



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 58 | Monday, 22 June 2020



Day 81

BITRI Develops Ventilators For Worst Case Scenario

In preparation for the worse case scenario in the fight against COVID19, Botswana Institute of Technology, Research and Innovation (BITRI) has revealed that they are in the process of developing automotive ventilators to help patients breath while waiting for the emergency health officials to reach their houses.

The Director of Technologies at BITRI, Dr Sebusang Sebusang said the initiative was done for future

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

8,827,934

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 21/06/20

CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

21/06/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	33919
Negative Cases	33840
Positive Cases	89
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	25
Active Cases	5
Transferred Out	58

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.



BITRI Develops Ventilators

From Page 1

use in cases when most hospitals would be overwhelmed and need to be assisted with physical breathing assistance. He indicated that if the country does not reach that peak, such ventilators can be used in ambulances or in hospitals.

Mr Sebusang said BITRI has worked with independent local private partners to develop a bag valve mask that will work without needing a health care worker to manually compress it when assisting the patient.

He indicated that they have developed a prototype and are currently consulting with relevant stakeholders for feedback.

Mr Sebusang said it was public knowledge that ventilators are in shortage in hospitals and the more affordable ventilators that are under development

will also avoid the hospitals from having patients share same ventilators which might further spread the virus.

He further stated that the institution has done 3D printing of masks to help address a situation where there might be a dire need of such in the country.

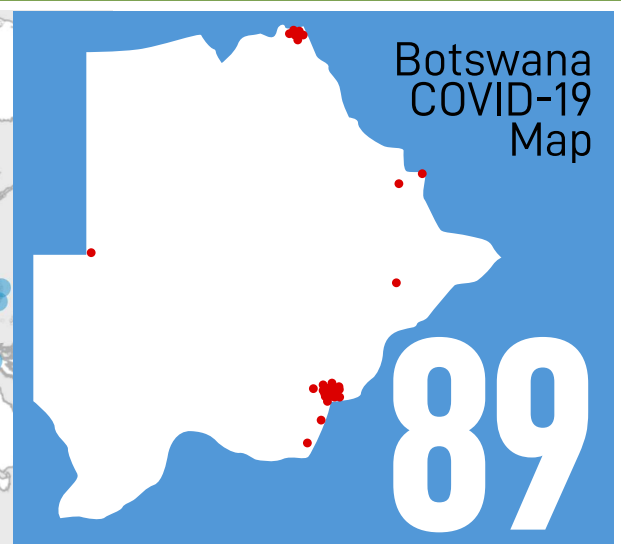
Mr Sebusang explained that the masks are not disposable but rather the user need to only change the filter to avoid spread of the virus.

The filter can be disposed off and a new one used while the mask itself is washable and re-usable. He stated that if the industry was advanced it would be the ripe time for industry players to leverage on these developments and print in bulk with a cheaper plastic and a lower cost to the citizens.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 21/06/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 2,255,801	China - 84,553	Mozambique - 688
UK - 304,580	Egypt - 53,758	Eswatini - 627
Spain - 245,938	Ethiopia - 4,532	Zimbabwe - 479
Italy - 238,275	Madagascar - 1,596	Angola - 176
France - 196,724	Zambia - 1,430	Botswana - 89
South Africa - 92,681	Malawi - 730	Namibia - 55



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TOGETHER WE CAN PREVENT CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
GET THE LATEST CORONAVIRUS NEWS, UPDATES AND ADVICE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA.

33919
TESTS PERFORMED AND RESULTED

33830
NEGATIVE CASES

89
CONFIRMED CASES

10
NEW CONFIRMED CASES

1
DEATHS

25
RECOVERIES

BITRI research initiatives response towards COVID-19

Dr Sebusang Sebusang Director of Technologies at Botswana Institute of Technology, Research and Innovation (BITRI) has indicated that they have been working on improving the Government Portal to make it a one stop shop for government ministries.

He said with the COVID19 advent, BITRI maximised work on the already existing government portal and volunteered to develop the movement e-permit.


He noted that the COVID19 page was incorporated on the Government Portal complete with all relevant COVID19 information. He said movement permit has been divided into zones or in situations where a zone is placed under lockdown and therefore BITRI had to be on standby to update the website.

Mr Sebusang said they had to develop a backbone or application programming interface for any future development of applications for public to access information from one familiar place.

He said the institution has also made efforts of developing online registers for public going to seek different services in different areas for ease of contact tracing in containing the spread of the virus.

The online registers were to be collected at a central place and analysed to see where the concentration of the cases are. He said the institution was planning of developing geo-location on the registers.

Movement Permits


Republic of Botswana
DECLARATION FORM OF EXCEPTIONAL MOVEMENT OF PERSONS DURING STATE OF PUBLIC EMERGENCY
(reg. 7(1))

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL THE COVID-19 CALL CENTRE AT 16649

IN CASE OF MEDICAL EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL 997


Info! Be notified that you do not need a permit to move within Zones

Info! To move between Zones apply for inter zonal permit

INTER ZONAL If you are traveling from one zone to another

Applied Before? New Application Permit Status

INTER ZONAL (COMPANIES) HealthCare,Banking,Government Services,etc.


Republic of Botswana

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Brazil tops 1 million Covid-19 cases. It may pass the US next, becoming the worst-hit country on the planet

(CNN) Brazil has now reported more than 1 million confirmed cases of coronavirus and 48,954 deaths, marking a grim milestone for the South American country.

The health ministry on Friday reported 54,771 new cases, a record daily spike that brought the nationwide total to 1,032,913.

The Covid-19 pandemic is quickly spreading with no sign of slowing down, as major cities lift social distancing measures and begin reopening restaurants, shops and other non-essential businesses.

Many experts believe the number of cases could surpass the United States and that Brazil may soon become the country worst hit by the virus.

Despite this, President Jair Bolsonaro continues to downplay the threat by questioning global medical authorities and accusing opponents of trying to discredit his leadership. At first, Brazil seemed impervious to the virus as it spread through countries such as China, Italy and the United States.

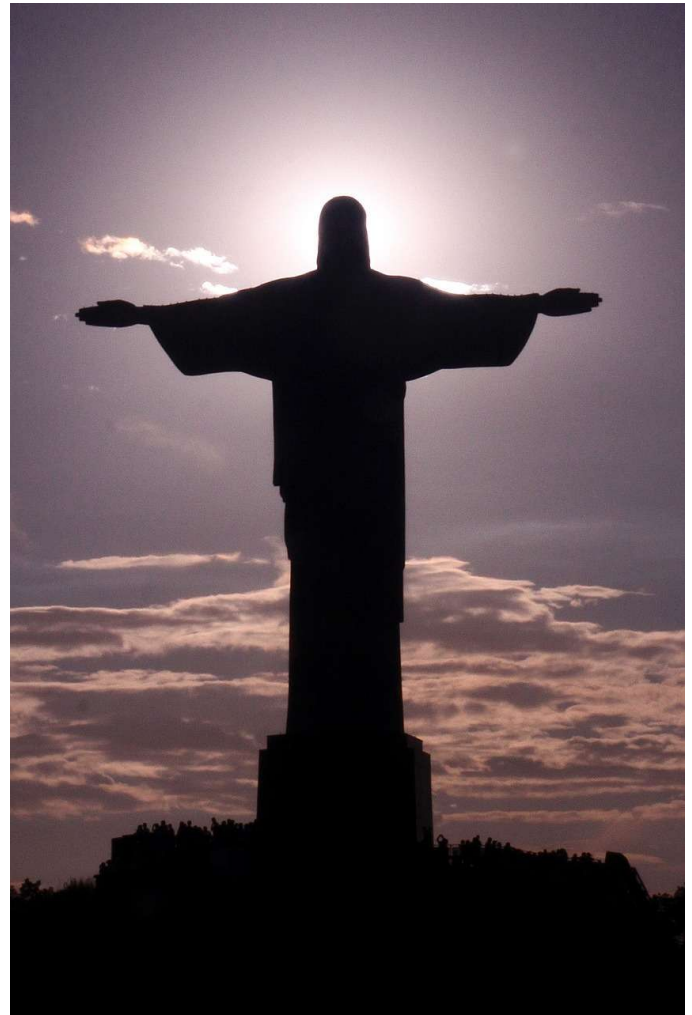
Bolsonaro only grudgingly agreed to repatriate Brazilian citizens from the then-epicenter, Hubei province, reportedly worrying that they would put the rest of the country at risk.

The first case was confirmed on February 26, when it was believed to be an isolated case of a man who flew back from Italy to Sao Paulo with the virus. A month later, coronavirus cases in Brazil had already risen to close to 3,000 and the death toll was at 77.

It was around this time when Bolsonaro first compared the virus to a "little flu" and falsely implied that Brazilians were immune to the virus.

He said again that Brazilians are likely to be immune to the coronavirus during a March 26 press conference outside the Alvorada presidential residence in Brasilia.

During the same press conference, Bolsonaro said he believed



many Brazilians had already been infected but that those people already had "the antibodies that would help [coronavirus] not spread."

By April 8, Brazil had confirmed more than 15,000 cases and 800 deaths. Despite warnings from health experts, images of Bolsonaro hugging supporters at a local bakery in Brasilia and posing without a mask emerged the following day.

Bolsonaro believed the social distancing and quarantine measures imposed by officials in major cities, such as Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, would cause more harm than the virus itself and lead Brazil to a crippling recession.

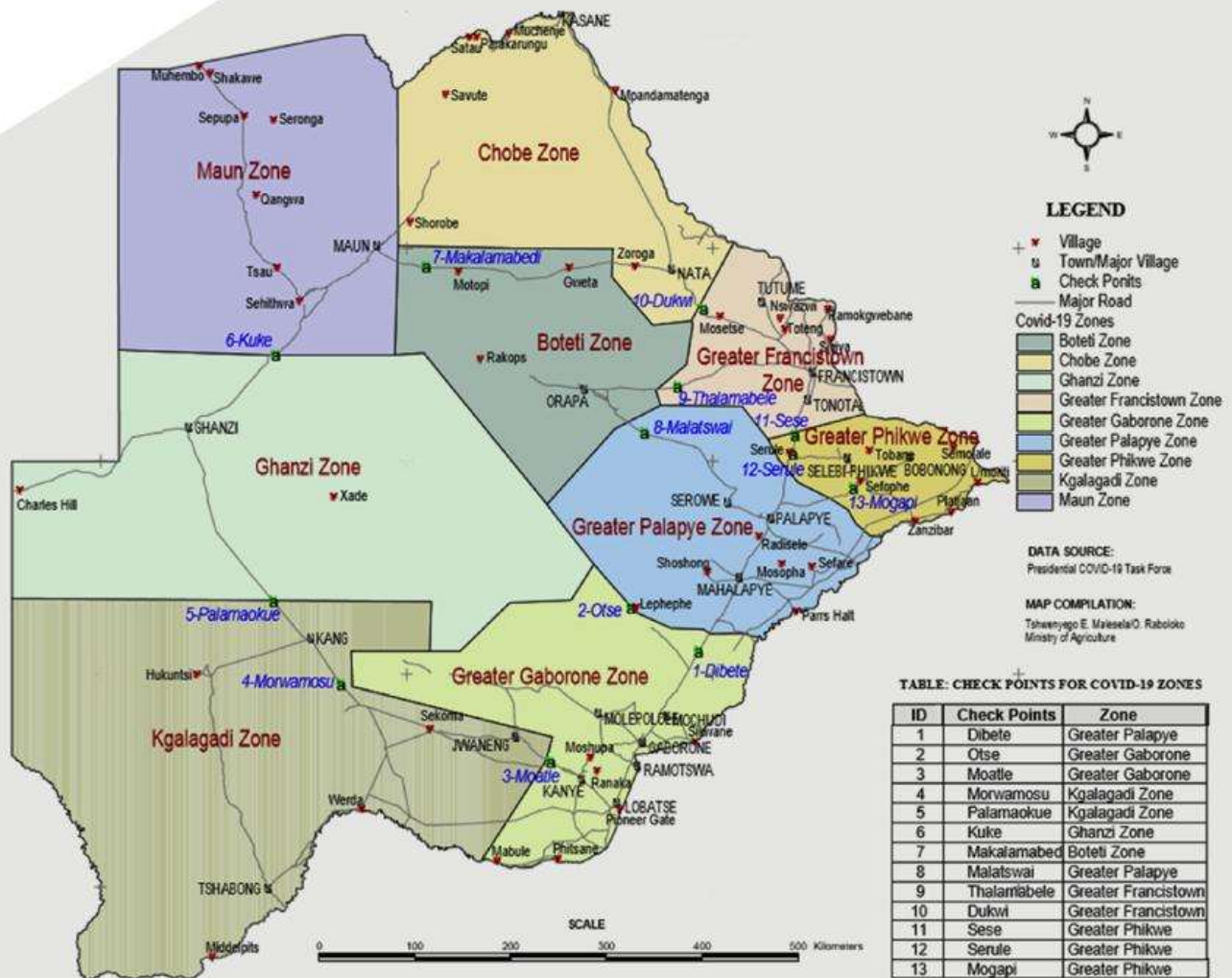
Bolsonaro frequently butted heads with mayors and governors of some of the hardest hit places by Covid-19 and ultimately fired Health Minister Luiz Henrique Mandetta on April 16 after he expressed his support for shutting down businesses and schools.

The following weekend, Bolsonaro attended an anti-lockdown rally in Brasilia without a mask where he coughed several times and shook hands with supporters. Opposition leaders considered the protests "anti-democratic," after signs were seen calling for dissolving the Congress and Supreme Court and for the return of the dictatorship.



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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