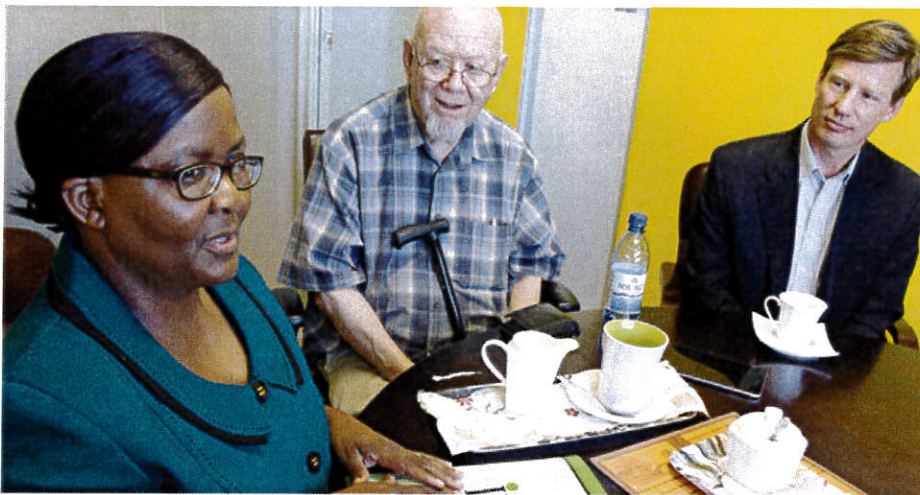


Home » News » General » IDM reflects on partnership with US Flagship University

## IDM reflects on partnership with US Flagship University Share 0

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**Indiana University, one of the flagship learning institutions in the United States (US) is looking forward to enhancing its partnership with Institute of Development Management (IDM). The partnership has been in place since 2010.**

Indiana University is a major multi-campus public research institution, grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, and a world leader in professional, medical, and technological education. It has consistently been ranked among top schools in the world.

IU is home to world-class business and music schools; the world's first school of philanthropy, and US's first school of informatics and largest medical school. It has countless other academic programs that are among the world's best.

Indiana's Kelley School of Business is reputed to not only provide students with a rigorous academic curriculum, but it also builds leadership-development opportunities, such as student clubs and peer coaching, into each semester so students can grow their soft skills.

Kelley touts itself as the largest business-school alumni network in the world and has a 94% job-placement rate within three months of graduation. Top employers include Google, JPMorgan Chase, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Amazon, and PepsiCo.

Tim Smith, the university's Director of International Relations and Business Development at Kelley School Business, alongside Professor Rex Stockton from Department of Counselling and Education Psychology are currently in Botswana to deliberate on the institution's relationship with IDM.

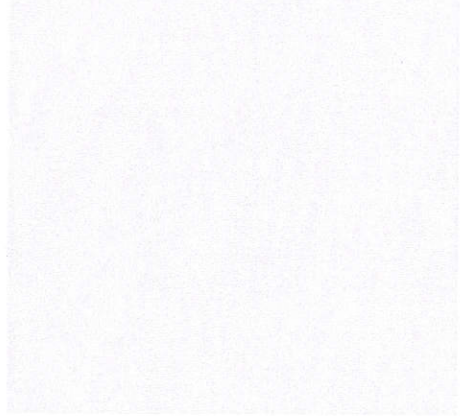
Since the two institutions entered into partnership in 2010, both parties have enjoyed the benefits from that partnership. The partnership is premised on helping IDM to achieve its objectives by addressing the challenges facing the country, chief among them, public health and developing entrepreneurs. IU helped IDM to develop its BA in Public Health programme. The four year programme produced its first graduates in 2017.

"We are excited to further develop our relations with this visit. We will put in place a strategic plan on how we can leverage this relationship for a greater benefit. We want to contribute to Africa," he said. "We also want to learn from them [IDM]. We want to ensure that our programmes are relevant. This can be achieved through understanding. Understanding comes through listening, and learning the context."

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- YES
- NO



Smith said businesses are changing and evolving and if they want to be relevant, the IU needs to play an active role on what is happening. "We will be thrilled to extend this partnership to the economy of the country. We want this partnership to be applied; we want this partnership to have an impact. How that will look is part of the discussion we are having now," he said.

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We started first with better understanding of the context. Now we are developing a working strategy to implement these action ideas. I think it is in action plan to start seeing those fruit. As part of the partnership, IDM staff has visited the IU campus in the US while in turn, the IU staff and students have also visited IDM campus in Botswana. The two institutions have been publishing papers together.






Professor Stockton said the relationship between the two entities have been fruitful since 2010. He has been involved in training IDM staff as well with engagements that include public entities such as NACA. IDM Country Director Dr Onalenna Seitio-Kgokgwe said through the public health programme, that the institution formulated with the help of Indiana University, they are hoping that they will contribute immensely towards changing people's lives especially looking at turning around the country's fortunes in life expectancy, which is very low. Botswana's life expectancy has averaged 55 over the last 10 years.

"Through our programme [Public Health], we believe we are training practitioners who change of the lives of the people by will bring these social deterrents of health. One of the challenges we are facing as a developing country is limitation in resources especially in the area of public health. We believe the contribution of IU is very important because it helped us to build the capacity that we need. Even now our students are already making an impact in the communities when we send them for attachment because they are already practicing what they learnt," she said.

Dr Seitio-Kgokgwe said IDM is influential at national level. She gave an example of the institution's contribution in developing the evaluation and monitoring programme as required in today's world including by institutions such as World Bank. About 30 entrepreneurs, who were prize winners in last year's Youth Business Expo have been enrolled under a special training programme, which is also part of Indiana's Kelley School of Business contribution to the partnership.

The IDM was established in 1974 as a regional organisation in Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland (BLS) to help meet the management needs of the Region through management development activities including training, consultancy, research, and the establishment of a Management Resource Centre.

IDM has traditionally conducted consultancy projects in the BLS countries but, in recent years, these services have been used throughout the SADC Region. The expertise available from IDM is extensive, covering a wide range of subject areas in five core departments.

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