



# PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY Issue 90 | Wednesday, 05 August 2020

**Day 125** GREATER GABORONE ZONE  
UNDER LOCKDOWN

## ACHAP to use HIV/AIDS experience to fight **COVID-19**

~ Dr Seipone



**A**frican Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnership (ACHAP) Chief Executive Officer Dr Khumo Seipone says they have widely supported government in the fight against COVID-19. She said they borrowed a leaf from the gains they made during the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Addressing members of the media fraternity yesterday, Dr Seipone said ACHAP Headquarters supports coordination of response through technical human resources, funds and automobiles.

*Continues on Page 2*

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

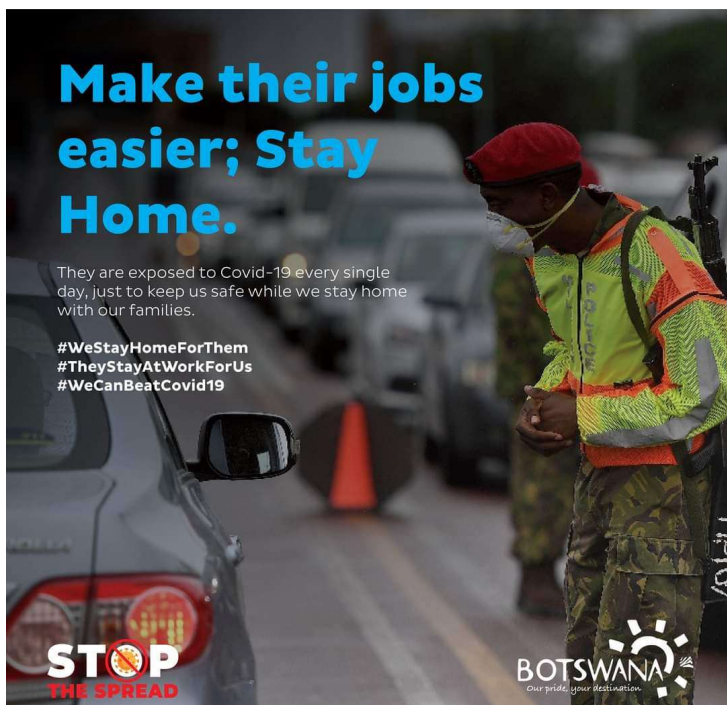
# 18,359,053

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## Make their jobs easier; Stay Home.

They are exposed to Covid-19 every single day, just to keep us safe while we stay home with our families.

#WeStayHomeForThem  
#TheyStayAtWorkForUs  
#WeCanBeatCovid19



**BOTSWANA**  
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**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.

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She said so far ACHAP in conjunction with Botswana Government has tested 52547 people for COVID - 19.

Dr Seipone also highlighted that they also conducted contact tracing for the first 25 Covid-19 cases as well as testing 300 people. She said they also managed an incident that a health worker assigned to screen Botswana's lawmakers at a special sitting of parliament tested positive for COVID-19, which led to Parliamentarians being quarantined and tested thereafter.

Dr Seipone highlighted that they amplified the Ministry's team and conducted contact tracing in Gaborone, Metsimothabe, Molepolole, Mahalapye, Bobonong and Siviya among other villages.

She said they provided guidance and established contact tracing capacity for the control of COVID-19 through case finding mission that targeted Metsimothabe, Francistown and Ports of Entries (POE), which targeted truck drivers.



She said on a positive note they have developed and used a 15-minute real-time reporting system at POE.

"Another point is that a lot can be achieved virtually through online platforms, and that timing is key in COVID-19 response", highlighted Dr Seipone. She said Covid-19 is likely to take longer than expected.

Dr Seipone said timely reporting enable authorities to make timely decisions or interventions. ACHAP was established as a Public Private Partnership HIV/AIDS development partner in 2000. It later on transitioned from a guaranteed philanthropic organization into a self-sustaining NGO aspiring to be the leading innovator for promoting a healthy Africa.

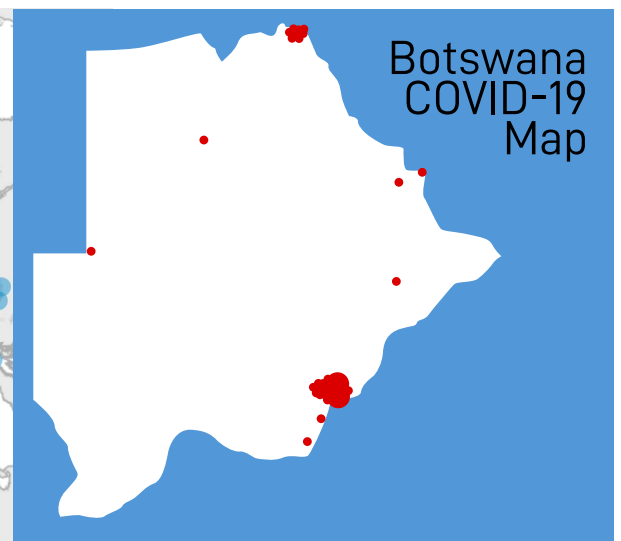
Dr Seipone said they have a technical team of 110 people comprising of medical doctors, nurses, monitoring and evaluation personnel, Health Care Auxiliaries as well as 21 vehicles and six mobile clinics.



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## COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

|                        |                     |                    |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| USA - 4,738,853        | Egypt - 94,640      | Zimbabwe - 4,075   |
| South Africa - 516,862 | China - 88,179      | Eswatini - 2,838   |
| UK - 307,252           | Ethiopia - 19,877   | Namibia - 2,470    |
| Spain - 302,814        | Madagascar - 11,895 | Mozambique - 2,029 |
| Italy - 248,419        | Zambia - 6,793      | Angola - 1,280     |
| France - 228,574       | Malawi - 4,272      | Lesotho - 718      |

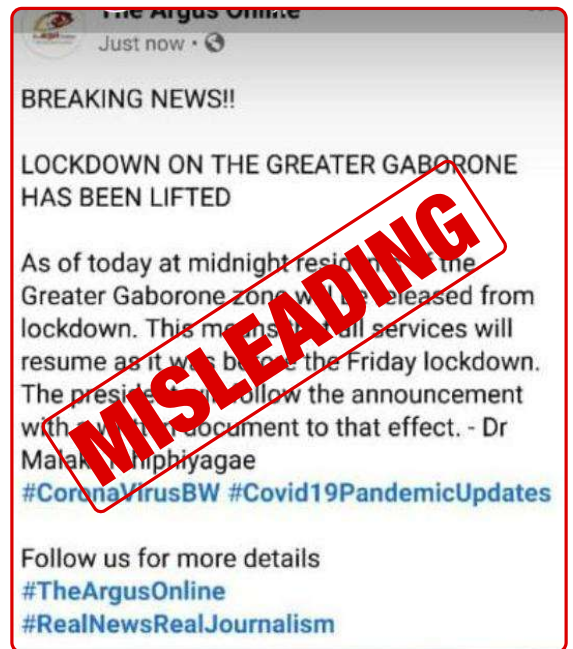
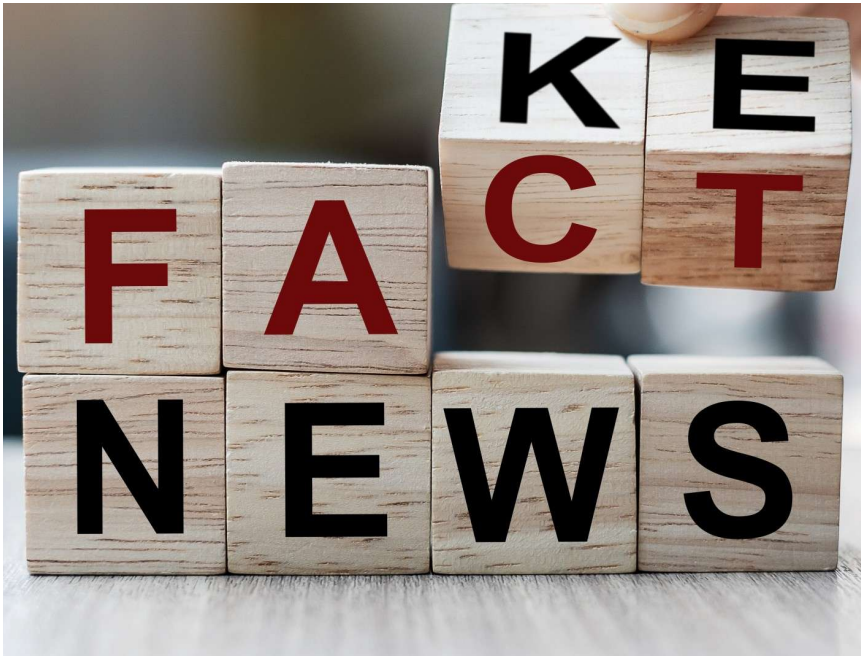


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# Fake News in the time of COVID-19 Compromises Public Health.

**S**haring of fake news on social media platforms is a cause of great concern for the government, businesses and citizens.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic there has been a number of misinformation about State of Emergency, COVID-19 positive fake numbers, Government Gazettes, and other thousands fake news articles purporting to be from renowned media houses.

Speaking to the Presidential Task Force Daily Bulletin, Director of Health Services Dr Malaki Tshipayagae says spreading fake news and misinformation about COVID-19 has very serious repercussions and compromising public health.

He said it is very unfortunate for people to misinform the nation about COVID-19 messages which aims to derail efforts made by the government to try and manage the spread of the virus. "With respect to COVID-19 issues, if the information one receives is not directly from an

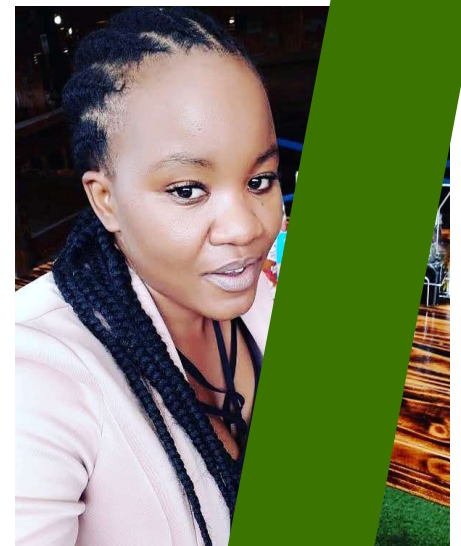
official source being ministries, government parastatals or the Task Force Team, always take the news with a grain of salt," cautioned Dr Tshipayagae.

He said circulation of fake news poses significant challenges to the government as it promotes a specific opinion which often mislead the nation.

***There was a fake story on Monday which falsely stated that The Argus Online had carried a story which implied that Lockdown on the Greater Gaborone was lifted.***

The Argus Online Senior Reporter Boago Ramaphane stated in an interview with the Bulletin that it was unfortunate that people can go to such lengths to craft misleading news using their brand.

She said what happened on Monday is that someone screen munched their old post and shared it as if it's a new post from Argus Online. She said fake news and its viral circulation has



**Boago Ramaphane**  
The Argus Online

become a grave concern in the era of social media since many reputable media entities have been targeted by cyber criminals.

She said social media content spreads disinformation at an unprecedented speed and reaches wider audiences which in turn thwarts efforts done by the authorities and breeds confusion while also tarnishing their image.

# Lockdown: It could take 3 years to catch up on work cut from 2020 curriculum - Minister Motshekga

***The Basic Education Department in South Africa anticipates that it will take about three years to catch up on parts of the curriculum that won't be covered this year due to the widespread impact of Covid-19.***

South Africa Basic Education Minister Ms Angie Motshekga said yesterday that while the department trimmed the curriculum for internal grades, the work would still be covered in the grades to which pupils progressed.

"We are going to only teach, assess almost 70% of what [internal grades] were supposed to have taken. And in 2021, when the Grade 3s, for instance, start, we will start with Grade 2 work which we had removed from the curriculum."

The Minister was speaking in Letlhabile in the North West yesterday where she visited two high schools to monitor the return of Grade 12 pupils after they were on a week-long break from 27 July until 3 August.

She said the truncated curriculum would only see 70% of the syllabus completed by December, adding that the catch-up programme might run for about three years.

Matric Students however will still be expected to complete their syllabus because their National Senior Certificate examination paper will not be changed.



**Ms Angie Motshekga**  
South Africa Basic Education Minister

This is why the start of their exams has been pushed back to a later date. They are expected to complete the exam calendar by 15 December.

Minister Motshekga said she did not expect the return of pupils in Grades 7 and 12 to be disrupted in any way, but saw the potential for challenges as more children started to return.

She said it was for this reason that schools were putting systems in place to ensure that safety protocols were adhered to. [NEWS24](#)





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

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Editor: Treasure Mothobi

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