



Bridging the Gap: Governance Oversight and Collaboration between Civil Society and Parliament

EU contribution: € 200,000 (approx. BWP 3,000,000)

Period of implementation: 2026-2028

Location: Gaborone, Botswana

Implementing organisation(s): Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung e.V (FES), Botswana
Centre for Public Integrity (BCPI)

Project objectives and description:

This project contributes to strengthening inclusive and transparent democratic governance in Botswana by promoting structured, institutionalised collaboration between the Parliament and civil society. The Parliament of Botswana and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) collaboratively implement legislative and oversight processes that are participatory, transparent, and inclusive for women, youth, and marginalized communities. The project further integrates a specific sub-theme of promoting the participation of underrepresented groups, particularly women and youth, in the legislative process. Their involvement is not symbolic but designed to meaningfully influence the content and focus of resulting legislative outputs. Ultimately, this action creates a continuous cycle of dialogue, co-creation, oversight, and feedback, laying the groundwork for a more inclusive, accountable, and citizen-driven democratic governance system in Botswana.

Achievements / expected results:

- **Establishing coordination mechanisms** such as taskforces and joint monitoring forums that facilitate ongoing collaboration between CSOs and Parliament.
- **Co-designing and validating legislative frameworks** in three thematic areas, resulting in the development of draft bills that reflect citizen and CSO input.
- **Institutionalising engagement platforms** through a CSO–Parliament Summit and preparatory teams, which formalize regular interaction and dialogue

Incoming public / visibility events: A launch event was held April 23, 2026.

Project website / Social media account links:

- <https://www.facebook.com/fesbots/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/BCPI.org/>