



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

NATIONAL EMERGENCY
Issue 50
OPERATION CENTRE

Wednesday, 10 June 2020

Day 69

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BotswanaPost feels the COVID-19 brunt

BotswanaPost has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic losing P 80 million in 56 days of extreme social distancing.

According to BotswanaPost Chief Executive Officer Mr. Cornelius Ramatlhakwana, they incurred the loss in revenue to withheld parcels from across the world following restriction in movements across the borders by countries.

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

7,156,598

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 09/06/20

CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

08/06/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	26800
Negative Cases	26758
Positive Cases	42
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	24
Active Cases	1
Transferred Out	16

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

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The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

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He said their parcels were delayed in Ethiopia and South Africa due to strict COVID-19 protocols. This led to companies and individuals not being able to transact with their various post offices.

Mr Ramatlhakwana further estimate that BotswanaPost will lose P151 million by the end of financial year in March 2021. He said the closure of some post offices across the country contributed to the loss of revenue as they could not get their usual revenue from postal services, third party contracts with government and companies.

The CEO said BotswanaPost has however come up with interventions to address the matter going into the future. He said BotswanaPost embraces technology to be in the forefront to achieve its mandate such as Poso Cloud where a customer can do business without physically going to the post office.

Another initiative is an eco-system where customers will be able to pay for various services from the comfort of their homes.



Mr. Cornelius Ramatlhakwana

BotswanaPost is further gearing up to use Poso Money which shall be accessible by all models to pay old age pension, adding that they are currently engaging companies and local authorities to pay their employees through the same. Mr Ramatlhakwana said they have introduced Poso Money VISA card which can be swiped at point of sales and used to access money at ATMs.

The postal services company has also improved the Department of Road Transport Services online where customers can pay for their vehicle license disc at the comfort of their homes and have it delivered. According to BotswanaPost CEO, they have Poso

Online Website where customers can pay for DRTS, DSTV, Airtime and post box rental among others.

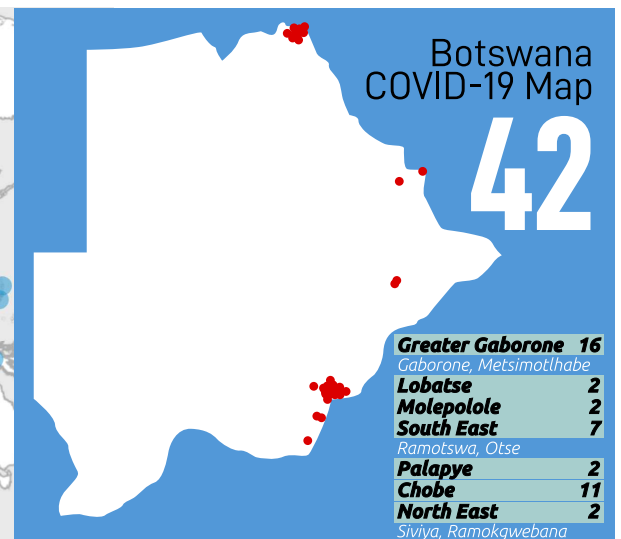
The company has also invested in virtual tele-machines similar to an ATM which can be used for old age payments, procurement of electricity, groceries, insurance and cashing money.

Mr Ramatlhakwana also said they have partnered with Choppies to extended their services to their customers in remote areas. Customers will be able to access postal service at Choppies stores. He said their customers will benefit a lot from the partnership especially where there are no Post Offices.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 09/06/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 1,965,685	South Africa - 50,879	Malawi - 443
UK - 290,575	Egypt - 35,444	Eswatini - 340
Spain - 241,966	Ethiopia - 2,336	Zimbabwe - 287
Italy - 235,561	Zambia - 1,200	Angola - 92
France - 191,313	Madagascar - 1,138	Botswana - 42
China - 84,195	Mozambique - 453	Namibia - 31



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CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

Crime Overview – Botswana Police Service

Botswana Police Service has started to witness a slow rise in crime going back to the situation as it was before the extreme social distancing phase that was implemented by Government to contain the COVID-19 virus.

In an interview with the Presidential COVID-19 Taskforce Daily Bulletin Botswana Police Service Public Relations Officer, Assistant Commissioner Dipheko Motube said with the introduction of the Extreme Social Distancing that took almost 2 months, crime significantly dropped across all levels in the country. He said during Botswana's lockdown there was heightened visibility of the police and the Botswana Defense Force as well as alcohol ban contributed immensely on the decline of crime.

"Since movements were restricted, there was no chance for criminal activities. Criminal activities became less attractive as the environment was not conducive for offenders compared to when the situation is normal as we know it," Mr Motube.

He said this is especially seeming when comparing the country's crime statistics between January and May. He revealed that in the period of January to March 141 to 142 cases were recorded every month as compared to 42 and 49 recorded in April and May. He said Police further recorded about 75 cases every month for the period January to March as compared to 23 and 22 for the months of April and May. House breaking cases were at 143 monthly for the period

of January to March while in April and May a total of 90 and 85 cases were recorded respectively. A total of 104 and 69 cases store breaking cases were registered in January to March while 63 and 36 cases were recorded for the months of April and May. Mr Motube revealed that they however recorded the highest number of defilement cases which went up from 62 in February and March

monthly to 65 and 78 in April and May. He further indicated that Botswana Police further recorded the highest numbers of stock theft which rose from 100 in January to March to 141 cases in April.

"There is a lot of good lessons that have been realized from the extreme social distancing phase on how to live a life free of crime," he said.

SA's COVID-19 cases surpass the 50 000 mark, with 82 more deaths

South Africa has surpassed the 50 000 COVID-19 cases mark. The increase in the number of new infections was also accompanied by a further 82 COVID-19 related deaths.

50 of the deaths are from Western Cape, 26 from the Eastern Cape, and one from KwaZulu-Natal. This brings the total national deaths to 1 080 with a mortality rate of 2, 1%.

The South Africa's latest COVID-19 confirmed cases stand at 50 879 with Western Cape accounts to 66% of the total number of cases. The recoveries to date are at 26 099, which translates to 51, 3% recovery rate as at Monday.

The total number of confirmed cases in the Department of Correctional Services (DCS) is now at 1 128, with 461 officials and 667 inmates.

Meanwhile, Western Cape Premier, Alan Winde, says the country's largest field hospital, operating out of the Cape Town International Convention Centre, has admitted its first COVID-19 patient. The 800-bed hospital is now fully operational and will be activated in phases.

Nine hundred people will staff the hospital dubbed the Hospital of Hope, once it is fully up and running.

Still in South Africa, Health Minister, Dr Zweli Mkhize, has appealed for nurses and doctors to come forward to assist in the effort to eradicate the coronavirus pandemic. The Minister is visiting Mpumalanga province, where he gave the Rob Ferreira Hospital in Mpumalanga the thumbs up.

Mkhize's Mpumalanga visit is ahead of the upcoming presidential visit. He says the province has been very impressive so far, clamping down on cluster outbreaks in supermarkets and managing incoming and outgoing foreign travelers.

He has urged residents to continue wearing their masks. (SABC NEWS)

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World Health Organization

Advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19

The World Health Organisation (WHO) updated its guidance to recommend governments to request everyone to wear fabric face masks in public areas where there is a risk of transmission of COVID-19 to help reduce the spread of the pandemic disease.

In its new guidance, prompted by evidence from studies conducted in recent weeks, the WHO stressed that face masks were only one of a range of tools that can reduce the risk of viral transmission, and should not give a false



sense of protection. "We are advising governments to encourage that the general public wear a mask. And we specify a fabric mask - that is, a non-medical mask," the WHO's technical lead expert on COVID-19, Maria Van Kerkhove, told Reuters in an interview.

"We have new research findings," she added. "We have evidence now that if this is done properly it can provide a barrier for potentially infectious droplets."

While some countries and US states have recommended or mandated the wearing of face coverings in public, the WHO had previously said there was not enough evidence for or against the use of masks for healthy people in the wider community. It had always recommended that medical masks be worn by people who are sick and by those caring for them.

The UN agency's advice that all health-care workers dealing with COVID-19 patients, or with suspected cases of the respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus, should wear medical masks remains the same, Van Kerkhove said.

But the advice has been broadened to recommend staff coming into contact with any patients or residents in clinics, hospitals, care homes and long-term residential facilities should also wear masks at all times, she said.
- Reuters



STOP THE VIRUS! WASH YOUR HANDS.



Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.



Lather your hands by rubbing them together with soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.



Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy birthday" song from beginning to end twice.



Rinse hands well under clean, running water.



Dry hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

Keeping hands clean is one of the most important things we can do to stop the spread of COVID-19 and stay healthy

SKMTH

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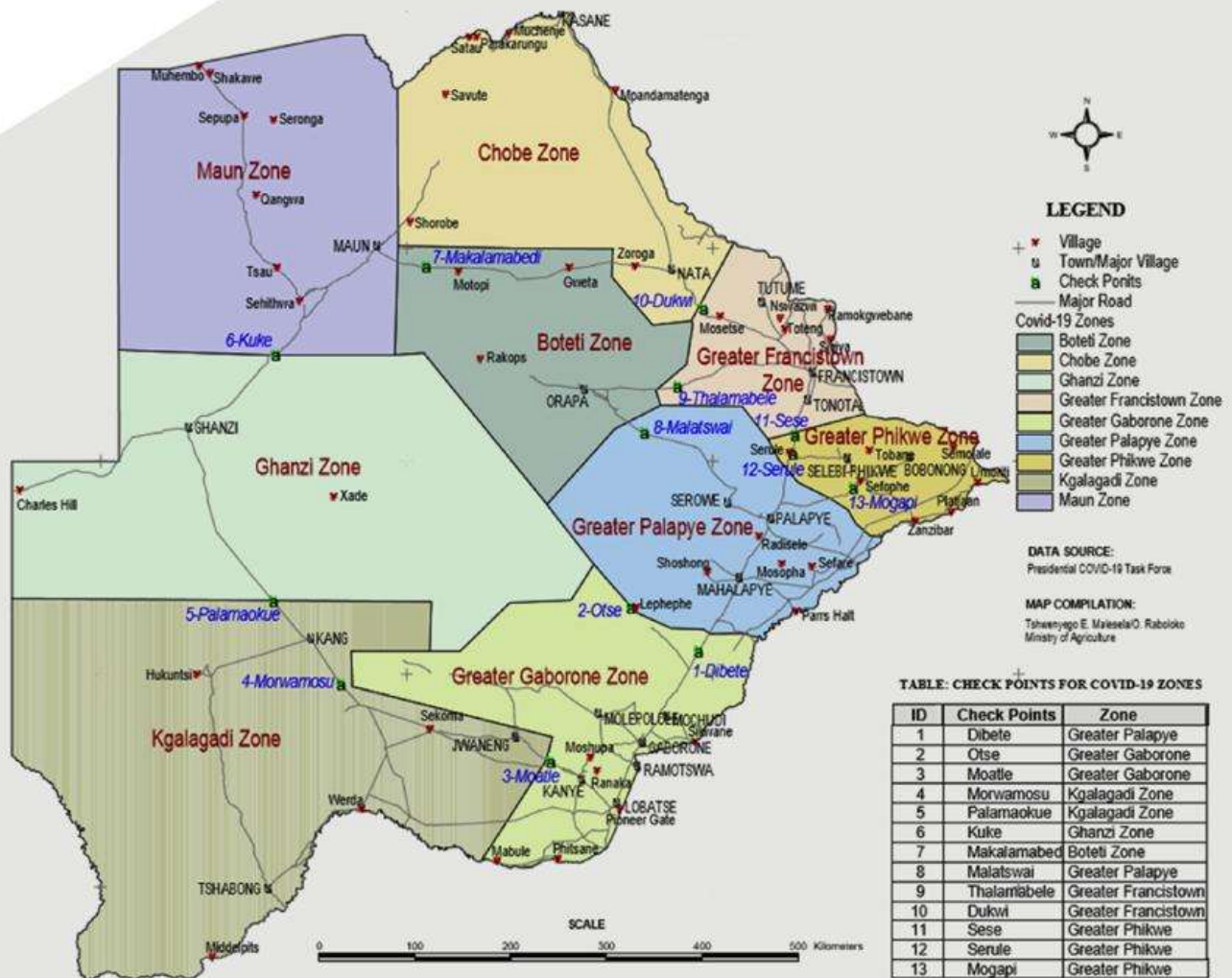
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Republic of Botswana

COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on Wednesday signaling the end of the three phases which were introduced to curb the spread of the virus in the country. The Presidential Task Force has developed a surveillance plan to monitor the disease. This resulted in the different zones to create cohorts for easier monitoring, easier tracing of contacts of positive cases and to avoid uncontrollable spread across the country.

The Inter-Zonal permit is therefore a requirement for people to travel from one zone to the other. Thirteen law enforcement check points have been designated across the country to monitor movements of people.

The nine (9) COVID -19 Zones are as follows;

1. Greater Gaborone zone
2. Greater Palapye zone
3. Greater Selibe Phikwe Zone
4. Greater Francistown
5. Boteti zone
6. Chobe zone
7. Maun zone
8. Gantsi zone
9. Kgalagadi zone

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