



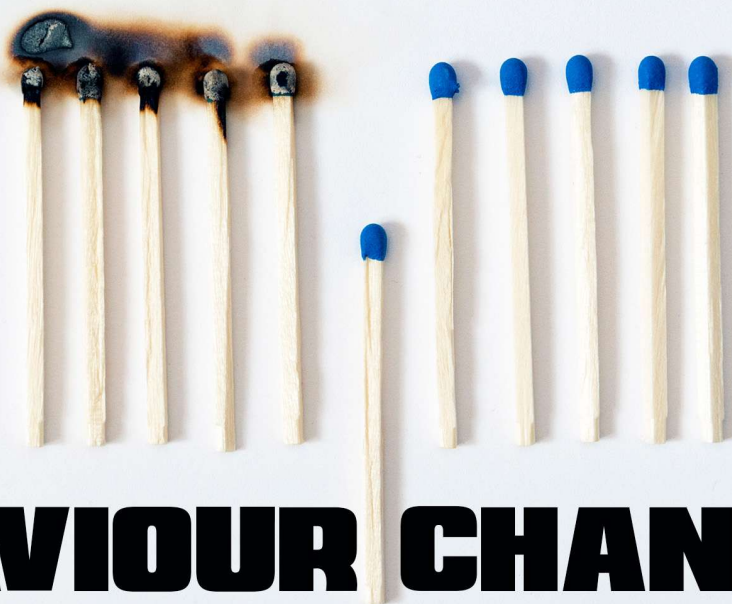
PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 92 | Friday, 07 August 2020

GREATER GABORONE ZONE
UNDER LOCKDOWN

Day 127



BEHAVIOUR CHANGE. A COVID-19 CHALLENGE.

It has been observed that people are not taking the precautionary measures seriously and continue to behave in a fashion that is likely to frustrate Presidential Task Force team efforts in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

During a Botswana Television COVID-19 programme, panelists consisted of Dr Layani Makwinja a Developmental Psychologist, Thabo Majola, a Communication Strategist and Dr Sophie Moagi who is a Counselling Psychologist.

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

18,875,773

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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

**STOP
THE SPREAD**

BOTSWANA
Our pride, your destination.

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.

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Mr Majola said simple effective messaging should be the epicenter of an evidence based communication with effective response to this global pandemic.

He said there is need to have appealing messages to the general populace which are sincere and framed to guide and manage behavior. He said he is comforted by the fact that the Presidential (COVID-19) Task Force communications has addressed key elements that would direct Botswana to COVID-19 behavioral change.

He said Botswana consistently crafted well informative messages targeted for HIV and AIDS which sensitized people on the dangers



Dr Moagi



Mr Majola



Dr Makwinja

of the virus and systematically synthesized people's behavior positively. He said the Task Force has robustly used the same communication strategy which he believes will go a long way in ensuring that Botswana adheres the new normal.

Dr Moagi who is a counselling psychologist said Government did well to respond to the pandemic by forming the Presidential Task Force Team which provided a robust and comprehensive strategy. She said the response managed public and clinical health measures in which the nation is engaged timely.

She said managing behavioral change in a pandemic, people should receive information and

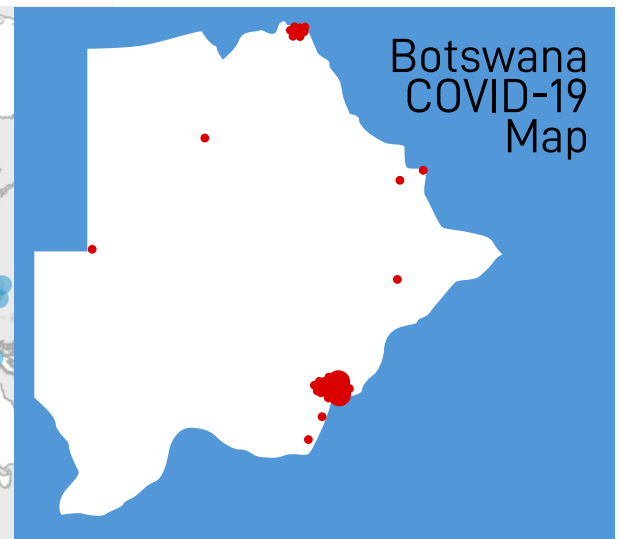
suspected cases numbers on a continuous bases. Developmental psychologist Dr Makwinja urged Botswana to religiously adhere to the COVID-19 guidelines and protocols. She acknowledged that to follow the new culture is complicated. She said a Setswana culture dictates that people greet each other by shaking hands as a sign of respect and honor. "it will be difficult to change as Botswana are accustomed to greeting each other by hugging and shaking hands, a norm which has to change," narrated Dr Makwinja.

She implored the Presidential Task Force to continue nudging positive behavioral change messages that would result in adherence of COVID-19 Protocols and guidelines.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 06/08/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 4,842,313	Egypt - 94,875	Zimbabwe - 4,339
South Africa - 529,877	China - 88,423	Eswatini - 2,909
Spain - 309,855	Ethiopia - 20,336	Namibia - 2,540
UK - 307,273	Madagascar - 12,536	Mozambique - 2,079
Italy - 249,204	Zambia - 7,022	Angola - 1,395
France - 231,310	Malawi - 4,426	Lesotho - 742



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Banning of Alcohol Sales To Combat Covid-19 -EXPLAINED

Government yesterday moved swiftly to gazette regulations putting into immediate effect a embargo on alcohol sales.

This comes after the country experienced a sharp increase in the number of COVID-19 cases. Prior to the move, the country had just began lifting restrictions that were imposed to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

During an interview on DUMA FM's Sixteen Street breakfast show yesterday, Presidential (COVID-19) Presidential Task Force Team Scientific Advisor Dr Mogomotsi Matshaba said this measure was necessary as the country faces higher levels of positive cases. Dr Matshaba said there are concerns that some alcohol consumers continue to disregard the COVID-19 regulations.

He said the suspension of the sale of alcohol is based on evidence that consumption of alcohol increases the risks posed by COVID-19 due to its negative effects on adherence to COVID-19 protocols. He said Cabinet and the Task Force Team advised His Excellency the President to consider suspending the sale of alcohol as a measure to safe Batswana from the virus.

He said compelling evidence from law enforcement agencies reveals that since some neighboring countries banned the sale of alcohol there has been a surge in illegal cross-border alcohol shopping. He said the act is a threat to the country as those illegal border jumpers might be carrying the virus.



The scientific advisor said alcohol consumption is likely to increase the health risks if a person becomes infected with the virus. He shared that alcohol has an inimical effect on the immune system. Dr Matshaba said as Government recommends Extreme Social Distancing of at least a meter as a protective measure, liquor outlets and other places where people gather to ingest alcohol increase the risk of transmission of the virus.

Dr Matshaba said the new development was being introduced to help the country to weather the storm of coronavirus. He said there has been instances where alcohol imbibers are flooding hospitals due to various alcohol injuries, he said the decision was also taken as a measure to take pressure off the national healthcare system.

His Excellency the President Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, acting in accordance with regulation 30G of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020 suspended all liquor licenses issued in terms of the Liquor Act on Wednesday the 5th 2020.

The decision means all liquor outlets in Botswana shall remain closed and liquor shall not be sold or consumed in public places until further notice.



An eighth minister in Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's Cabinet has tested positive for the new coronavirus, Reuters news agency reported, as Brazil fights the world's worst outbreak of the coronavirus outside the United States.

Eighth Brazilian Cabinet minister tests positive for coronavirus

Jorge Oliveira, secretary of the presidency, has been working remotely in isolation since his diagnosis, his office said in a statement. Eight of Bolsonaro's 23 Cabinet ministers have now tested positive for COVID-19.

The president and his wife, Michelle, also contracted the disease. Bolsonaro resumed

official meetings and travel after a test showed he was no longer infected on July 25. The Health Ministry said Brazil has confirmed more than 2.8 million cases of the virus since the pandemic began.

The official death toll has risen to 94,665, with 51,603 new cases and 1,154 deaths in the past 24 hours. **Reuters**



Republic of Botswana

**CORONAVIRUS IS STILL
A SERIOUS THREAT!**

HAVING FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS?

**CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR AND
PLEASE STAY HOME AND
AVOID CROWDS.**

Own your space. Own your health!

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

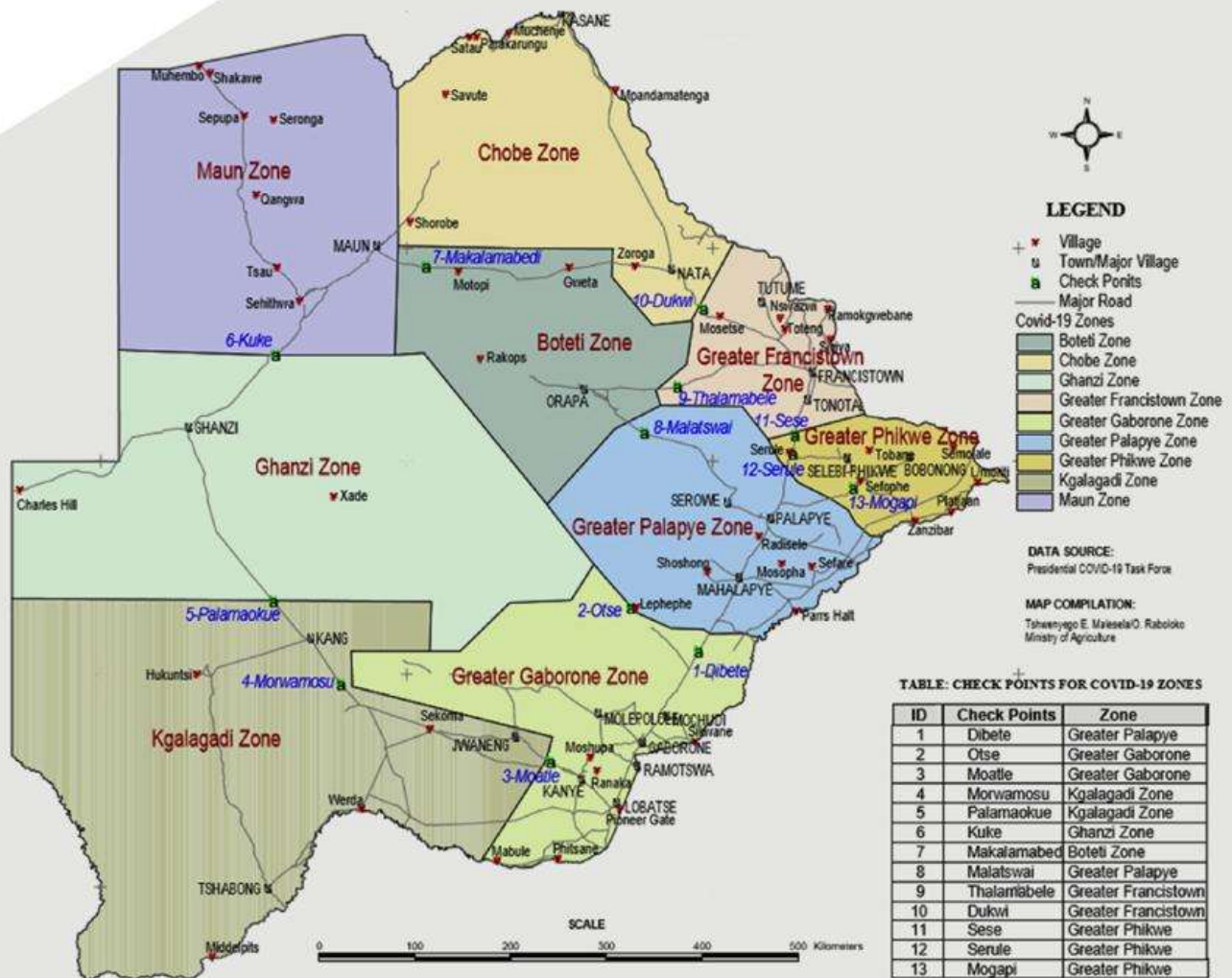
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Republic of Botswana

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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