

PRESENTATION AT THE SCIENCE CENTER WORLD SUMMIT 2017 AT MARIAKAN, TOKYO JAPAN

BY LEAPOTSWE B. BANTSI November 16TH, 2017.



FITTING INTO THE THEME

- THEME: Connecting the World for a Sustainable Future.
- Concern in relation to Sustainable Future?
- Not withstanding progress made by the Government, Botswana's skills are not world class and the research and innovation record is weak." BIUST Strategic Plan 2016/17-2022/2023 page 4
- * It is nothing short of a miracle that the modern methods of instruction have not yet entirely strangled the holy curiosity of enquiry



BIUST'S RESPONSE

- Programs for creating public awareness of science.
- Making science and technology work for the people
- Strengthening the pipeline of Mathematics and Science students from pre-tertiary levels of education to BIUST and other tertiary education level



CREATING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SCIENCE

- This is done mainly but not exclusively through science circuses
- Started science circuses with precursor in 2014 and has become an annual activity.
- So far over 33 000 leaners have been exposed to science circuses















MAKING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WORK FOR THE PEOPLE

- * STEM FESTIVAL;
- * THE FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS AND BUTTRESSES THE RELEVANCE AND CRITICALITY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) BY CELEBRATING STEM AND STEM INNOVATIONS AND INVENTIONS, HENCE THE THEME 'STEM FOR DEVELOPMENT: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR BOTSWANA'
- * THE INTENTION IS TO DEMONSTRATE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT OR POTENTIAL ESPOUSED IN THE STEM CURRENTLY EMPLOYED



THIS IS BECAUSE;

* "there is a growing consensus that it is the quality and performance of the nation's education and skills development system coupled with vibrant innovation systems that will be the tool to unlock the nation's potential and drive the transformation agenda." BIUST Strategic Plan2016/17-2022/23



STEM FESTIVAL 2017

× Held from the from 14th to 16th April 2016

THEME: THEME 'STEM FOR DEVELOPMENT: A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR BOTSWANA

Activities: Science shows, Exhibits and Seminar talks

× Venue: Francistown Botswana





One day I hope to buy this dog feeder when it will have been commercialized.





The man with a zeal and passion for his project, show casing his project.



SRENGTHENING THE PIPELINE

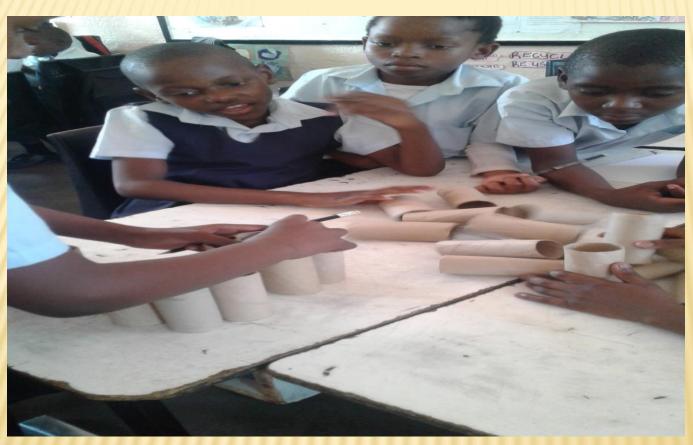
- Both the Science circuses and STEM festival are meant to inspire learners and get some to be interested in STEM and STEM innovation
- But yet another program; Inquiry based science learning





Recording a necessary science process





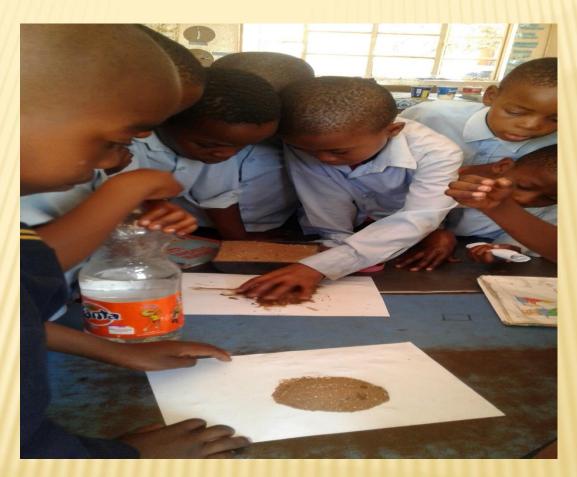
Making Mathematics to be real





Using readily available materials to teach mathematics concepts





Looking at properties of soil





Investigating wind direction



WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO!

- * Establish a science centre
- * Facility is available at the university
- * First set of materials for building the first set of exhibits have been procured.
- What is needed is mainly professional expertise in building exhibit
- * Target date for official opening of the centre is April 2018



WHY SCIENCE CENTRE AT BIUST

- * The very first one in the country.
- The centre is meant "to connect personal lives with science in concrete ways and to promote change"
- Through this scientific literacy and appreciation of science work towards "A Sustainable Future"

REFERENCE

* BIUST strategic plan Plan2016/17-2022/23

STEM festival exposition notes