

PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

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he current Covid-19 pandemic is above all a global health crisis. As of the 24th of June 2020, the world has recorded over 9 million confirmed cases and over 400 000 deaths due to the illness.

Beyond the abrupt impact on health, the current pandemic has major implications for global economies and energy use. Many countries around the world have reported dire challenges in the fuel industry and Botswana has not been spared. Botswana consumes 1.3 billion litres of fuel per annum mostly imported *Continues on Page 2*





C*VID 19



From Page 1

from South Africa with limited quantities from Namibia and Mozambique. The Chief Executive Officer of Botswana Oil Mr Meshack Tshekedi informed members of the media yesterday that ever since May, the country experienced low supply of diesel and unleaded petrol.

"There is currently a shortage of fuel in the country, initially it was the diesel and now it's the unleaded petrol," he said. He added that fuel producers in South Africa, which is the primary supplier are rationing supply to Botswana. The act he explained that it has not led to product shocks in the country.

Mr Tshekedi said the positive outlook in the industry is that 6 Batswana companies with a total of 30 trucks transport fuel into the country.

For his part Botswana Oil Chief Operating Officer Mr Mosetlho Kenamile said Botswana had a strategy to augment the supply in the country. "We have been working with the Department of Energy Affairs to minimize the impact of rationing" he explained.

He shared that the Department approved the procurement of fuel from Namibia and Mozambique though it is costly compared to South Africa. Mr Kenamile highlighted that government also approved use of 8 million litres of fuel in the fuel reserves stored in the country.

He further said plans are at advanced stage to complete the Tshele Hills Depot where fuel from South Africa will be stored. He also indicated that the Ghanzi depot will be further developed and will store fuel from Namibia while the one in Francistown will stockpile fuel from Mozambique.

Even though the country experienced a decline in the fuel supply, Batswana benefited from the fuel prices drop. The pump prices fell by over P1, 00 hence the joy of motorists. Mr kenamile said they are engaging with South African companies to let Batswana to run this business.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 24/06/20 Botswana COVID-19 **Confirmed Cases** Map USA - 2,364,874 China - 84,658 Mozambique - 762 Egypt - 58,144 UK - 308,334 Eswatini - 674 Spain - 247,086 Ethiopia - 5,034 Zimbabwe - 525 Italy - 239,410 Madagascar - 1,787 Angola - 189 France - 197,804 Zambia - 1,489 Namibia - 76 Malawi - 848 South Africa - 106,108 Lesotho - 17

E-Thuto wins UN Public Service Awards





inister for Presidential
Affairs, Governance and
Public Administration Hon. Kabo
Morwaeng has implored the public
service employees not to wait for
the next actual Public Service Day
celebrations to show their
innovation but to always explore
more creative ways of achieving
more with less in their daily work
activities.

He encouraged Ministries and Departments to find more innovative ways of rewarding excellence and hard work.

Minister Morwaeng was giving remarks in an honor of the United Nations Public Service Day celebrations where the Ministry of Basic Education's e-Thuto project was announced as a recipient of the prestigious 2020 United Nations Public Service Awards (UNPSA) under the category of 'Promoting digital transformation in the Public Sector'.

He said were it not for the COVID19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions, the team would have travelled to South Korea to receive

the award. The e-Thuto's creative initiative is about 'ICT Integration into Teaching and Learning.'

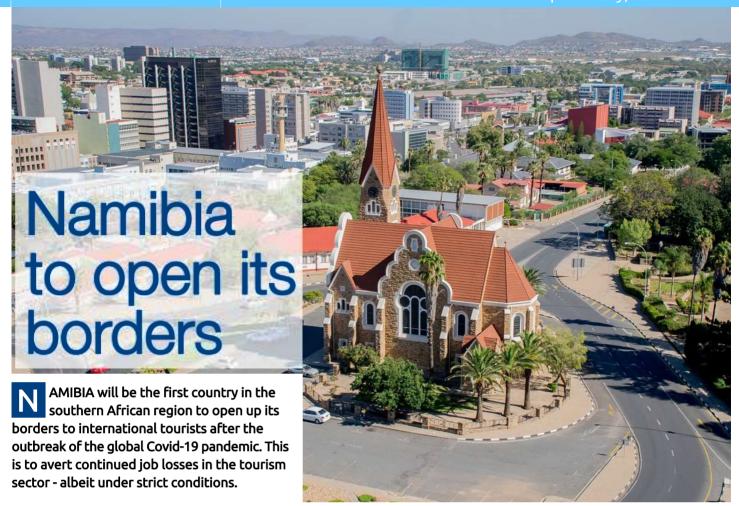
"Ministry of Basic Education's E-Thuto Project Team has made us super proud as a country, more so that their project is relevant to the new normal of digital transformation brought about by COVID-19 challenges," he said adding that as the country continue in its journey to transform Botswana from a resourced based to a knowledge economy, "we urge all Public Service employees and Batswana at large to explore their innovative and creative capabilities to come up with more sustainable projects like e-Thuto, to innovate, leapfrog and speed the socio economic development of this country, and create a legacy that future generations will all be proud of."

Minister Morwaeng stated that since the year 2012 when Botswana joined through excellence awards and innovative projects, the celebrations grew not only aesthetically but also in the presentation of more innovative projects which if pursued further the projects could achieve desirable output for the benefit of the society at large.

He said it is through partnerships and networks like the Public Service Unions that Government continually make use of the Public Service Awards celebration platform to exchange experiences ranging from best practices; innovative ideas and approaches for improved service delivery. "That is why it is important to always motivate staff and acknowledge hard work," he said.

The annual United Nations Public Service Day celebrations is meant to acknowledge and recognise the worth of Public Service employees as well as to highlight their contribution to the community at large. In 2016 the review of the celebrations was done and the United Nations found it appropriate to align the celebrations with the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

This year's theme is 'Action Today, Impact Tomorrow-Innovating and Transforming Public Services and Institutions to realise the Sustainable Development Goals.'



This was announced by President Hage Geingob revealing that a ministerial task force, led by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, would commence an assessment of opening up to international tourism from countries with a lower Covid-19 risk.

Pohamba Shifeta, minister of environment, forestry and tourism recently said the tourism industry stands to bleed Namibian Dollars N\$20 billion at the current rate of zero tourist arrivals. The sector employs over 100 000 Namibians.

The President announced that Namibia will move to stage 4 of the lockdown exit strategy early next month, balancing economic operations with the health of Namibians. President Geingob said Namibia would allow foreign tourists with Covid-19-free certificates into the country. During stage 4, public gatherings of 250 people at a time are allowed.

Tourists would have to be tested for Covid-19 upon entry, and undergo a mandatory two-week quarantine period at their own cost.

The Namibian Newspaper.

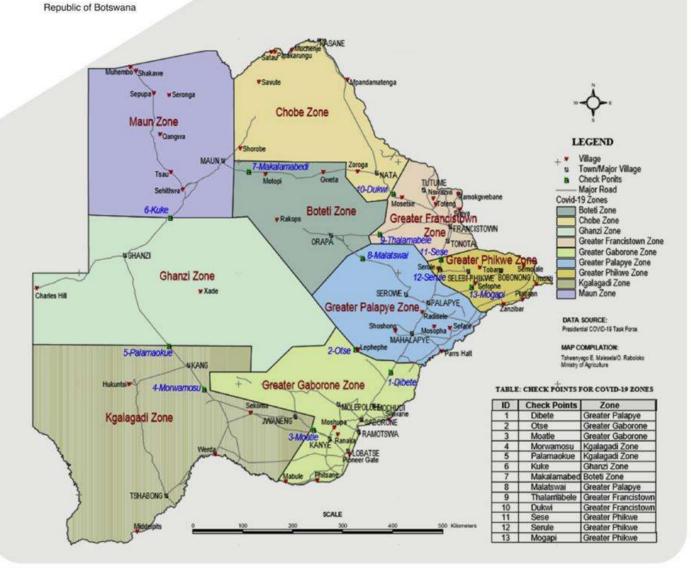


BWGovernment

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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 survellance 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