

## Research Deliver Insight into Botswana Telecoms, Mobile and Broadband Market 2019-2023

Report on Botswana Telecoms, Mobile and Broadband Market Status, Market Size by Players, Regions, Type, Application and Forecast to 2023

PUNE, MAHARASTRA, INDIA, November 8, 2019 /EINPresswire.com/ -- WiseGuyReports.com "Botswana - Telecoms, Mobile and Broadband - Statistics and Analyses" report has been added to its Research Database.

Scope of the Report:

Botswana's government commits more funds for ITCs in 2019 budget



Effective regulatory reform has made Botswana's telecom market one of the most liberalized in the region. There is a service-neutral licensing regime which considers the increasing convergence of technologies and services. Several operators now compete effectively, particularly in the mobile segment.

Botswana has one of the highest mobile penetration rates in Africa, with growth in the number of subscribers having recovered from the sharp fall seen at the end of 2016. Popular use of multiple SIM cards from different operators has delayed the introduction of mobile number portability, with the telecom regulator not convinced of the facility's economic benefits. In a bid to generate new revenue streams and secure market share, the three mobile network operators (MNOs) – Mascom Wireless (an affiliate of South Africa's MTN), Orange Botswana (backed by Orange Group) and BTC – have entered the underdeveloped broadband sector by adopting of 3G, LTE and WiMAX technologies. In the fixed-line broadband market they compete with a large number of ISPs, some of which have rolled out their own wireless access infrastructure.

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After a period of stagnation, the number of internet users has risen strongly in recent years, largely the result of lower prices following improvements in international connectivity. Historically, the landlocked country has depended on satellites for its international bandwidth, and on other countries for transit capacity to landing points of international submarine fibre optic cable systems. The landing of additional cables in the region in recent years has improved

the competitive situation in this sector, while prices for connectivity have fallen by up to 70%. The stability and cheaper cost of fixed-line broadband services continues to attract subscribers, though mobile internet remains the preferred choice for most, particularly among the large proportion of younger people in the country.

The much-delayed privatisation of BTC has been facilitated by the transfer of network assets and the management of BTC's involvement in two key submarine cables to the newly created wholesale operator Botswana Fibre Networks (BoFiNet). BTC through this process has been transformed into a retailer of services. An IPO was completed in April 2016. There was considerable interest in the 44% of the company made available, with 5% reserved for employees and 51% being retained by the state. Some 50,000 private investors now have a stake in the operator.

Key developments:

Orange Botswana launches its Digital Schools Project;

Regulator ends off-peak mobile wholesale call rates;

MTN Group sells its majority stake in Mascom Wireless;

Korea Telecom advises BTC on LTE network optimisation;

Orange Money initiates cross-border m-payment platform;

Kometsi Telecommunications JV aiming to set up as an MVNO;

Government commits BWS461.35 million for ICT infrastructure in 2018-19 budget;

BTC reports 3% fall in revenue for fiscal 2018;

Orange Botswana partners with Barclays Bank to develop m-money service;

BoFiNet completes three fibre network expansion links costing BWP200 million;

Regulator introduces Unified Licensing Framework;

Report update includes telcos data to Q4 2018, regulators 2018 annual report and market data to Q2 2018, recent market developments.

Companies mentioned in this report:

Botswana Telecommunications Corporation (BTC); Mascom Wireless (MTN); Orange Botswana (Vista Cellular); beMobile; Botsnet; MTN Business; InfoBotswana (IBIS); Broadband Botswana Internet (BBI); OPQ Net; Mega Internet; Global Broadband Solution (GBS); Tsagae Communications; Virtual Business Network Services (VBN); Bytes Technology; Fourth Dimension; Hi-Performance Systems; Microteck Enterprises; Tharinet; Netspread; First National Bank.

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