



# Bits & Bytes

Newsletter

Volume 3 , Issue 1

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## Foreword



**Mr. Mpho Koolese**

Welcome to the latest edition of Bits & Bytes, our quarterly e-newsletter. I am excited to address you for the first time as the acting CEO of BoFiNet.

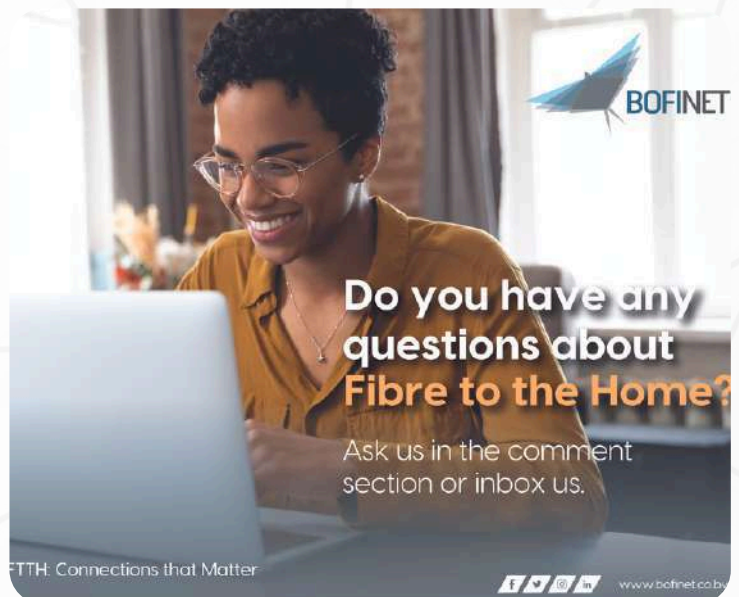
This issue highlights a journey filled with achievements, challenges, and advancements of the first quarter of our financial year as your partner in transformative digital connectivity in Botswana. Our goal is to provide you with valuable insights and updates on our projects. I am proud to highlight BoFiNet's pivotal role in driving digital transformation across the country, which is the core of our five (5) year strategy, UNLEASH 2025.

At BoFiNet, one of our three (3) values is, "Being in Connection". We prioritise customer relationships, connectivity, collaboration, communications, engagements and networking with different stakeholders. It is our duty to deliver robust and reliable solutions, ensuring that you are well connected in the digital age and ensuring that all our stakeholders are kept informed about our ever-evolving industry.

BoFiNet stands on a foundation built by the dedication and expertise of our team, and I am honoured to guide BoFiNet forward into the next phase of its journey. Our commitment to propelling Botswana to be an African leader pushes us to exercise excellence in everything we do. We are going to continue "Doing the right thing", "Living with purpose" and "Being in connection" to advance connectivity, strengthen our commitment to exceptional customer service and lastly, improve partnerships that promote collaboration and success.

Let me also take this time to extend my gratitude to all our partners who participated in the Brand Perception Survey that we conducted in June 2024. Your input is crucial in shaping our brand and ensuring that we meet your needs. Together, we are making a tangible difference to the economy. Let us continue to push the boundaries of digital transformation together and strive for excellence.

I urge you to engage with the rich content provided in this issue. Enjoy the read and let us keep innovating together. Your feedback is important to us. Our Public Relations, Marketing and Communications team can be reached for inquiries and suggestions at **+267-3995500** or by email at **info@bofinet.co.bw**. Thank you for your support.





# BOFINET ASSUMES CHAIRMANSHIP OF SATA 2024/2025



BoFiNet, Botswana's leading provider of telecommunications infrastructure and services, was on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 appointed Chairman of the Southern Africa Telecommunications Association (SATA) 2024/2025.

This significant appointment was made official when BoFiNet hosted the 44<sup>th</sup> SATA Conference in Kasane from April 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, under the theme **"Connecting Southern Africa: Driving Digital Transformation and Innovation."**

This appointment highlights BoFiNet's leadership and significant influence within the regional telecommunications sector. Known for its excellence and commitment to advancing connectivity and digital transformation, BoFiNet is well-positioned to spearhead initiatives that will benefit both SATA member organisations and the wider Southern African community. By assuming this role, BoFiNet reaffirms its dedication to improving collaboration among industry stakeholders, advocating for policies that promote innovation and inclusivity, and driving efforts to bridge the digital divide in the region.

When accepting the chairmanship on behalf of BoFiNet, the acting CEO, Mr Mpho Koolese and "this appointment reflects our ongoing commitment to advancing telecommunications infrastructure and services across Southern Africa. We look forward to working closely with our partners and stakeholders to drive meaningful progress and create lasting impact." He said.

Mr Koolese reassured members that under BoFiNet's leadership, SATA is going to continue its mission to develop robust and inclusive telecommunications ecosystems. This includes facilitating knowledge sharing, capacity-building initiatives, and advocating for policies that support the growth of the telecommunications industry.

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# BOFINET IMPACTS GIRLS IN THE CHOBE DISTRICT



BoFiNet, in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology (MCKT), participated in an inspiring initiative to empower young girls in the dynamic realm of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) during the 2024 Girls in ICT (GIICT) event that was held in Chobe Junior Secondary School on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.

As a build up to the event, BoFiNet offered a series of training sessions designed to equip 100 young girls, aged between 14 to 18 years, with fundamental skills in cyber security. The two (2) sessions, not only imparted technical expertise but also instilled a sense of confidence and empowerment among the participants.

By investing in the development of young female talent, BoFiNet is not just shaping the future landscape of the industry. It is also cultivating a cadre of empowered leaders to drive innovation and progress. This initiative not only bridged the gender gap in ICT but also paved the way for a more diverse and inclusive tech ecosystem.



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# BOFINET COMMEMORATES THE 2024 WTISD



On the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2024, BoFiNet, the telecom and ICT industry and the Pandamatenga community celebrated the 2024 World Telecommunications and Information Society Day (WTISD), in Pandamatenga under the theme, "**Accelerating Digital Transformation in Challenging Times**". This annual event highlighted the importance of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in advancing socio-economic development.

The theme resonated deeply with BoFiNet's commitment to driving innovation and connectivity across Botswana. Pandamatenga, known for its agricultural activities and growing economic potential, served as the perfect backdrop for discussions on leveraging ICTs to overcome challenges and foster inclusive growth.

BoFiNet showcased its commitment to sustainability, shown its fibre optic network that spans over 12, 000km across the country and registered users on UPICtv, a subscription-based platform that is the home of Botswana stories.





# BOFINET SUPPORTS MCKT CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECTS



BoFiNet, in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology (MCKT) and the Namibian Ministry of Information & Communication Technology (MICT) recently joined hands to assist three(3) families in Ghanzi, renovating a house for a family of eight (8), Installing electrical wiring for a house belonging to an individual living with a disability and connecting water for a less privileged family.

BoFiNet pledged P20,000.00 towards this initiative, showcasing its commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). These projects were officially handed over on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2024, in Ghanzi, an event that coincided with a visit by MICT from the 30<sup>th</sup> of May to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2024. This visit was sealed off by bilateral games aimed at enhancing cooperation and strengthening relations between the two (2) ministries and reinforcing ties between Botswana and Namibia.





# BOFINET AND HUAWEI EXTEND NKOYAPHIRI FITNESS PARK



BoFiNet and Huawei Technologies Botswana, officially handed over the extended Nkoyaphiri Fitness Park to Mogoditshane community on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. The ceremony was graced by the Minister of Youth, Gender, Sports, and Culture (MYSC), Hon. Tumiso Rakgare, and the Minister of Health (MoH), Hon. Dr. Edwin Dikoloti, reflecting the importance of this initiative in advancing the health and well-being of the local community. This extension follows an agreement to extend the outdoor gym in Mogoditshane that was officially handed over on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2022, as a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative.

“This event marks an important milestone in our ongoing commitment to community development”, remarked the Commercial Executive (A), Ms. Keleabetswe Loeto. She went on to encourage everyone to exercise and take their health seriously. “May this place promote physical fitness and also bring the community together. Let it be a reminder that when we invest in our health, we invest in our future”, she said.

This project was an addition to 25 CSR projects that BoFiNet has done since its inception in 2013 in Gudigwa, Sehithwa, Kasane, Hukuntsi, Kachikau, Bobonong, Selebi Phikwe, Tsabong, and Maun.

These CSI projects have been made possible by BoFiNet contractors like Huawei Technologies who are mandated to contribute towards the development of communities where they are awarded contracts.



## BOFI-Recruit Support

### Contacts:

- AppsSupport@bofinet.co.bw
- +267-3986310

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# BOFINET PAVES WAY FOR HIGH SPEED CONNECTIVITY IN KANYE



The Kanye Fibre-To-The-Business (FTTB) Project was completed in April 2024. By implementing FTTB in government offices, private commercial properties, educational institutions, and health facilities nationwide, BoFiNet is showing its dedication to enhancing broadband accessibility in the country.

According to the Project Manager for Kanye FTTB, Mr. Noga Noga, “This project provides connectivity to a targeted 127 customers in the village. Now, businesses in Kanye can benefit from this high-speed fibre optic internet connection.

To carry out this project, BoFiNet contracted a local contractor, TeleTechnics. Mr. Elvis Makamure, the Project Manager of Tele Technics was very happy that they completed the project despite the challenges they encountered.

According to him, it presented some challenges that led to a bit of delay such as vandalism of cables in the area, sewage, and the rocky terrain when digging. Despite these challenges Mr Makamure said he was happy with the way his team worked with the people of Kanye during this project. He recalled how they consulted the village elders when they first came to Kanye to pave a way for a smooth relationship.

Mr Noga commended TeleTechnics for hiring local people and teaching them the works of the trade. He is confident that with these skills some of them will go on to open their own businesses to improve their lives.

BoFiNet mandates its contractors to contribute towards the development of communities in Botswana through CSI projects in areas where they are awarded contracts. It is for this reason that Tele Technics is pledging to donate some ICT equipment to one of the local schools soon.





# BOFINET BOOSTS CONNECTIVITY IN MOLEPOLOLE



Molepolole Fibre-to-the-Business(FTTB) project is a transformative initiative aimed at connecting businesses and government facilities of Molepolole with high-speed fibre-optic internet. This project is a key step towards boosting the local economy and improving public services through enhanced digital connectivity.

The Project commenced in April 2023 and completed in March 2024. Molepolole now has more empowered and connected future.

The Project Manager Mr. Noga Noga further explained that they have already linked 99 Government & private consumers out of the 170 they intend to connect.

Businesses can operate more efficiently, accessing cloud services, online marketing, and e-commerce platforms with ease. This can lead to increased productivity and revenue.

The Molepolole FTTB project promises to bring lasting benefits to the local economy and public services.

The journey towards a more connected Molepolole is well underway, and the future looks brighter than ever.

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# BOFINET 2023 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



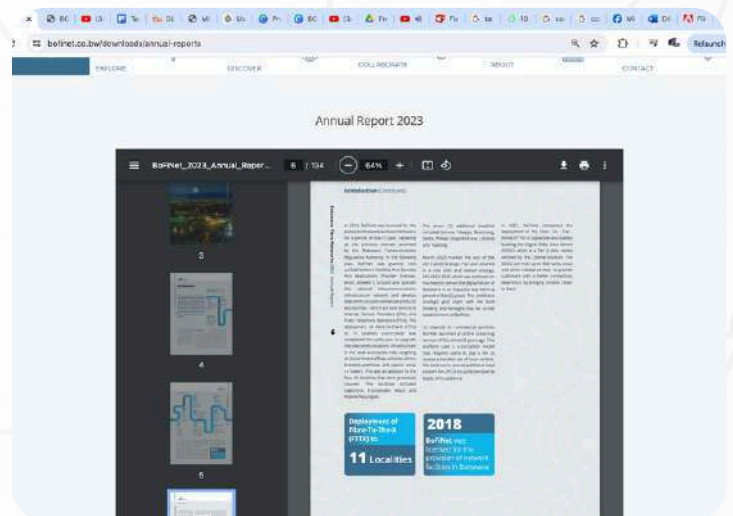
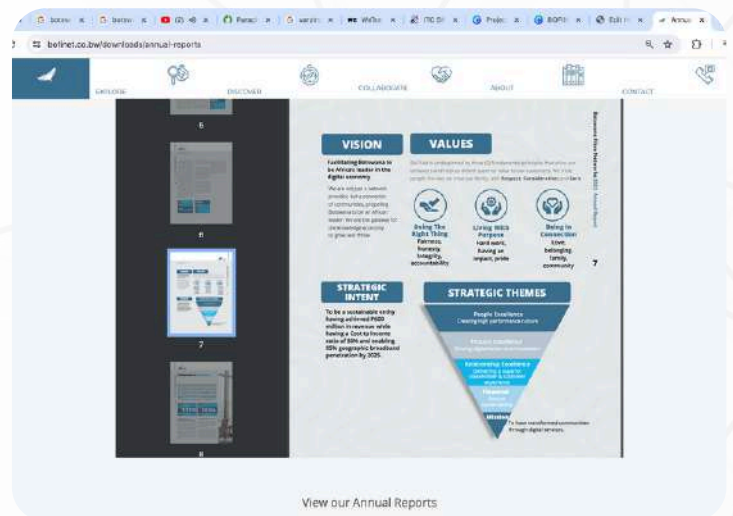
BoFiNet is pleased to announce that the 2023 Annual Report is now available on our website. ([www.bofinet.co.bw](http://www.bofinet.co.bw)).

This report provides a comprehensive overview of our company's performance over the past year, key achievements, financial statements, and strategic initiatives that have shaped BoFiNet.

We believe that transparency is vital in instilling trust and maintaining strong relationships with our valued stakeholders.

We encourage you to review the report and share any feedback or questions you may have. Your insights are very important as we continue to strive for excellence and deliver on our commitments.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to another successful year together.





# 2023 IN NUMBERS

2023

Total Revenue Increased from

**BWP 469M**  **BWP 477M**



Sales revenue increased to

**381M**

BWP from



**30%**

of the Technical division employees are females



Broadband Wireless Infrastructure deployed to

**60 localities**

Access Network infrastructure provided in

**73 localities**



**912**

customers provided with broadband services



**10,590**

fixed and wireless connections made in 2022/2023



**85**

Wi-Fi Hotspots in 16 localities



**206/399**

localities connected to backbone broadband infrastructure



FTTX is in

**13 localities**



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# BOFINET UNVEILS THE 2024-25 PROCUREMENT PLAN

BoFiNet recently published its Procurement Plan for all approved strategic and operational projects for the Financial Year 2024-25. This is in accordance with section 71 of the Public Procurement Act of 2021. By complying with these terms, BoFiNet continues to lead the way in its commitment to fair and open business practices.






As per **Section 71 of the Public Procurement Act of 2021**, the BoFiNet public procurement plan, accessible on the BoFiNet website, ensures transparency, efficiency, and accountability in the acquisition of goods and services by the entity, thereby promoting fair competition and optimal use of public funds.

It shows all approved strategic and operational projects for the **Financial Year 2024-25**.

## Link to Procurement Plan

<https://www.bofinet.co.bw/procurement-plan>

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# BOFINET IN PICTURES



MCKT Permanent Secretary, Mr Pontsho Pusoetsile and the delegates at the handover ceremony of a two-roomed house in Ghanzi



Chobe JSS during the cyber security trainings that were offered by BoFiNet during the 2024 Girls in ICT (GICT)



BoFiNet Board member, Ms. Malebogo Khandawiktor working out during the handover of the Nkoyaphiri Fitness Park.



Chobe JSS students after being awarded Hackathon & Cyber Security prizes at the 2024 GICT, Kasane



Community members attending the online Memorial service of 45 ZCC members that broadcasted and powered by BoFiNet across the country in April 2024



BoFiNet PRMC Manager (A), Ms. Dineo Rowland educating the WTISD 2024 delegates about BoFiNet products and services



# IRON LADY OF TECH



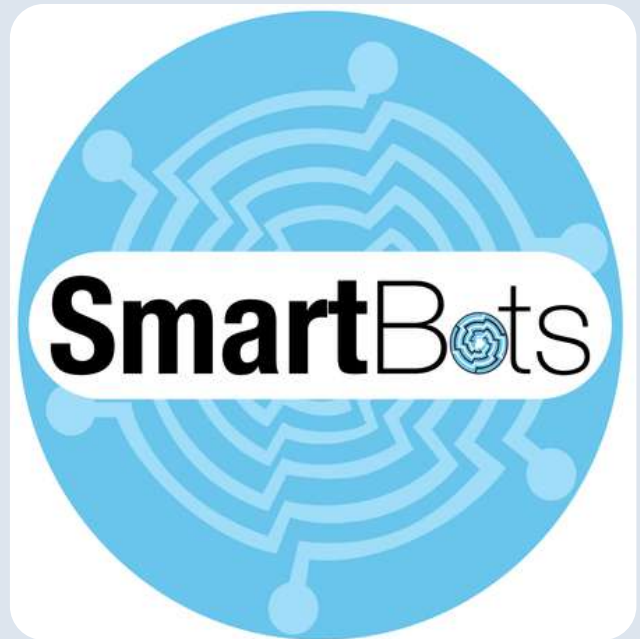
**Ms. Kedibonye Lekgetho**  
Project Manager SmartBots

Ms. Kedibonye Lekgetho graduated with a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Electrical Engineering, majoring in Communications from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, in May 2004.

She then joined the industry as a Telecommunications Engineer from the rank of Trainee Radio Access Network Field Engineer and left as a Senior Radio Access Network Support Engineer in 2008 to become a Wireless Network Product Manager.

In 2009 Ms. Lekgetho began her career in the Project Management space as a Project Manager in the Telecommunications/ICT and Electrical Engineering industry. Ms. Lekgetho is an accomplished certified Project Management expert, Certified Professional in Project, Programme and Portfolio Governance, P3GP® and Project Management Professional PMP®. She is the first Motswana to be certified with the global Project, Programme & Portfolio Governance Qualification Authority, P3GQA. Ms. Lekgetho also obtained Senior Management Development Programme qualification from Stellenbosch Business School Executive Development in 2014.

Ms. Lekgetho has done exceptionally well in project delivery and has mastered all project phases execution through hands on experience in diverse project matrix environments. Ms. Lekgetho as a Project Manager worked for Brolaz Projects Botswana, Ericsson AB Botswana, Botswana Power Corporation, Kudu Communications-Consulting, Asante Tech Group -Consulting and she is currently with Botswana Fibre Networks.





# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT BOFINET

## Who is BoFiNet?

BoFiNet is a wholesale provider of national and international telecommunications infrastructure in Botswana. It focuses on offering reliable, high-speed internet and other communication services to service providers.

## When was BoFiNet established?

BoFiNet was established in 2013 as a result of the separation of wholesale and retail services from Botswana Telecommunications Corporation (BTC).

## What services does BoFiNet offer?

BoFiNet provides the following services; Fibre-To-The-Home (FTTH), Fibre-To-The-Business (FTTB), Data Centre services, Events and premises Wi-Fi, Co-location, UPICTv.

## Who are BoFiNet's customers?

BoFiNet services telecommunications operators, and Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

## What is BoFiNet's network coverage?

BoFiNet operates over 12,000km of fibre-optic network covering major cities, towns, and even some rural areas in Botswana. It also has international links that connect Botswana to global networks.

## Does BoFiNet provide services directly to consumers?

No, BoFiNet operates on a wholesale model, providing services to ISPs and other service providers who then offer.

## How does BoFiNet ensure network reliability?

BoFiNet ensures reliability through redundant network paths, regular maintenance, and advanced monitoring systems to quickly identify and resolve issues.

## What are BoFiNet's key strategic initiatives?

BoFiNet focuses on expanding network coverage, enhancing service quality, and supporting Botswana's digital transformation by providing the necessary infrastructure for digital services and applications.

## How does BoFiNet contribute to Botswana's economy?

By providing robust telecommunications infrastructure, BoFiNet supports economic development, facilitates business operations, enhances education and healthcare services through better connectivity, and helps bridge the digital divide.

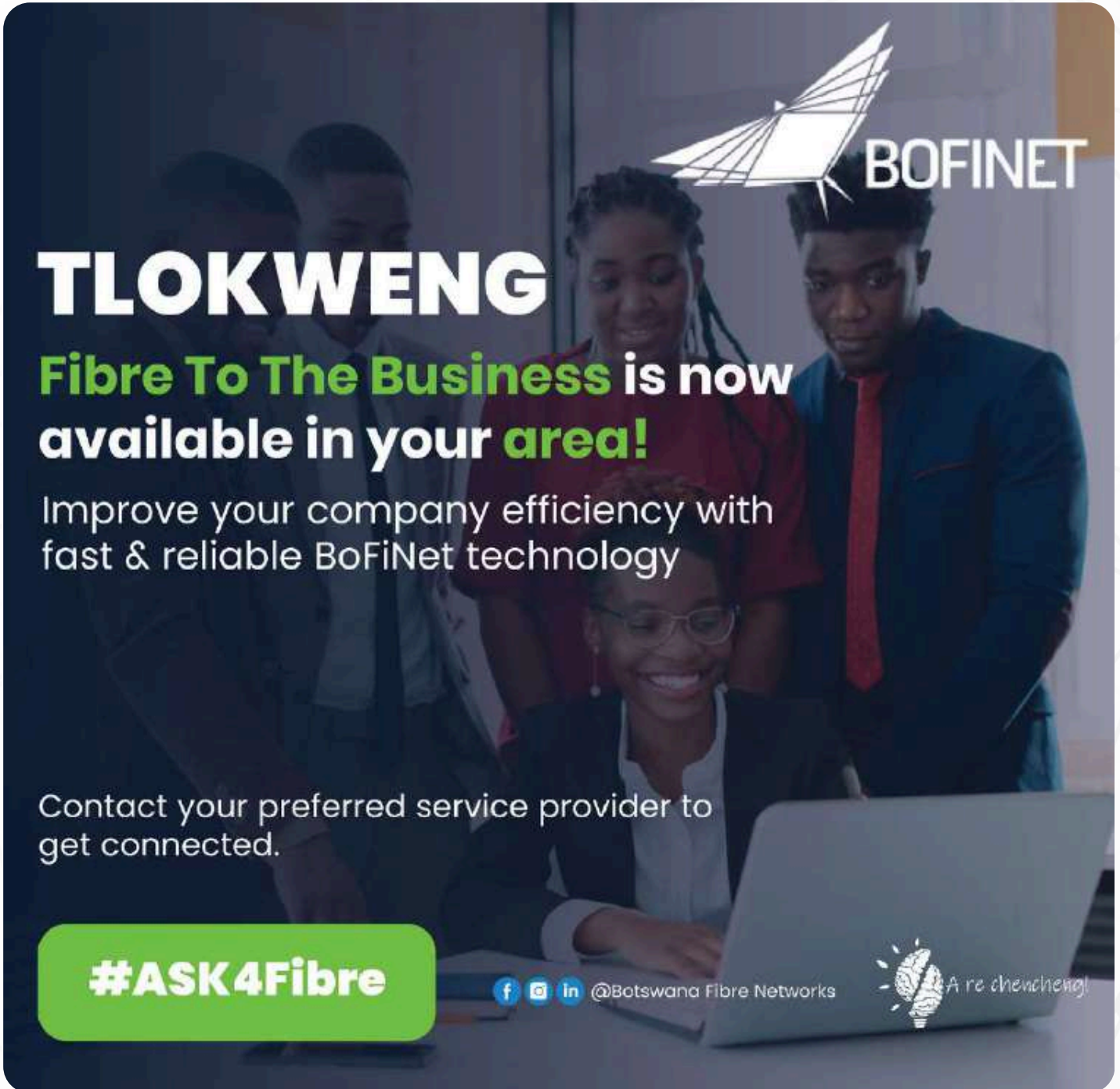


### How can I contact BoFiNet for support or inquiries?

You can contact BoFiNet through their customer service hotline, email, or by visiting their offices. Detailed contact information is typically available on their official website ([www.bofinet.co.bw](http://www.bofinet.co.bw)), or by telephone at **+267 3995500**

### What should I do if I experience service issues?

If you experience any service issues, you should first contact your Internet Service Provider (ISP) or service provider. If the issue relates to the infrastructure provided by BoFiNet, your ISP will coordinate with BoFiNet to resolve the issue.



**BOFINET**




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