**Botswana**

The national youth policy (2010) defines youth as between 15 – 35 years.

**DEFINITION OF YOUTH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marriageable Age</th>
<th>Candidacy Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opposite Sex</strong></td>
<td><strong>CandAcy Age</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without Parental Consent</td>
<td>Lower House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Majority Age</th>
<th>Voting Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

- **Net Enrolment Rates**
  - Secondary School: 60.79%
    - Both sexes: 60.37%
      - Male: 60.28%
      - Female: 60.46%
    - Year 2008, Source: UNESCO
  - Source: UNESCO

- **Tobacco Use**
  - Male (13-15): 23.6%
  - Female (13-15): 27.0%
  - Both sexes (13-15): 20.5%
  - Year 2010, Source: WHO

- **Prevalence of HIV**
  - Male: 3.7%
  - Female: 6.7%
  - Both sexes: 5.2%
  - Year 2010, Source: UNAIDS

**CORRUPTION PERCEPTION & PRESS FREEDOM**

- **GDP PER CAPITA**: USD 7238.02
- **HDI**: 0.634
  - 119 out of 187 countries.
- **GINI**: ..

**YOUTH POLICY & LEGISLATION**

- **Youth Development**: 0.55
  - 105 out of 170 countries.
- **Youth Policy**: Yes
  - A revised national youth policy was adopted in 2010, complemented by a National Action Plan 2010-2016.

- **Youth Policy Fact Sheet**
  - youthpolicy.org – building a global evidence base for youth policy
Is there a governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth?

Yes

What is the budget allocated to the governmental authority (ministry, department or office) that is primarily responsible for youth and/or youth programming?

Unclear

The Department for Youth within the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture has responsibility for the implementation of the national youth policy and national action plan for youth. According to the Department for Youth website, it aims to, “create an enabling environment for youth to participate in the development of this country. The Department co-ordinates youth activities at national level.” Within government, the Multi-Sectoral Committees on Youth Programming coordinates youth policies and plans across individual ministries.

The Botswana National Youth Council (BNYC) was established in 1974 and is an umbrella organisation for NGOs working on youth matters. It represents district-level youth councils and affiliate member organisations. The national youth policy (2010) indicates that, “BNYC acts as the “Voice of the youth” through the Department of Youth.” Botswana is also a member of the Commonwealth Youth Council.

According to the 2013/14 Budget in Brief, the consolidated ministerial budget for the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture is BWP 479 million (USD 55.4 million). However, it is unclear what portion is spent specifically on youth.

According to the World Bank, Botswana spent 16.23% of its government expenditure and 7.84% of its GDP on education provision in 2009.

Botswana

YOUTH & PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

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Does the country have a national youth organisation/association (council, platform, body)?

Yes

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Footnotes

1) A Human Development Index (HDI) value of zero means low human development, and a value of 1 means very high human development. HDI is a composite index measuring three dimensions: a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living. (UNDP)

2) An Income Gini coefficient of zero means absolute equality, and a coefficient of 100 means absolute inequality. Note: figures multiplied by 100 for OECD data. (World Bank/OECD)

3) A Corruption Perception Index (CPI) value of zero means that a country is perceived as highly corrupt, and a value of 100 means it is perceived as very clean. (Transparency International)

4) A Press Freedom Index (PFI) value of zero means the highest degree of freedom that journalists, news organisations and netizens enjoy, and a value of 100 means the lowest. (Reporters Without Borders)

5) A Youth Development Index (YDI) value of zero means little or absolutely no youth development, and a value of 1 means the highest possible level of youth development attainable. YDI is a composite index measuring five domains: education, health, employment, political, and civic participation. (Commonwealth Youth Programme)