

IMPLEMENT Study Engages Stakeholders to Review Neurodevelopment Assessment Tools



Group photo of the BHP team with stakeholders

On 24 June 2026, Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP) hosted stakeholders and collaborators at its conference room for a consultative meeting under the IMPLEMENT Study to review neurodevelopment assessment tools and identify those most suitable for adoption within the study.

The meeting brought together experts from diverse fields, including clinical research, child development, public health and education. Participants reviewed a range of neurodevelopmental assessment instruments, evaluating their scientific validity, feasibility, and contextual relevance for use in Botswana.

The IMPLEMENT Study, Implementation Outcomes and Cost-Effectiveness of Developmental Monitoring for Children Exposed to HIV, is part of the Researching Interventions and Implementation Strategies to Evaluate the Health and Development of Children Affected by HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa (RISE) project.

The study will be implemented in Botswana, Kenya, and Zimbabwe and seeks to identify, evaluate, and integrate into child welfare clinics effective and sustainable approaches for monitoring the developmental outcomes of children exposed to HIV.

Discussions focused on ensuring that the selected tools are scientifically robust, culturally appropriate,

and capable of accurately measuring developmental outcomes among participating children. Stakeholders provided valuable insights and recommendations on the practicality of implementing the tools within local settings, taking into consideration factors such as resource requirements, training needs, and applicability across different communities.

Speaking during the meeting, one of the Study Principal Investigators, Dr Gaerolwe Masheto, emphasized the importance of implementation science and stakeholder engagement in strengthening research quality and ensuring that evidence-based interventions are effectively adapted to local contexts.

He provided an overview of the IMPLEMENT Study, outlining its objectives, scope, and anticipated impact, and enabling participants to make informed contributions to the selection of appropriate neurodevelopment assessment tools. Dr Masheto noted that meaningful stakeholder involvement is critical to ensuring the feasibility, acceptability, and long-term sustainability of interventions within routine child welfare services.

He stated that involving stakeholders in the selection process promotes greater ownership and commitment to the study, as many of them will play a critical role in its implementation and the translation of findings into policy and practice.

The review forms part of the IMPLEMENT Study's broader efforts to generate high-quality evidence that can inform interventions and policies aimed at improving child health, neurodevelopment, and long-term well-being among children affected by HIV.

The meeting concluded with stakeholders and collaborators reaffirming their commitment to supporting the successful implementation of the study and working together to identify effective, contextually relevant neurodevelopment assessment tools that will contribute to improved outcomes for children in Botswana and across the region.



Breakaway group discussion session

BHP Wellness Session Inspires Staff to Reawaken Their Inner Wisdom



Dr. Shaneberger presenting on wellbeing

On 10 June 2026, the Botswana Harvard Health Partnership (BHP), through its Human Resources Department and the Training and Development Unit, hosted a staff wellness session titled “Wellbeing – Reawakening Our Inner Wisdom” at the BHP Conference Room. The session was facilitated by internationally certified Health and Wellness Consultant, Dr Gray Shaneberger, as part of BHP’s ongoing commitment to promoting employee wellness and fostering a healthy, resilient workforce.

Hosted by BHP Training and Development Manager, Professor Catherine Koofhethile, the session brought together staff from across the institution to reflect on the importance of holistic wellbeing and the practical steps individuals can take to enhance their physical,

mental, and emotional health.

Dr Shaneberger, who holds a PhD in Performance Psychology, challenged participants to rethink the meaning of wellbeing, describing it as a deeply personal journey rather than a destination. He explained that wellbeing is unique to every individual and is cultivated through consistent, intentional practices and the small positive choices people make each day.

“Wellbeing is not about reaching a finish line,” he noted. “It is a lifelong practice of reconnecting with ourselves and reawakening our inner wisdom.”

Throughout the presentation, Dr Shaneberger explored practical strategies for enhancing personal wellbeing by encouraging staff to reconnect with their intuition, strengthen their emotional intelligence (EQ), and develop greater self-awareness. He emphasised that true wellbeing comes from understanding oneself and making conscious decisions that align with one’s values and purpose.

The session covered a range of topics, including intuition, emotional intelligence, visualisation, mindful breathing, the importance of rest and recovery, the effects of screen time and lighting on health, self-talk, values alignment, self-discovery, mindfulness, and cultivating a growth mindset. Participants were encouraged to embrace small, sustainable habits that support long-term wellbeing rather than seeking quick fixes.