

Talk More For Less!

60min weekly voice bundles for only M15

Buy on *100# or via Ecocash or WhatsApp

Ts & Cs Apply

Inspired to change your world

66 100 100

ECONET
Telecom Lesotho

Newsday

...pacing standards

29 August - 04 September 2025

www.newsdayonline.co.ls

Vol 07 No 29

M6.00

News

Mothae Mine retrenches all workers

Page 2

Sports

LeFA asks clubs to release players for Likuena

Page 16

CBL PARALYSED AS LICENSED INSURER GOES 'ROGUE'

Jobs lost, pensions in peril, and market disrupted as Zenith Horizon is accused of presiding over Mammoth's demise

Page 2

Elevate your farming game with Lesotho's ONLY Agriculture Publication.

Get Local Wisdom, Global Vision:

Seamlessly blend traditional Lesotho farming practices with cutting-edge global trends. Simply **join our WhatsApp community** and **Follow our socials** for your daily information and interaction.



CBL paralysed as licensed insurer goes 'rogue'

Staff Reporter

A regulated financial institution under the direct supervision of the Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL) has allegedly gone rogue, acquiring a majority stake in an unregulated company and presiding over its collapse, yet the regulator appears unwilling, or unable, to intervene.

Zenith Horizon Insurance Company Limited, which is on the CBL's list of licensed insurers, reportedly acquired about 70 percent of Mamoth Insurance/Medical Aid around 2023–2024 and took over its management.

Instead of rescuing the struggling health insurer, multiple insiders allege that Zenith's actions accelerated Mamoth's downfall.

Commitments were ignored, operations were allowed to deteriorate, and staff went unpaid for months, forcing many to resign in order to access their pensions. Some employees even faced frozen bank accounts or the risk of losing property.

Allegations also point to a potential conflict of interest, with Zenith's ties to another medical aid business raising concerns about collusion and the deliberate weakening of competition in Lesotho's medical aid sector.

Efforts by the Ministry of Trade to intervene were reportedly blocked by Zenith, which promised to rescue Mamoth itself, a promise that, according to sources, never materialised, leaving the company insolvent and employees stranded.

"I believe the public deserves to know how a major local institution was deliberately brought down," one source said. "Around 2023–2024, Zenith Horizon Insurance acquired about 70 percent of Mamoth and took over its management. Instead of delivering on promises to strengthen the company, Ze-



nith's actions appear calculated to eliminate Mamoth as a competitor."

The source added that the human cost – employees driven into resignation, members left uncertain, and the loss of an independent administrator – makes this more than a corporate story.

"It is a public interest matter," the source said.

Another source detailed ongoing hardships.

"Mamoth Health staff are currently not receiving salaries and other benefits as per their contracts. For the majority, the last pay received was in April, a few in May, and the cleaners in June." The sources said staff wrote to the acting CEO on June 30, 2025, demanding answers, but received no response.

"The acting CEO is based at Christie House as a full-time Zenith Horizon CEO. Our last meeting with Ms. Smangela (Molumeli) was on July 31, 2025, and she verbally committed to giving us specific dates for settling our pending salaries and benefits on August 6. We have never heard from her since.

"That was her first meeting with staff after taking over the company in October 2024. Payments received in the early months of this year were paid directly from Zenith, and there was no roadmap or plan for how Mamoth would operate.

"Most staffers were paid while doing almost nothing, as clinics and service providers suspended activities due to delayed payments. Most staff eventually resigned to access pensions, leaving some with frozen accounts or the risk of losing property."

The acting CEO of Mamoth, Smangela Molumeli, is also the CEO of Zenith Horizon according to the CBL's own website. When approached by Newsday last week, Molumeli said the issues were before the regulator and declined to comment.

Yet when Newsday asked the CBL to clarify its role, the regulator distanced itself. "Just referred to the Bank's List of Licensed Financial Institutions. We do not have an entity called Mamoth Insurance," said CBL Chief Corporate Communication, Ephraim Moremoholo, on

Monday.

Newsday followed up on Tuesday, emphasising that while Mamoth is unlicensed, Zenith Horizon is duly licensed, and it was precisely for this reason that the Bank's clarity was sought.

"When a regulated financial service provider goes in the opposite direction, into an unregulated line of business, what framework applies?" the publication asked.

"Does the Bank's oversight extend only to the licensed activities, or also to the conduct of the licensed institution within such unregulated ventures, especially when those ventures affect employees, pension funds, and consumers who may reasonably believe they are dealing with a regulated entity?"

At the time of going to print, the CBL had not responded to follow-up questions.

Technically, the Central Bank is correct that Mamoth was never a licensed financial institution. But the explanation is troubling, because it ignores the fact that a licensed insurer, Zenith Horizon, was the one that acquired and managed a business that is not regulated.

Even more concerning is that the Financial Institutions Act is clear that a financial institution cannot be licensed unless it is incorporated as a public company under the Companies Act, and even then, registration requires the prior written approval of the Commissioner of Financial Institutions (CBL).

To obtain such a licence, an applicant must provide, in writing, full particulars of the business it intends to carry on, including operational and financial plans, systems of internal control, internal audit and accounting frameworks, as well as its overall structure.

Against this legal backdrop, it would be unusual, even contradictory, for a licensed financial institution that initially got approval from the CBL (based on declared activities) to suddenly pivot into another line of business, especially unregulated or opaque ones, without the regulator stepping in.

Such a scenario raises serious questions about regulatory oversight and accountability.

Staff Reporter

The management of Mothae Diamond Mine has confirmed that all employees will be retrenched effective August 31, 2025, following the company's decision to transition into a care and maintenance programme.

In a circular issued to staff on Wednesday, 27 August 2025, the Mothae Board of Directors said the move was unavoidable due to "the persistent and current weak global diamond market conditions" which do not allow for "the commercially viable extraction of diamonds at Mothae."

The mine, located in Mokhotlong, had already suspended operations in April this year. Management said "all possible alternatives were explored to avoid the transition," but the market realities left no other option.

The care and maintenance programme, according to Mothae, will "ensure the safeguarding of Mothae's assets and preserve the remaining resource for future profitable and responsible treatment."

Among the immediate measures, the circular stated that: "All Mothae employees will be retrenched effective 31 August 2025. August 2025 salaries will still be paid at 50 percent of your normal salary."

It added: "Accrued severance benefits will be settled in monthly instalments from September 2025. A team of about 40 employees will be rehired on fixed-term contracts to implement the care and maintenance programme."

Mothae also assured workers that "Alliance Provident Fund deductions for July and August

Mothae Mine retrenches all workers



2025 will be settled soonest" and applications for withdrawal of invested funds will be facilitated, although this process "will take approximately a month to complete."

Looking ahead, management said it was exploring options "to retreat plant and recovery tailings, as well as to connect Mothae to the Lesotho electricity grid." These plans, combined with a potential rebound in the global diamond market, could see the mine "recommence production in a meaningful and profit-

able manner."

Reflecting on the challenges, Mothae management expressed gratitude to its workforce.

"We have been very fortunate to have earned our salaries and benefits since last year's shareholder change and again extend our appreciation to Executive for the funding and support provided."

Mothae was sold in 2024, with Lephema Executive Transport, owned by Minister of Local Government, Chieftainship, Home Affairs and

Police, Lebona Lephema, acquiring a 70 percent stake. The Government of Lesotho retains the remaining 30 percent.

The acquisition sparked controversy, with critics raising concerns over potential conflicts of interest given Lephema's ministerial role alongside government's partial ownership of the mine.

The deal followed a conditional sales agreement announced in June 2024 between Luca-pa Diamond Company – the previous majority owner – and Executive.

Finalised in August 2024 for a nominal fee of AUD 10,000 (about M122,000 or USD 6,660), Lucapa also received roughly USD 1 million in outstanding technical service payments. Under the agreement, Executive assumed all liabilities and obligations.

The mine's closure comes at a time when Lesotho's diamond industry is reeling from global demand shocks. In her 2025/26 budget speech earlier this year, Finance Minister Dr Retšelisitsoe Matlanyane reported that the mining sector had contracted by 5 percent in 2024/25, with Mothae, Kao, and Liqhobong mines all struggling with poor diamond sales.

Matlanyane further warned that the performance of both the mining and manufacturing sectors is expected to continue declining in the current financial year.

Newsday (+266) 2231 4267/ 5945 8983

Carlton Centre
3rd Floor
Room 302
Kingsway
Maseru

PUBLISHER
Newsday Media (Pty) (Ltd)
Maseru

MANAGING EDITOR
Lerato Matheka
managingeditor@newsdayonline.co.ls

NEWS EDITOR
Kananelo Boloetse
editor@newsdayonline.co.ls

SUB EDITOR
Bereng Mpaki

NEWS ROOM
Nisoaki Motaung
Seabata Mahao
Thoboloko Ntšonyane

CONTRIBUTORS
Theko Tlebere
Motsamai Mokotjo

PRODUCTION
Bolokang Mahlo
Bataung Monaheng

VIDEOGRAPHER
Tumelo Taole

DISTRIBUTION
Lehlohonolo Mantsoe

MARKETING
Tefah Sello
Tumelo Ramotsoane
marketing@newsdayonline.co.ls

WEBSITE
www.newsdayonline.co.ls

FACEBOOK
Newsday Newspaper LS
X
@LsNewsday

INSTAGRAM
Newsday Lesotho

PRINTER
RISING SUN PRINTERS

Polihali Dam pushes forward despite lost time



Polihali Media Tour

Thoboloko Ntšonyane

Construction of the long-awaited Polihali Dam is finally gaining momentum despite years of setbacks that have pushed the mega project nearly a decade behind schedule.

This was revealed during a three-day media tour organised by the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority (LHDA) this week for Lesotho and South African journalists. The tour showcased progress on the Lesotho Highlands Water Project Phase II, while also highlighting the challenges that have dogged its timelines.

Reporters witnessed the roar of machinery, blasting operations, and excavation across the vast site where the dam is taking shape. Once complete, the structure will rise 166 metres, creating a reservoir on the Senqu and Khubelu rivers with a surface area of 5,053 hectares and storage capacity of 2,325 million cubic

metres.

The dam will almost double Lesotho's annual water transfer to South Africa, from 780 million cubic metres to 1,270 million, contributing an additional 490 million cubic metres to Gauteng's supply. Its infrastructure will include a spillway, a compensation outlet, and a small hydropower station.

LHDA Public Relations Manager, Mpho Brown, acknowledged the project had "lost about nine years." Although Phase II was signed in 2011 and ratified in 2013, the dam's design work only began in 2017, tenders were finalised in 2020, and construction kicked off in early 2023.

Chief Resident Engineer Ivano Vanzaghi of Matla a Metsi Joint Venture, the supervising consultant, said delays in setting up crushing plants, camps, access roads, and quarries initially slowed progress. Excavation, concrete

works, and tunnel operations also fell behind schedule.

Despite this, he noted that corrective engagements with contractors were showing improvement. "There are still challenges in achieving required rates in some cases, but measures are being taken to address lagging areas," he said.

There are currently about 2,200 workers on site, more than originally projected. Engineering consultants reported 7.9 million man-hours worked so far without a single fatality.

The project's price tag has surged from the initial M8 billion to an estimated M53 billion, largely due to advanced infrastructure such as the Senqu and Khubelu bridges. Around M18 billion, 36 percent of the revised budget, has already been spent.

As of July 2025, overall construction stood

at 31.2 percent, though the project has already endured a 14-month delay since November 2022. Impoundment, the process of filling the reservoir, is scheduled for January 2027, with completion and commissioning now expected in September 2029.

The contractor for the dam and appurtenant works is SUN JV, a consortium of Sinohydro 8, Sinohydro Bureau 14, UNIK, and Nthane Brothers.

For South Africa, the Polihali Dam remains crucial. Yogashen Pillay, a journalist with SA's Business Report, said concerns back home over delays were eased after seeing the site first-hand.

"From what I have seen, I do understand that a lot of work has gone into Polihali. Issues like COVID-19 and contractor setbacks slowed things down, but it is pleasing to note that those issues have been resolved and construction is well underway," he said.

For Lesotho, the LHDA says Phase II is more than just a dam. Under its 10-year strategy, the authority aims to improve water and electricity access, conserve ecosystems, and enhance livelihoods while maximising commercial opportunities and good governance.

The first milestone was marked in August 2023 with the diversion of the Senqu River through tunnels, paving the way for the cofferdam and eventual rise of the dam wall.

LHWP is a massive, multi-phase water transfer and hydroelectric power project jointly developed by the governments of Lesotho and South Africa. Conceived in the 1950s but formally agreed upon in 1986 through a treaty, its core purpose is to harness Lesotho's abundant water resources in the Maloti/Drakensberg mountains and deliver water to South Africa's Gauteng province, the country's economic hub, while also generating hydropower for Lesotho.

The project involves building large dams, reservoirs, tunnels, and hydropower stations to divert water from Lesotho's rivers into South Africa's Vaal River System.

It is one of the most ambitious cross-border water schemes in Africa and has been described as a "win-win" project: Lesotho earns royalties and power, while South Africa secures a reliable water supply.

Phase I (completed in 2003) included Katse Dam, Muela Hydropower Station, and Mohale Dam.

Sugary drinks fuel mental health woes among youth

Ntsoaki Motaung

A first-of-its-kind study has found that while relatively few adolescents in Lesotho show signs of mental health or substance use problems, those who do face a staggering treatment gap, with most not receiving any form of care.

The population-based study, one of the first of its kind in a predominantly rural African setting, surveyed 1,351 adolescents aged 10 to 17 in the districts of Mokhotlong and Butha-Butha.

The research, published in the Journal of Research on Adolescence, also found that just three percent of adolescents aged 10 to 17 years met clinical criteria for at least one mental health or substance use problem.

Among older teens, aged 15 to 17, the prevalence rose slightly to five percent. These rates are lower than global averages, which range from six percent to 28 percent, suggesting possible protective factors unique to

Lesotho's social and cultural environment.

"More female than male adolescents reported depressive and PTSD symptoms, while more older adolescents reported anxiety symptoms, as compared to younger adolescents. Moderate to high risk substance use was predominantly reported among male participants and older adolescents," the study read.

"The awareness and treatment gaps among adolescents with clinically relevant mental health or substance use problems were approximately 55 percent and 85 percent, respectively, suggesting that the majority of adolescents are unaware of the severity of their issues and do not access care," it added.

But the study also uncovered worrying gaps in care. Of those identified with a mental health condition, nearly half (45 percent) recognised they needed help, yet only 17 percent actually received care.

That leaves 83 percent without support, underscoring what researchers call an urgent

need for better awareness and services.

The findings highlight the low awareness of mental health needs among young people and their families, as well as limited knowledge of where to seek help.

"Of the three percent of youth who fell within this category, fewer than half recognised the need for treatment, and only 17 percent obtained any care. This gap parallels that among adults in Rwanda, where just six percent of those with mental health problems aware of services actually used them, and in rural Ethiopia, where only 13 percent of adults with alcohol use disorder sought help," the study read.

"Additionally, a recent scoping review in six African countries estimated that only 10 percent of children and adolescents who need mental health care obtain it. Our cascade results align with the wider regional pattern of limited problem recognition and service use, outlining the need for combined demand-and-supply-side strategies to narrow the treatment

gap in Lesotho and other similar settings," it added.

Lifestyle choices were also found to play a role. Consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages was strongly linked to both poor mental health outcomes and substance use, while physical activity showed no clear association with mental wellbeing.

Gender and age differences also emerged: girls were more likely to experience depressive and post-traumatic stress symptoms, while boys were more prone to substance use. Suicidal thoughts and substance use were more common among older adolescents.

While the lower-than-expected prevalence offers a glimmer of hope, researchers warn that urbanization and lifestyle changes could shift the trend upwards if not addressed.

They recommend adolescent-focused, culturally sensitive interventions, with an emphasis on raising awareness and building demand for care.

STARLINK
BUSINESS
BY T-CONNECT

Your Digital Transformation Partner.

We power businesses to grow **without limits** - connecting you to the tools, technology and opportunities that drive success in today's digital economy.

www.tconnect.africa



SCAN TO
KNOW MORE



Lehae Funerals introduces cremation services

Staff Reporter

A new player in the funeral services industry, Lehae Funerals, is set to break new ground by introducing cremation of bodies within Lesotho in a move that could herald a new way of conducting funerals.

The in-country provision of cremation services is expected to put an end to the practice of local mortuaries relying on foreign-based cremation service providers, thereby cutting the costs associated with the trip.

The new funeral parlour, which is a subsidiary of the Alliance Group Investment Holding Company (AGIHC), which houses Alliance Insurance Company among others, was officially launched this week at its head office at Likotsi in Maseru.

Lipuo Sehloho, the Chief Operations Officer (COO) of Lehae Funerals, said at the launch that they officially opened their mortuary in January this year, where bodies are to be cremated once the crematorium is ready.

"We are going to be the first mortuary to provide



cremation services within Lesotho starting from October 2025," she said.

"We are at an advanced stage in setting up the crematorium, and it will be ready to operate by October," she added.

Other products and services offered by Lehae Funerals include repatriation of bodies from neighbouring countries into Lesotho, body handling and funeral preparation, storage facilities, casket sales, tombstones, memorial services, and funeral policies, among others.

Also speaking at the launch, Alliance Insurance's Public Relations and Corporate Communications Manager, Limakatso Mokobocho, said providing both life cover insurance and funeral services under one group would bring convenience to their clients and also simplify the process of making claims.

Despite having been in operation for a short time following its establishment in October 2023, Lehae is well-remembered for delivering a high-profile funeral service for the late music icon, Malome Vector, whose real name is Bokang 'Moleli, in August 2024.

Angus Yeats, the Chief Executive Officer of Alliance Insurance Company, said Lehae Funerals is open to partnering with other service providers in the country to bring services closer to the people.

The company currently operates in Maseru, Mafeteng, Mhales' Hoek, Quthing, Berea, Leribe, Botha Bothe, and Mokhotlong districts through mostly partnering with other mortuaries.

Econet expo showcases tomorrow's digital technologies

Seabata Mahao

Econet Telecom Lesotho (ETL) took centre stage this week with the return of its flagship event, Econet Digital Expo, to drive Lesotho's digital economy.

Held under the theme "Digital First: Shaping Lesotho's Tomorrow," the four-day festival took place at Maseru Mall from August 26 to 29. The closing ceremony is scheduled for this evening, wrapping up what has become Lesotho's largest technology showcase.

Now in its third year, the Econet expo has grown into a major platform for innovation, entrepreneurship, and community engagement. It brings together stakeholders from across sectors to explore how digital technologies can shape Lesotho's economic and social development.

Speaking at the official launch, Lebohang Ramaisa, ETL's General Manager for Sales and Services, emphasised the event's role in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape.

"We are not just launching an event, we are reaffirming our commitment to a connected and prosperous future for Lesotho," Ramaisa said.

"The needs of our customers have evolved and so have we. This Expo is a physical manifestation of our journey from a traditional telecommunications

company to a complete digital services provider."

The expo comes at a crucial time for Lesotho, as the country pushes forward with its National Digital Transformation Strategy. The participation of officials from the Ministry of Communications, Science, and Technology (MCISTT) highlights the collaboration between the government and the private sector in advancing digital innovation.

Ramaisa commended government efforts in laying the groundwork for this shift, citing progress in cybersecurity frameworks, AI policies, and data governance, all vital for building a sustainable digital ecosystem.

A highlight of this year's expo is ETL's nationwide rollout of 5G connectivity, making Lesotho one of the first countries in Africa to deploy the technology across all ten districts.

"While others talk about 5G, we have already made it a reality, delivering minimum speeds of 70Mbps and enabling low-latency services that can power future innovations," Ramaisa declared, drawing applause from the audience.

This milestone positions Lesotho as a continental leader in digital infrastructure, opening opportunities for advanced services in health, education, agriculture, and finance.

Throughout the week, visitors explored various



zones featuring digital innovations such as EcoCash and EcoSure, which continue to drive financial inclusion and job creation with over 10,000 agents and merchants nationwide.

Other attractions included demonstrations of connected living through ETL's Wi-Fi Plus service, tailored digital tools for small businesses and enterprises, as well as gaming and digital entertainment that proved a major hit with youth and digital creatives.

New product offerings were also unveiled, including Unlimited Wi-Fi Plus for high-speed internet at home and in the office, OmniVoice as a unified voice platform for modern business communication, EcoTicket as a seamless digital ticketing solution, and upgrades to EcoCash for faster and safer transactions.

Cybersecurity has also been a central theme, with partners such as Fortinet and Hitachi engaging attendees on how to protect their digital lives.

"We understand the cyber risks that come with digital expansion," said Ramaisa. "That is why we have brought in the best to help our customers stay informed and protected."

On her part, Puleng 'Mathabo Masoabi, Econet's Acting General Manager for Marketing Communications and Customer Experience, said the Expo represents more than just a corporate showcase.

"Whether you are a young coder, a student, an aspiring entrepreneur, or a business leader, this Expo is your playground of possibilities. It is a space where Basotho can experience and engage with the innovations that are shaping our collective future," Masoabi said.

TSEBISO TSEBISO TSEBISO

Mona ke tsebisiso ea hore re le litho tsa mokhatlo oa Lesotho Universities and Colleges Sports Association, re lahlehetsoe ke tokomane ea molao theo oa mokhatlo . Nomoro ea ngolisoe ke 2018/95.

'Me re kopa mang kapa mange a ka tholang molao theo kapa a ka bang le khanyetso ea taba tsena a itlalehe liatreseng tsena, nakong ea libeke tse tharo ka mora phatlalatso ena.

Ofisi ea Mongoli Kakaretso
Government Complex
Pela Maseru District Hospital

P O Box 33
Maseru 100
Lesotho Sport and Recreation Commission
House 186 Cenez road

P O Box 138
Maseru 100
Email : admin@lsrc.org.ls

ESTATE NOTICE

ESTATE OF LATE MAKATLEHO MPHATSOE

Notice Is hereby given in terms of section (44) of the Administration of Estates and Inheritance Act No.2024 that all persons having claims against the deceased or Estate to submit their claims within thirty (30) days of the publication of this notice. The claim can be submitted to the Executrix, Katleho Mphatsoe at Tsikoane, Leribe.

Her Contact details are 62672365.

DATED AT MASERU ON THIS 25TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025

LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER COMMISSION

CANCELLATION NOTICE

Tender for Provision of External Audit Services for Three Financial Years 2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28

The Lesotho Highlands Water Commission (LHWC) hereby notifies all interested parties that the advert issued for the Provision of External Audit Services for the financial years 2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28, published in the following newspapers between 16-30 March 2025 has been cancelled:

- Lesotho Times Newspaper;
- Sunday Express Newspaper;
- The Post Newspaper;
- Newsday Newspaper;
- Business Day Newspaper; and
- Sunday Times Newspaper

A new advertisement for the same service will be issued in due course. All prospective service providers, including those who responded to the cancelled advert, are encouraged to re-apply once the new tender notice has been published.

The LHWC regrets any inconvenience caused by this cancellation.



Newsday
Health

Unresolved village health workers' issues haunt govt

Ntsoaki Motaung

Nearly three years after a government promise, the Ministry of Health is still grappling with ensuring that Village Health Workers (VHWs) are paid regularly.

In December 2022, during World AIDS Day commemorations at Bethany Health Centre in Berea, the Minister of Health, Selibe Mochoboroane, pledged to resolve the financial challenges affecting VHWs.

Mochoboroane promised that arrears would be settled by the end of that year and that from April 2023, workers would begin receiving monthly payments “like any other civil servant.”

He, at the time, emphasised that addressing VHWs’ concerns was one of his priorities, noting that management meetings were being held weekly to push the matter forward.

However, almost three years later, the issue remains unresolved. The Ministry’s Principal Secretary (PS), Maneo Moliehi Ntene, con-

firmed that the workers’ grievances have not yet been fully addressed.

“If ever we had a budget, we would have already been done with the process and village health workers would be having what they requested,” Ntene said.

She explained that while the Ministry has completed internal processes and sought funding from the Ministry of Finance, budgetary constraints remain a stumbling block.

She added that the Ministry has decided to comply with a court order directing it to formalise VHWs’ employment.

“We need them, and we have no objection to the court order because we understand the conditions and environment they work under. Once they receive what they have asked for, our responsibility will be to monitor them and ensure that everyone performs their duties effectively. However, it would be unfair to demand accountability without improving their working conditions. We must also provide clear terms of engagement so that they remain

fully committed,” she added.

The Director of Human Resources in the Ministry of Health, Lisebo Mohololi, said they had met with representatives of the village health workers to discuss the way forward.

“After the meeting, we wrote to the finance department, which directed us to begin the process with the Public Service. That’s where we encountered challenges, because if the village health workers are absorbed into the public service, many would be excluded due to the age limit. This goes against their wish to maintain their current employment terms so that no one is left out, while still receiving increased allowances as requested,” Mohololi said.

She added: “We also considered requesting a revision of the court order, particularly the part requiring that they be regarded as civil servants. That condition compels us to go through the Public Service, where the age restriction would apply.”

Mohololi further stated that a deed of settlement has now been drafted and is awaiting

the Principal Secretary’s signature, after which the ministry will approach the finance department for funding.

Chairman of the Social Cluster Portfolio Committee, Mokhothu Makhalanye, emphasised that as the ministry works to resolve the matter, it must ensure that all actions comply with the law.

The Secretary General of the Lesotho Workers’ Association (LEWA), Hlalefang Seoaholimo, noted that the Ministry of Health’s efforts were at an advanced stage. Speaking on behalf of the village health workers, Seoaholimo expressed appreciation for the ministry’s commitment.

He said they were now waiting for the ministry to conclude discussions with finance so that a final agreement could be signed and the court order implemented.

He highlighted that the court ruling simply required that village health workers be recognised as employees of the Ministry of Health and be entitled to the relevant benefits.



LAND
ADMINISTRATION
AUTHORITY

TERMS OF REFERENCE
ENGAGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE WELLNESS SPECIALIST

The Land Administration Authority (LAA) is an Agency of the Government of Lesotho, under the Minister of Local Government and Chieftainship. The LAA was established as an autonomous government body by the Land Administration Authority Act No. 9 of 2010 to reduce land transaction costs as well as turnaround time for registration of the transactions. More specifically, the LAA administers the lease-holding land system (leasehold title, grant of consents for transactions and keep all land holding records) administers the land deeds registration system administers cadastral surveys and all national spatial data provides dispute resolution services for land matters and advises the Minister of Local Government and Chieftainship and the Government of Lesotho on land administration laws and policies.

Engagement of Employee Wellness Specialist	Objective
The LAA is seeking to services of Wellness Specialist to assist in the implementation, and management of its comprehensive employee wellness program that promotes the health and well-being of our employees.	<p>The employee wellness program for the LAA aims to foster a positive work environment, reduce stress, improve employee engagement and improve overall productivity. It is further intends to provide the financial health, psychological, and social wellness.</p> <p>The primary objective of this engagement is to improve the mental and emotional health of employees by executing and managing a tailored wellness program that includes preventive healthcare, mental health support and healthy lifestyle promotion.</p>

Scope of Work	
<p>The Wellness Specialist will be responsible for the following:</p> <p>Program Design & Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assess employee mental health needs and interests.Develop a comprehensive mental health program tailored to the specific needs of the workforce.Provide recommendations for wellness activities.Coordinate the execution of mental health program activities and events. <p>Health and Wellness Assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conduct surveys, focus groups, or interviews to gather insights on employee wellness needs.Analyze employee health trends and provide actionable insights to the management team.Provide group counselling services for LAA staff.Provide individual counselling sessions for staff on referral.	<p>Monitoring & Evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop a system for tracking employee participation and feedback.Measure the success of the wellness program through surveys, interviews, and health outcomes.Provide regular progress reports to management. <p>Duration of Engagement</p> <p>The Employee Wellness Specialist will be engaged for initial period of one (1) years with possibility of extension for one more year.</p> <p>Deliverables</p> <p>The Employee Wellness Specialist is expected to deliver the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A detailed employee wellness program plan entailing all aspects namely mental health support and healthy lifestyle.Provide monthly reports on program participation, activities conducted and overall progress.Evaluation report on the lessons of the wellness program after a period of six (6) months.

Qualifications:	
<p>The Consultant OR any of the key team members must possess the following qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Master's Degree in Counselling Psychology or Clinical Psychology.Proven experience in designing and implementing wellness (mental health programs), within a corporate environment.Proof of registration with the Medical Council of Lesotho.Strong communication and presentation skills.Ability to assess employee needs and tailor solutions accordingly.Certification(s) in wellness coaching, health promotion, or related fields (optional but preferred).	<p>Financial proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Well and thoroughly itemised costs for the implementation of the projectMost recent audited financial statements <p>Confidentiality & Data Protection</p> <p>The Employee Wellness Program Specialist shall ensure the confidentiality of all sensitive employee information obtained during the course of the engagement, including but not limited to health assessments, survey data, and personal details.</p>

Reporting & Supervision	
<p>Reporting & Supervision</p> <p>The Employee Wellness Program Specialist will report to the Human Resources and Administration Manager (HRAM) and will coordinate all activities with the Human Resources Officer. Regular check-ins will occur to ensure the program is aligned with the company's objectives.</p>	<p>Application Process:</p> <p>Interested candidates should submit the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Resume/CV of resource persons.Proposal for the wellness program (including methodology, estimated timelines, and costs).Three references letters from previous employers or clients.

Evaluation Criteria											
<p>All proposal offers received shall be evaluated based on the following phase out approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Phase one: Compliance to the terms of reference and conditions of the proposal. Failure to meet any of the conditions of the proposal will automatically disqualify your proposal on this phase.Phase two: Preference points on specific goals as follows. <table><thead><tr><th>Technical Criteria</th><th>80</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Approach/Methodology to the excise.</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>Ability to meet objectives.</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><th>Finances</th><th>20</th></tr><tr><td>TOTAL</td><td>100</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>Price (Vat included)</p> <p>The Financial Proposal must be inclusive of VAT</p>	Technical Criteria	80	Approach/Methodology to the excise.	40	Ability to meet objectives.	40	Finances	20	TOTAL	100	<p>Submission of quotations:</p> <p>The bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked as confidential and for the attention of Tender for Employee Wellness Program - Bids must be deposited in the Tender Box located in Maseru: Land Administration Authority (LAA), Lerotholi Road Maseru. It remains the onus of the service provider to ensure that their Tender Offer reaches the LAA office no later than the closing date and time</p> <p>Closing date and time: 22nd September 2025 at 12:00 NOON.</p> <p>Opening date and time: 22nd September 2025 at 12:30 NOON.</p> <p>No late bids will be accepted.</p> <div><p>10. For procurement matters, please contact:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms. Rethabile SebataneAdministration Officerrethabile.sebatane@laa.org.ls+266 2221 4100 / 128/164</div>
Technical Criteria	80										
Approach/Methodology to the excise.	40										
Ability to meet objectives.	40										
Finances	20										
TOTAL	100										



Newsday Interview

EU Ambassador Amadei reflects on a meaningful tenure in Lesotho

The European Union (EU) Ambassador to Lesotho, Paola Amadei, says her tenure has been meaningful for the country. As her tour of duty comes to an end, she sat down with Newsday journalist Thoboloko Ntšonyane to reflect on the EU's work in Lesotho and how the Delegation, in partnership with the government and other stakeholders, has implemented programs impacting many Basotho, especially in underserved communities. She also shared her thoughts on the importance of fostering synergies between the government, international organisations, and civil society.

Below is an excerpt from the interview.

Thoboloko Ntšonyane (TN): Looking back on your journey as EU Ambassador to Lesotho, how would you describe your tour of duty?

Paola Amadei (PA): It went by so fast, never a dull moment. I enjoyed every bit of it, even amid unavoidable challenges. I am confident that I did my utmost to serve both the EU's and Lesotho's interests.

TN: You led a dedicated team at the EU office that helped realise the EU's mandate. What are you most proud of?

PA: Indeed, the Delegation team, composed in equal parts of EU and Lesotho professionals, is a great asset not only for each EU Ambassador to Lesotho but, more importantly, for the country. My colleagues are deeply committed to delivering results and strengthening relationships. This also extends to the wider Team Europe, which includes embassies of EU member states accredited to Lesotho. They are all keen to maintain and expand relations beyond traditional development cooperation, seeking opportunities for trade, investment, mutual growth, and enhanced partnerships at the multilateral level.

Although the Delegation flies the EU flag alone in Maseru, I always felt the strength of Team Europe's support and solidarity. I am proud that the EU Delegation has brought Europe, in all its diversity, a little closer to Lesotho. Initiatives such as the European Film Festival may seem small, but they tangibly showcase EU creativity, foster mutual understanding, promote local creators, and encourage cultural exchange.

I also hope that the recent extension of the visa waiver to all EU citizens will encourage more visits to Lesotho and open new channels of interaction at all levels.

We have had many opportunities to highlight the EU's contribution in

the water, energy, and governance sectors. Seeing remote communities access safe water, sanitation, sustainable energy, and public administration services remains a major milestone for the EU in Lesotho, and for me personally.

TN: I imagine it was not always a smooth ride. What were some of the challenges you and your team faced in implementing EU programmes with government and community partners?

PA: It is always a challenge to translate commitments and shared values into concrete actions. During my mandate in Lesotho, this was very true. Lesotho and the EU share values and principles, but the question is always: how do we put them into practice? I am glad that under the Energy Pledge, the EU and Lesotho are partnering to increase sustainable energy production and efficiency. This is more than just words; it aims at a common target that benefits both the planet and our citizens.

Equally, Lesotho and the EU are united in condemning Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and in seeking a just peace with the necessary security guarantees. For some, the conflict may feel remote, but it has direct impacts on Lesotho, from higher food prices to the weakening of the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty on which small states depend for survival.

In implementing programmes, we worked tirelessly to respect deadlines, uphold standards, and follow rules so that final beneficiaries could see results. We owe this accountability both to EU taxpayers and to the people of Lesotho. At times, this clashed with a *laissez-faire* attitude, or worse, with individuals putting personal interests first. Fortunately, we were able to overcome such obstacles and deliver results.

TN: You facilitated Basotho's participation in the European Union Visitors Programme (EUV), including MPs, a Principal Secretary, and journalists. Why was this important?

PA: The EU runs many programmes aimed at bringing people of the EU and partner countries closer together. I am very fond of the EUVP, of which you yourself were a beneficiary, because it gives visitors the chance to engage directly with European institutions and the people behind them. It allows participants to form their own impressions and make their own judgments.

Each programme is tailor-made:

journalists meet colleagues and communication experts, while MPs meet peers and attend sessions. The programme is intense, ensuring maximum exposure in a short time. We are now eagerly awaiting to see if another Mosotho will be selected in the next round of applications.

TN: You arrived when Lesotho was embarking on its reform process and are leaving just after the 10th Amendment to the Constitution was passed. Can we expect the EU to continue supporting reforms, given that at one stage it withdrew its support?

PA: The EU responded to the government's call at the start of the reform process, funding the preparatory phase to ensure it was inclusive and thorough. Once draft bills reached Parliament, it was time for the EU to step back and leave space for Lesotho's democratic institutions.

However, the EU has never stopped supporting the principles underpinning the reforms, namely inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, and fairness. Our programmes continue to advance these values in partnership with our counterparts. For example, under the Inclusive Lesotho programme launched in May, civic education is being promoted to help citizens better understand and exercise their rights. This is just one example among many.

TN: Your work has taken you from cities to some of the country's most remote villages. What will you remember most about Basotho?

PA: I wouldn't say I was forced to travel the country, I was eager to do so. Being on the ground allowed me to witness both the needs and the impact of EU support. It was immensely rewarding. Everywhere I went, I was struck by the generosity and openness of the people. Communities organised warm welcomes, offered delicious meals, and sang beautiful songs. The spirit of King Moshoeshoe lives on in the hospitality with which Basotho embrace visitors.

TN: The EU has worked not only with the government but also with partners like UNDP and UNICEF. Why is partnership so central to your work?

PA: EU support is ultimately aimed at the people of Lesotho, especially the most vulnerable, ensuring no one is left behind. To do this effectively, we work with government institutions, civil society, UN agencies, EU member states, and others.

For example, children's courts were built and equipped through

cooperation with the Chief Justice's office, UNICEF, and World Vision. The Inclusive Lesotho programme involves the Independent Electoral Commission, the Ministry of Education, UNDP, International IDEA, and local CSOs. Our support for Renoka and for market access programmes is implemented by GIZ, which also channels German government resources. These partnerships bring in the necessary expertise to deliver the best results.

TN: Recently, we saw you in Maseru's Hoek and Botha-Bothe handing over decentralised Ombudsman offices. Why was this important?

PA: Decentralisation is a priority for Lesotho's institutions, and the EU is glad to support it. It is not an abstract concept but a concrete way of bringing services closer to citizens. The Ombudsman's decentralisation had been planned for years but lacked resources. Even small offices mark a first step and signal the State's willingness to be present where citizens need services.

In the coming months, my successor will inaugurate new decentralised offices for the DCEO in the same towns, as well as Legal Aid offices in three other districts.

TN: The EU has supported Lesotho across many sectors, from water and energy to justice and reforms. How do you ensure return on investment?

PA: Accountability mechanisms are built into every programme, regardless of size or implementation method. They ensure that activities are delivered as planned, cost-effectively and transparently. Strengthening oversight institutions such as the Auditor General and the DCEO has been key in ensuring that public services and donor-supported programmes, are properly monitored.


Finally, the media play a vital role in holding institutions accountable, ensuring that results are sustainable over time.

TN: What message do you have for your successor?

PA: Mette Sunnergren, the designated Ambassador, is an experienced and committed professional with a keen interest in Lesotho. I wish her the best of success and trust she will enjoy the full support of all her Lesotho counterparts.

TN: Your parting words?

PA: Time is short, so I will not be able to say goodbye and thank everyone personally. Allow me to use your newspaper to express my gratitude to all those I met during my journey in Lesotho—you made this experience truly memorable.



PETROLEUM FUND.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES (PF/RFP/2025/2026-06)

The Petroleum Fund (referred herein as the Fund) is a statutory organisation under the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, which was established through Legal Notice No. 96 of 1997 under the Finance Order of 1988.

The organisation is further delegated, under the Fuel and Services Control (Delegation Notice) Number 32 of 2021, the powers to set the price and time at which Petroleum Products may be adjusted. It is managed by the Board of Directors, while day-to-day activities are administered by the Secretariat, headed by the Chief Executive Officer, and its operations are guided by the Lesotho (Petroleum Fund) Regulations of 2021.

The Fund invites proposals from suitably qualified and experienced Property Management firms to manage the Petroleum Fund Headquarters and ensure the efficient and cost-effective operations, maintenance, safety and security, marketing and management of sub-lease agreements.

Interested, eligible bidders may obtain the Terms of Reference upon payment of a non-refundable fee of M1000.00 into the Fund's bank account below:

Bank Name: – Nedbank

Account Holder: – Petroleum Fund

Account No: 021000028317


Branch: Kingsway

The tender documents will be available at the Petroleum Fund offices from **Friday, 22nd August 2025**.

Interested Service Providers are required to attend a compulsory pre-bid meeting on the **9th of September 2025 at 10:00 hrs** at the Petroleum Fund offices. Requests for clarifications should be made in writing on or before **14:00hrs on Thursday, the 11th of September 2025**, to the following e-mail address: supplier@petroleum.org.ls.

The Proposals must be submitted in sealed packages clearly marked **‘PF/ RFP/2025/2026-06 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES’**, containing Technical Proposals and Financial Proposals sealed in separate envelopes. The deadline for submission of proposals is Thursday, the 25th of September 2025, by 12:00hrs, to be followed by a public opening of Technical Proposals at **12:15hrs** on the same day. Hard copy proposals must be delivered to the following address:

Petroleum Fund LCCI Building
Orpen Road, Old Europa
Maseru 100
Tel. (+266) 22312137
Online submissions may be made by sending encrypted Technical and Financial proposals to supplier@petroleum.org.ls by the set deadline.



Government of Lesotho

Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition

Invitation for Bids

Supply and delivery of Agricultural Machinery and Equipment.

1. The Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho intends to improve Agricultural service delivery. Therefore, part of the proceeds will be utilized on eligible payments resulting from the procurement of the above.

2. The Principal Secretary now invites sealed bids from interested bidders for the **Supply and Delivery of Agricultural Machinery and Equipment**.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the following address:
Procurement Unit
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security & Nutrition
Corner Constitution and Linare Roads
Maseru 100, Lesotho
Tel: (+266) 22322741

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **(M 5,000.00)** Five Thousand Maloti only. The method of payment must be payable at Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition. Bidding document will be available from **Tuesday 02nd September 2025**.

3. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **October 02nd, 2025** at 12:00 noon. Late bids will be rejected. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of **M 20, 000.00** in the form of a bank guarantee or irrevocable/assurance letter of credit valid for thirty (30) days beyond the validity of the bid. As appears in the bid data sheet.


4. It is mandatory for bidders to submit

the following valid documents: (a) Tax Clearance Certificates; (b) Trader's License, (c) Certificate of Bona Fide Bidding, Bid Security, and a completed bid form. These documents [especially (a) and (b)] shall either be originals or certified copies from the source. **Non- compliance with this requirement may invalidate a bid.**

5. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 14:30hrs on Thursday, **October 02nd, 2025** at the address given below:
Board Room
Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security & Nutrition
Corner Constitution & Linare Roads, Maseru 100, Lesotho.

6. Bidders shall ensure that the envelopes containing their bids are properly addressed as indicated under ITB above and are clearly marked "Supply and Delivery of Agricultural Machinery and Equipment" GOL/G004/2025/26. Envelopes should not bear the identification of the bidder.

7. **Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition also reserves the right to cancel the tender before submission or opening of the tenders, postpone the tender submission or opening date and accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid.**



Revenue Services

Lesotho

Tender Notice

Tendering: Reference: [RSL/BE/SCM/02/08/25](#)

‘Supply, Installation and Configuration of Cybersecurity Awareness Platform’

The Revenue Services Lesotho invites qualified and competent original manufacturers (not resellers) specializing in the supply, installation and configuration of Cybersecurity Awareness Platform to submit proposals for **“Supply, Installation and Configuration of Cybersecurity Awareness Platform”**. The bidder must be ready to deliver the work upon the award of the tender. The successful bidder will be expected train the RSL staff members who will be administering and using the platform. All potential Bidders must be in possession of a proven track record and must be licensed for providing services of this nature.

All bidders must attach certified copies of valid Tax Clearance Certificates, company registration licenses, copy of shareholding certificates, and the most recent annual financial statements for RSL to assess the financial strength and capability of the bidder to carry out the assignment. Bids without these required minimum documents shall be disqualified.

The detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) document indicating all requirements and specifications shall, upon request, be sent through email from the **25th August 2025 @ 10:00 am**. Interested entities shall contact Supply Chain Management office **through the email** stated below.

Terms and Conditions:

1. Tender documents will be available at a non-refundable tender deposit of **M500.00**.

2. The price quoted in the Bids must be in Maloti/Rand and must include all applicable taxes and duties.

3. The Bids must be submitted not later than **12:00 hours** on the **10th October 2025**

and they shall be opened same day at **12:30 hours**.

4. Tenders received later than the above-mentioned deadline shall not be accepted.


5. Non- electronic tenders shall not be accepted; and

Detailed tender packaging and labelling requirements in the Request for Proposal (RFP) must be adhered to or this shall lead to **disqualification**.

1. **Important indicative dates:**

NO	Event	Date
1.	Issue RFP	25 August 2025
2.	Pre-bidding meeting (virtual)	18 September 2025 @1000hrs
3.	Final date to submit written questions only (email format)	25 September 2025 @1700hrs
4.	Distribution of final questions and answers (email format)	30 September 2025 @1700hrs
5.	Final date for submission of Bidder proposals in response to the RFP	10 October 2025 @1200hrs
6.	Public opening of the bids	10 October 2025 @1230hrs

All tenders/ queries must be addressed to: The Secretary – Tender Adjudication Committee Revenue Services Lesotho at this e-mail address: supplychainmanagement@rsl.org.ls



LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER COMMISSION

TENDER NOTICE

PROVISION OF ANNUAL EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES FOR THREE FINANCIAL YEARS (2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28)

The Lesotho Highlands Water Commission (LHWC), established under the 1986 Treaty between the Governments of Lesotho and South Africa, is responsible for overseeing the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP), advising both governments, and serving as a communication channel beyond the LHWP.

LHWC invites bids from reputable firms registered in Lesotho and South Africa for the provision of Annual External Audit Services for three consecutive financial years ending **31st March 2026, 31st March 2027, and 31st March 2028**.

Submission of Bids

Sealed bids, clearly marked **“Tender for the Provision of LHWC Annual External Audit Services (2026–2028)”**, with no identifying details of the bidder on the envelope, should be delivered to:

Commission Secretary
Lesotho Highlands Water Commission
5th Floor, Standard Lesotho Bank Tower
Maseru 100, Lesotho
Bidders from South Africa should courier their bids to the above address.
Submission Deadline: 30th September 2025, no later than noon (local time).

Eligibility and Requirements

Interested bidders must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Be a registered and accredited auditing firm in Lesotho or South Africa.
- Demonstrate experience in conducting external audits for similar organizations.
- Comply with relevant international auditing and accounting standards.
- Provide company registration documents, professional certifications, and three (3) references from previous clients.

Enquiries

For further information or clarifications, please contact: sec@lhwc.org.ls



Government of Lesotho
MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

TENDER NOTICE

Tender number: **MTIBD /001/2025-2026**
The Ministry of Trade and Industry invites tenders from suitably registered Security Firms for provision of security services required at its premises at the Ministry of Trade and Industry Headquarters LNDC and Maputsoe, all armed security guards that will be contracted for the next three financial years; 2025/2026, 2026/2027, 2027/2028.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Provide proven means of communication, e.g. Security Guards must have a two-way radio and cell phones.
2. The personnel of the prospective successful company must be fully armed with guns for all offices' premises.
3. Show that it has adequate (at least one vehicle) capacity for efficient and effective mode of transport that would enable them to attend to emergencies
4. Attach Police (LIMPS) certified copies of valid licenced firearms
5. The security personnel must wear uniform at all times, day and night
6. The security firm should take full responsibility for any theft or damage to Trade, Industry, and Business Development property arising out of the negligence of its personnel.
7. Provide certified copy of proof of insurance covering the Company's employees.
8. The security firm must have a minimum experience of three years in operation.
9. Provide at least three reference letters from recent clientele.
10. Completed certificate of attendance
11. The Security personnel should be able to read, write and speak Sesotho and English

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Copy of a valid Tax Clearance Certificate
 2. Certified (at source) copy of Registration certificate
 3. Certified (at source) copy of VAT registration
 4. Certified (at source) copy of Two-way radio licence from Lesotho Communications Authority.
- Completed tender documents written in English will be obtainable from the Procurement office at Level 2,

during working hours. The tender document will be available from **18th August 2025 to 31st August 2025**. Site inspection will be conducted from the following dates;

LOCATION	DATE	TIME
MTIBD head-quarters - LNDC Maseru	02/09/2025	11 :00am
MTIBD -Ma-putsoe - Maputsoe	03/09/2025	11:30am

Tenders must be submitted in **four (4) copies** and **one (1) original** in a sealed envelope, bearing no identification of the bidder, must be deposited in the Ministry's Tender Box placed on the 2nd floor, LNDC, Shoprite Building Kingsway, Maseru in a sealed envelope marked **"PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT"** on or before **11:00 am on 19 th September 2025**. No electronic copies will be permitted. Late tenders will not be accepted. Tenders will be opened on the same date, **12th September 2025 at 11:30am** in the boardroom of the Ministry at 2nd floor, Shoprite Building, LNDC, Kingsway Street, Maseru.

Interested bidders are expected to be legally registered and to comply with their tax obligations. To prove compliance, they must attach valid certified copies of registration certificate and valid tax clearance and traders licence. Source tax will be deducted. All prices charged should include VAT where applicable.

The Government of Lesotho reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders for reasons that may be advanced.

All tenders must be delivered to:
The Secretary of Tender Panel
Ministry of Trade, Industry and Business Development
Level 2, Shoprite Building, LNDC
Kingsway Street, Maseru



Government of Lesotho
Tender Notice
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSIONER OF WATER

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Introduction

Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) through its Department of Commissioner of Water received funds from Government of Lesotho to procure consultant to develop a comprehensive natural resources policy that will detail government policy towards various sectors of the natural resources.

Desired Skills and qualifications

Following the assessment and understanding of the current prevailing situation within government about management of the natural resources, that includes existing policies and the institutional arrangements, the consultant will utilize the information gathered to develop a comprehensive natural resources policy that will detail government policy towards various sectors of natural resources.

Scope of Work

The scope of work of this consultancy involves making a review of all government policies that relate to management of natural resources which form thematic areas in this assignment through their assessment of the current situation.

The consultant will asses the policies belonging to the following sectors: Water and Sanitation, Environment, Range management, Soil and water conservation, Fisheries, Forestry and Land Use Planning. Consultations will be made with the Ministries and Departments responsible for the listed sectors and any others that the consultant may deem relevant owing to the nature of their work. The Consultant is expected to undertake the following activities:

- Mapping of the key stakeholders dealing with the natural resources.
- Conducting an assessment of the existing policies on various natural resources in the country as part of the situational analysis.
- Assessing institutional arrangements for management of the natural resources in the country.

Arrange and conduct consultative meetings with different sectors dealing with natural resources. Interested firms must provide all necessary infor-

mation and credentials including, technical and financial Proposals , list of Clients, highlights of similar assignments, projects undertaken as lead firm.

Applications may be addressed to; The Procurement Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources, Bokamoso Business Suit, Orpen Road, and Opposite Centre for Accounting Studies Maseru.
Tel: 27325160

Terms of Reference Issuance and Submission

The Terms of Reference document is issued on the **25 July 2025, and closes on the 03 September 2025 at 10:00am**. The closing date for collecting document is **Friday 22nd August 2025, at 4:00pm**. To register for this RFP, Consultancy Firms have to pay a non-refundable fee of **M500** to Department of Rural Water Supply Head Office (DRWS), Accounts Office from **Friday 25 July, 2025 until Friday 22 August, 2025**. The method of payment is cash. Consultancy firms must produce the receipt obtained from accounts to procurement Unit at the (DRWS) in order to receive the documents.

The MNR therefore invites competent consultancy firms to compete for this RFP.

RFP Opening

RFP documents will be opened by the Ministry of Natural Resources Procurement Committee on the **03 September, 2025 at 10:30am** in the presence of bidders or their representatives who wish to attend at the following address: Ministry of Natural Resources, Bokamoso House, Orpen Road, and Opposite Centre for Accounting Studies Maseru

Clarifications and Contacts

All questions and clarifications relating to this RFP should be directed to The Procurement Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources, Bokamoso House, Orpen Road, and Opposite Centre for Accounting Studies Maseru. Tel: 27325160



Road Fund

TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF
2026 PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS
Tender Reference Number: RF/2025/G04

1. Background and requirements:

The Road Fund Secretariat invites proposals from suitably qualified companies with the capacity to design, supply and deliver 2026 Calendars, Diaries and Notebooks. The specifications are provided in table 1 below:

Table 1:

Item Number	Item description	Quantity	Lot number
1.	A2 Desk Planner Calendar	400	1
2.	A5 Desk Tent Calendar	400	1
3.	A2 Wall Calendar	2000	1
4.	A4 Customised Diaries	250	2
5.	A5 Customised Notebooks	250	2

Bidders are liberty to bid for any lot or both lots.

Other requirements:

- Bidders must be compliant with their tax and licensing obligations; hence a valid and relevant company Tax Clearance and a valid and relevant Trader's License/Business Identity card must be submitted;
- Bidders are expected to deliver within a maximum period of **Four (4) weeks** from receiving the official purchase order;
- All bids must be accompanied by bid security of 2% of bidder's own bid amount and must be in the form of a bank guarantee.

2. Request for Clarifications: Request for clarifications may be send in writing to procurement@roadfund.org.ls on or before **26th September 2025**.

3. Detailed tender document is available at the Road Fund website www.roadfund.org.ls

Submission:

Sealed bids clearly marked **"Supply and deliver 2026 promotional materials Ref: RF/2025/G04"** bearing no identification of the bidder should be deposited in the tender box located at the reception area at the address in clause 4 below; on or before **Friday, 3rd October 2025 at 15:00 hrs**. Public tender opening will be held on the same day at **15:15 hrs**. The address referred to for submission and opening of bids is as indicated in clause 4 below.

4.The address referred to in clause 3 above for bid submission and opening is:
Road Fund offices located at Former Department of Rural Roads Building,
Corner Moshoeshoe & Senate Roads,
Industrial Area, Maseru.



Road Fund

TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF
WALL MOUNT BANNER
Tender Reference Number: RF/2025/G03

1. Background and requirements:

The Road Fund Secretariat invites proposals from suitably qualified companies with the capacity to supply and install a Wall Mount Banner. The Banner is to be used to cover a building, the specification is provided below:

Table 1:

Item Number	Item description	Quantity
1	Wall Mount Banner (30m x 12m)	1

Other requirements:

- Bidders must be compliant with their tax and licensing obligations; hence a valid and relevant company Tax Clearance and a valid and relevant Trader's License/Business Identity card must be submitted;
- Bidders are expected to deliver within a maximum period of **Four (4) weeks** from receiving the official purchase order;
- All bids must be accompanied by bid security of 2% of bidder's own bid amount and must be in the form of a bank guarantee.

2. Mandatory site visit and bidders' conference: A combined mandatory site visit and bidders' conference will be held at **11:00am on the 11th September 2025** at Road Fund offices located at Former Department of Rural Roads Building, Corner Moshoeshoe & Senate Roads, Industrial Area, Maseru.

3. Request for Clarifications: Request for clarifications may be send in writing to procurement@roadfund.org.ls on or before **26th September 2025**.

4. Detailed tender document is available at the Road Fund website www.roadfund.org.ls

Submission:

Sealed bids clearly marked **"Supply and installation of Wall Mount Banner Ref: RF/2025/G03"** bearing no identification of the bidder should be deposited in the tender box located at the reception area at the address in clause 5 below; on or before **Friday, 3rd October 2025 at 15:00 hrs**. Public tender opening will be held on the same day at **15:15 hrs**. The address referred to for submission and opening of bids is as indicated in clause 2.



Government of Lesotho
Tender Notice
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Water Affairs

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Groundwater Hydrocensus in Lesotho (Lot 1)

Introduction

Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) through its Department of Water Affairs received funds from Government of Lesotho to procure consultant for the execution of a Groundwater Hydro-census activity nationwide, (Lot1) and River Longitudinal profile and Cross-Sectional Surveys, River Ratings within the three main Catchments. (Lot2) and Community and Stakeholder Engagement in areas around Wetland Areas and Natural Springs Declared as Protected Water Resources .(Lot 3) Therefore invites qualified and experienced consultancy firms to submit their proposal for the execution of a Groundwater Hydrocensus activity nationwide and River Longitudinal profile and Cross-Sectional Surveys, and River Ratings within the three main Catchments.

Scope of Work for Groundwater Hydro-census activity

The scope of work includes identification, verification, characterization and capturing groundwater monitoring points (boreholes and springs) and individuals geolocation. SECTION B: Objectives This project aims to: - Collect and update information on groundwater sources. - Establish a comprehensive digital registry of all identified groundwater point

Objectives

This project aims to: - Collect and update information on groundwater sources. - Establish a comprehensive digital registry of all identified groundwater points. - Support planning for groundwater monitoring and management

Scope of Work

The successful bidder will be expected to undertake the following:

- i. Desktop Review and Preparation - Review existing hydrogeological maps, borehole data, and spring inventories. - Identify target areas for field verification and census.
- ii. Field Data Collection (Hydrocensus) Locate and verify existing groundwater sources: - Boreholes (equipped/unequipped) - Springs (protected/unprotected) - Groundwater monitoring points (e.g., piezometers) - Record GPS coordinates (in decimal degrees), physical characteristics, spring yield tests (where possible), usage type, status (functional/nonfunctional), and ownership. - Conduct basic water quality testing insitu water quality testing. - Water sample collection for analysis at DWA laboratory
- iii. Community and Stakeholder Engagement - The consultant is expected to work with all Local Authorities/Community Councils during the execution of the project. - Ensure community knowledge of water resources management is incorporated.
- iv. Database Development and Integration - Design and populate a geospatial database (compatible with the existing systems) and maps - Submit data in formats agreed upon (e.g. shapefiles, etc.)

River Longitudinal profile and Cross-Sectional Surveys, and River Ratings within the three main Catchments. (Lot2)

Objectives of the Assignment

The main objective of this consultancy is to conduct detailed hydrometric surveys, develop updated cross-sectional and longitudinal profiles of selected rivers, and generate reliable river rating curves to improve discharge estimation at excising gauging stations as well as for proposed gauging sites.

Scope of Work

The consultancy will undertake the following tasks:

3.1 Preliminary Assessment and Planning

- 3.1.1 Review existing hydrological data, station records, and previous survey reports.
- 3.1.2 Select Priority Rivers and stations in collaboration with DWA.

3.2Field Surveys

- 3.2.1 Conduct cross-sectional surveys at each selected gauging station using standard equipment (e.g., Total Station, Real-Time Kinematic Global Positioning System (RTK-GPS), and Acoustic Doppler Current Profile (ADCP)).
- 3.2.2 Perform longitudinal surveys covering approximately 1–2 km upstream and downstream from the station to capture reach variability.

- 3.2.3 Identify hydraulic controls, floodplain characteristics, and obstructions.

3.3 River Rating Development

- 3.3.1 Conduct manual discharge measurements at different flow levels where possible.
- 3.3.2 Compile historical stage-discharge data for curve fitting.
- 3.3.3 Develop or revise rating curves using appropriate hydraulic and statistical methods (e.g., power law regression, Manning’s equation, HEC-RAS modelling).

3.4 Capacity Building

- 3.4.1 Provide training to DWA staff on hydrometric survey techniques and rating curve development.
- 3.4.2 Prepare simplified field protocols and survey manuals.

3.5 Reporting

- 3.5.1 Submit a comprehensive technical report with:
 - 3.5.1.1 Survey data (coordinates, elevations, river profiles)

and Community and Stakeholder Engagement in areas around Wetland Areas and Natural Springs Declared as Protected Water Resources .Lot 3

Background

The Government of Lesotho, through the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) in the Ministry of Natural Resources, is implementing measures to protect key water resources by declaring them as protected water resources areas under national water and environmental legislation. These efforts aim to ensure water security, preserve ecosystem integrity, and align with national and international commitments

Effective and inclusive stakeholder consultation is critical for the success of these initiatives. The Department seeks the services of a qualified individual consultant to conduct community and stakeholder consultations around these protected water sources to raise awareness, gather inputs, and secure community ownership.

Detailed Specifications and Terms of Reference are found in the RFQ document.

Interested firms must provide all necessary information and credentials including, technical and financial Proposals , More details about this RFP will be found in the Terms of Reference.

Applications may be addressed to;

The Procurement Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources, Bokamoso Business Suit, Orpen Road, and Opposite Centre for Accounting Studies Maseru.

Tel: 27325160

Terms of Reference Issuance and Submission

The Terms of Reference document is issued on the 08 August 2025, and closes on the 17 September 2025 at 10:00am. The closing date for collecting document is Friday 8 September 2025, at 4:00pm. To register for this RFP, Consultancy Firms have to pay a non-refundable fee of M500 to Department of Water (DWA), Accounts Office from Friday 08 August, 2025 until Monday 8 September, 2025. The method of payment is cash. Consultancy firms must produce the receipt obtained from accounts section, to procurement Unit at the (DWA) in order to receive the documents.

The MNR therefore invites competent consultancy firms to compete for this RFP.

RFP Opening

RFP documents will be opened by the Ministry of Natural Resources Procurement Committee on the 17 September, 2025 at 10:30am in the presence of bidders or their representatives who wish to attend at the following address: Ministry of Natural Resources, Bokamoso House, Orpen Road, and Opposite Centre for Accounting Studies Maseru

Clarifications and Contacts

All questions and clarifications relating to this RFP should be directed to The Procurement Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources, Bokamoso House, Orpen Road, and Opposite Centre for Accounting Studies Maseru. Tel: 27325160



COMPETITIVENESS AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION PROJECT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

“ADVERTISEMENT”

(CONSULTING SERVICES- FIRM SELECTION)

Country : Lesotho
Project Name : Competitiveness and Financial Inclusion (CAFI) Project
Credit No. : 7169-LS
Assignment Title: Consulting Services for Revitalization of the Lesotho Textile and Apparel Sector (RLTAS)
RFP Number : CAFI-WB-0085
Reference No. : LS-MTI-507915-CS-QCBS

CONSULTING SERVICES FOR REVITALIZATION OF THE LESOTHO TEXTILE AND APPAREL SECTOR (RLTAS)

The Government of Lesotho has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank to implement the Lesotho Competitiveness and Financial Inclusion (CAFI) Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services. The consulting services (“the Services”) include the services for Revitalization of the Lesotho Textile and Apparel Sector (RLTAS) and the assignment is to be implemented over a period of twenty-four (24) months.

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Business Development through CAFI Project Management Unit (PMU) now invites eligible consulting firms (“Consultants”) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services (brochures including the name of the country in which the firm is registered; experience of projects related to the assignment, including brief descriptions of most recent relevant assignments showing location, client, costs and staff involved, etc.).

The short-listing criteria are: (a) quality of submission; (b) core business and years in business; (c) experience of a firm on similar assignments (relevant experience); (d) technical and managerial capability of the firm; (e) firm’s experience working in developing countries especially in the SADC region; and (f) for international firms, potential association with local consulting firms.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be obtained at the

address given below and at the following website: www.cafi.org.ls .

The attention of interested Candidates is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank’s “Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers “February 2025 (“Procurement Regulations”), setting forth the World Bank’s policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract if selected.

The Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours [08h00 to 16h30 hours local time].

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form, in sealed envelopes labelled “ CONSULTING SERVICES FOR REVITALIZATION OF THE LESOTHO TEXTILE AND APPAREL SECTOR (RLTAS) (RPF NO: CAFI-WB-0085)” with the name of the firm on the reverse side of the envelope, to the address below in person or by mail on or before Friday, September 05, 2025 at 16h00. E-mail submissions should be sent to tmohejane@cafi.org.ls with a copy to lnthunya@cafi.org.ls.

The Managing Director
Lesotho Competitiveness and Financial Inclusion Project
1st Floor ‘Matanki House
P.O. Box 747,
Maseru 100
Lesotho
Tel.: (+266) 22 315 100



Fees	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
------	----------	----------	-----------

Subscription	M 72.00	M 156.00	M 312.00
--------------	---------	----------	----------

Delivery	M 60.00
----------	---------

Names..... Email:.....No. Of Copies.....
Address:..... Start date:...../...../.....Expiry:...../...../
Tel:..... Cell:..... Signature:.....

Payment Method	Newsday Media PTY LTD		
----------------	-----------------------	--	--

Cash	Bank Deposit	Merchant	
	Standard Lesotho Bank Acc#: 9080001310220	EcoCash m-pesa	92669 3551

more to share
with our tasty treats

Select something delicious with our iconic Champion Toffees, Manhattan, Mister Sweet, Super C Sweets, and Candy Tops Eclairs. Packed full of flavour and perfect value for money.





Arts
Entertainment

Newsday

Sothokids put Lesotho on the world stage against all odds

Chris Theko

Lesotho's cultural identity shone brightly this year as Sothokids Culture Agency embarked on a groundbreaking creative tour across Europe and the Caribbean, showcasing authentic Basotho traditions to global audiences.

The youth-led agency departed the Mountain Kingdom on July 11 this year and returned on August 27, after performing at the renowned Festivals du Sud Tour.

Their journey included stops in France, Spain, Switzerland, and the Caribbean Islands, where they shared stages with internationally acclaimed artist Omali Themba, proudly flying Lesotho's flag.

The tour was a milestone not only for the young performers but for the nation at large. At a time when African culture often struggles for visibility on the global stage, Sothokids stood out as the sole representative from the continent at the festival.

For six weeks, the group captured audiences with vibrant displays of music, dance, storytelling, and traditional attire. Their performances left lasting impressions on festivalgoers who had little exposure to Basotho culture.

A highlight came in Evolène, Switzerland, where their performance before a packed hall earned a standing ovation. It was a defining moment for the troupe and a proud achievement for Lesotho.

"We successfully staged multiple performances across Europe, and everywhere we went our culture was warmly received," said the agency's general manager, Sebatatso Litlali.

"In Switzerland, the audience could not stop applauding. That was a powerful reminder that our



traditions have a place on the global stage."

Beyond live shows, the group held cultural workshops and dialogue sessions, sharing heritage and traditions while collaborating with artists in France, Spain, and Switzerland. These exchanges created artistic blends that fused Basotho rhythms with European expressions.

"These collaborations birthed something new and beautiful, true cultural fusion. We danced, sang, and even shared meals and stories with our hosts. It was more than a performance, it was cultural immersion," Litlali explained.

Their impact was widely recognised. In Géménos, France, the group received a Cultural Appreciation Award for their contribution to global diversity through performance. They also attracted European media coverage, with appearances on local radio and television extending Lesotho's cultural reach.

Yet, behind the triumph lay financial struggles. Although the festival covered major costs such as flights, meals, and accommodation, significant expenses remained.

Founder and director Makhebe Seatlana disclosed that he personally invested nearly M100,000 to cover attire, visas, and logistics.

"We were not expecting monetary support from government because the invitation had already catered for most expenses," Seatlana explained in an exclusive interview with Newsday.

"But we had hoped for at least moral support from the Ministry of Tourism, Sports, Arts and Culture or from our embassies abroad. Sadly, even when we asked for help with visas or local transport, our requests were ignored."

He noted that the only official who reached out during the trip was Lesotho's Ambassador to Switzerland, Tšiu Khathibe, who visited them during

their stay.

Despite this lack of official backing, private partners stepped forward to make the tour possible. Among the sponsors were Buti's Car Wash, Sechaba Milling Co., FNB Lesotho, Jonko-Mane Denims, EcoFest, Brand New Vixion, TWGI Group, and Econet Telecom Lesotho.

"Without these sponsors, our journey would not have been possible," Seatlana emphasised.

Their success has already earned them an invitation to the 2026 edition of the festival in Northern Europe. But enthusiasm is tempered by the financial strain.

"Because we represented Lesotho so well, the organisers extended another invitation. But knowing the costs I carried this year, I am seriously considering turning it down. Even though flights and accommodation are covered, smaller costs like visas and traditional attire are still significant. It may simply not be sustainable to repeat this," Seatlana said.

His concerns highlight the broader challenges facing grassroots cultural groups in Lesotho, where creativity often exceeds institutional support.

Even so, the achievements of Sothokids cannot be denied. By bringing the Basotho spirit to Europe and the Caribbean, they placed Lesotho firmly on the map of global cultural exchange.

For the young performers, the journey was life-changing. They showcased their heritage while learning new forms of storytelling and collaboration through international workshops.

"This tour was proof that Basotho culture belongs on the world stage. We may be a small country, but our traditions are powerful, and when shared with the world, they resonate," Seatlana said.

Corporate Challenge

2025

10 YEARS CELEBRATION

Ticket Price: M3 400

Team of 5

Venue: Maseru Mall

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

3
2025

HOST: L LIOPELO EVENTS

🕒 | ✉

5649 3151 | 6274 1560

liopeloevents@gmail.com

JOIN LESOTHO'S BIGGEST TEAM BUILDING EVENT

MASERU MALL

Public Eye

lerat TIA Group

VITALITY

MTS

MAIL

Dew drop

9A bokamoso

Value Tyres Lesotho

SECURITY

PC

357

print corp.

N

REALITY

MLEX

Lesotho Times

JCDecaux Lesotho

MISFIT

THE Saturday Times

Lesotho Red Cross Society

Magugu unveils Mafeteng heritage pieces

Staff Reporter

Renowned South African fashion designer Thebe Magugu has once again captivated the fashion world with the launch of his latest “Mafeteng” Heritage Pieces, a vibrant tribute to his Sotho ancestry.

Unveiled on Wednesday, August 27, 2025, the collection features a striking women’s dress/top and a men’s compression top, both inspired by the cultural legacy of Mafeteng, a town in Lesotho where Magugu’s family originates.

Set to hit shelves at Magugu House and online on September 10, 2025, the release has already sparked excitement across social media, with fans hailing it as a powerful blend of heritage and contemporary style.

“A striking ode to Thebe Magugu’s Sotho heritage, the Mafeteng women’s dress and the Mafeteng men’s compression top will become available on 10th

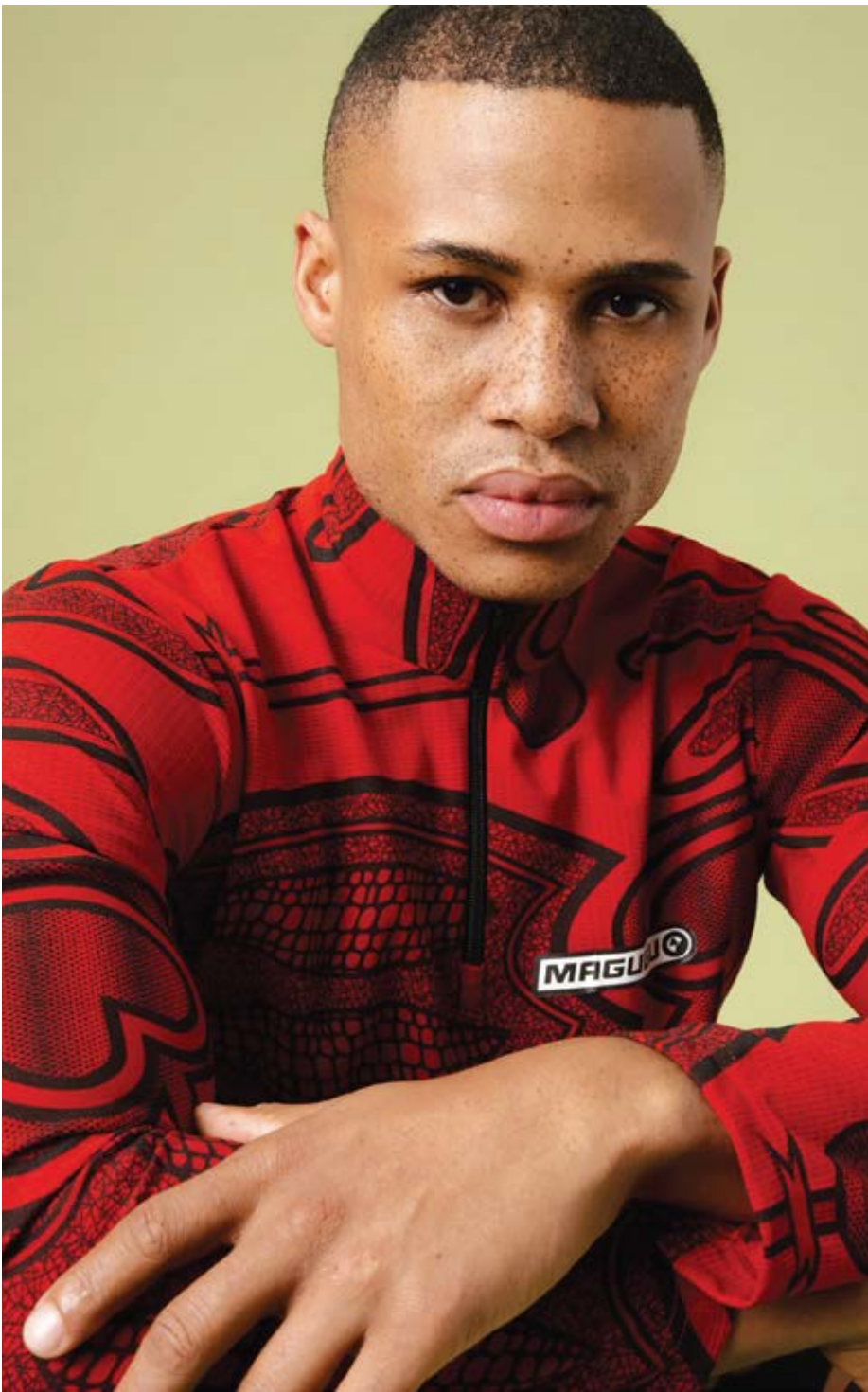
September 2025 – named after the city the Magugu family hails from in Lesotho,” Magugu on Wednesday.

The Mafeteng pieces mark the latest chapter in Magugu’s acclaimed “Heritage” series, which reinterprets African tribal traditions through modern fashion.

Named after the Lesotho town known for its rich history, the designs weave personal and cultural narratives into wearable art.

The women’s dress/top, a versatile statement piece, and the men’s compression top, with its sleek and bold aesthetic, were debuted by influencers Sarah Langa and Tebogo Mabye, whose dynamic campaign imagery has amplified the collection’s buzz.

Showcased at Magugu House, the designer’s multifunctional Johannesburg flagship, the Mafeteng pieces reflect his



signature approach: meticulous craftsmanship paired with storytelling that resonates globally.

The collection draws on Sotho motifs, with intricate details that evoke familial pride and cultural continuity.

The launch aligns with Magugu’s broader 2025 milestones, including his recent furniture collaboration with Weylandts and the Metropolitan Museum of Art’s acquisition of his work for their permanent archive.

As the brand approaches its 10th anniversary in 2026, the Mafeteng release underscores Magugu’s commitment to evolving African narratives in global fashion.

Magugu is the founder and creative director of the South African luxury brand bearing his name. His innovative designs, thought-provoking discourse and commitment to showcasing South African culture have earned him international acclaim.

In 2019, he became the first African to win the prestigious LVMH Prize for young designers.

Born and raised in South Africa, Magugu’s early path in fashion was not without challenges. After being rejected from Central Saint Martins, he enrolled at Stadio’s School of Fashion in Johannesburg.

Upon graduation in 2016, he launched his namesake label, overcoming financial and logistical difficulties. A breakout moment came when he was chosen by Woolworths to create a capsule collection for Spring/Summer 2017, which was showcased at South African Fashion Week.

He has collaborated with major brands such as Dior, AZ Factory and Adidas and is stocked at Bergdorf Goodman, Net-a-Porter and Dover Street Market.

Liphalana dances his way to Queen’s Cup glory

Chris Theko

The stage lit up on Saturday night as Mister Teen Lesotho 2024, Bafokeng Liphalana, danced his way to victory, scooping multiple awards and the prestigious Queen’s Cup alongside his partner, Hape Matlejane.

The young duo captivated the audience with a performance that was both energetic and emotional, proving that dedication and passion can outshine even the fiercest competition.

“When our couple number, 51, was called, I felt an overwhelming sense of joy, pride and gratitude,” Liphalana recalled.

“For a second, I was in disbelief. We had made so many mistakes on the floor, and we were competing against amazing dancers who had been dancing their whole lives. But I also knew Hape and I had put in the work, so we danced our hearts out.”

Despite their doubts, the pair’s chemistry and drive carried them through. “I think the passion we have when dancing made our performance stand out,” he explained.

“We were told we have the same energy, and I believe that energy, passion, and emotion struck a chord with the judges and audience.”

Preparation was key to their triumph.



Under the guidance of nate Tlholohelo William Nthejane at Dancewell Studios,

Liphalana and Matlejane worked tirelessly to perfect their choreography, synchronise

as a couple, and build stamina.

“We trained hard to refine our technical skills and presentation. Mentally, we kept reminding ourselves that no matter the outcome, we should be proud of giving our absolute best. We get nervous before performances, but this time we told ourselves, ‘Yes, being nervous is normal, but we have worked hard, we have got this.’”

The victory is deeply personal to Liphalana. “It validates all the sacrifices, exercises and constant practice. It’s proof that with passion and hard work, anything is possible. For Hape, it is a reminder that she is on the right path, and it motivates her to push even harder. More than anything, we want young people to stop letting fear hold them back. Be a rebel of limitations. Do it happy, do it sad, do it unmotivated, do it in doubt, just do it.”

Looking ahead, the talented teenager is setting his sights on bigger stages. He and his Dancewell Studios team are preparing to represent Lesotho at two international competitions, the Independence Cup on September 27 and Samba By The Sea on 22 November 22 this year.

Beyond that, Liphalana has his eyes on the continental stage.

“I am currently raising funds to register for Mr and Miss Teenager Africa 2026, which will be hosted in Nairobi, Kenya. The registration fee is USD525, plus the cost of a plane ticket. I humbly request assistance from anyone who can help me make this dream a reality,” he revealed.

Notši snubs Lioli again in bold WC qualifiers

Seabata Mahao

In a controversial move that has sent shockwaves through Lesotho’s football circles, Likuena head coach Leslie Notši has once again left out all Lioli FC players from his provisional squad for the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers.

Despite Lioli clinching the Vodacom Premier League title earlier this year, not a single player from the Teyateyaneng-based giants has cut next month’s crucial back-to-back qualifiers against South Africa and Benin.

Notši’s 23-man provisional squad, announced earlier this week, features a mix of local and foreign-based talent, with the coach opting for continuity by retaining the core of players involved in previous qualifiers.

Yet, the absence of Lioli’s top performers, including COSAFA Cup standouts Mphale Mphalaole, Mokoteli Mohapi, Tholang Makuru, and Leluma Posholi, has raised serious questions about selection criteria.

Motebang Sera, currently plying his trade at Venda Academy in South Africa’s Motsepe Foundation



Likuena coach Leslie Notsi

Championship, has also been omitted. Sera, once a mainstay in Likuena’s attack, has been overlooked in favour of Lijabatho FC duo Khaketla Matamane and Teboho Masuoane signaling Notši’s clear trust in emerging local talent.

“The foreign-based players will join the rest of the team before it departs for South Africa,” confirmed Lesotho Football Association’s (LeFA) media officer Mikia Kalati, who declined to comment on the coach’s selection decisions.

The decision has sparked a heated debate among

fans, pundits, and former players, particularly as Lesotho’s goal-scoring record in 2025 has been dismal, with just two goals in five competitive matches.

With Likuena currently sitting fifth in Group C of the CAF qualifiers with six points, there’s growing pressure on Notši to produce results in the double-header.

Lioli’s exclusion has been defended by some, pointing to the club’s recent involvement in a Four-Nations Club Tournament in Namibia, which may have left players fatigued.

However, critics argue that denying Lioli players a spot in the national team robs the side of experienced talent and denies those players critical exposure at the international level.

“Whether it’s due to workload or tactical preference, leaving out the league’s best performers is a gamble ahead of such crucial fixtures,” said one local analyst.

Lesotho’s qualification hopes hang in the balance as they prepare to take on Group C rivals South Africa on September 5 at Toyota Stadium in Bloemfontein, followed by an away trip to Benin on September 9.

The match in Bloemfontein is a strategic move by LEFA to allow greater access to Basotho supporters.

The association hopes to generate a home-away-from-home atmosphere, and tickets are already on sale via TicketPro outlets across the country.

Likuena’s camp for locally based players is already underway at BambathaTšita Sports Arena, with the foreign contingent expected to join during the official FIFA international window, from September 1 to 9.

Still, uncertainty surrounds the final travelling squad, with Notši yet to announce when he will trim his provisional list.

Provisional squad at a glance:

Goalkeepers: Sekhoane Moerane (Orbit College, RSA), Mosoeu Seahlolo (LCS), Nthebe Majoro (LMPS)

Defenders: Rethabile Mokokoane (Matlama), Siyabonga Monyaka (Majantja), Thabo Makhele (Siwelele FC, RSA), Mohlomi Makhetha (Lijabatho), Thabang Malane (African Stars, NAM), Fusi Matlabe (Mpheni Home Defenders, RSA), Motlomelo Mkwana-nazi (Bantu), Bokang Sello (Lijabatho)

Midfielders: Kananelo Rapuleng (Bantu), Tšepo Toloane (LDF), Tlotliso Phatsisi (Black Leopards, RSA), Neo Mokhachane (Jwaneng Galaxy, BOT), TšoareloBereng (Upington City, RSA), Lehlohonolo Fothoane (Township Rollers, BOT), Teboho Letsema (Linare), Limpho Ralesupi (Majantja)

Forwards: Khaketla Matamane (Lijabatho), Teboho Masuoane (Lijabatho), Jane Thabantšo (Matlama).

Marathon pioneers sports insurance

Staff Reporter

In a rare moment in Lesotho’s sports fraternity, Maseru City Run (MCR) will, for the first time, introduce a sports insurance policy to cover athletes’ accidents during the 2026 edition.

According to the event organisers, Eventful Moments, they have a partnership with LNIG Hollard to provide the insurance cover for the one-day event.

The annual road race, which runs around Lesotho’s capital city, Maseru, has been growing in leaps and bounds over the past few years, drawing in both local and international participants, professionals and amateurs alike.

Initially starting with just over 350 participants for the inaugural event in 2023, the second instal-

ment of the event saw over 800 athletes taking part in various activities, including the 42.2 km race, 21.1km race, 10km race, 5km race, and 1.6 km run for the children.

The 2025 event saw the race growing even bigger by attracting a record 1426 athletes, and also welcoming more sponsors on board. The edition was also honoured by Queen ‘Masenate Mohato Seeiso and her son, Crown Prince Lerotholi Mohato Seeiso, both participating in the races.

Now, in anticipation of bringing together 4,000 people at the next race scheduled for February 22, 2026, the organisers have added a number of enhancements for the race, with the insurance policy as the highlight.

“The insurance policy premium is M55. This insurance policy is the first one in the history of athletics in Lesotho,” said Eventful Moments’ Director

of Operations, Samuel Rapapa, in an interview.

Selala Bereng, the Marketing Consultant at LNIG Hollard, confirmed to this publication that they are involved in the race.

The introduction of insurance in MCR follows an unfortunate fatal accident where a 21-kilometre runner tragically perished during the 2025 race edition. Tšeliso Makana (36) collapsed mid-race before being rushed to the hospital, where he was later confirmed dead.

Other improvements to be seen in the race are the establishment of a 12-member Local Organising Committee (LOC) to help with the planning and execution of the race.

The LOC is made up of different stakeholders relevant to the race, such as sponsors, runners, media, station managers, corporates, race organisers representatives, Maseru City Council (MCC), Maseru Athletics Academy, and Lesotho Tourism Development Corporation (LTDC).

The event also features an aerobics session at Maseru Club grounds and inclusivity-focused races, such as a category for people with disabilities and a

tailored kids’ race, making it a family-friendly affair.

Rapapa indicated further that they would address the issue of water shortage in the race that has plagued the race in the past, by manufacturing their own drinking water for the race.

They are also engaging more medical service providers, like hospitals and surgeries, to increase the supply of ambulance services from four to ten in 2026.

Thabo John Tšoeute, the race manager, indicated that leading up to the race date, they are introducing regular training runs for non-athletes to ensure that they are fit to run on the big day.

The first of these trainings, dubbed Sunday Runs, which target 10km and 5km amateur or social runners, will commence on August 31.

“We are trying to encourage our participants to be in good physical condition to enjoy the experience of participating in our races. In particular, we encourage amateur runners to go for medical checks before running, and also refrain from counterproductive lifestyle habits leading up to the race day,” Tšoeute said.

Kick4Life Ladies eliminated from CAF tourney

Seabata Mahao

The Women Super League champions Kick4Life’s maiden continental journey came to a disappointing end this week, following two heavy defeats in the group stage of the 2025 CAF Women’s Champions League COSAFA qualifiers.

Drawn in Group B alongside Botswana’s Gaborone United Ladies and Eswatini’s Young Buffaloes, the Lesotho side struggled to match the experience and intensity of their regional counterparts during the tournament hosted in Johannesburg.

Kick4Life kicked off their campaign on Monday with a promising start against Young Buffaloes. The Lesotho champions initially stunned the Eswatini side with an early lead, showcasing grit and ambition. However, the Buffaloes soon regained control of the game, scoring three unanswered goals to seal a 3-1 victory.

Despite the opening day loss, hope lingered that Kick4Life could bounce back in their second group encounter on Wednesday. But it was not to be. Gaborone United stormed to a 7-0 lead by halftime, exposing the gulf in class and experience.

While Kick4Life managed to regroup and show greater composure in the second half, they conceded three more goals before netting a late consola-



Kick4Life Ladies alongside Botswana’s Gaborone United Ladies

tion, ending the match in a humbling 10-1 defeat.

Speaking after the match, coach Elizabeth Yelimala acknowledged the challenges her team faced but expressed pride in their effort and resilience.

“It was tough conceding as early as the second minute, which destabilised the team,” Yelimala said. “But I am happy with the way we responded in the last 20 minutes to get our goal. We threw in some of our youngsters who had energy, and we managed to score.”

The campaign marked Kick4Life’s debut appearance on the continental stage, making them only the second club from Lesotho to participate in the CAF Women’s Champions League qualifiers, following Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) Ladies’ previous two campaigns.

Despite the heavy score lines, Yelimala stressed the importance of the experience gained.

“We are very grateful to have participated and to the association for registering us. This has been a valuable learning curve. We need to improve our stamina and speed of play to compete at national and regional tournaments.”

While the early exit was a tough pill to swallow, Kick4Life’s participation offered valuable insights into the level of preparation required to succeed at the continental level, a stepping stone for Lesotho women’s football as it continues to develop.

Kick4Life Group Stage Results:

Monday: Young Buffaloes 3–1 Kick4Life

Wednesday: Gaborone United 10–1 Kick4Life



LeFA asks clubs to release players for Likuena

Seabata Mahao

The Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) has written to three Premier League clubs, Matlama FC, Bantu FC, and Linare FC, requesting the release of players selected for the provisional Likuena squad ahead of the FIFA 2026 World Cup Qualifiers.

If granted, the request will sideline several key players from the Ramela Foundation Soccer Spectacular, scheduled for August 30–31.

Bantu could be without Mkwanazi Motlomelo and Kananelo Rapulene; Linare may lose Teboho Letsema and Thato Sefuli; while Matlama might have to do without veterans Jane Thabantšo and Rethabile Mokokoane.

LeFA Secretary General Mokhosi Mohapi confirmed that several players from the three clubs have been called into the national team camp, which began on August 28 at Bambatha Tšita Sports Arena.

In his letter to the presidents of Matlama, Bantu, and Linare, Mohapi wrote: “RE: players in camp for the FIFA 2026 World Cup Qualifiers.

The above caption bears reference.

“The Lesotho Senior National Team – Likuena will be playing in the FIFA 2026 World Cup Qualifiers matches this coming month and will be in camp from August 28 to September 12, 2025.

“Pursuant to my telephonic conversation with the presidents of Linare FC, Bantu FC, and Matlama FC today where the veracity and importance of the upcoming FIFA World Cup Qualifiers were discussed, the Lesotho Football Association herein indulges Linare FC, Bantu FC, and Matlama FC, to agree that Linare FC, Bantu FC and Matlama FC players called for national duty be allowed to stay in Likuena camp until the completion of the FIFA World Cup Qualifiers, and therefore will not be available for the upcoming weekend’s club activity as agreed.

“I hope you find this in order. The letter stated.

Speaking to Newsday, Mohapi explained that the move stems from previous expe-

riences where Likuena underperformed because domestic club engagements disrupted preparations before international fixtures.

“We have seen how Likuena plays while coming from domestic competitions, there is too much fatigue and we cannot overwork our players, they are human after all, hence we have asked their clubs to release them

talent and represent their nation in full form,” Mokhosi added.

Linare has since released a statement acknowledging LeFA’s request. In a statement dated August 28, the club management said:

“Linare FC is proud to announce that we have reached a mutual agreement with the Lesotho Football Association (LeFA) to re-

we fully support our players in this important journey and are proud to see them wear the national colours.

“We wish them all the best as they contribute their talents to the success of our national team.”

Bantu’s General Manager, Pule Poosela, also confirmed to Newsday Sports that the club had received LeFA’s letter and would comply, though reluctantly.

“We received a letter from LeFA giving us the directive, and management decided to comply. We asked our head coach about the decision, especially now that we have an upcoming tournament, and he said we will continue without those players,” Poosela stated.

However, Matlama’s spokesperson Ramafahla Thamae said: “We have not yet made the decision, but our main concern is why LeFA is making this plea now, despite all the competitions that have been ongoing previously,” said Thamae.

He noted that earlier tournaments, such as the People’s Cup, were played just before previous national team camps, yet no such pleas were issued then.

“Our understanding is that during the off-season, as we prepare for the Premier



LeFA Secretary General, Mokhosi Mohapi

to the camp so that they can be fully prepared,” he said.

“This move will not only benefit Likuena but the players personally as they will be playing on international stages. This is a good platform for them to showcase their

lease our players for national duty.

“While we recognise the importance of having our full squad available for club commitments, we also understand the great honour and responsibility that comes with representing our country. As a club,

League, our clubs should get enough practice so we can get a glimpse of what our squad will look like. We really need to prepare for our league opener against Li-jabatho on September 13, which is a tough fixture,” Thamae added.



Elevate your Brand's visibility!
Advertise With Us
and unlock exclusive rates...