



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 89 | Tuesday, 04 August 2020

Day 124 GREATER GABORONE ZONE
UNDER LOCKDOWN

TOURISM FEELS THE BRUNT OF COVID-19

~ MYRA SEKGOROROANE

C COVID-19 continues to ravage the world, infecting millions of people and mounting unprecedented pressure on the global economy. As part of the global community, Botswana is not spared from the devastating impact of COVID-19, with the tourism industry plunged into a complete halt.

Botswana Tourism Organization Chief Executive Officer Ms Myra Sekgororwane says tourism in the country which accounts for the second largest share

Continues on Page 2

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

18,149,860

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 03/08/20



LET'S STOP THE SPREAD!

STAY AWAY FROM GATHERINGS!

IKGAPHENG!

Own your space. Own your health!

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

of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), has been deeply affected by the corona virus.

"Travel bans and some trade restrictions have proved unfavorable for the industry to function, more so that the international airline industry had also grounded their flights.

All the planned international and adventure events were all cancelled. This has dealt a devastating blow to the travel and tourism industry," Ms Sekgororwane highlighted.



Ms Myra Sekgororwane
CEO - Botswana Tourism Organization

Ms Sekgororwane said only operators who were engaged to provide accommodation services for mandatory quarantine and Essential Service Personnel made a little earning.

She said on average, each facility had lost (P1, 283,422.74) as a result of the postponements and cancellations in the first two months.

She said while some facilities were forced to send staff home to observe extreme social distancing regulations by placing them on paid leave, others were laid off.

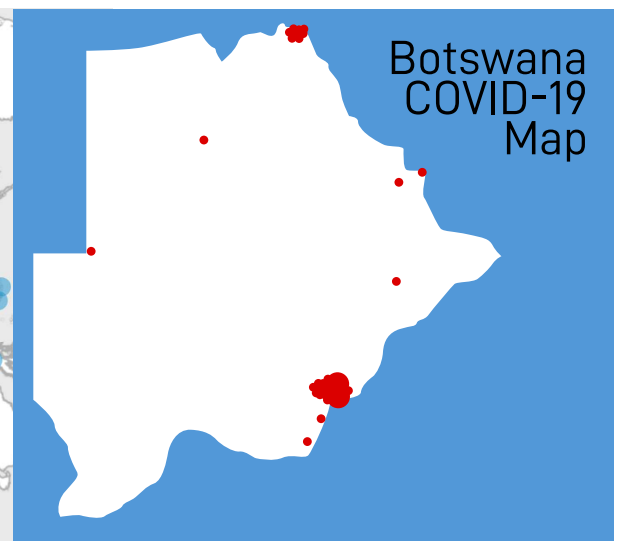
Ms Sekgororwane said the retained staff were on varying conditions of employment from paid and unpaid leave as well as reduced wages.



@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 03/08/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 4,690,404	Egypt - 94,483	Zimbabwe - 3,921
South Africa - 511,485	China - 88,065	Eswatini - 2,775
UK - 307,251	Ethiopia - 19,289	Namibia - 2,406
Spain - 297,054	Madagascar - 11,660	Mozambique - 1,973
Italy - 248,229	Zambia - 6,580	Angola - 1,199
France - 225,198	Malawi - 4,231	Lesotho - 718



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.

How COVID-19 Has Affected Production of Official Statistics

The world has now over 18 million confirmed COVID-19 cases with over 690,000 fatalities according to the latest tally from the World Health Organization. Its spread has affected many daily operations of different sectors and organizations across the globe and Statistics Botswana also felt the wrath of the impacts of the COVID-19.

Statistics Botswana Statistician General Dr Burton Mguni says the current COVID-19 pandemic has put a lot of the Organisation operations on hold.

Dr Mguni who was addressing members of the media yesterday, said one of the affected areas was on census operations.

He said there has been five censuses after the independence of Botswana, each occurring every ten years starting in 1971. The 2021 Census will therefore be the sixth post-Independence census and the second conducted by Statistics Botswana.

Dr Mguni said there were supposed to conduct national census next year August with the plan to conduct pilot census in November 2020. He said his team will monitor how to avoid postponement of census beyond 2021 would be handled judging by how the infectious disease will be managed.



Dr Burton Mguni
Statistician General, Statistics Botswana

Statistician General said as much as they are experiencing challenges due to COVID-19, Statistics Botswana will continue its mandate through electronic platforms to ensure that Economic, Environmental, Social and Demographic

indicators for which data has already been collected will be released to the extent possible, as per the organization's Advance Release Calendar (ARC).

National Census Coordinator, Mr. Kwenagape Mogotsinyane said the main objective of collecting data on the population is to provide basic information on the size, distribution and structure of Botswana's population.



Mr Kwenagape Mogotsinyane
National Census Coordinator

He said the census data would provide, among others, trends of population characteristics over the years as well as guide policy planning and implementation and management of the development of the country.

Mr Mogotsinyane said this time around they will be guided by COVID-19 protocols and guidelines when they embark on the National Census.

Statistics Botswana is a parastatal organization charged with responsibilities of collecting and disseminating all official statistics in Botswana, under the autonomy of the Organisation which was realized under the Statistics Act of 2009.



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

Media Release

31 July 2020

UPDATE ON COVID-19 CASES SINCE GREATER GABORONE ZONE LOCKDOWN

Following the update on Botswana Television (BTV) earlier this evening regarding the evolving situation in Greater Gaborone Zone, the Presidential COVID-19 Task Force would like to provide further information as follows:

- In the case of Terrence Private School in Mogoditshane, 27 students from different classes, 1 teacher, 2 parents of two students from the class in which the original COVID-19 case was found and a friend to one of the students, have tested positive for the coronavirus, totaling 31. Therefore, of the 109 students at the school, the 27 who tested positive for COVID-19 are in isolation, while the remainder remain in quarantine for monitoring. Assessments continue to be done in respect of students, parents and immediate family members.
- Contact tracing arising from the Mogoditshane case has extended to areas such as Gabane, Mmankgodil and Molepolole.
- Regarding Botswana Open University, 32 individuals were tested with 31 returning negative results while 1 is awaiting results. The 31 who tested negative will be released from quarantine based on a follow-up assessment by the healthcare workers.
- In the case of Bonnington Community Junior Secondary School, 179 individuals were tested comprising students and teachers. Results for 65 of individuals were negative while the others are still being processed in the laboratory. Nonetheless, based on the timing of exposure of those that have so far tested negative, the treating healthcare providers will advise on additional assessments. In the meantime, they remain in quarantine as was prescribed by the healthcare providers.
- For Masa Primary School, 121 individuals were tested comprising teachers, support staff and students. Results are available for 95 people. Eight (8) of them have tested positive being 4 teachers and 4 students who are in the class that was identified as high risk. Their fellow students will remain in quarantine with health care officials offering the necessary emotional and psychosocial support.
- The 4 Masa teachers mentioned above are in addition to one who was initially reported as positive from the same school. Therefore, contact tracing has commenced regarding the 4 new teacher cases including in relation to the classes that they teach. Their students are also in quarantine as part of the current Greater Gaborone COVID-19 Zone lockdown.

The COVID-19 Task Force would like to assure the public that it is mindful of the delicate nature of attending to children in the above cases. A multidisciplinary team of experts has been constituted that includes paediatricians, social workers and psychologists. That is why they are in home self-quarantine on a needs basis. Where circumstances do not permit such, they will be taken to a central point with a guardian, if necessary.

Another update will be provided in due course.

Thank you



BWGovernment

BW
COVID 19
TASK FORCE
U P D A T E S

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

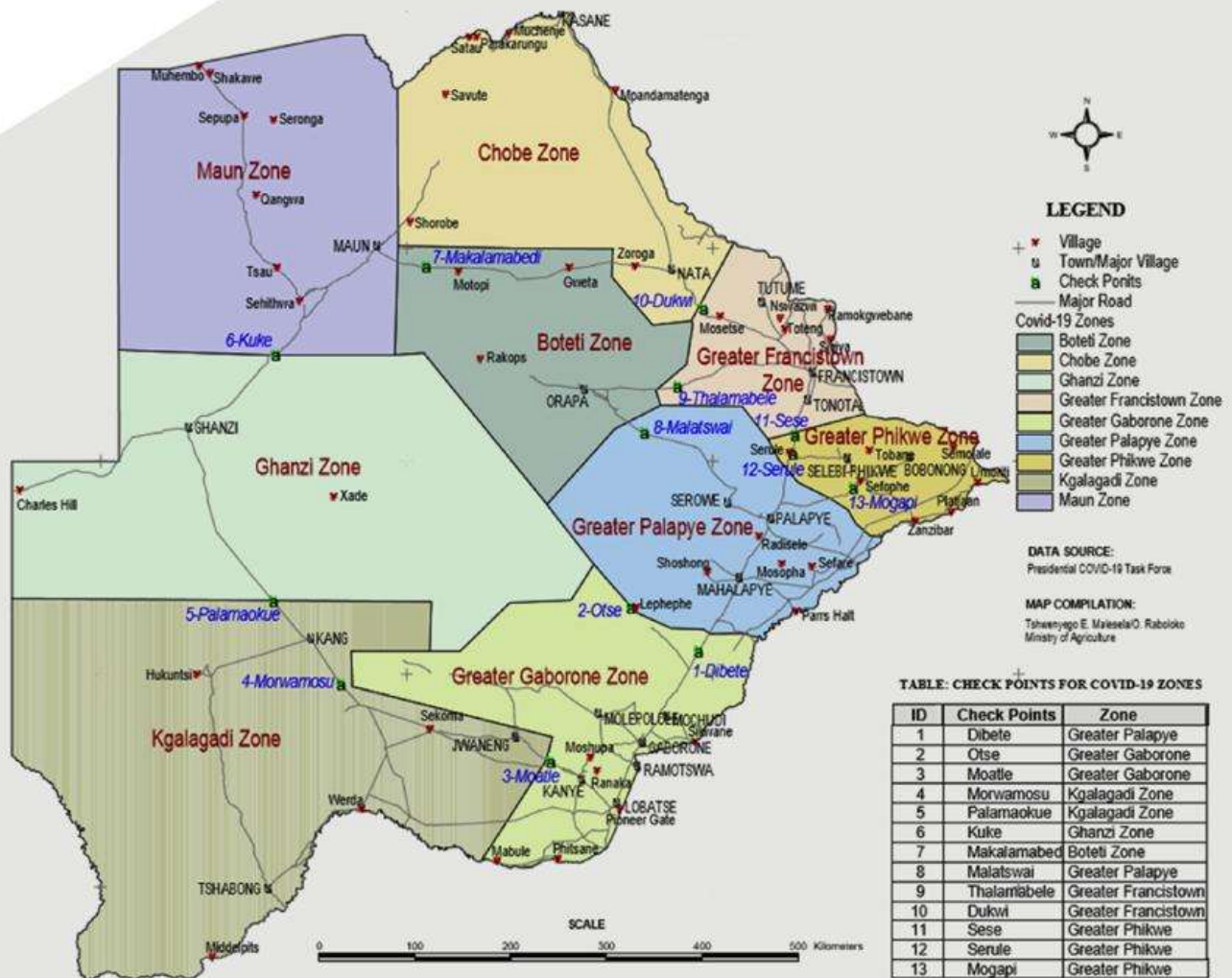
Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

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 20th May 2020 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