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Botswana Development Corporation Limited
"Your Investment Partner"

Northern Business Community encouraged to make use Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) Limited Products and Services.

The business community in general has been encouraged to make use of products and services offered by Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) limited. They were encouraged to seek help from the Corporation by BDC's acting General Manager (for Business Development) Mr Roderick Boyd during a breakfast seminar organized by BDC for the business community at Thapama Lodge yesterday, the 29th April 2009 . The objective of the seminar was to update the business community on BDC products and services and available opportunities and partnership that could help diversify the country's economy. The breakfast seminar was held under the theme "PARTNERSHIP IN INVESTMENT".

Mr Boyd said BDC finances medium to large scale businesses including start up businesses and expansions in the areas of manufacturing, services, agribusiness, industrial and commercial property. He also said BDC needs to reinforce its brand by providing excellent service and encourage partnerships between foreign investors, the corporation and local business entrepreneurs.

Mr Boyd further said the Corporation is involved in a wide array of activities with more than 70 subsidiaries and affiliates, noting that the corporation aims at investing for a specified period in a particular entity and divest from the business in order to empower Batswana. He said while BDC remains a development finance institution, it has a responsibility to operate on a commercial basis and earn a return on its investments



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Mr Boyd explained that BDC is currently taking actions that are necessary to position the Corporation and the country to make a meaningful impact in the world market. He said one of the greatest challenges faced by the country's economy is the status of being a net importer of the products consumed in this country. He therefore called upon the entrepreneurs to engage in businesses that are geared towards import substitution with an export potential, noting that the local procurement policy gives preferential treatment to products produced locally to grow the domestic sector.

For their part, the business community expressed gratitude for BDC to have seen it fit to host a seminar of that sort in Francistown. A BDC beneficiary, Mr Mukesh Josh, who runs a successful Textiles Firm in Francistown, Nortex, gave a testimony about his experience from having worked with BDC. He referred to BDC as a reliable business partner that journeys with you even through stormy times, providing an umbrella for you. He mentioned how his business benefited from BDC equity participation and how he was also starting up another project, a cement manufacturing plant in Matsiloje Village with the help of BDC.

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