



**Bank of Botswana**

16 September 2024

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **SCAM ALERT FAKE CONTENT - AND UNAUTHORISED USE OF BANK OF BOTSWANA LOGO**

The Bank of Botswana (Bank) would like to alert the public to 'a get-rich-quick scam' circulating on social media platforms appearing as a news article insinuating that the Bank is suing certain prominent individuals for statements they made during alleged media interviews. The Bank warns the public that this is fake content intended to phish for the public's personal information.

The fake social media content is used to peddle a scam advertising a fraudulent investment opportunity in crypto assets. The fake account uses deceptive newspaper logos, and names of some prominent Botswana individuals to lure unsuspecting members of the public to invest money in this scam. Furthermore, the advertisements promise unrealistic returns on investment and falsely "accuse" the Bank of threatening to stop media interviews by those prominent persons. Moreover, the scammers provide fake statements alleged to be issued by the Bank of Botswana. It must be noted that the Bank does not open accounts for individuals, but is a banker to commercial banks, Government and selected entities. Furthermore, the Bank does not have any authority over virtual assets in the manner proposed.

The Bank encourages members of the public to be vigilant and be aware of red flags for cybercrime. The purported news articles have hallmarks of a cyber scam. The article has the following: provides links that takes you to another web page/platform; prompts for immediate action; clones identity of a reputable website, and requests disclosure of personal details. Therefore, the public is cautioned to be aware of this misinformation intended to deceive and defraud unsuspecting members of the public. Furthermore, the public is advised not to act on the content posted on those pages, respond nor follow such pages, or even open such links.

To know more about the Bank, visit the Bank website at [www.bankofbotswana.bw](http://www.bankofbotswana.bw) or follow us on our social media pages, namely Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Bank of Botswana](https://www.facebook.com/Bank of Botswana) or on X [@BankofBotswana](https://twitter.com/BankofBotswana).