



**Solar**  
Industries  
Association  
Botswana

# The Role of SIAB in Renewable Energy In Botswana

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Chairman – Solar Industries Association of Botswana

The difference...The other guys



# The difference ...US (SIAB)



# The Difference ...the other Guys





# Our Role ....



# Solar Industries Association of Botswana (SIAB)

Formed and registered under Societies Act of Botswana in December 2005.

## **Aim**

- To facilitate the wide-scale use of solar energy in Botswana

## **Main Objectives**

- To disseminate knowledge and information pertaining to the development and application of solar energy;
- To foster high standards of practice with design, manufacture, installation, usage, marketing and maintenance of solar systems;
- To cultivate the highest ideals and ethics in all business and professional dealings within the solar industry in Botswana.

## **Membership**

Open to:

- firm/company with established office in Botswana;
- Registered with the Registrar of Companies;
- Companies engaged in design, manufacture, supply, installation and/or maintenance of solar equipment or components



# Solar Industries Association of Botswana (SIAB)

## Recent Activities

### Department of Energy

- Draft MoU to grow relations between the two parties
- Botswana Renewable Energy Strategy Steering Committee
- Energy Efficiency Steering Committee
- Engaged the Department on Re-fit amongst other initiatives
- Botswana off-grid solar strategy study - Stakeholder participation

### Botswana Innovation Hub

- Potential MoU to collaborate in areas of Solar

### GIZ

- MOU – tripartite agreement between GIZ, SIAB and BSW-Solar (German Solar Association)
  - Consultancy to assist in effective use of Standards
  - Solar PV training
  - Training on the use of Standards to Support procurement by Government

## Recent Activities (cont.)

- BOBS
  - Participation in Standards technical committees
- Clean Energy Research Centre (UB)
  - Solar thermal technology workshops (SOLTRAIN)



# Association Challenges

- Disconnect between renewable energy organisations and stakeholders (Government, NGOs, Private Sector) in the promotion of solar activities
- Unregulated supply of solar products and services that leave customers unfairly treated.
- Insufficient data, statistics and information on the scale of work already being done, total number of installations, status of installed systems, conclusive number of operators, etc.
- Highly Subsidised grid Electricity Tariff yet there is no Subsidy for renewables
- Even with falling prices on renewables there is no legislative incentives to encourage uptake of renewables (e.g Net Metering).

# Good News

- Presidential Directives
  - Solar water Heater maintenance
  - Retro-fit of Electric geysers, etc
- Setting up of the Botswana Energy Regulatory Authority
- Recent Re-naming of Ministries - Ministry of Mineral Resources, **Green technology** and Energy Security.
- International Developments and commitments around the Paris Agreement

# Conclusion

- Encourage more companies and other stakeholders to participate in lobbying the Government in renewable energy development by joining the association
- Volunteer your time and sometimes resources to build the Association
- Encourage Government to engage discussions that have clear deliverables in its commitment to the Use of renewables in preservation of our environment.
- It is imperative for all projects to be done in collaboration with the local industry to allow for capacity building and sustainability

# Responsible Energy Generation



Thank you

# Contacts



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Working to advance solar energy as a widely accepted & valued sustainable energy source in Botswana through:  
REPRESENTATION, ADVOCACY, SELF-REGULATION, NETWORKING, ACCREDITATION, ARBITRATION;  
AND FACILITATION OF STANDARDS, TRAINING & RESEARCH