



PRESS RELEASE

[PHOTO AND VIDEO MATERIAL RELATED TO THE PROJECT CAN BE FOUND HERE](#)

Antwerp diamond sector donates life-saving medication

Antwerp/Gaborone, 4 August 2026. A final shipment of life-saving medicines, made possible through the financial support of 18 Antwerp diamond companies and coordinated by the Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC) in partnership with the Government of Botswana, has arrived in Gaborone. The medicines will provide approximately 35,000 patients living with cardiovascular disease and diabetes with a year's supply of essential treatment.

The initiative reflects the enduring partnership between Botswana and the Antwerp diamond community, one founded not only on trade, but on shared values, mutual respect and a common commitment to improving lives.

The collaboration was launched following Botswana's declaration of a State of Emergency in 2025 in response to a critical shortage of essential medicines. Recognising the urgency of the situation, 18 Antwerp diamond companies came together to provide financial support for the procurement of life-saving medication. AWDC coordinated the initiative on behalf of the participating companies, working closely with the Government of Botswana to ensure the medicines reached the people who need them most.

During a visit to Antwerp in November 2025, Botswana's Minister of Minerals and Energy, Hon. Bogolo Joy Kenewendo, thanked the participating companies during an event hosted at the Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp (KMSKA), acknowledging their solidarity with the people of Botswana during a time of national need.

Botswana remains one of the world's leading producers of natural diamonds and shares a decades-long partnership with Antwerp, the world's premier diamond trading centre. In 2025, diamond trade between Botswana and Belgium was valued at approximately US\$963 million, reflecting an economic relationship that continues to create value for both countries.

Today's delivery demonstrates that the natural diamond value chain can deliver benefits beyond commerce by supporting the health and wellbeing of the communities that make the industry possible.

Isidore Mörsel, President of the Antwerp World Diamond Centre, said:

"The partnership between Antwerp and Botswana has always been built on trust, respect and a shared vision for responsible natural diamonds. When Botswana faced an urgent healthcare challenge, our industry responded because our relationship extends far beyond commercial transactions. We are proud that the natural diamond sector could stand alongside Botswana at a critical moment and contribute to improving the lives of thousands of people. This initiative demonstrates how strong partnerships can translate into meaningful and lasting impact."

Hon. Bogolo Joy Kenewendo, Botswana's Minister of Minerals and Energy, said:

"Botswana's partnership with the Antwerp diamond community has long been built on shared prosperity, trust and mutual respect.

This initiative is a powerful reminder that the natural diamond story is ultimately about people; that responsible natural diamonds should continue to create value not only through economic growth, but through investments that improve lives."

Hon. Stephen Modise, Botswana's Minister of Health, said:

"We often say there can be no wealth without health. By helping secure essential medicines for thousands of Botswana, our partners have demonstrated that the natural diamond industry can be a force for sustainable development, resilience and shared human progress."

From the Ministry of Minerals & Energy

This partnership underscores the broader contribution of the natural diamond industry to sustainable development in Botswana; We recognize all the efforts, collective and individual towards responding to the call for universal healthcare, illustrating how strong public-private collaboration can help address urgent societal challenges while strengthening the long-term relationship between producing and trading nations.

The 18 Antwerp companies that financially supported the project are:

Andre Messika
Ankit Gems
Anita Diamonds

Bonas Group
Choron – AMC
Dali Diamond
Dharm Diam
Ferrari
HB Antwerp
Malca Amit
Pluczenik
Rosy Blue
Rubel & Méнасché
Samir Gems
Sheetal
Shivam
Taché
Veediam



PRESS RELEASE

Antwerp diamond sector donates life-saving medication to 35,000 Batswana Shipment of medicines arrives in Gaborone today thanks to financial support from 18 Antwerp diamond companies

Antwerp/Gaborone, xx July 2026. A final shipment of life-saving medication, donated thanks to the financial support of 18 Antwerp diamond companies, arrives today in Gaborone, Botswana. The medicines are expected to provide 35,000 patients with cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and asthma with a year's worth of essential treatment. The relief effort was set up after Botswana declared a state of emergency in 2025 due to a critical shortage of essential medicines.

The 18 Antwerp diamond companies financially contributed in 2025 to the purchase of the medication. During a visit to Antwerp in November of that year, Botswana's Minister of Minerals and Energy, Joy Bogolo Kenewendo, thanked the companies for their contribution at an event held at the Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp (KMSKA). With the funds raised, AWDC, the representative body of the Antwerp diamond sector, was able to purchase the necessary medication and donate it to the Botswanan government on behalf of the participating diamond companies. The medication will give approximately 35,000 people, including cardiac and diabetes patients, access to essential treatment for a year.

Botswana is one of the world's leading producers of natural diamonds and has a strong trade relationship with the Antwerp diamond sector. In 2025, diamond-related trade between Belgium and Botswana amounted to approximately 963 million dollars. "The relationship between Antwerp and Botswana is built on trust and shared values," says Isidore Mörsel, President of the Antwerp World Diamond Centre. "The fact that 18 Antwerp diamond companies acted immediately when the need in Botswana was high shows that our cooperation goes beyond the trade in natural diamonds alone. The diamond sector is not only an important economic engine, but can also have a direct and tangible impact on the lives of people in diamond-producing countries. I am therefore particularly proud of this initiative and of the real impact it has for thousands of people in Botswana."

"Antwerp's swift and generous response during Botswana's medical emergency demonstrates the true strength of our long-standing cooperation. The contributions of

these diamond companies will have a direct and measurable impact on thousands of lives. We are deeply grateful for this support and place great value on the strong relationship, built on trust, between Botswana and the Antwerp diamond community,” said Botswana's Minister of Health, Dr. Stephen Modise.

“No wealth without health. This donation is the tangible translation of that principle – the Antwerp diamond sector investing directly in the wellbeing of the Botswana communities that help underpin our shared prosperity,” said Bogolo Joy Kenewendo, Botswana's Minister of Minerals and Energy.

The 18 Antwerp companies that financially supported the project are:

Andre Messika
Ankit Gems
Anita Diamonds
Bonas Group
Choron – AMC
Dali Diamond
Dharm Diam
Ferrari
HB Antwerp
Malca Amit
Pluczenik
Rosy Blue
Rubel & Ménasché
Samir Gems
Sheetal
Shivam
Taché
Veediam