

The official launch of the Risk Management Chapter in Botswana was successfully held on 22 May 2025, marking a significant milestone in strengthening risk management practices within the regions. Hosted in collaboration with the Institute of Risk Management South Africa (IRMSA) and under the theme “Unlocking value through risk management”, the event brought together professionals and thought leaders from a variety of industries to celebrate and support this important initiative.

The program featured opening remarks from Ms Yvonne Mothibi, the Chief Executive Officer of IRMSA and Secretary general of International Federation of Risk and Insurance Management Associations (IFRIMA), who discussed the IRMSA Botswana Chapter’s role in promoting resilience, knowledge sharing and professional development in the field of risk management on the evolving risk landscape and the need for agile, forward-thinking risk strategies.

A keynote address delivered by Ms Naseem Lahri, Managing Director of Lucara Botswana emphasized the critical role of risk management in both personal and professional spheres. She noted that risk management is a way of life, a moment-by-moment management decision that is done from personal to organisational level. Her words serve as a powerful reminder that effective risk management is not confined to boardrooms or policy documents, but rather a mindset that influences everyday decisions. Ms Gontle Khupe, a Risk and Compliance Specialist and President of the Institute of Internal Auditors Botswana also graced the occasion, highlighting the importance of the Institute’s collaboration with existing professional bodies.

Panel discussions and interactive sessions addressed topical issues in risk management such as:

- Sustainability and ESG risks
- Cybersecurity, Data Protection and Information Technology Risks
- Risk and Compliance in the Insurance Industry

The event also served as the formal introduction of the Botswana Chapter’s founding committee. In an address delivered by the Committee Chairperson, Ms Cindy Ndebele, the Committee outlined its vision and strategic objectives. Central to their mission was the creation of a vibrant, inclusive and knowledge-driven risk community. This will be achieved by championing best practices, encouraging the exchange of insights and raising the overall standards of risk management within the local context.

Meet The Botswana Committee



Cindy Ndebele

CHAIR



Basimane Boyce Modumedisi

VICE CHAIR



Ernest Kelapile

COMMITTEE MEMBER



Lindiwe Mogotsi

COMMITTEE MEMBER



Oneile Mararipe

COMMITTEE MEMBER



Roland Moyo

COMMITTEE MEMBER



Isaac Were

COMMITTEE MEMBER



Thato Pearl Modisenyane

COMMITTEE MEMBER

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Indeed, the event underscored the value of building a dedicated local platform for risk professionals to connect, learn, and lead. So what's next?

What to expect?

The Chapter is poised to bring a renewed value proposition of risk management in Botswana, not as a control function only, but as a key tool in driving growth for the government and private businesses.

Q: Now that the Botswana Chapter has launched, does that mean I can become a member of the local chapter? How do I become a member?

A: The Botswana Chapter is a part of IRMSA; therefore, to become a member of the Botswana Chapter, you need to become a member of IRMSA. If you are already a member of IRMSA, you automatically become a member of your local chapter as well at no additional cost.

Q: What are the additional benefits of being a member and what I should expect to see coming up of the Botswana chapter? Why should I want to be part of this movement?

A: Being part of the IRMSA Botswana Chapter gives you access to localised risk insights, including updates on emerging professional development opportunities and a platform to influence the national risk agenda. It also connects you to a broader network of regional and global risk professionals, resources, and certification pathways.

Q: Is IRMSA a registered with (BQA) Botswana Qualification Authority?

A: The IRMSA is the Professional Body for risk management in South Africa as recognised by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The institution is currently not registered with BQA; however, post the launch, this is one of the deliverables that the Botswana Committee will consider.

Q I have a Post Graduate Certificate in Enterprise Risk Management. Does that qualify me for an exemption or a professional certification at IRMSA?

A: You would need to apply for Associate membership and meet the requirements before you can apply for the board certification examinations.

Q: Does IRMSA provide professional training and seminars that could also count towards Continuous Professional Development (CPD) points?

A: Yes, IRMSA offers CPD points for training and webinars as well as some select events. This will be allocated accordingly

Q: What are IRMSA's short to long-term goals, i.e., does establishing a chapter start or end with Botswana?

A: IRMSA aims to establish national chapters like Botswana to localise risk leadership, promote Risk Intelligence Reports and thought leadership and professional certifications, and strengthen partnerships with local regulators, businesses, and academic institutions. In the long term, IRMSA seeks to position itself as the leading risk management body across Africa. This includes building a connected network of professionals and influencing policy by embedding a strong risk culture in organisations across the globe

Q: What other partnerships does IRMSA have with other bodies and institutions locally, regionally, and internationally that members can benefit from?

A: As a newly established Chapter, we are excited to partner with local universities, industry associations, regulatory bodies, and other relevant organisations to enrich its offerings and broaden its impact for members.

For any further inquiries on updates, upcoming events and membership information, please contact the Chapter Secretariat at botswana@irmsa.org.za, visit the IRMSA website at www.irmsa.org.za or LinkedIn Social media page???