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# Strategy and Operational Review

Group Chief Executive Officer Aupa Monyatsi



# **Strategy Overview**



## Execution on Plan 5 of Our 6-2-5 Strategy Remains Resilient despite Macroeconomic Headwinds

### 1 Product Diversification

- Mobile Lending income increased by 307% vs. 2022, reaching P541m in Total Revenue.
- Strong growth in Global Franchise Agreements with leading MNOs and Fintechs on Balance Sheet as a Service opportunities.
- Insurance revenue increased by 46% vs. 2022 to reach P363m.
- Customer Deposits grew 37% y-o-y to over P1.5 billion.

# 2 Digitisation

- Over 3.5 million registered users, up 218% from 2022.
- Digital Mall user base reached over 477,000 active customers in 2023.
- Over 89% of traditional customer base have been successfully migrated to the Digital Mall.
- Migrated 8 subsidiaries to Cloud enabling increased scale of operations.
- IT Investments made to curb inherent Cybersecurity threats.

# 3 Geographic Rebalancing

- Total Operating Income up 18% to P762m in East and West African Markets.
- Interest Income up 12% to P2.2 billion in Southern African Markets.
- Stronger balance sheet and revenue contribution from DAS and Mobile Loans, following deliberate actions to derisk from MSE portfolio.

# 4 Execution Engine

- Automation and Target Operating Model restructuring in H2 resulting in greater operating efficiencies going forward
- New Talent acquired to leverage and optimise income generation from investments in Technology capabilities.
- Innovation through Agile ways of working to bolster test and learn methodology and practice.

### 5 Sustainable Stakeholder Value

- Strong balance sheet growth supported by well capitalised subsidiaries
- Strong regulatory relationships in all markets.
- Strong ESG Agenda.
- Despite positive fundamental business performance, several once-off items negatively impacted our financial performance.
- We remain optimistic about sustaining and increasing business momentum across all lines.

# **Strategic and Operational Overview**



### **Accelerated Execution of Product Diversification Strategy**

**Mobile Loan Performance** 



Live in R Markets





Over 1 2.5 Loans Issued



P541 Total Revenue

**Insurance Highlights** 



**Product Types** 





Over 105k Individual Policies



P362m Fee Income

**Digital Mall Uptake** 



Migration and 89%



Over 3.5m

Registered



Over 477 K Active Users



# **Strategic Overview:** Sustainability



World Class ESG practices are core to Letshego's Purpose, Business and Pan-African Operations

# **Impact Financing**



- Over 50% of Letshego's customer base are Women or Women Owned Businesses.
- Letshego Nigeria launched First Solar Financing Solution.
- Affordable Housing went green with affordable grey water and solar power assets.

# **Sustainability Framework**



- ❖ Tactical strides made to develop Robust Sustainability Framework that encompasses the multi-stream of benefits social and environmental governance achieves for our regional operations, stakeholders and communities
- ❖ Accessing sustainability-linked funding instruments to diversify funding, increase access to new capital and demonstrate our impact financing credentials

### **Global Standards**



- Letshego Botswana eligible for Membership in 2X Challenge – international forum for investors and investees to track financial Support to Women and Women Owned Businesses.
- Letshego Nigeria won AfDB AFAWA Award for the extending the reach of its Financial Solutions to More Women.
- Letshego Uganda won Digital Awards for Customer Financial Inclusion.

#### Governance



- Group Sustainability Committee Established to track and manage ESG and Impact financing strategy, risk management and reporting.
- Letshego takes its Environmental & Social Risk Management System from policy into daily business operations with formal training, workshops, updating of policy and guidelines along with post implementation by expert consultant to assure success.

# **2023 Review:** Strong Growth on Core and New Business



Letshego Africa Showed Resilient Growth from Core Operations across Traditional and New Business Lines

## **Core Business Highlights**

**DAS Loan Book** 

P11,872m



2022: P11,332m

**Mobile Loans Book** 

**P803**m



2022: P421m

**Customer Deposits** 

P1,537m



2022: P1,121m

**Insurance Revenue** 

P363m



2022: P249m

**2023 Income Performance** 

**Interest Income** 

P3,425m



2022: P3,146m

**Non-Funded Income** 

P514m
\*Excluding FX Gains



2022: P439m

**Operating Income: South** 

P1,890m



2022: P1,910m

**Operating Income: East & West** 

P758m



2022: P647m

# **2023** Review: Navigating a Challenging Operating Environment



#### 2023 Macroeconomic Headwinds

### **Rising Inflation**



- Several African countries grappled with rising inflation.
- Most notably, Ghana (+50%) and Nigeria (+25%).
- Most Letshego Africa operating countries recorded average inflation outside target range, incl. Botswana and Mozambique.

#### **Interest Rate Hikes**



- Letshego bore the full year impact of interest hikes from 2022 and 2023 to counter rising inflation.
- Floating debt, new debt and rollover funds repriced higher leading to reduced margins
- Interest Expenses rose faster than interest income growth.

#### **Constrained Macroeconomic Growth**



- SSA economy grew 2.5% vs 3.6% in 2022.
- Letshego entities recorded balance sheet and top-line earnings growth in all major geographies, driven largely by core DAS product.

### 2023 Key Challenges

### **Change in ECL Stage 3 Discounting**



- During the year, our auditors changed their professional view and judgement on discounting of Stage 3 ECLs.
- In prior periods, Letshego had discounted ECLs across all three stages.
   In 2023 their view was that discounting should not be applied at Stage 3 ECLs.
- Management agreed to the adjustments for prudence.

### **Individual Lending Portfolio**



 Our leading market, Botswana, still faces challenges with portfolio deterioration on the discontinued test-and-learn open market lending product.

### **Ghana Hyper-Inflationary Adjustment**



 The Ghanaian economy was judged to be a hyper-inflationary, leading to a income write-downs and other downward accounting adjustments, eroding what was rather a very strong year.

### **Currency Depreciation**



 Operating entities posted good growth in local currency terms but was more muted when translated to BWP.

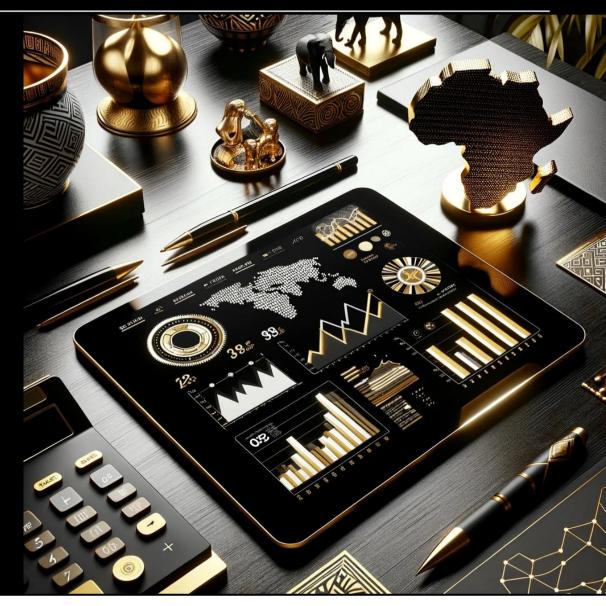
# Agenda



02

# **Financial** Review

Group Chief Financial Officer **Gwen Muteiwa** 



# **Key Performance Highlights: Balance Sheet**



Balance Sheet Grew against Key Metrics Despite Challenging Macroeconomic Context



P14,346m

**Gross Advances** 

2022: P13,132m



**P13,488m** 

**Loans and Advances** 

2022: P12,655m



P18,110m

**Total Assets** 

2022: P16,719m



P9,626m

20%

**Borrowings** 

2022: P8,028m



**P673m** 

19%

**Retail Deposits** 

2022: P565m



P1,538m

37%

**Customer Deposits** 

2022: P1,121m

# **Balance Sheet Summary**



### **Strong Performance Driven by Core Product Demand and New Product Introductions**

Assets (BWP'000s)	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	Δ%
Cash and similar instruments	1,401,824	1,020,771	37%
Investment securities	866,718	692,101	25%
Financial assets at fair value	963,648	1,222,076	-21%
Advances to customers	13,487,892	12,654,857	7%
Other Assets	1,390,010	1,129,883	23%
Total assets	18,110,092	16,719,688	8%
Liabilities	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	Δ%
Financial liabilities at fair value	980,519	1,201,095	-18%
Customer deposits	1,537,984	1,120,827	37%
Borrowings	9,626,301	8,027,840	20%
Other Liabilities	1,045,402	784,375	33%
Total liabilities	13,190,206	11,134,137	18%
Equity	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	Δ%
Stated capital	917,909	899,571	2%
Other Reserves	3,559,146	4,217,103	-16%
Equity Attributable to Parent	4,477,055	5,116,674	-13%
Non-controlling interests	442,831	468,877	-6%
Total Shareholders' Equity	4,919,886	5,585,551	-12%
Total Liabilities and Equity	18,110,092	16,719,688	8%

#### **Commentary**

#### **Strong Loan Book Growth:**

 Asset Base grew 8%, led by 7% growth in Loans and Advances, bolstered by Letshego's Flagship DAS product, with growing contribution from Mobile Loans.

#### **Growing Customer Deposits:**

- Customer Deposits grew 37%. Retail deposits contribute 43% of all customer deposits.
- Further Growth expected through increased uptake of payments products and Digital Mall on the Retail end.

#### **Borrowings:**

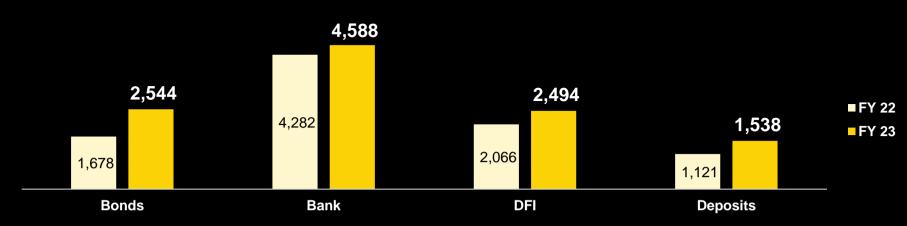
- Borrowings grew by 20% to support:
  - Subsidiary liquidity buffers following strong customer demand for core loan products
  - To facilitate growing requests for Balance Sheet as a Service solutions from Fintech/MNO partners.

# **Funding Update**

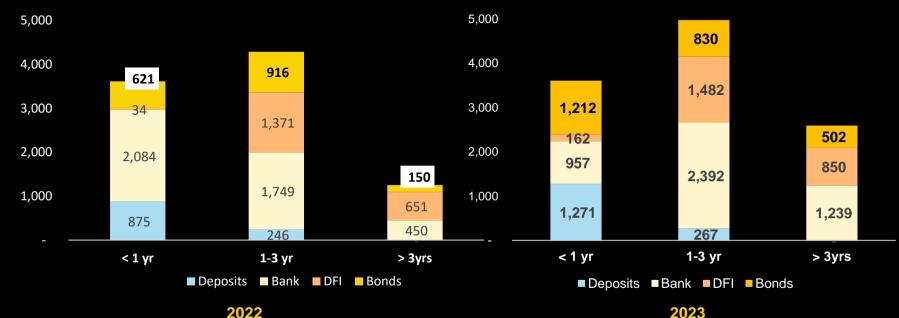


### Positive Progress On Deliberate Balance Sheet Restructuring Efforts to Unlock Greater Efficiencies

# **Funding Profile (BWP'm)**



### Funding Term Structure (BWP'm)



### **Key Highlights**

- New debt of P3.6bn raised, rollovers of P2.6bn executed during FY 2023.
- Increase in Local Funding and in Local Currency Disbursement of P5.8bn (P3.3bn New: P2.5bn Rollover) vs P2.5bn in 2022 (P1.4bn New; P1.1bn Rollover)
- · Total borrowings (incl Deposits) across the Group increased by P2.02bn (22% increase).
- SSA (Security Sharing Agreement) has been Successfully Unwound, releasing P3.5bn in assets.
- Landmark Bond Issuance in Mozambique with record corporate value of P307m
- Extended Funding Term Structure in line with extended term loan durations, >3yr bucket increased by P1.34bn.
- Deposit base increased by 37% to P1.5bn

2023

# Significant Income Statement Items



Impact of Exceptional Items on Profitability

**Exceptional and Once-Off Items** 

**№ P128m** 

**Ghana Inflation Adjustments** 

**↑** P296m

**ECL** Impairments

**^** P70m

Restructuring Costs

**2023 Profit Summary** 

**∨** P758m

6% Normalised Profit Before Tax

P122m

82% Actual Profit Before Tax

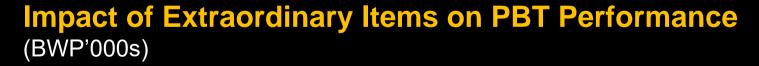
**✓** (P149m)

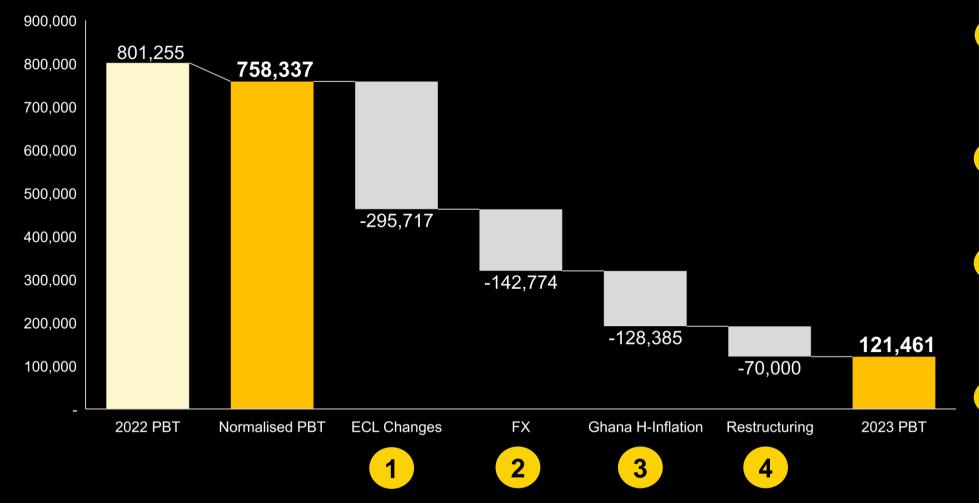
142% Actual
Loss After Tax

# **Significant Accounting Adjustments**



**Buoyant Underlying Performance before Adjustments** 





# **Extraordinary Items Explained**

P296m increase largely due to removal of Stage 3 ECL discounting as required by External Auditors.

Outlook: Increased Collection efforts in 2024.

P143m impact of swing from prior year FX gain to loss in current year.

P128m 'Net Monetary Loss' due to inflation-adjusted accounting - Ghana.

Outlook: Ghana inflation is on a declining trend. Inflation adjusted accounting could be phased out in 2025/26

P70m Restructuring Expenses
Outlook: Once-off item that will not recur in 2024

# **Key Performance Highlights: Income Statement**



**Buoyant Performance Supported by Strong Consumer Demand Despite More Challenging** 



P3,425m

**Interest Income** 

2022: P3,146m



**↑** P1,690m

23%

**Interest Expense** 

2022: P1,377m



P1,722m

**Net Interest Income** 

2022: P1,756m



P514m

17% Non-Funded Income

2022: P439m



**P1,659m** 

**Total Operating Expense** 

2022: P1,386m



P2,237m

**Operating income** 

2022: P2.286m

# **Income Statement Summary**



# Strong Top-Line Performance Driven by Strong Customer Demand for Core Lending Products

Income Statement (BWP'000s)	FY 2023	FY 2022	Δ%
Interest Income	3,424,947	3,145,672	9%
Interest Expense	(1,702,674)	(1,389,202)	23%
Net Interest Income	1,722,273	1,756,470	-2%
Net Fee and Commission Inncome	258,231	277,420	-7%
Other operating income	256,141	251,937	2%
Operating Income	2,236,645	2,285,827	-2%
Expected credit losses	(456,591)	(216,076)	111%
Net Operating Income	1,780,054	2,069,751	-14%
Employee costs	(611,604)	(585,939)	4%
Other operating expenses	(1,046,989)	(799,927)	31%
Total Operating Expenses	(1,658,593)	(1,385,866)	20%
Profit before taxation	121,461	683,885	-82%
Taxation	(270,260)	(332,311)	-19%
(Loss)/Profit for the Year	(148,799)	351,574	-142%

### **Key Messages**

#### **Interest Income:**

 Strong top-line growth driven by strong core DAS business and increasing contribution from mobile loans.

#### **Interest Expense:**

- Interest expense increased due to increased borrowings and policy rate hikes.
- Significant interest movements experienced especially in Mozambique.

#### **Operating Expenses:**

- Operating expenses increased due to:
  - Loss on Net Monetary Position P145m
  - Restructuring Costs **P70m**
  - Net Foreign Exchange Loss P52m
  - Once-Off Consultancy P21m
  - OpEx less Above Once-Off Costs P288m
- Normalised OpEx is 1% down vs. 2022 without above Once-Off Costs (P288m)

# **Credit Quality:** Expected Credit Losses (ECLs)



Strengthened Coverages in line with increases in Stage 3 Provisions and After correction of Stage 3 Discounting

### **Group Consolidated ECL Coverage as at 31st December 2023**

Gross Advances	Dec-21	Jun-22	Dec-22 Restated	Jun-23	Dec-23
Stage 1	10,994	11,111	11,229	11,527	12,142
Stage 2	678	722	1,006	596	755
Stage 3	768	979	896	1,162	1,472
Total	12,439	12,812	13,132	13,286	14,346
ECL	Dec-21	Jun-22	Dec-22	Jun-23	Dec-23
Stage 1	131	141	107	158	118
Stage 2	110	95	47	23	39
Stage 3	323	377	323	256	700
Total	564	613	477	437	858
Coverages	Dec-21	Jun-22	Dec-22	Jun-23	Dec-23
Total Coverage	4.5%	4.8%	3.6%	3.3%	6.0%
Stage 3 coverage *	73%	63%	53%	38%	58%

<sup>\*</sup>Stage3 Coverage = Total ECL / Stage 3 ECL

# **Credit Quality:** Income Statement



# **Loan Loss Ratios by Region**

Financial Year	Southern Africa	East and West	Group
2018	1.8%	9.8%	4.1%
2019	0.2%	5.8%	1.7%
2020	1.0%	-1.5%	0.3%
2021	0.5%	-1.1%	-0.1%
2022	0.2%	0.6%	0.5%
2022**	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%
2023	2.9%	3.8%	3.3%
2023*	2.2%	1.3%	2.0%

### **Commentary**

- LLR at 3.3% up from 0.2% the previous year (restated 2022).
- Normalized LLR at 2.0%.
- Collections challenges on Individual lending product adversely impacting Botswana portfolio, driving up LLR to 3.3% and 2.9% in Southern Africa. This is expected to be remediated through the various collection and recoveries strategies.

# **Ghana Update:** Turnaround Market Highlight

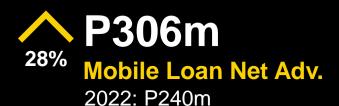


The Underlying Business in Ghana is Strong and Growing. We are Optimistic about Macroeconomic Recovery.

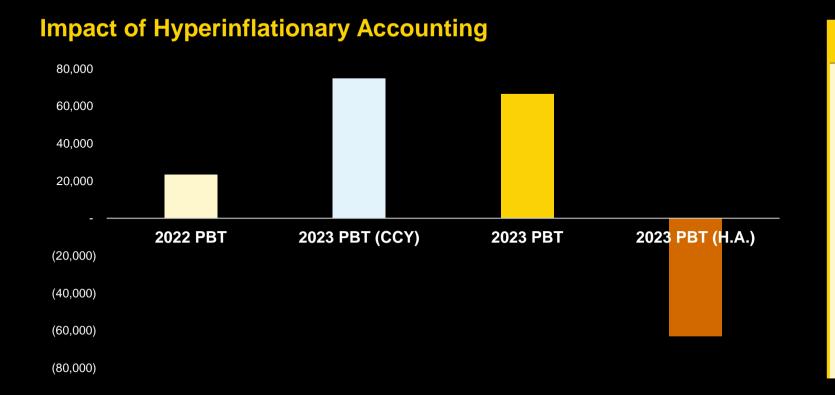
Country Highlights Constant Currency (CCY) | 2022 GHS/BWP Rates



P232m
1,007% Customer Deposits
2022: P21m



P162m
Mobile Loans Revenue
2022: P71m



#### **Macro Outlook**

<b>Key Metric</b>	2022	2023	2024	2025
Inflation	54.1%	23.2%	13.5%	12.2%
Exchange Rates GHS:USD	8.58	12.00	11.40	12.39
Policy rates	27.0%	30.0%	22.0%	17.0%

- We continue to closely monitor Ghana and other economies and are prepared with contingent plans should situation worsen.
- Based on the above positive trends and solid LCY underlying business performance, we expect a turnaround in BWP terms in Ghana.



03

# Looking Ahead

Group Chief Executive Officer Aupa Monyatsi



# **Looking Ahead**



## We are Focused on Increasing Execution Capability to Deliver on Our Key Strategic Priorities

#### We are Pleased About

- 1 Buoyant DAS-led Growth
  - Growing demand in main DAS markets in H2.
  - Strong sales momentum in Q4 carrying over into 2024.
- 2 Non-Funded Income Growth
  - New Mobile Lending and Balance Sheet as a Service partnerships in pipeline in existing and new markets.
  - Continued strong demand and income growth from Insurance products.
- 3 Strong Customer Deposit Growth
  - Customers continue to respond well to new transactional products and corporate solutions from lending arrangements.

# We are Accelerating Execution On

- 1 Collections and Recoveries
  - Optimising business to claw back on increased provisions realised in 2022 and 2023.
- 2 Capital Efficiency and Treasury Management
  - Continued focus on maximising capital efficiencies and optimising balance sheet and funding structure.
- 3 Cost Rationalisation
  - Ongoing efforts to reevaluate investments in operating environment and overall Cost structure given subdued macroeconomic growth.
- 4 Assessing Geographic Presence
  - Various strategic actions underway to protect business against macroeconomic and geopolitical risk of certain operations.

