

NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Management announces the following staff and intern movements with effect from October 2017

Graduate Interns/Volunteers

Name	Institution	Qualification	Department	Start Date	Exit date
Ms.Tshiamo P. Gontse	Botho University	Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Computing In Network And Infrastructure Management	Information Technology	01-11-2017	30-09-2019
Ms Boitshepo Kolo	Botho University	Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Computing In Network And Infrastructure Management	Information Technology	02-11-2017	30-09-2019

Student Interns

Name	Institution	Qualification	Department	Start Date	Exit Date
Ms Pancy Mangwai	Supabrain College of Business & Computer Studies	Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety Practice and Management	SHE Unit	11-12-2017	10-01-2018

Terminations

Name	Job Title	Date of Exit	Mode of Exit
Mr Willie Marenga	Assistant Research Scientist-Food Technology	02-11-2017	Resignation
Ms Thatayaone Kapaletswe	Public Relations Manager	08-12-2017	End of contract
Ko-Tinashe Kelderman	Graduate Intern from Wageningen University in the Nertherlands	06-12-2017	End of Internship

Endless Possibilities in Food Research!!



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**Members of Ntlo
ya Dikgosi
visit NFTRC**

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NFTRC continues to offer Body Assessments

Editorial

Welcome to the last issue of the year 2017

*Alililili.....*When a Motswana woman ululates it's only a sign of appreciation for a job well done, or for an unspeakable beauty.

The last quarter of 2017 saw NFTRC traversing all corners of Botswana and outside the borders, soliciting for better and informed development of food technologies. Moreover, NFTRC products and services were communicated to Batswana through Kgotla meetings, shows or exhibitions, print, digital and social media platforms.

To prove that all our efforts were not in vain, a huge number of people requested for training in food processing, and we ended up adding an extra two training workshops to our annual training schedule; these were Processing of Fruit and Vegetable Products and Processing of Dairy Products, commodities that Ministry of Agricultural Deveopment and Food Security is aggressively investing in.

As an institution tasked with matters of food security, we strongly believe that food processing reduces post-harvest losses, creates employment and helps in reducing the country's food import bill. Therefore, we pleaded and continue to plead with the youth of Botswana to join us in this war by being more involved in Agriculture like never before, because the experts declared that Agriculture is the new green diamond discovered to rescue Africa from food, health, unemployment and poverty crisis.

As we conclude 2017, for us at NFTRC it is the beginning of our five-years strategic plan; a new route that has set priorities, focused energy and resources, strengthened operations to ensure that employees and other stakeholders are working toward common goals amidst changing environment.

As always, we urge you not to hesitate to give feedback. Our contacts are: mail@naftec.org, Private Bag 008 Kanye: Telephone +267 544 5500 or Fax +267 544 0713.

Talk to you again in three months, long as that is! Please also like our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/www.naftec.org?ref=hl> so we can interact there.

Be blessed as you enjoy reading our recent trail.

Kelebogile Mafoko

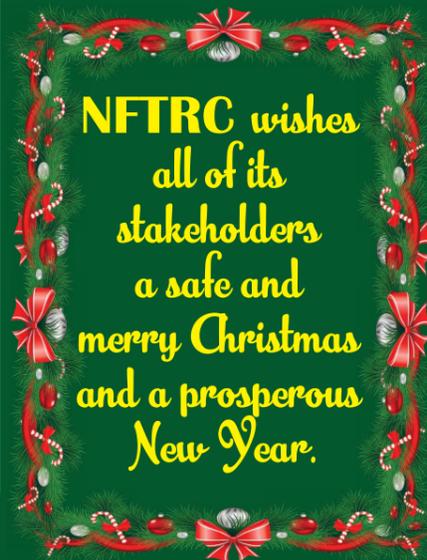


Editorial Team

Thatayaone Mmamosese Kapaletswe
Dr Bernard Bulawayo
Peoetsile Seitiso
Thobiso Ditshema
Kelebogile Mafoko
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pinned on the export market and that they are focused on becoming the leading food supplier to the world in the near future.

Dr Kebakile further stated they have made new valuable contacts which they will follow to advance the bussiness of NFTRC.

WFI 2017 exhibition was organized by the Government of India - Ministry of Food Processing Industries, in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).



Dr Kebakile (Second from left) mingling at WFI 2017

Did you know that?

★ India is now the second largest producer of food after USA, therefore India has the potential to become a global food factory.

★ The State finances, constructs and avails to entrepreneurs small and big food

parks that are equipped with cold-rooms, warehouses, silos, telecommunication, utilities (steam compressed air, water, effluent treatment and drainage).

★ All Indian states have an objective to atleast double farmers returns by 2022.

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For Orders Contact NAPro: Tel: +267 2611 239 Fax: +267 2611 225 Email: mail@napro.co.bw Physical Address: Industrial Plot No 12384, Selibe Phikwe North East, Botswana.

India from Dr Kebakile`s point of view

...What can Botswana learn from the India?

National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) Acting Managing Director, Dr Kebakile and Senior Research Scientist Mr Marire recently attended World Food India 2017 (WFI), a food technology conference and exhibition in New Delhi, India.

WFI is an annual event that links manufacturers, producers, food processors, investors, policymakers, and organizations from across the global food ecosystem.

Dr Kebakile left Botswana particularly keen on finding out the Indian Government's approach towards development of the agricultural sector, in particular food processing.

When asked about what could Botswana learn from India regarding food processing Dr Kebakile said the first thing that struck him was that India has Ministry of Food Processing Industries, which give appropriate focus to value addition.

He said after going through several stalls of the different Indian states he noticed that each state has a policy on food



processing, which addresses the challenges of the state to enable efficient, effective and profitable food processing.

He said that the Indian government also takes the lead in the development of appropriate world-class food processing and handling facilities, they develop food parks, with different states establishing food processing facilities that are relevant for types of produce that is popular in the particular state.

Dr Kebakile shared that the farmers in India are organized into cooperatives, and cooperatives own processing facilities and the government

ensures that cooperatives employ professionals so that they become sustainable and effective.

Dr Kebakile said the middle men is removed completely from the process, because middle men is perceived to exploit the farmers thus discouraging them from farming; furthermore the Indian government prioritises increasing farmers benefits from the different food value chains.

Dr Kebakile concluded that as Botswana aspires to build food value chains in the country there is a need to look deeper into the Indian model and shape the future based on their successes. He indicated that what he liked most was that Indians do all these initiatives with their eyes

NFTRC and NAPro grace World Food Day



Dignitaries getting exposure on NFTRC products and services

National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) and her spin-off company National Agro Processing (NAPro) recently attended World Food Day at the Hlabano family farm in the outskirts of Kalakamati village.

The World Food Day Commemoration started with the float on 18th October 2017, which started in Zwenshambe with stopovers at Masunga and Kalakamati dikgotla enroute to where the event was hosted.

The float catered for all subsectors and events of the agricultural sector. NAPro took

centre stage as the residents of Zwenshambe and Kalakamati had a chance to taste the National Brand, the "Harvest Haven" products.

NFTRC products also had their shine as residents appreciated canned meat, bean products, as well as the sorghum range of products. Residents were readily convinced that they could make successful businesses, as the products raw materials are abundant in their region.

Apart from gracing the event by her presence, NFTRC also donated bottled water to the event.

This year's commemoration was held under the theme: **'Change the future of migration. Invest in food security and rural development.'**

Assistant Minister of Agricultural Development and Food Security, Mr Kgotla Autlwetse said that by 2025 Botswana's agricultural sector would be modern and productive, using science, technology, innovation and indigenous knowledge.



Mr Autlwetse said by 2025 the hand hoe would be banished, and the sector would be modern, profitable and attractive to the country's youths and women, adding that the move is aimed at building a shared prosperity through social and economic

transformation of the country. "Agriculture is the backbone of Botswana's rural economy as a source of food, employment, draught power and raw materials. Approximately 80 percent of the agricultural sector's GDP comes from livestock, with only 20 percent originating from basic grains, horticulture and other crops.

The major agricultural activities are livestock and crop production. One major success story is poultry production, which still maintains its self-sufficiency status," Mr Autlwetse said.

While he acknowledged that Botswana is faced with food security challenges, Mr Autlwetse said government has come up with a number of programmes targeting food security.

Such programmes include Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agricultural Development (ISPAAD), Livestock Management and Infrastructure Development (LIMID) and the Poverty Eradication programme, to cater for the vulnerable members of the population.

When giving his closing remarks, former Vice President, Mr Ponatshego Kedikilwe discouraged Botswana from migrating to urban areas, saying opportunities are available everywhere. "Some



Mr Ponatshego Kedikilwe giving closing remarks

think we have the option of relocating to other planets. I recommend that we diversify into horticulture", said Mr Kedikilwe.

Mr Kedikilwe encouraged people to preserve food to ensure its availability all year round. He also advised that farmers should come together in associations across the whole country, instead of working alone. He emphasised that it is important for leaders of those associations to be men and women of integrity.

Mr Kedikilwe encouraged stakeholders to help the youth to recognise and exploit existing opportunities such as milk production.



National Agro Processing (NAPro) representatives briefing stall visitors on Harvest Haven products

Therefore she further advised them not to hesitate to seek help from other stakeholders or entities such as LEA, Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency CEDA and others in order to meet their objectives.

Speaking on behalf of trainees, Mr Tebatso Seaboeng said he was grateful for the Skills Transfer programme, as it caters for every Motswana who is interested in changing his/ her life through the food processing skills offered here at NFTRC, adding that the programme is affordable and trainers are good at their job.

Other areas covered by the training include Botswana Food Legislation, Hygiene and Sanitation, Basic Principles of Food Processing, Good Manufacturing Practices and Equipment Requirements.



Dairy Processing trainees and NFTRC trainers during graduation



Processing of Fruits and Vegetable products trainees during processing.



Batswana continue to acquire food processing skills



In its pursuit to promote Job creation and build human capital for the food industry National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) continued training entrepreneurs on food processing skills.

This quarter, the Centre trained 59 participants on Processing of Dairy products and Fruits and Vegetable products.

Processing of Dairy products package included drinking yoghurt, set yoghurt, madila and feta cheese products, while Processing of Fruits and

Vegetable products included jam, juice, mixed vegetables and dried vegetables.

The trainees were from all corners of Botswana sponsored by Out of School Education and



Training (OSET), Local Enterprise Authority (LEA) while others were self-sponsored.

During these trainings one could see the participants's determination towards acquiring the life-changing skills.

White Angels company's participants enrolled on food safety training before, and this time around they came to learn more on processing of Dairy products, which their company manufactures.

While paving the way for handing over of certificates to the trainees, NFTRC Trainer Ms Malebogo Ralefala said it was time to reward the participants and they should now go and succeed in opening their own businesses.

She said NFTRC alone cannot meet all their needs.

NFTRC empowers Horticultural farmers gathered in Lobatse

National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) exhibited and presented at the two-day Botswana Horticulture Council (BoHoCo) field day held in Lobatse under the theme **"Horticulture: A green diamond discovered"**.

The objective of the field day was to unite, educate and develop horticultural farmers.

The guest speaker Deputy Permanent Secretary for Support Services in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security, who is also NFTRC Board Chairperson Dr Keoagile Fanoel Molapong, said Botswana continues to experience a high food import bill currently at seven (7) billion Pula per annum.

Dr Molapong said a turnaround can only be achieved through farmers, government and private companies working together.

Meanwhile, NFTRC Food Technology Head of Department, Dr Minah Mosele



Deputy Permanent Secretary for Support Services in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security, who is also NFTRC Board Chairperson Dr Keoagile Fanoel Molapong giving keynote address

presented on the services offered by the Centre and the opportunities available for horticultural farmers. Dr Mosele encouraged the farmers to take advantage of associations such as BoHoCo and process and or preserve more horticultural food products instead of focusing on fresh produce only.

National Agro Processing (NAPro)'s - Harvest Heaven

products were sold out within a blink of an eye. The burning questions asked were; how these products were received on the market, and where one can submit sensory-related feedback for further improvement of the products?

Taking the local brand *Harvest Heaven* along was to show the farmers that indeed value addition was possible in horticulture, and

that the sector has potential to grow and become true agribusiness.

During the tour of stalls the horticultural farmers were impressed by NFTRC Fruits and Vegetable Processing training and related products ready for commercialisation. They strongly believed that the programme is a solution to their post-harvest losses.

Some of the exhibitors present were from Selibe Phikwe Economic Development Unit (SPEDU), Human Resource Development Council (HRDC), Agric Shop, Starke Ayres, Fresh Grow, FMB (Organic Fertilizers) and Prime Seed.Co.

The day was spiced up by touring plots that had a variety of well-kept horticulture crops, explanation were made on how they are nurtured, including the type of seed and fertilisers used.

Among other dignitaries, the field day was attended by Chairperson of Ntlo ya Dikgosi Kgosi Puso Gaborone, senior government officials, representatives from the European Union (EU) and AoN Botswana.



A range of Harvest Haven products



Dr Mosele presented on the services offered by the Centre



Farmers listening attentively



NFTRC Assistant Public Relation Officer Ms Kelebogile Mafoko (Left) interacting with customers and selling Harvest Haven products.



Dr Martin Kebakile (Right) with other panelist

He added that a platform that identifies young champions must be set up to motivate the youth and drive them to interact and benchmark on agricultural issues, adding that the youth need mind-set change about agricultural businesses.

He said for that to happen they must be helped to start seeing agripreneurship as a source of food, income and employment, with good or modern infrastructures (roads, telephones, and internet) provided at the farms.

The expo was officially opened by the Vice President



The Vice President Mr Mokgweetsi E. K Masi officially opening the Global Expo 2017



Some of the panel discussions spectators

Mr. Mokgweetsi E.K. Masi and the guest speaker was Sir Richard Branson, a British business tycoon and founder of Virgin Group.

Mr. Masi said Global Expo was conceptualised to help the country meet its objectives of attracting both domestic and foreign direct investment.

“Therefore let us go together on this journey with honest exchange of ideas and intentions and let us get to business. Our business as government is to get out of the way to let you work and use us to move forward, use us to unlock unnecessary bureaucratic red tapes,” he said.

Meanwhile, Sir Richard Branson urged the local investors to think globally and called on foreign investors to invest in Botswana because it continues to revive growth by improving its investment conditions.

The expo was also spiced up by fashion and designer exhibitions that allowed locals to exhibit their designs and models.

The expo was graced by exhibitors from as far as Mozambique, Ghana, Sweden, Zimbabwe, India, Portugal, Swaziland, Republic of Korea (Republic of), Ethiopia, Namibia, Pakistan, South Africa and Malawi.

NFTRC at Global Expo 2017



NFTRC Assistant Public Relations Officer Ms Kelebogile Mafoko briefing the judges about NFTRC's products and services

From the 30th October – 2nd November 2017, National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) exhibited at the tenth edition premier business to business (B2B) multi - sectorial organised by Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC) known as Global Expo.

The expo was celebrated under the theme **'unlocking business opportunities for economic growth.'**

On the first day of the expo, the panel discussions that pulled more than 200 participants from all corners of the world led by various stakeholders ran concurrently with the expo addressing various issue aimed at improving Botswana entrepreneurship.

NFTRC Acting Managing Director Dr Kebakile participated in a panel discussion under a topic; how can Botswana entrepreneurs be motivated to consider venturing into primary agricultural production for sustainable food security?

Dr Kebakile said Botswana must have a robust entrepreneurship training programme aimed at empowering the youth to venture into agricultural businesses.



Dr Kebakile during the pannel discussions

NFTRC continues to offer Body Assessments at various events



NFTRC stall visitors awaiting body assessments at the Parliament premises

In the last quarter of this year's calendar, Nutrition and Dietetics Department maximised NFTRC's outreach by manning educational stalls and carrying out several body tests on clients who attended the Official Opening of the Kanye Education Centre (KEC) and Parliament Wellness Day in Gaborone.

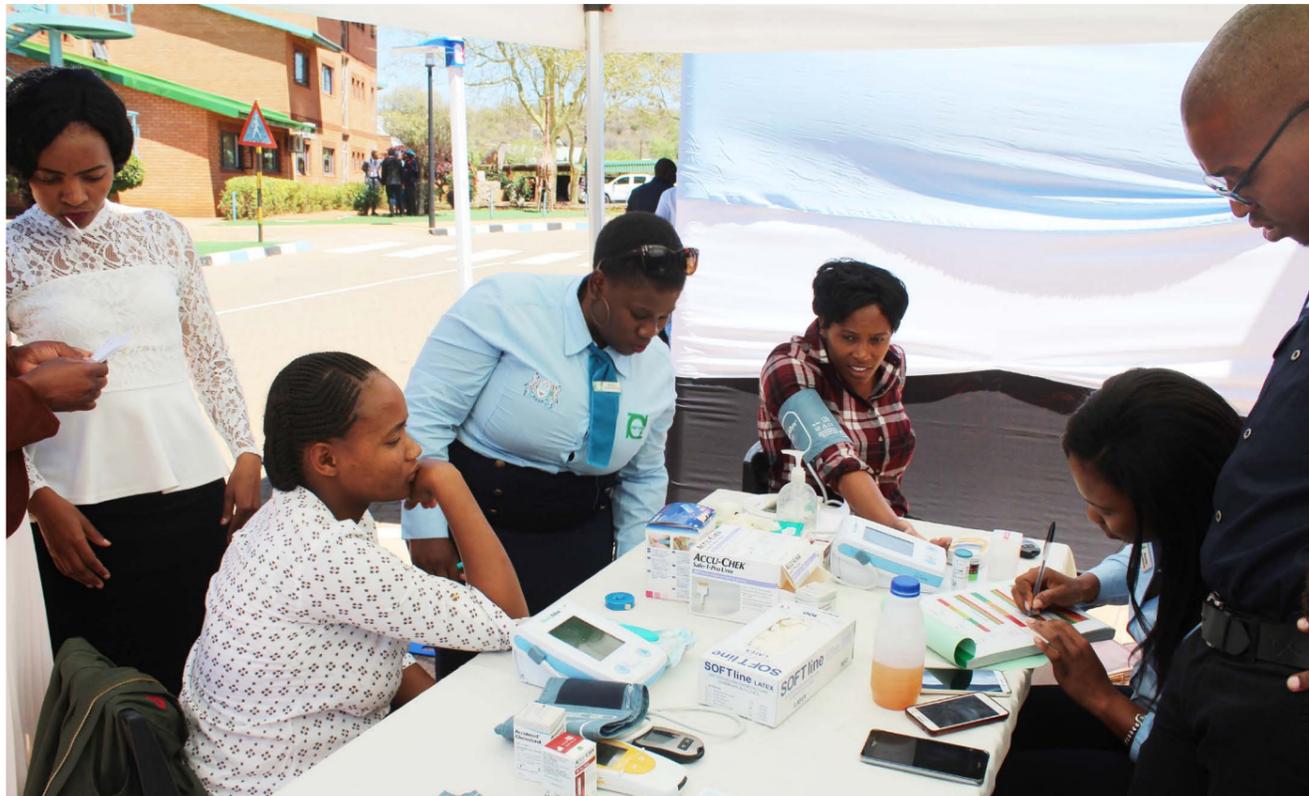
KEC was officially opened by the President of the Republic of Botswana, Lieutenant

General Dr Seretse Khama Ian Khama. In his speech, President Khama said that with fully equipped centres of KEC's type, all the prospects of a knowledge based Botswana could be achieved.

The tests carried out by NFTRC were Cholesterol, Glucose, Blood Pressure (BP) and Body Mass Index (BMI). Following testing, referral cards were given out and necessary counselling

done on every person who was tested.

In his welcome remarks at Parliament Wellness Day, Mr Gilbert Mangole who is the Chairperson of the Parliament Health and HIV/AIDS Committee, said they do not take wellness of staff members for granted, because they truly believe that a healthy staff is a happy staff, and a happy staff is a productive one.



NfTRC staff representatives performing body assessments during the Kanye Education Centre official opening

Mr Mangole noted that there are challenges that put people's health in danger; which include smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, and having more than one sexual partner. Moreover he urged Batswana to take care of their human frame, cherish it and refrain from intake of substances that could put one's life in danger.

In her keynote address, Dr Neo Tapela from Ministry of Health and Wellness said the theme "My health, my responsibility" give employees the opportunity to reflect on their health and wellness.

She cautioned Batswana against neglecting their health, and engaging in risky behaviours such as smoking, taking excessive alcohol, and unhealthy eating and then blame their ill health on witches.

In her closing remarks, specially elected Member of Parliament, Ms Bogolo Kenewendo said there are several issues which result in contracting diseases, such as poor diet, being over or underweight and many others, which in most cases can be worsened by financial problems.

She encouraged everyone to always eat healthy food, like

fruits, and exercise for their bodies to fight against infections or diseases.

When giving an overview on the KEC, the Minister of Basic Education Dr Unity Dow said unlike other education centres across Botswana, which were donor-funded, KEC was totally and fully funded by the government of Botswana. She added that it was built in 1997, started operating in 1999, and was now being officially opened on 12th October 2017.

She added that KEC has training rooms, a conference hall, gym, hostels that can accommodate 100 people, guest accommodation for



Best students in Mathematics and Science receiving their prizes

Director, Mr Moshokwe informed the students that nothing can prevent them from achieving their goals as long as they are focused, well-disciplined and respectful.

He urged parents to take their children's education very seriously.

The School-Head, Mr Seitsang said that the school has 38 teachers and 424 students - 227 boys and 197 girls.

Mr Seitsang lamented the poor turn up of parents every time they are called hence the average academic performance of the students; he added that the students could perform better with motivation from their parents.

In closing he applauded all the people who made the prize

giving possible. The event was spiced up by entertainment from the school choir, poets and drama group.

Other organisations that contributed to the fruitful prize giving were Botswana Sector for Educators Trade Union, Timba Trading, King Shoppers, Kabomo Transport, Julesh Motor Vehicle consultant, Jaole Investment Insurance Agency and Junction Electrical Services.



NfTRC stall visitors appreciating a range of exhibited products after the prize giving ceremony



Mr Seitsang giving an overview of the school

Maths, Agric and Science Excellence awarded at Emang CJSS

On 6th October 2017, National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC) was in Ntlhantlhe to join hands with other companies in making Emang Junior Secondary School Prize Giving ceremony a great success. The event was held under the theme **“Discipline and Hard Work; Prerequisite to Academic Excellence”**.

Public Relations Manager, Ms. Thatayaone Kapaletswe had the opportunity to introduce NFTRC products and services to those who attended.

She said NFTRC continues to recognise the essence of Mathematics, Science and Agriculture in the development of new food technologies, hence these subjects empowered students as future leaders of tomorrow, from a tender age.

NFTRC sponsored the prizes for best students in Mathematics and Science (Form1 to Form 3) and overall best student in Agriculture.

The guest speaker of the day, Junction Electrical Services



NFTRC Public Relations Manager Ms Thatayaone Kapaletswe addressing students and highlighting on the Centre's products and services



A form 2 student Bofelo Baithuti and his mother (wearing a head scarf) receiving his prizes for Best in Science and overall best student in Agriculture

trainers, as well as music and photography studios.

In line with government's wish to share available resources, Dr Dow said further that KEC serves and caters for various ministries and departments, as well as other entities locally.

When speaking to Sesigo, NFTRC Principal Research Scientist Dr Boitumelo Motswagole said that strategic partnerships are to be nurtured; hence NFTRC's participation at such events.

She added that NFTRC has a world gold standard machine for fast, efficient and repeatable body composition assessment, and therefore encourages Batswana to come to NFTRC and do body assessments at P250.00 per person. She said this fee entitles a client to two more free assessment and counselling sessions.



Dr Motswagole checking Blood Pressure (BP) on a client



Dr Unity Dow and the President during KEC official opening ceremony



Nutrition and Dietetics team (on sky blue shirts branded NFTRC logo) among other officials during the official opening ceremony

Please kindly contact us for nutritional assessments that include; Body Mass Index, Waist Circumference, Blood Glucose, Cholesterol, Haemoglobin and Body Composition Analysis as well as wellness talks.

Members of *Ntlo ya Dikgosi* visit NFTRC



On 24th October, 33 members of *Ntlo ya Dikgosi* from all corners of Botswana travelled to Kanye to learn about one of Botswana's treasures - National Food Technology Research Centre (NFTRC).

In his welcome remarks, NFTRC Board Chairman Dr Keoagile Molapong, who is also the Deputy Permanent Secretary responsible for Support Services in the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security, said he believed that the visit would bring unity and a better understanding

between NFTRC and *Dikgosi*, as NFTRC focuses on indigenous knowledge as an important resource in the food products researched.

NFTRC Acting Managing Director Dr Martin Kebakile shared with *Dikgosi* the mandate of NFTRC, challenges and proposed solutions for Botswana and Africa as a whole in the area of food security, malnutrition, hunger and lack of employment.

Dr Kebakile said that agripreneurship entrepreneur-

ship and needs-driven research are the solutions to such challenges.

He requested *Dikgosi* to support the institution by taking its services to the people, and encourage them to buy Botswana products such as the *Harvest Haven* brand.

National Agro-Processing plant (NAPRO) Operations Manager, Mr Ramogoma Kaisara, briefed *Dikgosi* that NAPRO creates awareness and advertises its products through shows and exhibitions, kgotla meetings, local print, social and electronic media.

He shared that so far *Harvest Haven* products were in 43 shops locally, that include chain stores namely Choppies and Sefalana

Kgosi Galeakanye Modise of Tswapong region said that NFTRC has impressive food research outputs; therefore it must consider approaching the Ministry of Education and Skills Development for its programmes to be included in the school syllabus, to empower the future leaders of this country.

Making his remarks, the Chairperson of *Ntlo ya Dikgosi* Kgosi Puso Gaborone, shared that *Ntlo ya Dikgosi* is an advisory body to parliament and the Executive on issues of national interest. He said *Ntlo ya Dikgosi* was established in 1961 and represents different cultures nationwide.

When giving a vote of thanks, Southern District Chairman Mr Alec Seametso called on Botswana to start implementing research outputs for economic transformation.

He called for legislation that empowers local entrepreneurs.

Dikgosi toured NFTRC facilities, and had a chance to witness the canning process and water bottling.

As a token of appreciation Dr Kebakile handed over 45



Kgosi Modise appreciating NFTRC work



Dr Kebakile (front left) handing over a token of appreciation to Kgosi Puso Gaborone (second right)

NAPRO combo products to Kgosi Puso Gaborone for members of *Ntlo ya Dikgosi* to take home and taste the local brand *Harvest Haven* with their families.

The event was graced by representatives from Southern District Council, Kanye District Commission, Kanye North and South Members of Parliament offices, Kanye Administrative Authority and Kanye Police Station.