## **PRESS RELEASE**



## LETSHEGO GROUP SECURES BWP256MN IN SPECIALIST FUNDING TO EXPAND IMPACT IN AFRICA

- Funding will support a variety of growth ambitions across the Group
- Funders include specialist investors who focus on micro and inclusive finance ventures
- Programme achieves treasury benefits by reducing funding risk through geographical diversification, increasing the current number of funders and securing longer tenors

Gaborone, Botswana, Monday 21 May 2018: Following Letshego Holdings Limited's (Letshego Group) progress and committed strategy in expanding inclusive finance across Sub Saharan Africa, the Group has attracted and secured another BWP256million of funding from specialist international investors. New funders include specialist and impact investors who focus on micro and inclusive finance ventures. This new group of finance partners are headquartered in the UK and Europe, all with a keen interest in sustainable development in Africa.

The structured funding arrangement will deliver treasury benefits and mitigate funding risk for the Letshego Group by achieving geographical diversification in its funding base, increasing the current number of funders, securing longer tenors as well as reducing the Group's overall open foreign exchange exposure by drawing new local currency-denominated facilities. After standard foreign exchange hedging operations, the funding will be available in Botswana Pula, Kenyan Shillings, Tanzanian Shillings and Nigerian Naira – some of the key currencies in which Letshego operates across the region.

Chris Low, Group Managing Director commented, "As Letshego progresses in its sustainable growth strategy, with marked in-roads in increasing inclusive finance through digital innovation, we now see a noteworthy increase in interest and support from new investors and funders. These are financial partners who share our ambition in delivering a commercial strategy which supports long term economic value for Africa's under-served communities."

Letshego will be allocating this funding to support a variety of growth ambitions, which include: expansion of the loan book in selected markets; further investment into Group systems and financial solutions technology; as well as embedding existing and new strategic partnerships which expand the Group's customer base.

## PRESS RELEASE



Verdant Capital, a specialist Africa investment bank, has facilitated and assisted Letshego in structuring and finalising this latest funding programme. The Letshego Group continuously reviews and manages its funding sources to maintain acceptable levels in costs of funding, while delivering further value for customers and all stakeholders for the long term.

**ENDS** 

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Renga SESINYI - Senior PR Consultant, Hotwire Botswana

Tel: +267 392 3579 / Mobile: +267 714 78 847 / Email: renga@hotwireprc.com

OR

**Lauren CALLIE - Head of Group Corporate Affairs, Letshego Holdings** Tel: +267 398 4631 / Mobile: +27 82 894 5581 / Email: laurenc@letshego.com

## **About Letshego Holdings Limited ("Letshego Group")**

The Letshego Group is a proudly African multinational organisation, headquartered and listed in Botswana and focused on delivering inclusive finance solutions to underserved populations across 11 Sub Saharan Markets.

With a staff compliment of over 3,000 – including both direct and indirect sales agents - and more than four hundred thousand customers, Letshego is synonymous with leveraging innovation and technology to improve the lives of individuals who have limited access to traditional financial services.

In 2018, Letshego celebrates 20 years of supporting regional communities, with strong progress towards the Group's ambition to be Africa's leading inclusive finance organisation.

For more info visit www.letshego.com