



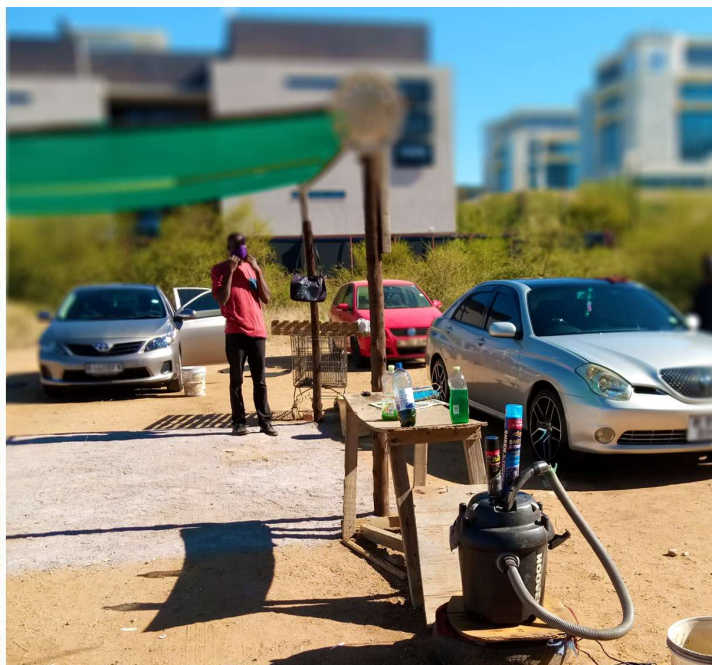
PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 52 | Friday, 12 June 2020



Day 71



LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS - a light of hope for the informal sector

In an endeavor to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus in Botswana, most workers in the informal economy were significantly impacted by the pandemic regulations. This led to an estimated 100 per cent decline in their earnings during the Extreme Social Distancing period which started on the 2nd of April to the 20th of May 2020

With most informal workers having no other means of support, they faced an almost unsolvable predicament. The challenge was also exacerbated by disruptions in

Continues on Page 2

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

7,426,178

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 11/06/20

CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

11/06/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	26801
Negative Cases	26758
Positive Cases	48
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	24
Active Cases	1
Transferred Out	22

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

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

From Page 1

LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS - a light of hope for the informal sector



food supplies by social workers. Thirty Four year old Malebogo Makata from Maun says she lost half of her income because of the lockdown. She said the situation was so dire because her day to day line of business is to sell fruits, airtime, clothes inter alia. Ms Makata says with no money coming in, her situation was threatening as the virus itself.

"Amid the situation we find ourselves in, the lifting of restrictions means a small light of hope will begin to illuminate" she said.

She proposed that government should introduce social welfare grants initiative that will put money into the hands of informal workers. She however applauded government for providing her with food basket for the months of April and May. She said the food basket was a great initiative by government as she did not sleep on an empty stomach.

Central Business District car wash operators Derrick Mathatsa (49) and Potso Die (42) said they earned around thirteen thousand a month which mostly spend on rent and remittances of their families. For them, staying at home meant losing their livelihoods.

Just like Makata lifting of restrictions and opening of various sectors of the economy means most in the informal sector are happy as they can make ends meet and provide for their families.

Botswana Government launched a befitting response to Covid-19 with an economic stimulus plan launch by availing a P10 million loan from as little as P500 to the informal sector to help them resuscitate their businesses.

A total of 528,993 families were assessed country wide, 416,347 families were found to be eligible to benefit from the Government food relief initiative for informal workers that were inconvenienced from fending for their families.

P 200 million has been availed to continue the provision of the food basket beyond phase 3. The programme is going to be different owing to the ease of restriction of movements across the zones as people will now be able to move around fending for their families as the economy has been opened.



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 atleast 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

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

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



Public cautioned against malicious and misleading social media posts

Botswana Police Service Public Relations Officer has cautioned the public against malicious and misleading statements on social media. Assistant Commissioner Dipheko Motube was reacting to a post that was circulating in the social media stating that "with effect from Saturday 28th there would be no sale of alcohol - Minister Peggy Serame."

Thereby potentially encouraging public to stockpile on the alcohol and causing unnecessary chaos in alcohol selling outlets. Cautioning the public, Mr Motube said the cybercrime and computer Act coupled with the COVID19 statutes shall be applied to the offenders with a fine of P 1000 to P 5000.

He indicated that to date a total of five people have been charged and appeared before the Magistrate Courts on similar cases.

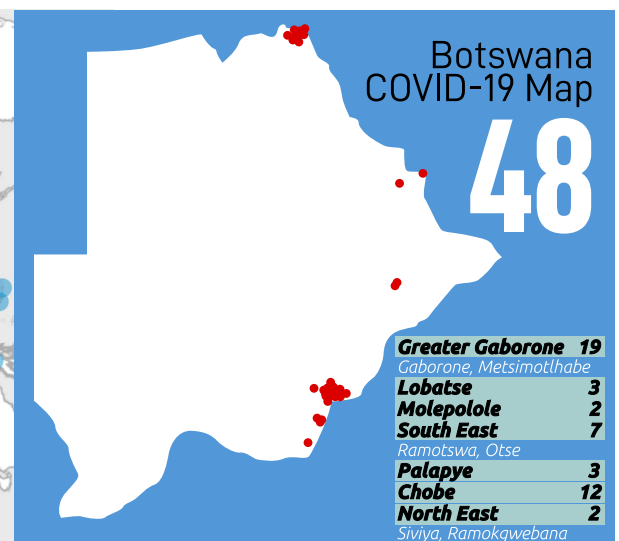
"Botswana should desist from releasing information that contradicts any information that has been officially released and should be mindful of the Acts regulating such," Mr Motube said.

However on her part, Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry Hon. Peggy Serame explained to the Presidential COVID19 Taskforce Daily Bulletin that she has not issued any statement or pronouncements regarding sale of alcohol since 31st May 2020.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 10/06/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 2,426,178	South Africa - 58,568	Malawi - 455
UK - 292,854	Egypt - 38,284	Eswatini - 398
Spain - 242,707	Ethiopia - 2,670	Zimbabwe - 320
Italy - 236,142	Madagascar - 1,203	Angola - 113
France - 192,068	Zambia - 1,200	Botswana - 48
China - 84,210	Mozambique - 489	Namibia - 31



THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw
The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

Botswana Meat Commission

Stays afloat despite the pandemic



C *COVID-19 outbreak all over the world disturbed economic and financial structures globally.*

Some of the World's big corporations and brands are on the verge of economic collapse with many economists warning of worsening of global economic conditions that would lead to a deep recession.

In the wake of the Global crisis due to COVID-19, Botswana Meat Commission reprioritized supply of beef to the local and Norwegian markets.

BMC has supplied Covid-19 food basket programme with beef to a tune of P2.5 million Pula and local retail outlets while at the same time sold 1600 metric tonnes quota of beef to the Norwegian market.

Acting BMC Chief Executive Officer Dr Boitumelo Mogome-Mareko, said while the World is in a panic mode, Botswana managed to procure 8 319 cattle at a cost of P 45 million from Batswana. Dr Mogome-Mareko said they have so far paid farmers P 15.2 million in the same period.

She further said the balance will be paid within two weeks as per the BMC's turnaround policy. She said annually BMC has been buying P700 million worth of cattle from Batswana.

Botswana Meat Commission put up an elaborate business continuity management plan as a line of defence to combat any threat before and during COVID-19.

The plan which was activated before

the lockdown include decongesting the work place so that employees could work remotely to conduct the organization's business.

Dr Mogome-Mareko said the plan included online platforms, tele-services for sales and procurement support, adding that production was staggered to allow process crew to go to work at different dates in order to meet their mandate of provision of food security.

Dr Mogome-Mareko said during the lockdown, BMC also consulted with other global client and assured them of supply when full production resumes.

The CEO highlighted that they trade in about 52 countries in Europe, North Asia, Middle East and Africa.

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw
The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.



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

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Treasure Mothobi

Content Producers: Lorato Okaile | Donnell Kutlape | Chandapiwa Baputaki | Fortune Ketlhaetse