done in private employee reviews and in public opportunities, such as progress meetings or announcements. Take advantage of every opportunity to recognize hard work; this cannot be overdone.

**Tie in Monetary Benefits or Perks to High Performance**

Most employees work for one reason: to make money to pay the bills. Few people get to work solely for emotional benefit, so you'll need to make sure monetary rewards go to your best employees. Make these bonuses, monetary rewards or perks accessible to all so everyone is motivated to work hard to make more money. Hard-working, efficient employees save the company money, so the monetary rewards should balance out in the end.

**Open Lines of Communication**

It’s important to know if your employees feel challenged, bored, overwhelmed or satisfied. They also need to be able to communicate about frustrations with co-workers, salary or work assignments. Meet individually with your employees on a regular basis, and ask the important questions. Make sure you allow honest answers to be expressed, and let them know how you will actually respond to the concerns expressed. While you may not be able to accommodate every request, you can do your best to make the work experience a positive one by listening sincerely.

adapted from: Rachel Mork
The secret of consistently good skin is a daily care routine consisting of cleansing, toning and moisturizing. This goes for both men and women. Gone are the days where men didn’t see the need and considered skin care to be the domain of women. *(Monna wa betlwa ga a sa thole a kgomothiwa!)*.

**Cleansing**

The type of cleanser you choose will depend to a great degree on your skin type and as well as personal preference. Facial skin types ranges from oily, normal to dry.

**Soap:** If you prefer to use it, choose the one that’s specially formulated for use on the face. But when you use make up particularly mascara, do not use it, as soap doesn’t contain right ingredients to cut through cosmetics.

**Creams, Milk and Lotions:** These will cleanse the skin and remove makeup and are suitable for any skin type. They can easily be applied and removed with tissue or cotton wool and hence leaving a moisturizing film behind them.

**Toning**

Use of a toner immediately after cleansing will ensure complete removal of any remaining traces of makeup, dirt and cleanser itself. Try always not to use the ones that will leave your skin feeling dry.

**Moisturising**

All skin needs moisturizing, no matter what its type. They’re designed not only to replace lost skin moisture but also to prevent the loss from direct sunlight and any environmental causes. A moisturizer containing a UV filter is highly recommended by many skin experts as it is able to filter harmful rays of the sun.

As well as the daily routine, make time, at least once a week for a pampering session which will include a mask. This will improve the appearance of the skin. Age shouldn’t be your limit. The earlier the better.
NAMIBIAN STUDY VISIT
—Poor Residents Committee—

Day 1
Venue | MLG
Date | 28th Nov. 2011

Day 2
Venue | MLG
Date | 29th Nov. 2011

Day 3
Venue | South East
Date | 30th Nov. 2011

Day 4
Venue | Kweneng
Date | 01st Dec. 2011

Day 5
Venue | MLG
Date | 2nd Dec. 2011