



PUBLIC NOTICE

4 March 2026

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY INTO THE BANK OF BOTSWANA REGULATORY SANDBOX

The Bank of Botswana invites applications from eligible innovators (both licensed and unlicensed entities) for entry into the Regulatory Sandbox under the theme “**Unlocking an Inclusive Digital Economy through Digital Banks, Inclusive Payments, and Interoperability Solutions**”.

The Regulatory Sandbox offers a controlled framework for innovative entities to conduct live experimentation of novel financial products, services, and business models under the Bank’s regulatory supervision. To ensure meaningful outcomes, Sandbox applicants should have solutions that are ready to go to market as the Sandbox is designed for real-world live experimentation where Sandbox Participants host and operate their own platforms/solutions and deal with customers in a real-world environment. Applicants are further required to ensure compliance with all requirements as set out in the Regulatory Sandbox Guidelines, accessible on both the Bank of Botswana Fintech Portal and the Bank of Botswana website.

What We Are Looking For:

The Bank will consider novel innovative solutions in the following areas:

- (i) **Inclusive Payment Solutions** that improve accessibility, affordability, and participation in the digital economy for underserved communities and small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMMEs);
- (ii) **Digital Banks** that deliver secure, scalable channels for novel financial services, and complement traditional brick and mortar infrastructure; and/or
- (iii) **Interoperability Solutions** that enable seamless connectivity and open sharing of data across payment platforms, products, and payment instruments.

What You Will Gain from Participating in the Sandbox

Participants will gain:

- (i) an opportunity to **test innovative solutions live** within a controlled regulatory environment;
- (ii) the ability to **engage directly with the regulator**, with insights from sandboxing potentially informing changes to existing legal and regulatory frameworks or leading to development of new regulatory frameworks;
- (iii) credibility and functionality for your innovative solution, which will enhance chances for market entry; and
- (iv) opportunities to **collaborate with industry stakeholders** across the financial services ecosystem.

Key Dates:

Applications Open: 04 March 2026, 1000Hours

Applications Deadline: 31 March 2026, 2359Hours

Applications received after the application deadline will not be considered.

How to Apply:

Application guidelines, eligibility criteria, application requirements checklist, and submission details are available on the Bank of Botswana Fintech Portal. All applications should be made online through the Bank of Botswana Fintech Portal at <https://fintech.bankofbotswana.bw/>. Applicants are advised to adhere to the set file size limits and formats for successful online submission. Applications that fail online delivery due to wrong file sizes and formats will not be considered.

Submission of an application does not guarantee admission into the Regulatory Sandbox. All applications received within the application window will be assessed in line with the Bank's Regulatory Sandbox Framework and [Guidelines](#).

Enquiries are to be directed to the Bank of Botswana Digitalisation and Innovation Hub at sandbox@bob.bw.

Join us in enhancing payments efficiency, financial inclusion, and shaping the future of financial innovation in Botswana. [Apply Now!](#)