

Republic of Botswana**Country Partnership Framework (FY16-20)****Chair Summary*****November 24, 2015**

Executive Directors discussed the IBRD/IFC/MIGA FY16-20 Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for the Republic of Botswana (Report No.97931-BW). Directors welcomed the strong alignment of the CPF to the World Bank Group strategic goals. They welcomed the CPF's selectivity approach within the priorities recommended by the Botswana Systematic Country Diagnostic and Botswana's National Development Plan.

Directors recognized Botswana's substantial achievements in growth and poverty reduction. At the same time, they noted that important challenges remain, including the high prevalence of poverty, one of the highest inequality levels in the world, and less than satisfactory human development outcomes. Directors noted the importance of structural changes for economic diversification and a transition to outward-looking, private sector-led growth and job creation. They emphasized the modernization of the public sector, including budget management, domestic resource mobilization, and the enabling environment for private sector and welcomed WBG advisory services in these key areas. They commented on the importance of sustained efforts in health and education, including vocational education, to sustain progress in poverty reduction and support more labor intensive growth. Directors also emphasized the regional dimensions of growth, encouraging the WBG to foster regional integration and regional perspectives wherever possible.

Directors strongly supported the CPF's focus on growth and jobs, strengthening human and physical assets, and effective resource management. They stressed the development of non-extractive sectors, particularly the industrial sector and small-holder agriculture which hold the promise of expanded employment. Directors encouraged the WBG to work with the Government in addressing the energy and climate change challenges in a comprehensive manner, utilizing Botswana's renewable energy potential. They underscored the importance of water security and increased access to energy and water by the poorest.

Directors underscored the importance of strong complementarity among IBRD, IFC, and MIGA to assist Botswana in productivity growth, job creation, and energy, all critical areas for addressing the country's structural challenges and achieving the twin goals. They particularly welcomed efforts of the WBG and partners to boost private sector investment in tourism, MSMEs, financial inclusion, and renewable energy.

*This summary is not an approved record.