



# PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 77 | Friday, 17 July 2020

Day 106

## CEDA Brings Hope to Botswana Amid COVID-19

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COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

# 13,654,445

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 16/07/20

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.

# CEDA Brings Hope to Botswana Amid COVID-19

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Officially launching the revised CEDA Guidelines last night, His Excellency President Dr Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi said the global outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic brought to the fore, the need to move with speed and agility as a country to ensure that the National Development Agenda is fully implemented for the benefit of Botswana.

Dr Masisi assured government's commitment to explore avenues to empower Botswana to facilitate their participation in the growth and diversification of the economy. He said sectors such as agro-processing, manufacturing, agriculture, creative industry, tourism, mining, technology and innovation have been identified as industries that will significantly add value to efforts in economic diversification and job creation.

"Government has reviewed the CEDA guidelines to ensure our responsiveness to an increasingly dynamic and unpredictable national and global economic environment with a view to support and entrench broad based citizen economic empowerment in Botswana" explained President Masisi.



HE Dr. Masisi and CEDA CEO, Mr. Thamane

His Excellency highlighted that these guidelines were revised in line with the recommendations of a study which was conducted to identify business opportunities particularly, within the manufacturing sector. He said the Guidelines are aimed at facilitating citizens to venture into business by providing favorable lending terms with regard to loan limits, interest rates, and repayment periods.

President Masisi announced that loan limits were increased for small businesses to One Million Pula (P1 million), medium businesses to Ten Million Pula (P10 million) and large businesses, Fifty Million Pula (P50 million). He said the interest rate for

loans for small scale businesses in the special sectors of manufacturing, technology and innovations, agriculture, the creative industry and tourism, has been lowered by 3% from the current prime lending rate of 5.75% to make it 2.75% and the repayment period has been increased from five to seven years.

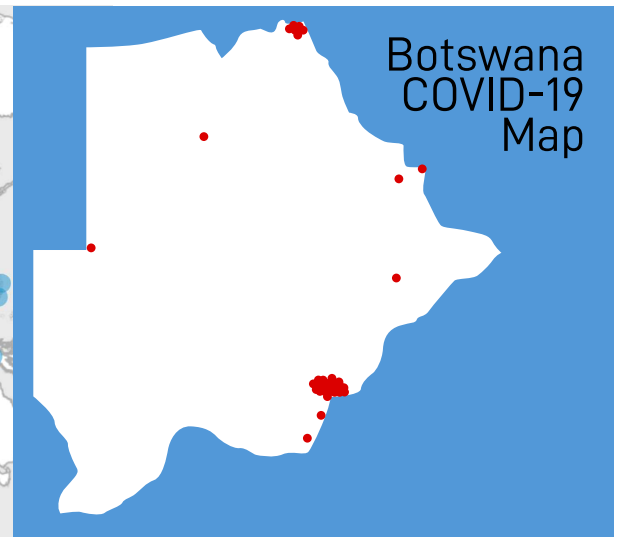
President Masisi said the readiness of Government to fund and empower Botswana should serve as an encouragement. He said in spite of COVID-19 pandemic, its adverse socio-economic impact has provided opportunities for business development that are worth exploring.

Concluding his Speech President Masisi said efforts will be stepped up to promote locally manufactured goods and services. "For example, the next COVID-19 Task Force Team meeting in July will be held at Gamononyane lands (near Metsimothabe), where a citizen has taken advantage of the Government's recent new policy that allows for part use of arable field for agro-tourism activities, such as event hosting, and government will pay", narrated His Excellency.

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 16/07/20

## COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 3,536,658	China - 85,314	Eswatini - 1,489
South Africa - 324,221	Egypt - 84,843	Mozambique - 1,383
UK - 294,110	Ethiopia - 8,181	Zimbabwe - 1,089
Spain - 258,855	Madagascar - 6,089	Namibia - 1,032
Italy - 243,736	Malawi - 2,614	Angola - 576
France - 211,102	Zambia - 1,895	Lesotho - 256



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# 6 Month Old Infant Tests Positive for COVID-19

***On the 14th of July 2020 a 6 month old Motswana infant received diagnosis of COVID-19. The infant is said to have travelled to South Africa where the parents had gone to seek medical assistance.***

The parents are also reported to have tested positive of COVID-19.

During a media briefing yesterday, Presidential (COVID-19) Task Force National Coordinator Dr Kereng Masupu said Botswana has registered a record 50 case spike as the number of COVID-19 cases rise to 522.

He said the previous day the country had registered 40 new cases, a scenario the expert said needs a strategic preparedness and articulate response plan to manage the pandemic.

Dr Masupu said approximately 55,500 tests have been conducted in the past 24 hours. He said most cases were imported from neighboring countries. He said 466 of the

positive cases were from essential logistics workers and 44 of them were Batswana. He said 326 of them were voluntarily transferred back to their countries of origin. The National Coordinator said the National disease update stood at 96 (44 being essential transporter of goods), one death, 47 Active cases and 48 recoveries.



Republic of Botswana

## BE THE POWER OF EXAMPLE

No register, sanitiser or thermometer? I will not use your services or enter your premises!

**Your RESPONSIBILITY.  
Our victory.**

*Own your space. Own your health!*

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# Traditional brewers Given a Green Light to Brew

**Minister of Investment Trade and Industry Ms Peggy Serame says His Excellency the President acting in accordance with regulation 30G of the Emergency Powers (Covid-19) Regulations 2020 has authorised the lifting of liquor restrictions.**

When briefing members of the media recently, Minister Serame said the sale of traditional brew is now authorised following engagement with Dikgosi last week. Minister Serame said production and sale of traditional beer was not authorised in June when other alcoholic beverages were given authority to be sold. She however said the traditional brews will be sold from 1200hrs to 1700hrs with the intention to allow people to do household chores first before embarking on a drinking spree. The Hon Minister said people will not be allowed to drink at the depot but instead consume at home.

Regarding the hygiene at the depot, Ms Serame urged alcohol imbibers not to share drinking containers (diphafana). She said traditional brew sellers should make sure that they register people who enter their premises and avail clean water and soap for hand washing. She also encouraged traditional brewers to acquire infra-red thermometers, however said law enforcement officers should not demand it since they are an informal sector.

Minister Serame said she has noted with concern that some people congregate at car washes and quench their thirst with alcohol which is illegal. She however said government will continue to monitor the situation and take the necessary action.

In terms of bar operation hours, Ms Serame said bars will now open at 1000hrs and close at 1900hrs while bottle stores will open at 0900hrs and shut their doors at 1700 hours while distributors and wholesalers will continue to open at 0800 and close at 1600 hrs.

## COVID-19 disruptions

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, at least 30 measles vaccination campaigns were or are at risk of being cancelled, which could result in further outbreaks in 2020 and beyond.*

*According to a new UNICEF, WHO and Gavi pulse survey, conducted in collaboration with the US Centers for Disease Control, the Sabin Vaccine Institute and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, three quarters of the 82 countries that responded reported COVID-19 related disruptions in their immunization programmes as of May 2020.*

*The reasons for disrupted services vary. Even when services are offered, people are either unable to access them because of reluctance to leave home, transport interruptions, economic hardships, restrictions on movement, or fear of being exposed to people with COVID-19.*

*Many health workers are also unavailable because of restrictions on travel or redeployment to COVID response duties as well as a lack of protective equipment.*

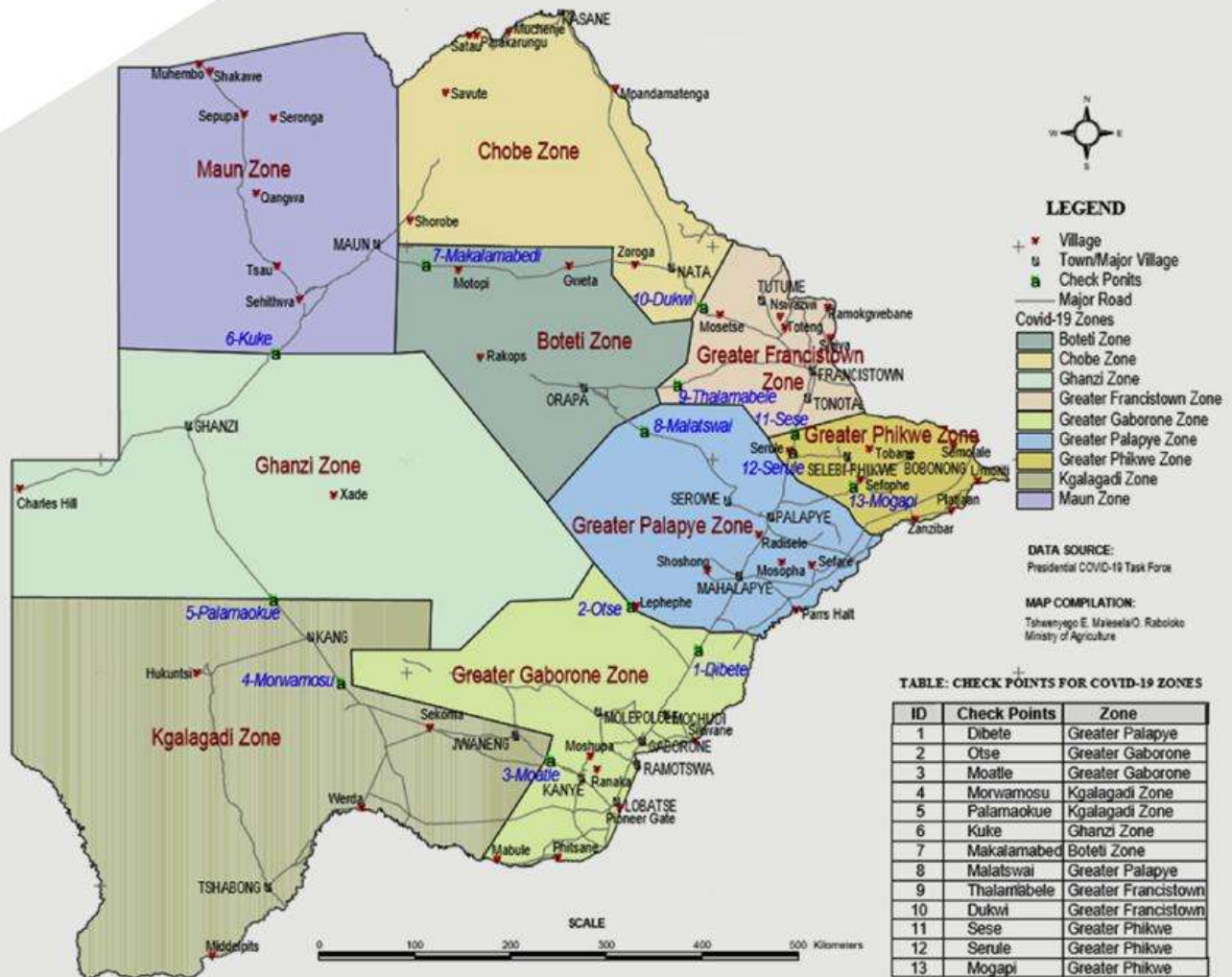
*"COVID-19 has made previously routine vaccination a daunting challenge," said UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore. "We must prevent a further deterioration in vaccine coverage and urgently resume vaccination programs before children's lives are threatened by other diseases. We cannot trade one health crisis for another."*





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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Republic of Botswana

**CORONAVIRUS IS STILL  
A SERIOUS THREAT!**

# FROM "I" TO "US"...

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in step. Let US all:**

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- Maintain social distancing.
- Wear masks.
- Remember to bSafe. Use the app.

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