

## Botswana battery recycling

Gaborone 03 June 2021, The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism recently launched waste recovery pilot project in the government enclave, Gaborone. The event was part of the activities held to mark commemoration of World Environment Day which was held on the 5th of June 2021.

When giving keynote on the occasion to launch the waste recovery project in the government enclave the minister Of Environment, Natural Resource Conservation and Tourism Honorable Philda Kereng said the project is expected to create employment and develop a strong waste recycling industry in Botswana.

Minister Kereng alluded that currently the waste recovery initiatives in Botswana are limited to production of waste paper, bottles, plastics, scrap metal recovery and transportation of the same to neighbouring countries where there are waste recycling plants hence creating jobs in those countries. She said Botswana needed a deliberate policy initiative to empower other citizens to derive benefits from the waste sector.

Kereng also appealed to the private sector to come on board and actively participate in the waste recovery and recycling initiatives. She concluded by highlighting that the success of this pilot project will lead to the rollout to other institutions in our districts, towns and cities to make this a national programme.

The Programme Specialist-Environment and Climate Change, Ms Chimbidzani Bratonozić said that the UNDP is happy to support the promotion of waste to be used as a...

The project has been designed with the primary objective of supporting the Government of Botswana with the implementation of the SDGs, the SDGs Roadmap and other...

The 2020 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) data and publication "Charting pathways out of multidimensional poverty: Achieving the SDGs" released on 16...

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Kenya and Tanzania, blood lead levels is not only unusually high - they're increasing, according to a report in the Lancet Planetary Health journal. Exposure to lead, a potent neurotoxin, is known to affect the brain resulting in disability (if not death). The World Health Organization states that children are more at risk because high lead exposure damages the brain before it has had a chance to fully develop so one has to ask: where is all this lead coming from?

"Batteries are everywhere," says Jamie Lee, Ecobat's Chief Information Officer. "You don't think about it until you think about recycling. In the transportation and energy sector, 19 percent of greenhouse gas emissions come from road transportation. If batteries could be recycled better, it would mean less transport and you're actually making an impact."

When lead acid batteries aren't recycled properly, acid and lead dust enters the soil. The process emits toxic fumes that permeate the air with poison and the workers return home with hazardous dust on their clothing.

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