

Electric vehicles botswana

Botswana on Monday unveiled its first batch of locally assembled electric vehicles in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, with support from two Chinese vehicle manufacturing companies.

The unveiling ceremony took place at the showroom of Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI), which was established in 2012 as a parastatal under the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology.

BITRI Chief Executive Officer Shedden Masupe said the unveiling ceremony is a culmination of a partnership between the institute and two Chinese companies. According to Masupe, Skywell, one of the Chinese manufacturers, has partnered with BITRI in assembling sport utility vehicles (SUVs) in the southern African country, while the other one, CHTC Kinwin, is assisting Botswana to produce electric buses.

After inspecting the vehicles, Botswana's President Mokgweetsi Masisi commended BITRI for choosing the right partners in Chinese companies, saying the initiative will go a long way in supporting and promoting the usage of renewable energy in the automobile industry.

"This is one of the examples of our commitment to e-mobility. We want to play a part in this, not just for our economy and environment but also to enhance those aspects of our knowledge economy that optimise our natural endowments," Masisi said.

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GABORONE, BOTSWANA - In a significant move towards establishing a sustainable motor industry, Botswana has launched its first electric vehicle (EV) assembly plant, with plans to produce 100 electric cars per month by 2025. This initiative is a collaboration between the Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI) and two Chinese companies.

President Dr. Mokgweetsi E.K. Masisi, during the launch, expressed the nation's ambition to lead in innovative and cost-effective vehicle production. "We must produce the best, the fastest, the most cost-effective. Botswana is ready to start its motor industry," said President Masisi.

The current facility is a first-level assembly plant and not yet automated. However, President Masisi outlined plans to further develop and automate the facility as funding becomes available and demand increases. He emphasized the importance of private sector partnerships in accelerating the marketing and distribution of Botswana-made electric vehicles to both local and international markets.

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