



# PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 59 | Tuesday, 23 June 2020



Day 82

INVESTMENT SECTORS

Through this encompassing mandate, BITC has committed to deliver service excellence to ensure the ease of doing business for investors. This commitment is made possible by the Botswana One Stop Service Centre (BOSSC).

**BOSSC**

We offer a profitable, stable, secure and sustainable investment environment. Botswana, your investment partner.

**INVEST**

For Botswana established businesses who seek to access the global markets, see what incentives are available and how BITC can help you.

**EXPORT**

The Government of Botswana has been closely monitoring the evolution of the pandemic

**COVID - 19**

## BITC RESORTS TO WEBINARS

**A**s a direct consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, BITC has refocused its approach to promote Botswana's investment prospects through virtual platforms commonly known as webinars.

The webinars are a great way to promote Botswana and its investment potential as it is an effective interactive platform that allows for high level engagement and dialogue.

In an interview with the Presidential Task Force Bulletin,  
*Continues on Page 2*

### 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

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

**9,006,757**

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 22/06/20

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.

# BITC Resorts To Webinars

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BITC Corporate Communications Director Ms. Kutlo Moagi said that BITC will be carrying out the webinars targeting various international markets and investors.

"Currently four webinars have been planned, each targeting engagement with about 20 companies in the Asia Market, to engage on key sectors of the economy such as financial technology which will run on 25th June 2020, Automotive Component Manufacturing which will be aired on the 9th of July 2020, BPO and Call Centres which will broadcast on 16th July 2020 as well as Agro-business & Food Processing which will be held on the 23rd of July 2020," added Ms. Moagi.

M. Moagi said the first of the webinars themed "Investing in Botswana's Fintech Sector" will be hosted by the BITC Chief Executive Officer Mr Keletsoitse Olebile in partnership with Bank of Botswana's Deputy Governor Mr Kealeboga Masalila as well as Botswana Communications Regulatory Authority Director-Licensing Mr. Murphy Setshwane.

The local business community is encouraged to view these live sessions on BITC and Brand Botswana social media platforms.



## Media Release

22 June 2020

## MANDATORY COVID-19 TESTING OF CROSS BORDER TRAVELLERS SUCCESSFUL

The mandatory practice to test cross border travelers and undocumented immigrants in order to contain COVID-19, established by the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, has recently arrested a situation in which 15 security officers in Gaborone, and other primary contacts, have been placed under mandatory quarantine after detaining an undocumented immigrant who later tested positive for COVID-19.

In this case, the undocumented immigrant recently came into Botswana and was reported by residents in the compound she was staying. The lady is admitted at Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital while contact tracing is ongoing.

The 15 security officers and others who were primary contacts are currently awaiting their results. Pending the outcome of the test results, primary contacts of the security officers and other primary contacts,

such as their family members, are currently treated as casual contacts.

The public is assured that an intensive exercise of contact tracing in relation to this case is ongoing. Based on this case, the Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 has learnt that various modes of transport were used by the undocumented immigrant to reach her final destination. Therefore, the public is further advised to avoid transporting hitchhikers and not to harbor people whose movements they do not have a reasonable understanding of.

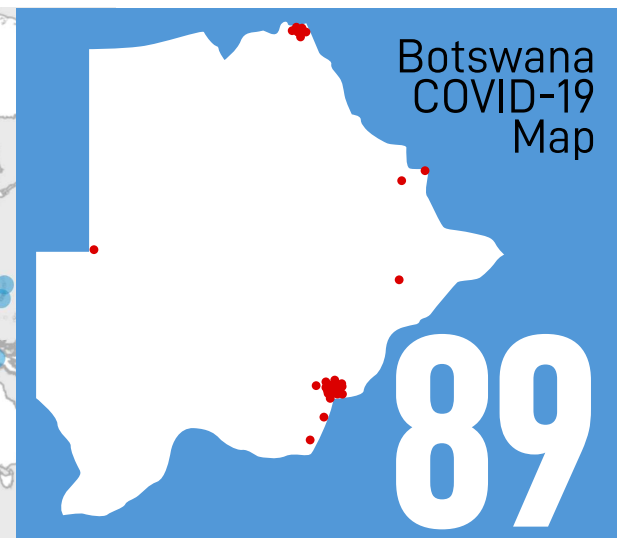
Thank you.

**Dr. Kereng Masupu**  
Coordinator - Presidential  
Covid-19 Task Force

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 22/06/20

## COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 2,292,867	China - 84,610	Mozambique - 737
UK - 306,761	Egypt - 55,233	Eswatini - 643
Spain - 246,504	Ethiopia - 4,663	Zimbabwe - 489
Italy - 238,720	Madagascar - 1,640	Angola - 183
France - 197,008	Zambia - 1,430	Botswana - 89
South Africa - 97,302	Malawi - 749	Namibia - 63



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# School Resumes For The Lower Classes

**L**ower classes resumed yesterday following two months of absence with the advent of the COVID19 pandemic scare in the country.

While many schools grappled with social distance issues during the first day of opening, Minister of Basic Education Hon Fidelis Molao said long queues were expected on the first day and situation is expected to improve as the teachers and the students gets into the new routine.

"Only the temperature is expected to be taken at the gate while registration is to be done at the respective classes. Registers already has students' names to speed up the process," Minister Molao said.

He indicated that the first day was for orientation of the students on the new normal and what is expected of them around the school while introducing them to their new timetable of shifting.

He explained that morning classes will start at 0730hours and end at 1130hours with the next shift starting at 1130hours to 1630hours. Minister Molao stated that it will not be all the schools that will be operating on shifting basis. "If the classes can practise social distancing without dividing them then there is no need to shift," he said.



Minister Molao said there is going to be instances where the Ministry will engage extra teachers to decongest workload from overwhelmed schools depending on the numbers and requests per school.

The Minister further revealed that feeding programme will continue as it was in all the schools. "There might be adjustments on time but the programme will still remain as it involves nutrition for the students," he said adding that these are challenging times for all. "We are in this together and the Ministry will do its best to assist all schools," Minister Molao said.

**Yes. Respiratory viruses can be passed by shaking hands and touching your eyes, nose and mouth.**

**Greet people with a wave, a nod or a bow instead.**

**Should I avoid shaking hands because of the new coronavirus?**



**#Coronavirus #COVID19**

9 March 2020

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World Health  
Organization

## WHO welcomes preliminary results about dexamethasone use in treating critically ill COVID-19 patients



**T**he World Health Organization (WHO) welcomes the initial clinical trial results from the United Kingdom (UK) that show dexamethasone, a corticosteroid, can be lifesaving for patients who are critically ill with COVID-19.

For patients on ventilators, the treatment was shown to reduce mortality by about one third, and for patients requiring only oxygen, mortality was cut by about one fifth, according to preliminary findings shared with WHO.

The benefit was only seen in patients seriously ill with COVID-19, and was not observed in patients with milder disease.

"This is the first treatment to be shown to reduce mortality in patients with COVID-19 requiring oxygen or ventilator support," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "This is great news and I congratulate the Government of the UK, the University of Oxford, and the many hospitals and patients in the UK who have contributed to this lifesaving scientific breakthrough."

Dexamethasone is a steroid that has been used since the 1960s to reduce inflammation in a range of conditions, including inflammatory disorders and certain cancers.

It has been listed on the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines since 1977 in multiple formulations, and is currently off-patent and affordably available in most countries.

The researchers shared initial insights about the results of the trial with WHO, and we are looking forward to the full data analysis in the coming days. WHO will coordinate a meta-analysis to increase our overall understanding of this intervention. WHO clinical guidance will be updated to reflect how and when the drug should be used in COVID-19.

Today's news builds off the WHO Research & Development Blueprint meeting, which took place in Geneva in mid-February to accelerate health technologies for COVID-19, where further research into the use of steroids was highlighted as a priority.

The findings reinforce the importance of large randomized control trials that produce actionable evidence. WHO will continue to work together with all partners to further develop lifesaving therapeutics and vaccines to tackle COVID-19 including under the umbrella of the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator.





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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