



Republic of Botswana



21st Annual
General Meeting
01-05 December 2025
Botswana



RUFORUM 21ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

CONCEPT NOTE

Field trips



THEME

Positioning Africa's Universities and the Higher Education Sector to effectively impact development processes on the continent

Hosts:

The Government of Botswana and
RUFORUM member Universities in Botswana led by Botswana University of
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Venue:

Field

Date: 29th November, 2025

Time: 08:30-17:00

Contact: Selma Ndapewa Nghituwamhata (s.nghituwamhata@ruforum.org)



Solar farm (Agrivoltaics)

The Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) has made significant strides towards a greener future by becoming one of the first universities in the country to launch one of the biggest solar power plants. Solar energy generation is combined with agricultural production, offering a sustainable solution to the country's energy needs and food security challenges. The 1 megawatt solar installation provides power to the university during the day, reducing the energy bill by 50%. The surplus energy is fed into the national grid.

Waste water purification

In a transformative initiative, the Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) has substantially improved its water infrastructure through the deployment of an innovative solar-powered wastewater recycling system. The process takes water from ponds, which can be contaminated with minerals, bacteria, and other substances, and transforms it into potable water suitable for irrigation. The treated water is then channeled to support irrigation BUAN's university farm, addressing water scarcity challenges and enhancing agricultural productivity.



Safflower at BUAN

The Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN) is actively involved in safflower production by conducting research on its cultivation, promoting its benefits, and collaborating with farmers to increase its adoption and commercial expansion in Botswana. BUAN's research confirms that safflower is a resilient, multi-purpose, and drought-tolerant crop suitable for Botswana's semi-arid climate, with potential uses for cooking oil, animal feed, and other high-value products. The university is supporting efforts to develop quality seed, provide farmer training, and strengthen safflower value chains.



Incuhive : BUAN Graduates in Agriculture

Incuhive is an entrepreneurship program at BUAN that provides graduates with business and practical skills to start their own ventures in agriculture and natural resources. The program offers support, including facilities, mentorship, and workshops, to help incubatees develop and manage their projects. It is aligned with the government's goals to foster self-employment and commercial agriculture.

Safflower farm Visit

Safflower production in the Kweneng North region of Botswana is an emerging agricultural initiative led by the Kweneng North Horticultural Farmers' Cooperative. The crop is promoted as a resilient and profitable "cash-crop" perfectly suited for the country's semi-arid climate.



Botswana Meat Commission (BMC)

The Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) is a non-profit body that was established by the government in 1965. Its main functions are the buying, slaughtering, processing, and marketing of all beef and beef products within Botswana for sale in local and international markets. Its facilities consist of an integrated complex which includes an abattoir, canning, tanning, and by-products plants