



Republic of Botswana

# PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | LOCKDOWN

Issue 19 | Tuesday, 28 April 2020

DAY 26  
OF 28

# LOCKDOWN EXTENDED

*"Presidential (COVID-19) Task Force advised on the national lockdown period to be extended by one week starting from 1st May to 7th May 2020 and a further two weeks during which the lockdown would be sequentially eased." - President Masisi*

## CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

27/04/2020

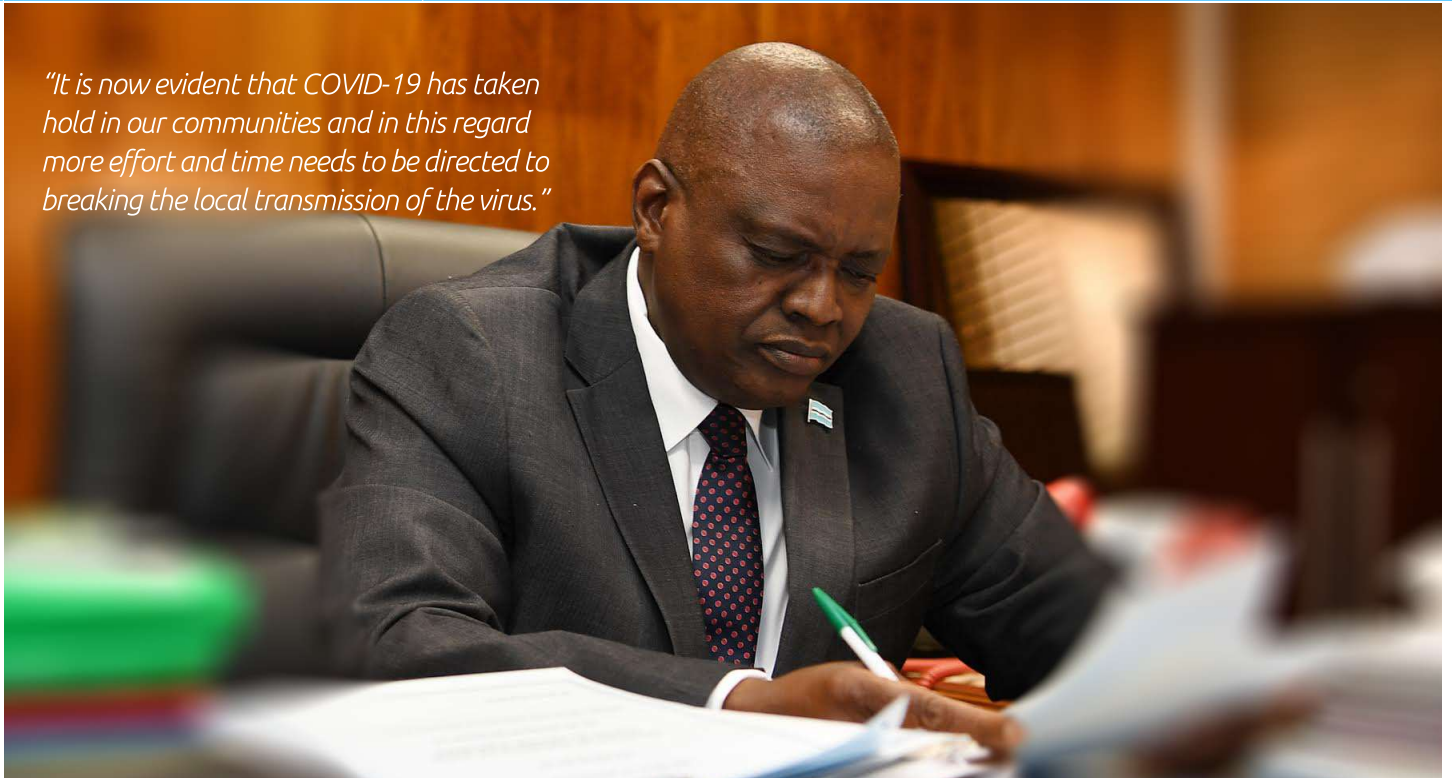
Lab Tests Performed & resulted	6210
Negative Cases	6188
Positive Cases	22
Total Deaths	1
New Confirmed Cases	0

PREVENT THE SPREAD  
OF THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



WASH HANDS AFTER  
BLOWING YOUR NOSE

*"It is now evident that COVID-19 has taken hold in our communities and in this regard more effort and time needs to be directed to breaking the local transmission of the virus."*



## Botswana's response to COVID-19 pandemic

**H**is Excellency the President, Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has revealed an exit plan following 26 days since the country went into a national lockdown as a strategic measure to minimize and contain the risk of the spread and transmission of COVID-19.

President Masisi noted that the Presidential Task Force advised on the national lockdown period to be extended by one week starting from 1st May to 7th May 2020 and a

further two weeks during which the lockdown would be sequentially eased.

The extension of the current lockdown will be implemented in phases 1, 2 and 3. However, President Masisi indicated that the exit plan is based on the success anticipated to achieve as a country. He said the success is dependent on the cooperation and adherence to the current lockdown rules. President Masisi said it is of paramount

importance to note that a faster relaxation of rules will occur if the threat of COVID-19 becomes very low.

However, he said in the event that the threat of COVID-19 outbreak and transmission, exceeds the current level at any point, a return to the original 28 day national lockdown rules or stricter rules will be put in place.

### Phase I

The current lockdown conditions period will be extended by one week, from **May 1st to May 7th, 2020**. During this period, The Government will also develop and finalize regulations for a phased lifting of lockdown rules in low risk sectors.

### Phase II

Starting from **May 8th to May 14th**, Government, will lift in a phased manner, some lockdown rules while at the same time introducing additional plans for further lifting of the remaining lockdown rules.

### Phase III

From **May 15th to May 22nd**, which will be the final week of the lockdown extension, Government will lift the remaining rules from the original lockdown rules implemented on March 30th, 2020.

#### THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: [neoc@gov.bw](mailto:neoc@gov.bw)  
The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

# President thanks Batswana for complying with the protocols



*The City of Francistown under lockdown*

**P**resident Dr Mokgweetsi Masisi has thanked Batswana for complying with protocols of extreme social distancing by restricting their movements.

Addressing the nation yesterday, the President said this will contribute significantly to the containment of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said the national lockdown was a strategic measure to minimise and contain the risk of the spread and transmission of COVID-19 in Botswana.

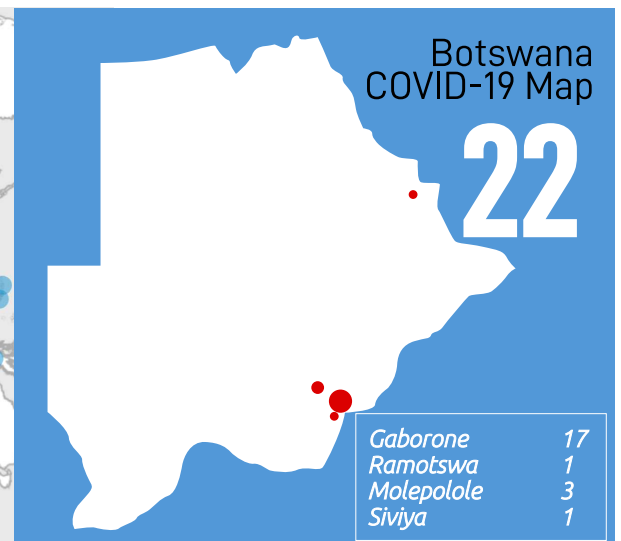
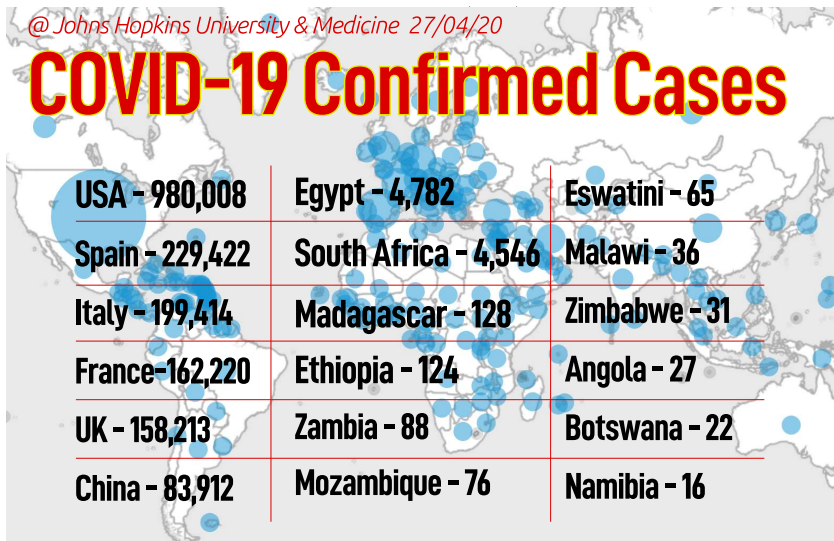
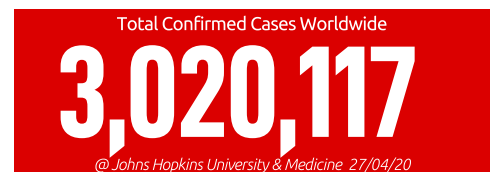
President Masisi explained that at the commencement of the national

lockdown, Botswana had imported cases of COVID-19 and no reports of locally transmitted cases. He said the most significant development driving the increase of new diagnosis of COVID-19 had been the occurrence of locally transmitted cases.

He revealed that as at 25th April, 2020 there were 6210 samples for testing, out of which 6188 were negative and 22 were positive with one fatality. President Masisi alluded to the fact that the 6210 samples included 2702 suspected cases and contacts. He further indicated that a total of 3508 people have been placed under quarantine and some in self-isolation.

"I am happy to report that the 21 cases that have tested positive are all asymptomatic and on the way to full recovery. It is my ardent hope that in the fullness of time they will join their families," he said.

He further indicated that Government's strategic focus as advised by the COVID19 Presidential Task Force is the containment of the spread and transmission of the pandemic in the country.



## Food supplies to vulnerable families

So far

# P150,870,083.00

has been earmarked to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic through food supplies to vulnerable families.

# 300 156

households assessed

# 47 393

households assisted with food packages which include agricultural products in season.

*"Government will scale up the distribution of food packages and this assistance will continue until the situation regarding the containment of COVID-19 is fully under control."*

# 244 080

households recommended for assistance

*"Once again let me remind you fellow citizens that this plan is based on the success we anticipate to achieve as a country. This success is dependent on the cooperation and adherence to the current lockdown rules by citizens and residents of this country. It is important to note that the plan to relax the lockdown rules will be guided by the COVID-19 disease in our communities." - President Masisi*

## COVID-19 E-PERMIT APPLICATION SYSTEM

**APPLY ONLINE**  
gov.bw

### EDITORIAL TEAM

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