



# BTC at 45

## Celebrating the Past, Connecting the Future

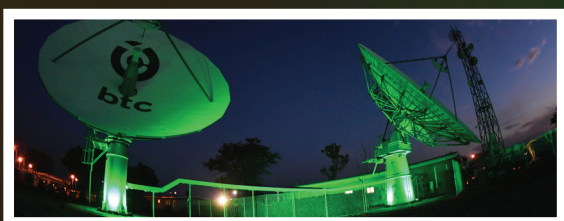
In 1980, a new chapter began in Botswana's journey toward modernisation. From humble beginnings rooted in rotary phones and copper lines, Botswana Telecommunications Corporation (BTC) has evolved into a national symbol of innovation, empowerment, and resilience.

Now, as the organisation marks its 45th anniversary, it does so not merely as a telecommunications provider but as a pillar of Botswana's digital transformation. For nearly half a century, BTC has connected generations, powered industries, enabled learning, and opened the nation to the world.



**"Celebrating 45 Years of Connection is a powerful reminder of how far we have come and where we are headed," says Boitumelo Paya, Acting Chief Executive Officer of BTC.**

**"BTC has not only connected people and places but has enabled Botswana to access a better version of themselves through inclusive, advanced technology. Through accelerated access to knowledge, collaboration, and economic opportunity, we've empowered learners, SMMEs, corporates, and communities to plug into the global economy.**



### A Journey Marked by Milestones

BTC's history is a timeline of national progress:

#### 1981:

The commissioning of Botswana's first Earth Station connected the country directly to global communications for the first time.

#### 1999:

The revolutionary Nteletsa Programme extended telecom access to over 127 rural villages.

#### 2016:

BTC became the first and only telecommunications provider to list on the Botswana Stock Exchange (BSE), creating a unique opportunity for citizen ownership.

#### 2017–2024:

A digital transformation journey began launching 4.5G, investing in cloud solutions, expanding data infrastructure, and opening the Senthaga Data Centre.

Each milestone is not just a company achievement, it's a step in empowering Botswana with tools to thrive in an increasingly digital world.



### A Shared Vision, A Shared Value

BTC's listing on the BSE wasn't only a financial event, it was a national turning point in democratising economic growth.

"BTC's public listing remains one of the country's most iconic capital market events," says Paya. "By allowing ordinary citizens to own a part of BTC, we championed inclusive wealth creation and demonstrated that the benefits of digital transformation should be shared. It's a model we are proud of, and one we continue to build on."

Today, BTC has over 40,000 citizen shareholders and continues to deliver returns that fuel both household and national prosperity.



### Beyond Connectivity: Empowerment Through Technology

BTC's commitment goes beyond networks, it lies in unlocking human potential.

From accelerating access to STEAM education and enabling students in remote villages to learn online, to powering the ambitions of small enterprises and large corporations, BTC's solutions have become enablers of progress. Its platforms support financial inclusion, cloud-based collaboration, smart security, and real-time data solutions for every segment of society.

The company's mobile financial services and IoT-ready solutions position it not just as a telecom, but as a strategic partner in Botswana's digital economy.



### A Foundation That Gives Back

Established in 2014, the **BTC Foundation** embodies the Corporation's belief that economic success must

go hand-in-hand with social impact and transformation. From sponsoring ICT labs and career fairs to funding sports, arts, and wellness initiatives, the Foundation continues to bridge the digital divide and foster opportunities.

Flagship initiatives like the BTC Francistown Marathon and the Financial Inclusion Programme which reached 168 villages across 26 districts BTC's commitment to leaving no one behind in Botswana's digital journey.

### 2025 and Beyond: Building a Future-Ready Nation

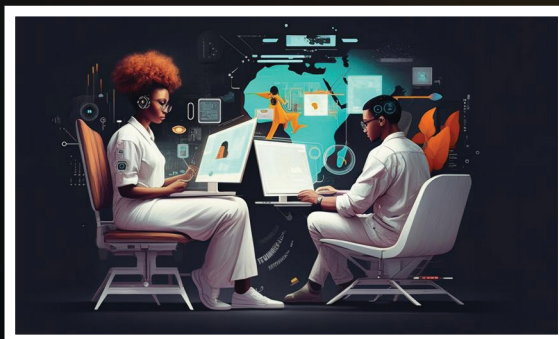
As BTC steps boldly into 2025, its focus remains clear: to lead Botswana into a digitally empowered future where no one is left behind.

The organisation is accelerating the rollout of 5G to create a faster, more responsive, and intelligent network experience. It is expanding its cloud infrastructure to support the growing demands of modern businesses and Government and embedding AI and machine learning to personalise customer experiences, enhance service delivery, and future-proof its operations.

BTC also remains committed to strengthening cybersecurity frameworks, promoting green technology adoption, and furthering cross-industry digital collaboration, all of which are key to unlocking inclusive growth and long-term national resilience.

"We are building a truly inclusive digital ecosystem one that works for every Botswana, from the city skyline to the most remote cattle post," says Paya.

"2025 is not just another year, it is a pivotal chapter in our transformation. We are redefining what it means to connect, and ensuring that technology becomes a powerful, practical tool for every citizen, every business, and every future dream."



### A Legacy to Honour. A Future to Embrace.

As Botswana steers the Fourth Industrial Revolution, BTC remains firmly at the helm, a trusted enabler of national development, digital inclusion, and citizen empowerment.

Here's to the past we celebrate, and the future we continue to connect boldly, proudly, and together.

**Happy 45th Anniversary, BTC!!!**

