

COVID-19 UPDATE #3: JUNE 2020

SOUTHERN AFRICA CLUSTER



The first COVID-19 case in the southern Africa cluster was confirmed in South Africa on 5 March 2020 and the last in Lesotho on 13 May 2020.

Red Cross National Societies have responded to the unfolding pandemic by engaging volunteers on a range of COVID-19 related activities, including risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), screening, testing and tracing, livelihood support, as well as psychosocial and sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) support.

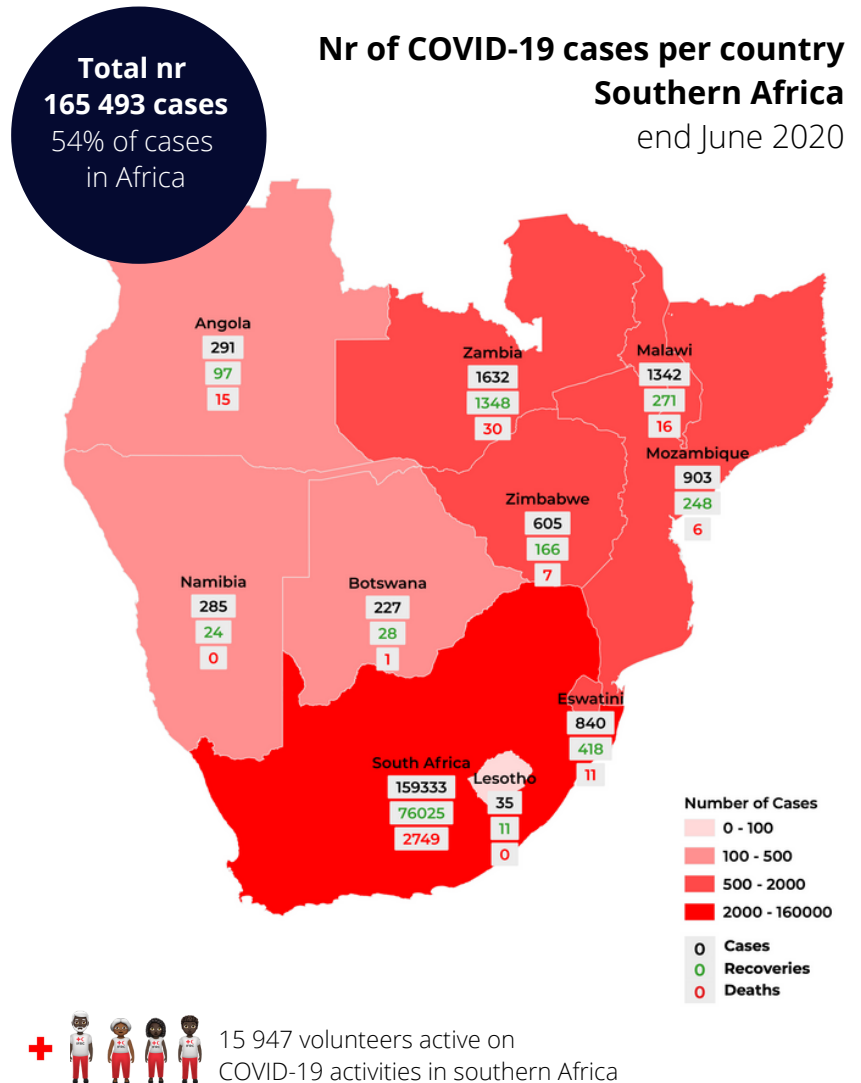
In most countries, the National Societies have been called on by governments to work with various national departments, including departments of health and disaster, to effectively respond to the impact of the virus.

Ongoing community feedback across the region reflects that many people did not believe COVID-19 was real or would affect them. Widespread lack of knowledge around COVID-19 remained a big challenge.



Red Cross Movement funding for southern Africa: CHF 8.2m

includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding



COVID-19 RESPONSE: ANGOLA RED CROSS (CVA)

JUNE 2020



The first case of COVID-19 was confirmed on 21 March 2020 in Angola. The country registered its first local transmission case over a month later, on 25 April 2020.

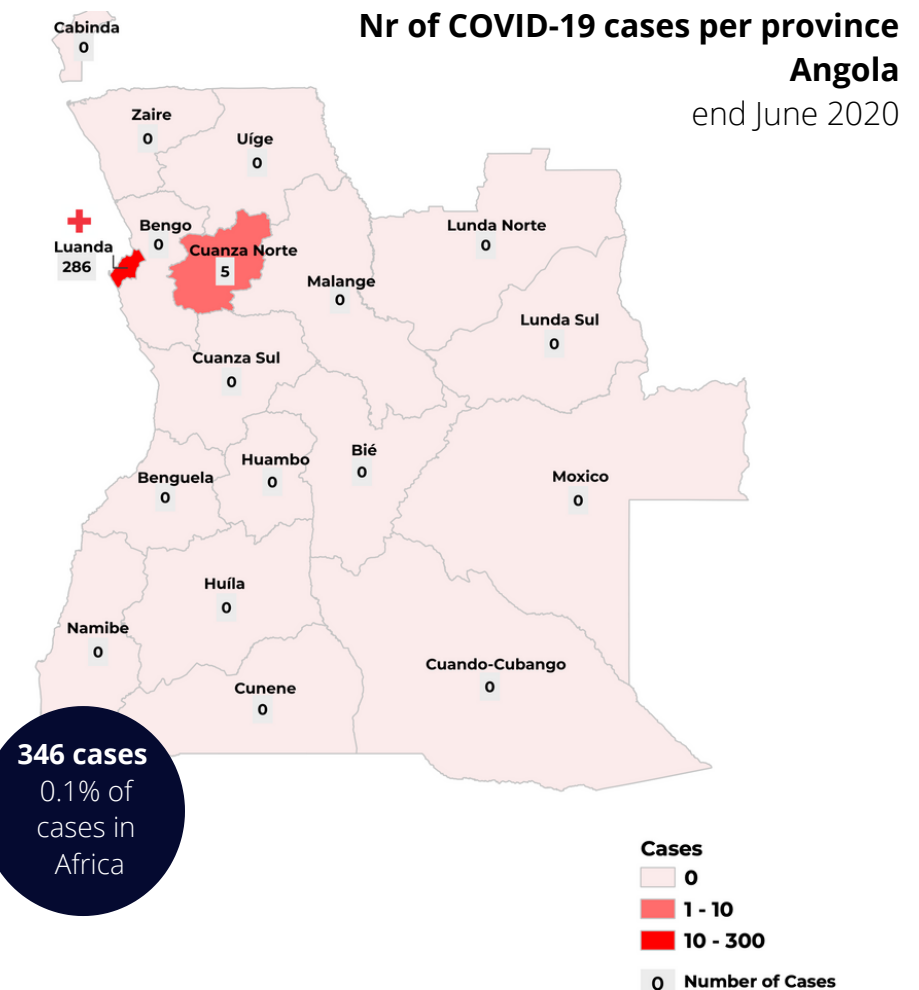
The Angolan Red Cross (Cruz Vermelha Angola, CVA) has mobilized and trained 3 673 volunteers, with the participation of nurses and doctors from the Ministry of Health.

Its focus has been on building a strong network of volunteers by mapping the location of volunteers, creating groups of volunteers in communities and hosting 'training of trainers' sessions to further up skill volunteers.

Volunteers have been conducting various COVID-19 related activities in key public areas.



Red Cross Movement funding to CVA: 100k CHF (60,5m kZ)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding



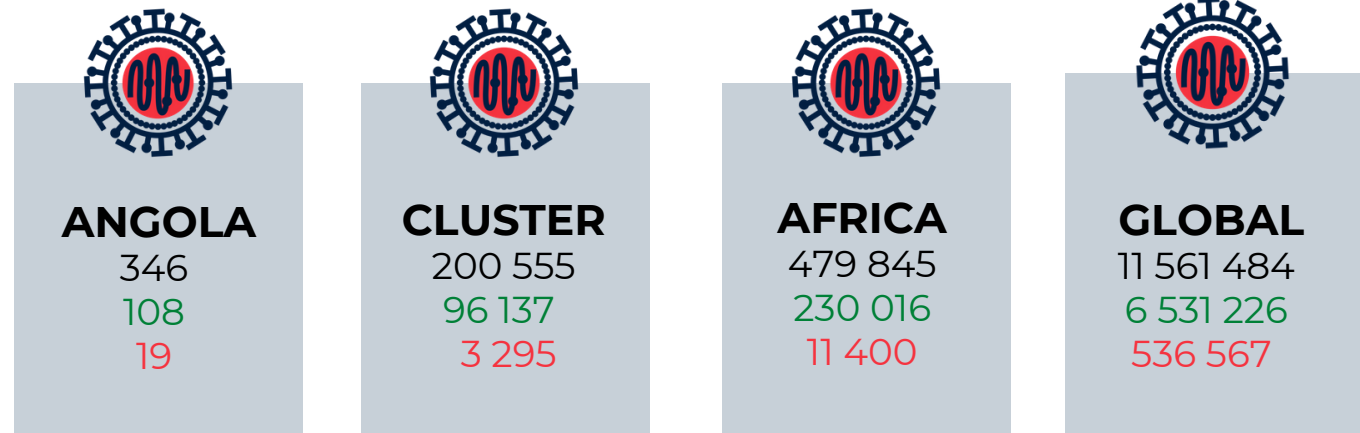
3 673 volunteers active on COVID-19 activities

JUNE 2020



TIMELINE

- **20 March 2020**
All Angolan borders closed for 15 days.
- **21 March 2020**
First 2 confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- **27 March 2020**
State of Emergency declared.
- **29 March 2020**
First 2 deaths recorded.
- **26 May**
A State of Calamity replaces the State of Emergency.
- **25 June**
Government extends the State of Calamity to 10 July nationwide
- Essential services for the production and transportation of food, basic goods and medical supplies will remain open.



* cases * recovered * deaths

5 July 2020

Angola Red Cross (CVA) Activities



- Volunteers continue to receive training from Ministry of Health; 1 000 volunteers were trained and informed on COVID-19



- Behaviour change campaign was carried out in public places, including markets with the help of police



- Food continued to be distributed to serve the most vulnerable people



- 385 lectures were held in informal markets in some provinces



- Flyers and leaflets were distributed



- 'Restoring Family Links' services were provided for migrants, including refugees in camps, returnees at isolation centres and those at COVID-19 shelters. 1 680 free phone calls were provided to refugees at Lovua Refugee Settlement.

Some provinces have started recording rising levels of hunger. Lack of PPE an ongoing challenge.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: BOTSWANA RED CROSS SOCIETY

JUNE 2020



Confirmed COVID-19 positive cases almost doubled in Botswana in June, increasing from 42 to 89. Forty-nine of the cases were transferred out of the country, as the majority were foreign nationals in transit. Although the economy has fully opened, prevention regulations are still in place but more relaxed. Movement across the country's demarcated zones is still regulated.

In mid-June, extreme social distancing was enforced in greater Gaborone, as a dramatic increase in the number of infected people was expected.

The Minister of Health and Wellness declared COVID-19 a notifiable disease, requiring every health facility to notify the ministry of every case, or suspected case, in the facility.

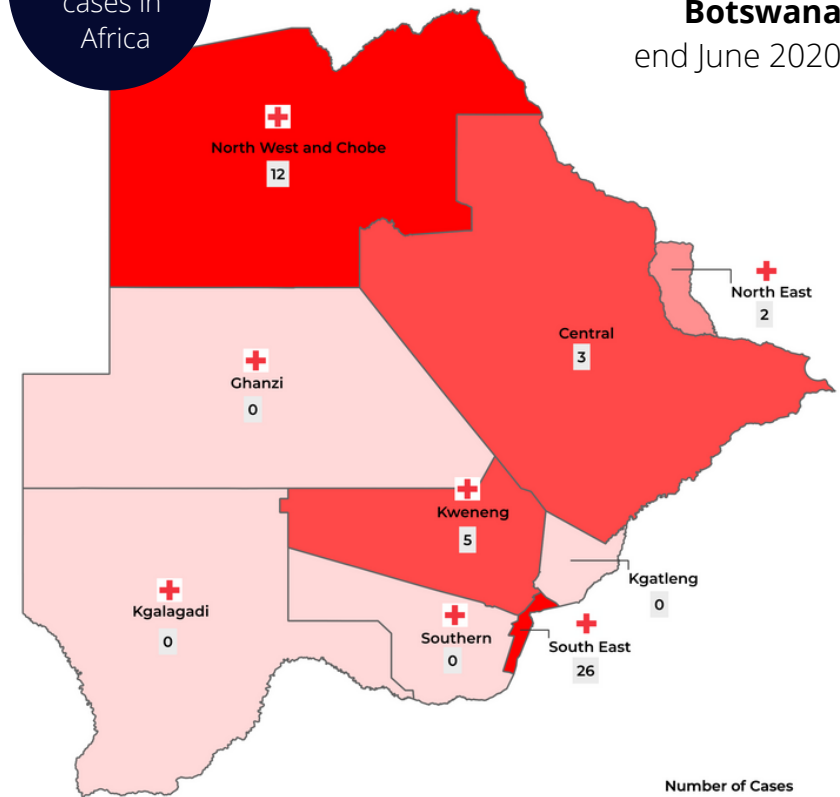
The ministry scaled up contact tracing and has engaged Botswana Red Cross volunteers to augment the ministry's COVID-19 preparedness and response.



Red Cross Movement funding to BRCS: 504k CHF (6.2m BWP)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding

227 cases
0.07% of
cases in
Africa

**Nr of COVID-19 cases
per district
Botswana
end June 2020**

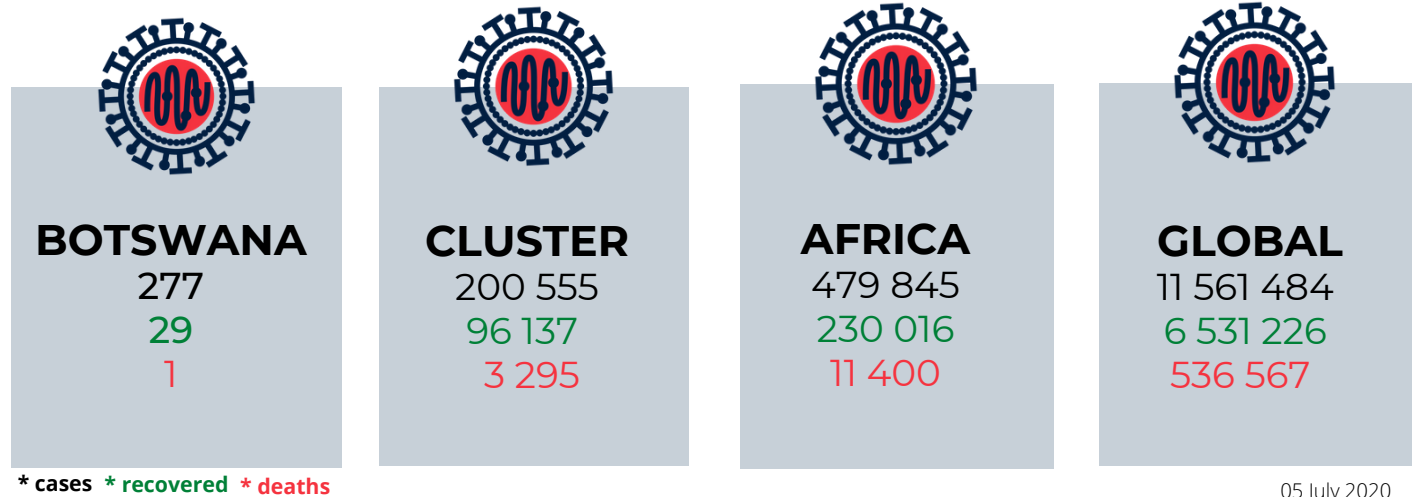


Number of Cases
0
0 - 2
2 - 5
5 - 26
0 Number of Cases

+  **4 272 volunteers activated
on COVID-19 activities**

TIMELINE

- 24 March 2020**
Government of Botswana closes all borders
- 29 March 2020**
First 3 confirmed cases of COVID-19
- 02 April 2020**
State of Emergency and extreme social distancing declared for 28 days
- 01 May 2020**
Relaxation of extreme social distancing conditions announced. Movement still regulated. 25% of employees return to work, some sectors open
- 15 May 2020**
Phase III of gradual relaxing of distancing rules.
- 31 May 2020**
Community testing begins
- 12 June 2020**
Government imposes localised lockdown in greater Gaborone
- 15 June 2020**
Travel and tourism sectors open, restaurants and hotels to open 1 July



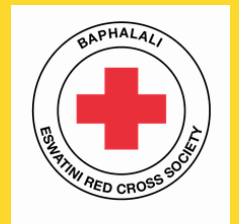
Botswana Red Cross Activities

-  154 volunteers have been trained by Ministry of Health and Wellness on contact tracing across the country
-  93 volunteers conducted Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities
-  1 350 stores supported to comply with COVID-19 return to work regulations
-  distributed 147 hygiene packages to vulnerable communities
-  93 volunteers conducted RCCE activities (on handwashing, coughing etiquette and social distancing)
-  Volunteers deployed to the National Testing lab for data entry and to the District Health Management Teams for support
-  Volunteers were engaged in public areas to enforce compliance to protection measures in schools, clinics, malls & kgotlas
-  Secretary General appointed by the President to sit on the Presidential Task Force Team

Botswana Red Cross Society partnered with EU/ECHO and IFRC to donate Personal Protective Equipment worth 110 000 CHF (1.4 million BWP) to the government's COVID-19 relief fund for use by frontline health workers.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: JUNE 2020

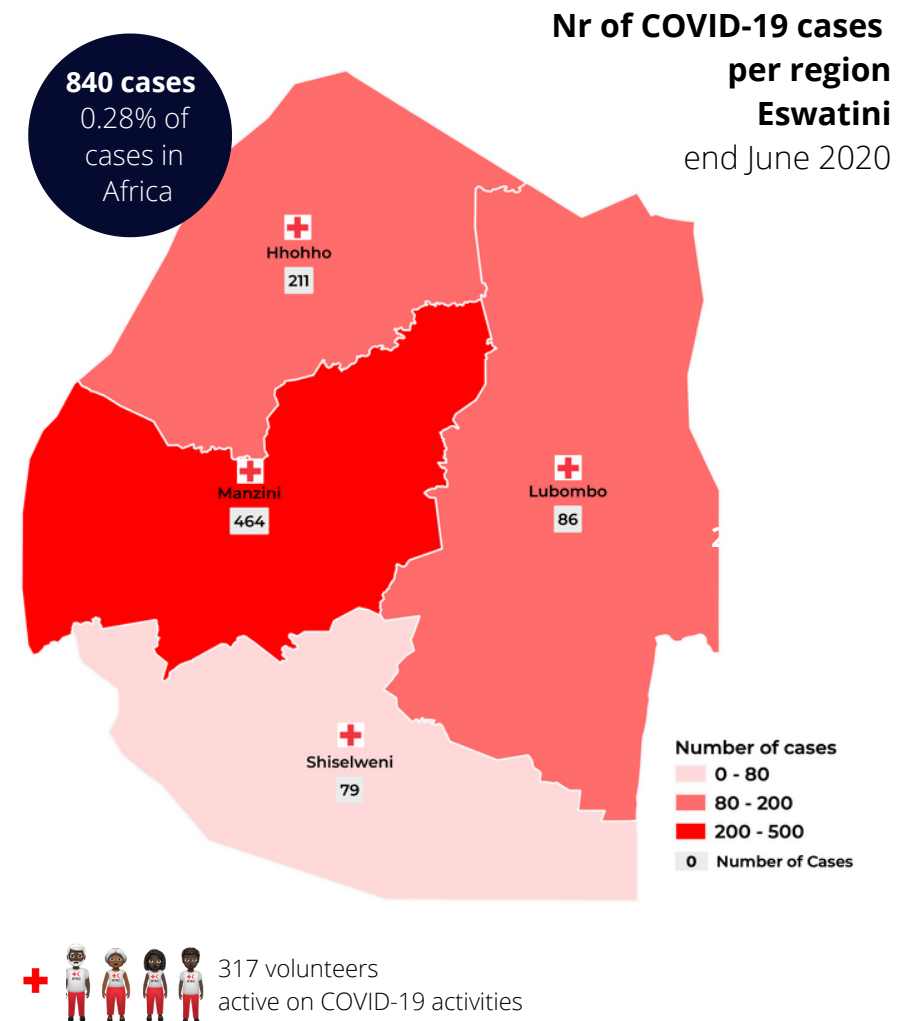
BAPHALALI ESWATINI RED CROSS (BERCS)



Manzini continues to be the region worst hit by COVID-19, followed by the Hhohho, Lubombo and Shiselweni regions.

BERCS volunteers countrywide have continued to support the government in its efforts to mitigate the further spread of the virus. They are viewed as playing a critical role in providing prevention messages to rural communities where people sometimes do not have easy access to information via radio, tv and print.

BERCS this month deployed volunteers to conduct a gate-to-gate behaviour change campaign. Prior to its start, the National Society met with community leaders in all 26 constituencies. These meetings introduced the trained volunteers to the chiefdoms before the campaign began, resulting in support from community leaders for the volunteers as they moved from homestead to homestead in the targeted communities..



Red Cross Movement funding to BERCS: 594.7k CHF (10.8m SZL)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding





JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

14 March 2020

First confirmed case of COVID-19

31 March 2020

Government announces an indefinite State of Emergency

02 April 2020

Partial lockdown begins

16 April 2020

The country records its first COVID-19 related death

8 May 2020

Government begins phased lifting of restrictive measures, allowing limited economic activity; travel restrictions remain

26 May 2020

Due to an increase in the number of new cases of COVID-19, the government extends the lockdown by one month, until 19 June 2020



ESWATINI

988

547

13



CLUSTER

200 555

96 137

3 295



AFRICA

479 845

230 016

11 400



GLOBAL

11 561 484

6 531 226

536 567

* cases * recovered * deaths

5 July 2020

Eswatini Red Cross Activities



- 317 volunteers were trained on information dissemination and awareness raising activities



- 122 704 people were reached in 5 divisions within Eswatini's four regions with RCCE activities



- Produced and translated range of IEC materials: 500 A2 posters in Siswati, 250 posters in English, 1500 A5 flyers in Siswati and 1000 of the same flyers in English



- Produced RCCE messages for 4 radio channels and Eswatini TV. Each station ran 30 spots in the morning and 30 in the evening. Numbers reached: 900 000 Siswati & 750 00 English listeners; Voice of the Church (700 000 Siswati & 450 000 English) and Eswatini TV (350 000 Siswati) Eswatini DStv (100,000)



- Provided 20 x 5000 litre water tanks in strategic locations for handwashing in water-scarce settings

At community level, BERCS continued to collaborate with community leaders, including the Constituency Council and the Inner Council in the chiefdoms. The community leaders were very instrumental in informing their communities about the project.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: LESOTHO RED CROSS (LRCS)

JUNE 2020



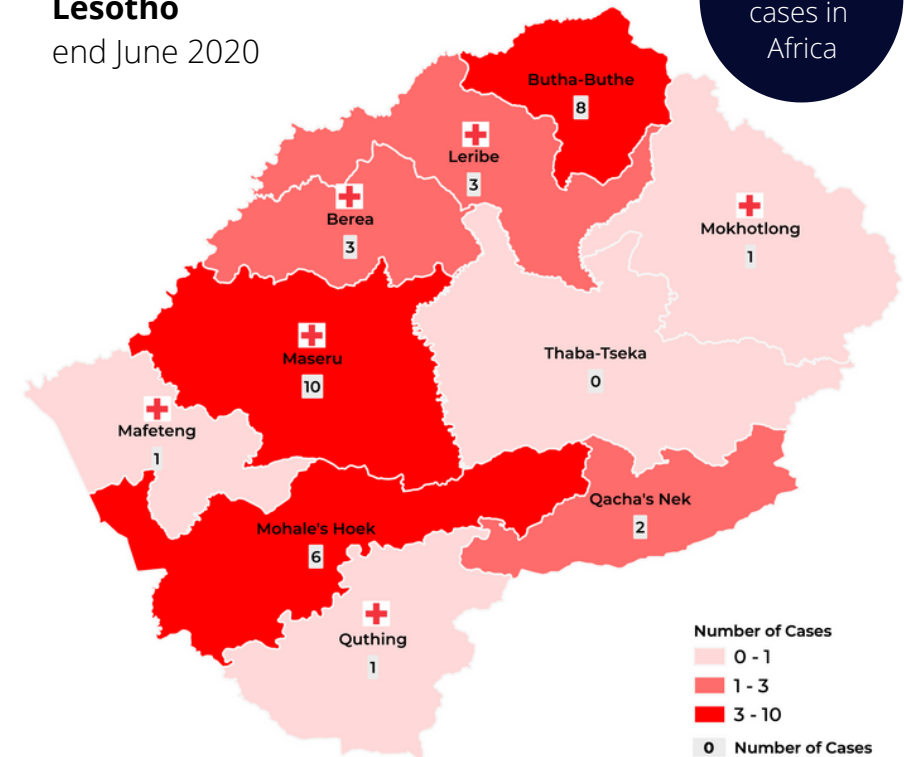
Lesotho confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on 13 May 2020, the last African country to do so.

The Lesotho Red Cross has continued screening at points of entry. Travellers who possibly bypass the system are identified with the help of nearby communities and followed up by District Health Monitoring Teams. They are sent to government operated quarantine centres or put under home quarantine. Contacts are identified, screened, tested and put on quarantine if tested positive.

Districts were also advised on the maintenance of infection prevention and control measures at government quarantine facilities, as travellers were overcrowded in some facilities and were found to be visiting one another.

Nr of COVID-19 cases per district Lesotho

end June 2020



+  2 000 volunteers active
in Lesotho Red Cross Society

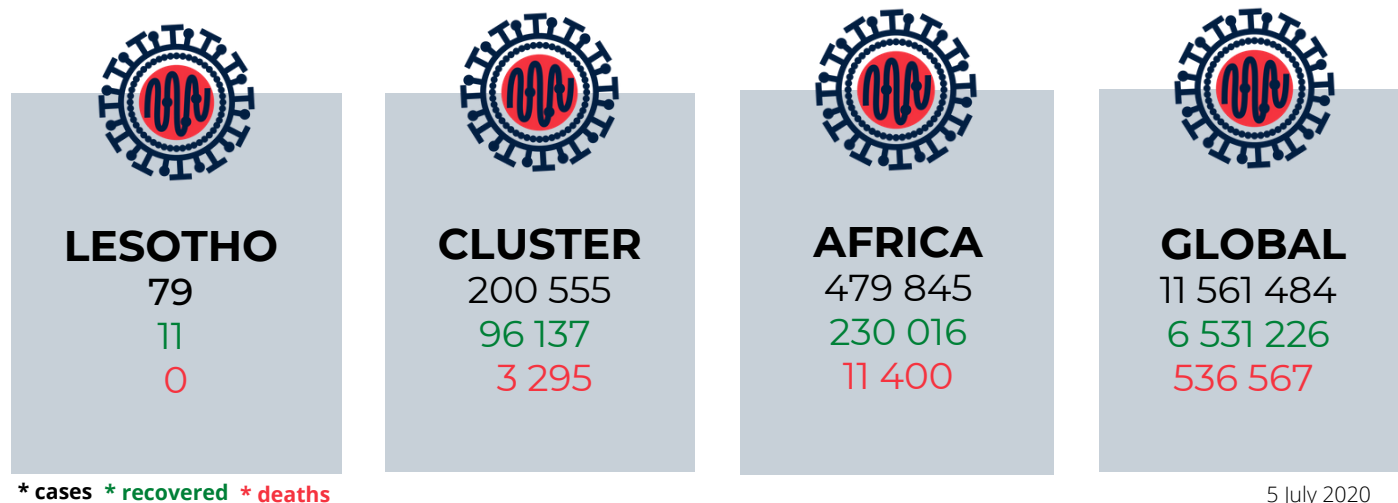


Red Cross Movement funding for LRCS: 430.5k CHF (7.8m LSL)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding

JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- **18 March 2020**
Government declares a State of Emergency
- **31 March 2020**
Government declares lockdown
- **5 May 2020**
Government partially lifts lockdown as no cases reported
- **13 May 2020**
First COVID-19 case confirmed in Lesotho. As of May 13: 295 negative results confirmed & 301 test results still pending
- **20 & 21 May 2020**
New Prime Minister and Health Minister sworn in
- **26 May 2020**
Second COVID-19 case is confirmed in Lesotho
- **June 2020**
No lockdown. NECC regulates working hours from 8 am to 4 pm, liquor stores are open only twice a week, people may not enter supermarkets and other public places without a mask



Lesotho Red Cross Activities



- 282 tippy taps have been constructed in public places and 12 737 people reached with hygiene messages around proper hand washing



- Social distancing campaigns were held in 10 divisions, reaching 17 737 people with safe distancing and hygiene promotion messages in more than 20 supermarkets



- A feeding programme was established to support homeless people in Leribe, Maseru and Quthing. 181 homeless people, including children and adults have been supported



- Volunteers participated in contact tracing and COVID 19 screening in hot spots (borders/points of entry) with the support of the Ministry of Health

The Lesotho Red Cross Society's plays an active role in the National Emergency Command Centre at both national and district level. As a result the National Society is known for its services as the first responder.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: MALAWI RED CROSS SOCIETY (MRCS)

JUNE 2020



Malawi continues to register new COVID-19 cases but with no new recoveries, and no new deaths.

The average age of the cases is 33.4 years, the youngest case is aged 1 month, the oldest is 78 years and 70% are male.

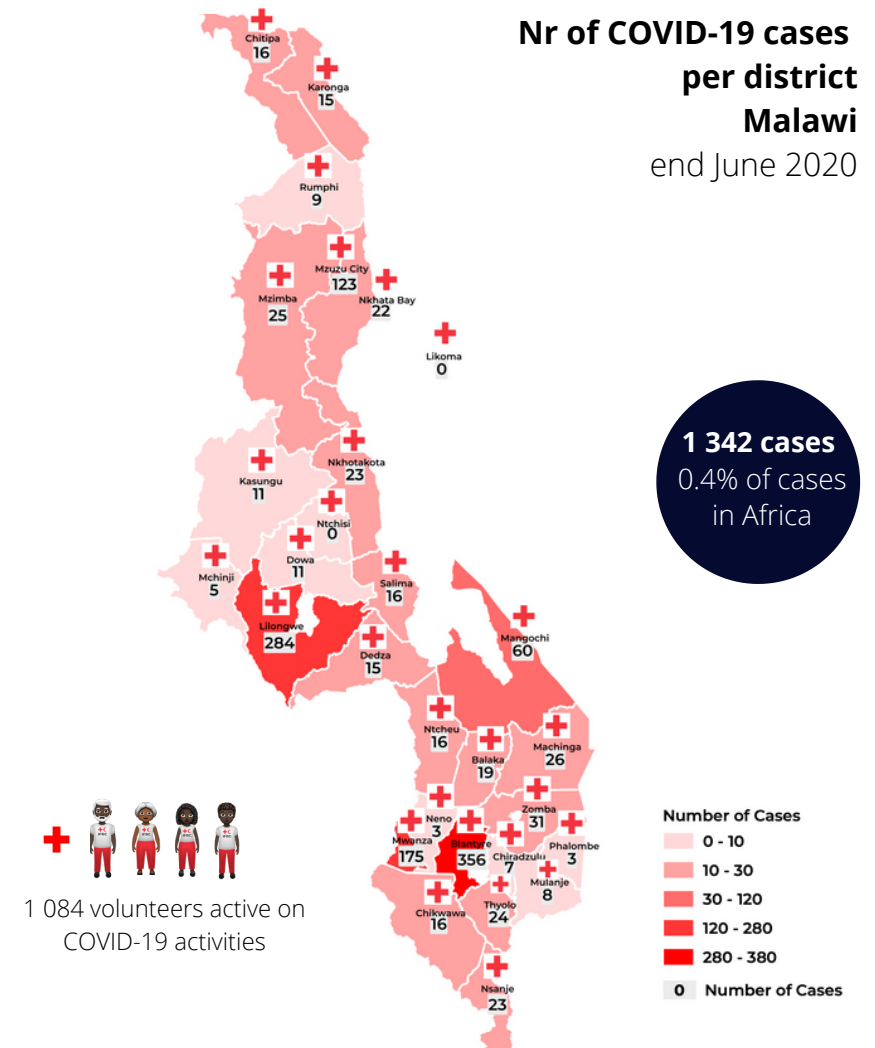
By the second last week in June, the country had conducted 12,950 COVID-19 tests in 37 COVID-19 testing sites.

There has been an increase in clusters of COVID-19 identified through contact tracing within workplaces in Malawi, showing a potential high level of local transmission within these institutions.

MRCS is implementing COVID-19 response operation in 19 out of 28 districts in Malawi.



Red Cross Movement funding to MRCS: 1.4m CHF (1.1bn MKW)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding





JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- 20 March 2020**
Government declares a State of Disaster
- 01 April 2020**
Restrictions on public transport & suspension of all international travel
- 02 April 2020**
Government announces first 3 confirmed cases of COVID-19
- 08 April 2020**
Government announces more prevention measures and a stimulus package
- 14 April 2020**
Malawi's president announces a 21-day lockdown starting 18 April
- 17 April 2020**
Malawi High Court bars government from implementing 21-day lockdown following petition by a human rights group
- 23 June 2020**
Presidential elections are held



MALAWI

1 613
317
17



CLUSTER

200 555
96 137
3 295



AFRICA

479 845
230 016
11 400



GLOBAL

11 561 484
6 531 226
536 567

* cases * recovered * deaths

5 July 2020

Malawi Red Cross Activities



- 29,030 people have been screened at Points of Entry in Karonga, Mwanza and Mchinji



- Reached 540 716 people in 98 321 households with COVID-19 prevention messages



- 127,983 people reached with handwashing support in 84 crowded places (markets, big shops, banks, roadblocks & mobile markets)



- 540,716 people were reached with PGI (protection, gender & inclusion) messages during targeted handwashing campaigns



- Reached over 3,048,141 people across Malawi through local media incl radio, van publicities, megaphones at strategic handwashing points in busy spaces like bus terminals, markets, hospitals, prisons, fish markets and big shops



- Provided 942 free phone calls to Malawi returnees from SA and elsewhere at Lilongwe reception points & offered free calls and Wi-Fi access to refugees & asylum seekers at Dzaleka Refugee Camp

During mass political rallies that took place in the run-up to the presidential elections on 23 June, almost no COVID-19 precautions were adhered to by potential voters.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: MOZAMBIQUE RED CROSS SOCIETY (CVM) JUNE 2020



Since Mozambique confirmed its first COVID-19 case on 22 March, CVM has focused on three main areas of attention: health technical support, RCCE and psychosocial support in all 11 provinces of the country.

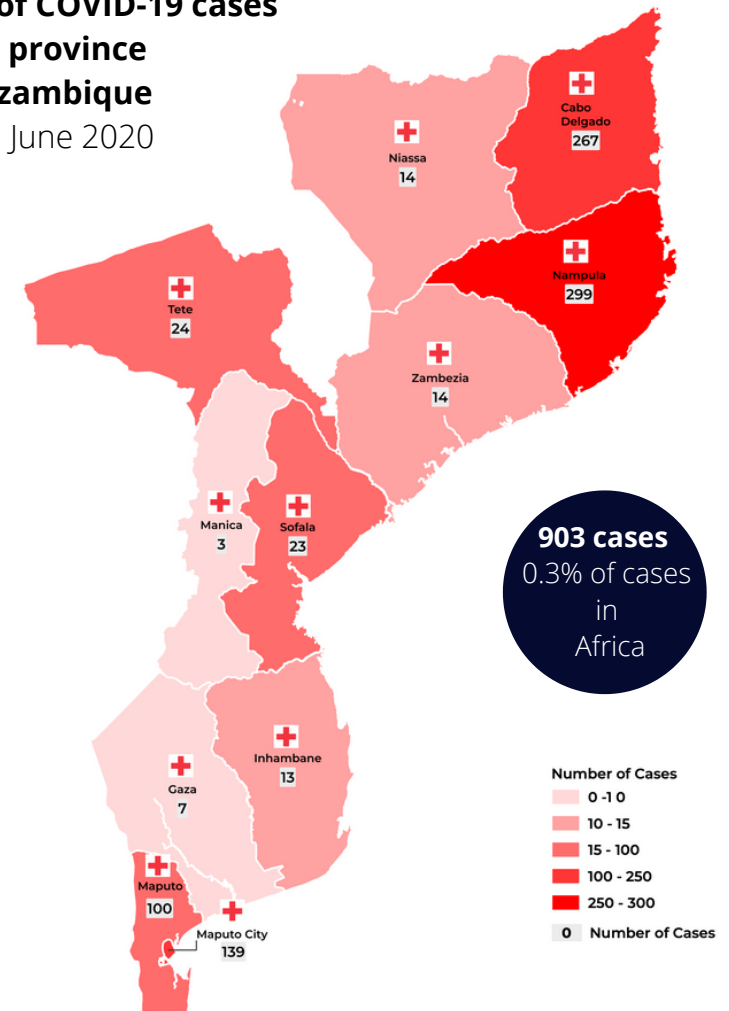
The CVM has trained 1 400 volunteers and community members who actively play a crucial role in disseminating information on COVID-19 prevention and control measures in the country's most remote communities.

In close partnership with the Ministry of Health and other partners, the Red Cross of Mozambique has been intensifying its advocacy work in promoting health and hygiene in public spaces, systematically collecting rumours to produce its national report of community feedbacks and training public agents to respond to psychological first aid and SGBV in the context of COVID-19.



Red Cross Movement funding to CVM: 641.7k CHF (49.9m MZN)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding

**Nr of COVID-19 cases
per province
Mozambique**
end June 2020

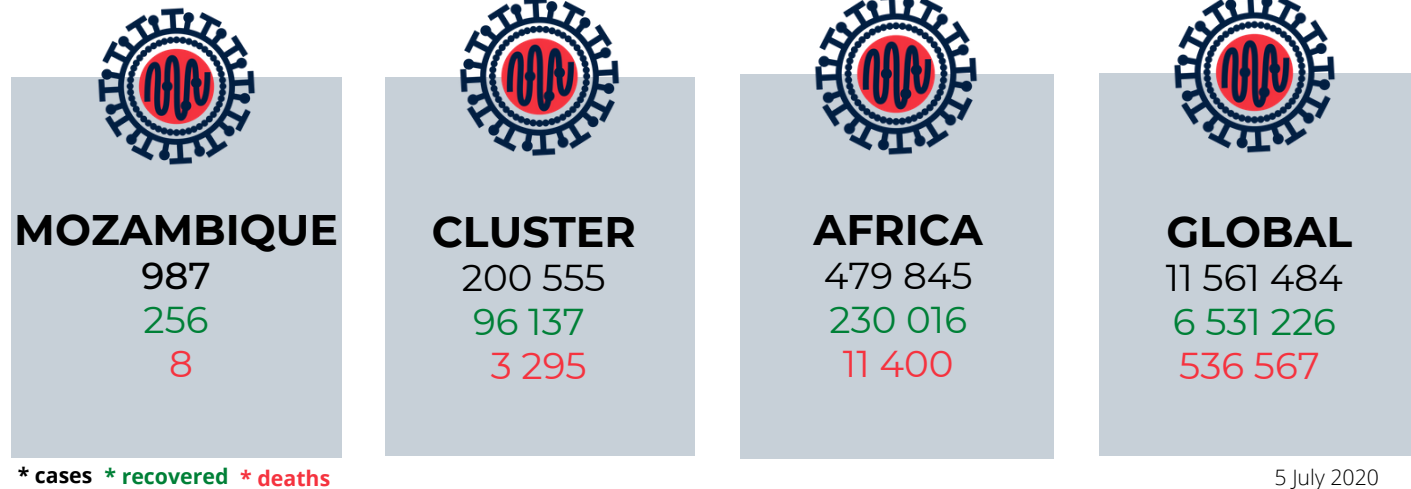


5 700 volunteers active on various operations across the country

JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- **22 March 2020**
First confirmed case of COVID-19
- **01 April 2020**
State of Emergency begins for 30 days
- **01 April 2020**
Government announces a continuation of the Level-3 State of Emergency
- **28 May 2020**
Government extends the State of Emergency enacted on 01 April for another 30 days until 30 June
- **29 June 2020**
Government extends the State of Emergency enacted for a third time for 30 days



Mozambique Red Cross Activities



- Trained 1 6880 volunteers in 8 provinces



- 28 038 community awareness-raising sessions conducted across the country



- Created 4 479 handwashing points across the country



- Distributed protective materials for workers (gloves, masks, gel/alcohol)



- Distributed essential items (kitchen sets, tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene materials etc) to over 1 600 families (8 000 individuals) forced to flee armed violence in Cabo Delgado



- Published 11 000 folding IEC leaflets and 10 000 IEC leaflets



- Delivery of personal hygiene kits to 23 Cabo Delgado provincial prisons reaching 2 062 detainees



- Conducted 842 psycho-social sessions across the country



- Rehabilitated and constructed 2 Covid-19 treatment centres (wards & sanitation facilities) for 200 patients; donated beds, hygiene & cleaning items for the centres

As local transmission intensifies, CVM has increased its preparedness to respond to a potential national emergency scenario while the country experiences other fragile contexts such as food insecurity, epidemics of other diseases and armed conflicts in the northern region.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: NAMIBIA RED CROSS SOCIETY (NRCS)

JUNE 2020

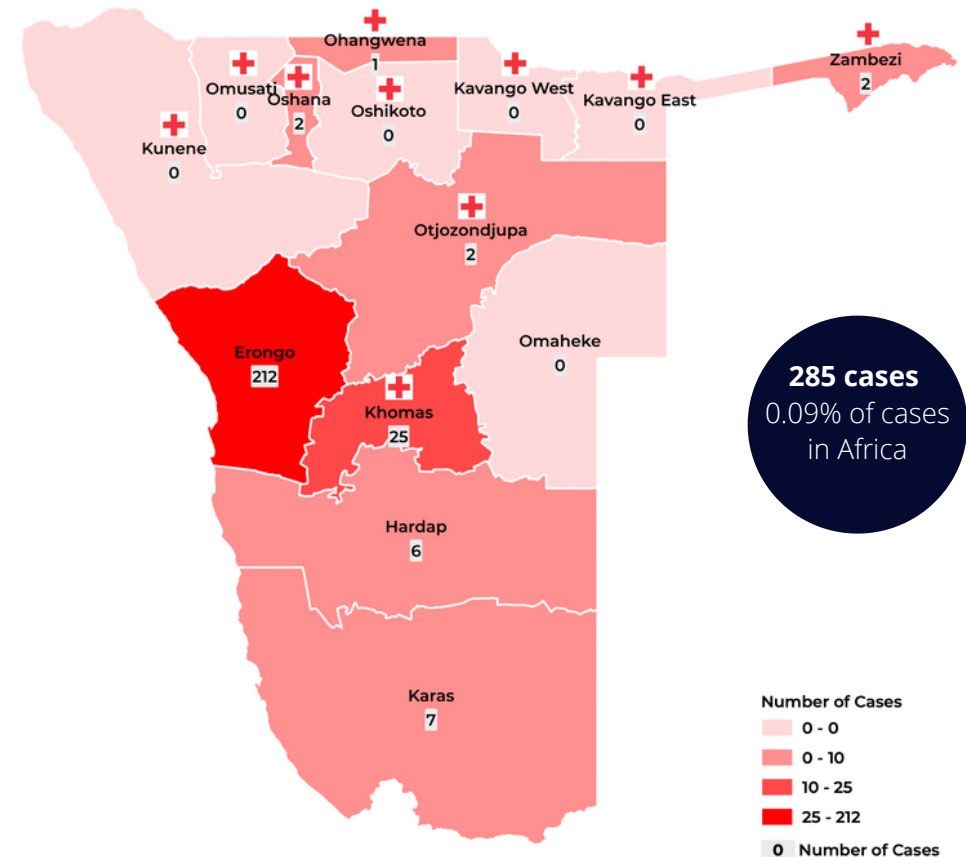


After Namibia confirmed its first case of COVID-19 on 14 March, the NRCS activated response teams across the regions to support government efforts to stop the spread of the virus.

Currently the activities being carried out in the regions include public awareness-raising, hygiene promotion, risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), media relations, provision of food baskets to vulnerable people and the distribution of IEC materials in strategic areas.

The identified areas targeted with risk communication include informal settlements (door to door), markets and border posts. Schools, churches, terminals and taxi ranks are still closed so are not yet targeted.

Nr of COVID-19 cases per region - Namibia end June 2020



Red Cross Movement funding to NRCS: 521.8k CHF (9.5m NAD)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding



210 volunteers active on COVID-19 activities



JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- 14 March 2020**
First confirmed case of COVID-19
- 17 March 2020**
Government declares a State of Emergency
- 27 March 2020**
Partial lockdown begins
- 5 April - 21 May 2020**
No new cases recorded and the total remains at 16 confirmed cases
- 5 May**
Namibia moves into stage 2 on 5 May 2020. Walvis Bay moves back to stage 1 on 28 May for eight days because of local outbreak. The rest of the country is to enter stage 3 on 2 June 2020.



NAMIBIA

412
25
0



CLUSTER

200 555
96 137
3 295



AFRICA

479 845
230 016
11 400



GLOBAL

11 561 484
6 531 226
536 567

* cases * recovered * deaths

5 July 2020

Namibia Red Cross Activities



- 210 volunteers trained with the help of Namibia's Ministry of Health. 100 volunteers deployed to Khomas region, as the epicentre, the rest in 9 of the 14 regions



- Volunteers provided health education in communities, with a focus on WASH (constructing tippy taps, demonstrating handwashing)



- Volunteers assisted officials with collecting information on those entering Namibia



- Volunteers conducted community engagement sessions around personal hygiene, wearing and disposing of masks, social distancing, signs and symptoms of the virus



- Volunteers provided tents as shelters for homeless people and distributed sanitizers, masks, tippy taps & water storage containers.

80% of Namibia Red Cross volunteers are women.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: SOUTH AFRICAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

JUNE 2020



The number of COVID-19 cases dramatically increased in June 2020 as the country eased lockdown restrictions to level 3, tripling from 34 357 cases to 151 209 cases in a month.

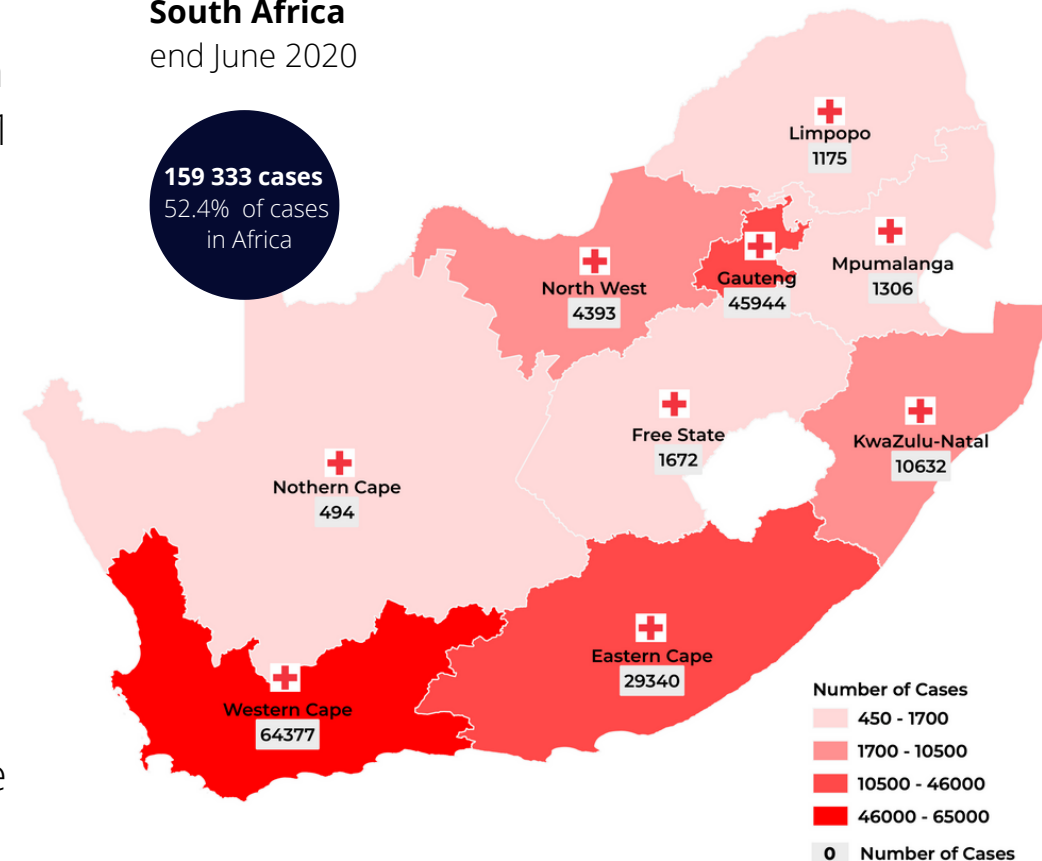
The National Society is still actively involved in the COVID-19 response, working closely with government through the Ministry of Health, Department of Social Services and Department of Basic Education.

As the economy has opened up, SARCS has intensified Risk Communication & Community Engagement activities and upscaled its efforts to support the Department of Health on contact tracing, screening and testing. It is downscaling its food provision activities as people are returning to work but will continue monitoring where there is a need for food interventions.



Red Cross Movement funding to SARCS: 1.9m CHF (34.4m ZAR)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding

Nr of COVID-19 cases per province South Africa end June 2020



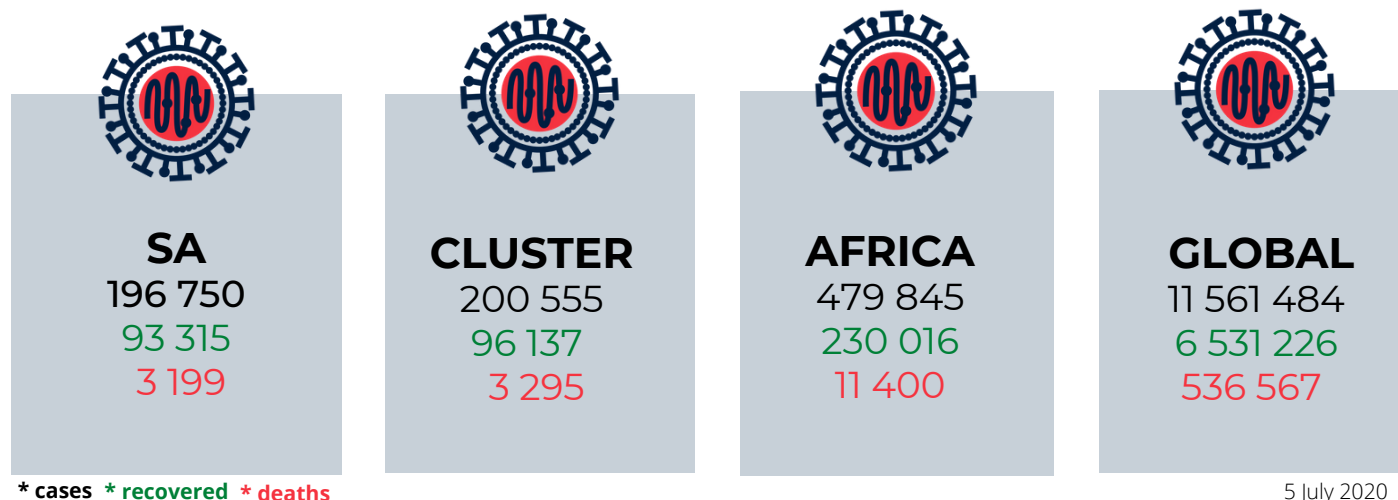
2 110 volunteers active on COVID-19 activities



JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- 05 March 2020**
First confirmed case of COVID-19.
- 15 March 2020**
Government declares a State of Disaster.
- 19 March 2020**
First case of community transmission.
- 27 March 2020**
Lockdown begins for 21 days.
- 9 April**
President announces South Africa's 21 day lockdown will be extended by a further 2 weeks
- 1 May**
South Africa enters Stage 4 of its national lockdown
- 31 May**
South Africa enters stage 3 of its national lockdown
- 8 June**
Grades 7 and 12 return to school as part of the first phase of the reopening of schools



South African Red Cross Activities



- Reached 568 127 people with behaviour change messages emphasising hygiene promotion, social distancing and other precautionary measures



- Reached 474 487 people through screening, 36 721 through contact tracing and 7 068 through testing activities



- Reached 46 958 800 viewers and listeners through radio interviews, articles, press statements and tv coverage with COVID-19 messages



- Distributed 260 195 flyers and 2 283 posters with behaviour change messages



- Reached 270 475 people with hot meals, incl the homeless, orphans and vulnerable children, disabled and elderly and migrants



- Provided 1 112 free phone calls under the Restoring Family Links programme at two COVID-19 shelters hosting migrants and SA nationals who could not afford to maintain contact with families due to lockdown

SARCS is also supporting the DoH at call centres in three provinces, with data capturing, online screening and referrals.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: ZAMBIA RED CROSS SOCIETY

JUNE 2020



Since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic on 18 March 2020, ZRCS has joined the government and other actors in responding to the health emergency.

To align with the Ministry of Health's (MoH) response plan, the National Society has been part of the coordination meetings organised by the MoH and Disaster Mitigation and Management Unit (DMMU).

Initially, the response concentrated on awareness-raising activities and community engagement around the country with most activities centred on Lusaka and the Copperbelt provinces, the epicentres of the pandemic. The pandemic has now spread to three other provinces - Central, North-Western and Muchinga provinces.

ZRCS is therefore scaling up response efforts to cover 18 districts from the initial 13 priority ones as well as beefing up staff numbers to support this increase.

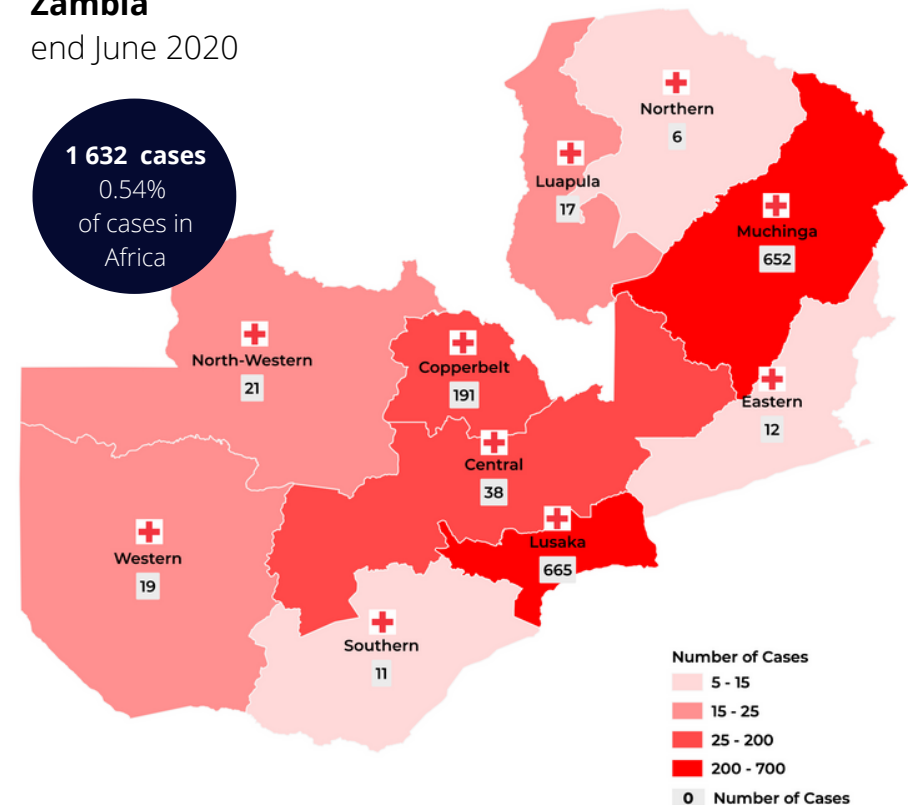


Red Cross Movement NS funding: 623.4k CHF (11.9m ZKW)

includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding

Nr of COVID-19 cases per province Zambia

end June 2020



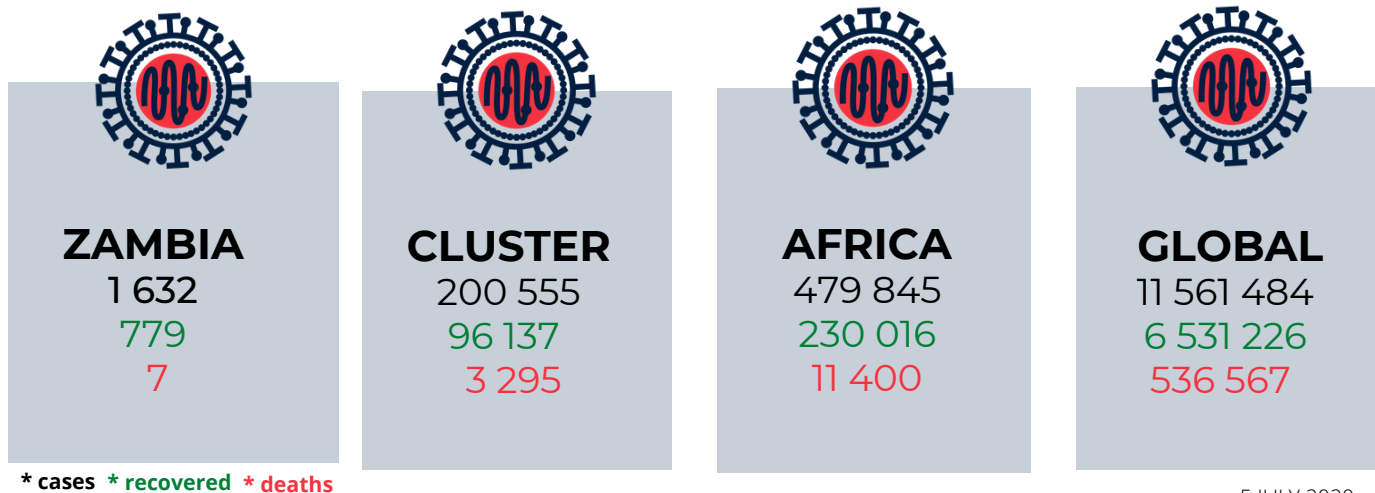
418 volunteers are on standby
for COVID-19 activities



JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- 13 March 2020**
Government declares partial lockdown
- 18 March 2020**
First 2 confirmed cases of COVID-19
- 26 March 2020**
Government introduces extensive measures to prevent spread of COVID-19
- 13 April 2020**
Government opens a tv channel for the provision of education during the closure of schools and promises more on radio



5 JULY 2020

Zambia Red Cross Activities



- 26 volunteers in 13 priority districts have been trained as Trainers of Trainers on COVID-19 and community mobilization. Nr will increase to 360 with increased funding



- Ongoing behaviour change message dissemination on COVID-19 in 13 priority districts. Messages shared through mobile public address systems (safe community mobilisation) in collaboration with MoH and the Zambia News and Information Services



- Support to the MoH in quarantine centres with handwashing stations. (Talks ongoing to support MoH in contact tracing, surveillance & screening)



- Information using the Public Address System disseminated to 2 536 374 people in outlying districts and to 1 662 705 people in the capital Lusaka.



- Made 551 calls and 203 wifi connections under the Restoring Family Links pgmme

To cater for the hearing impaired, Zambia Red Cross National Society has developed Information Education and Communication material in sign language in keeping with the Red Cross principle of inclusion.

COVID-19 RESPONSE: ZIMBABWE RED CROSS SOCIETY (ZRCS)

JUNE 2020



Zimbabwe experienced a record spike in COVID-19 cases in June 2020. New confirmed cases included a significant proportion of local transmissions, a potential concern given the more relaxed restriction measures.

Many work places have reopened, including several informal sector operations and restaurants.

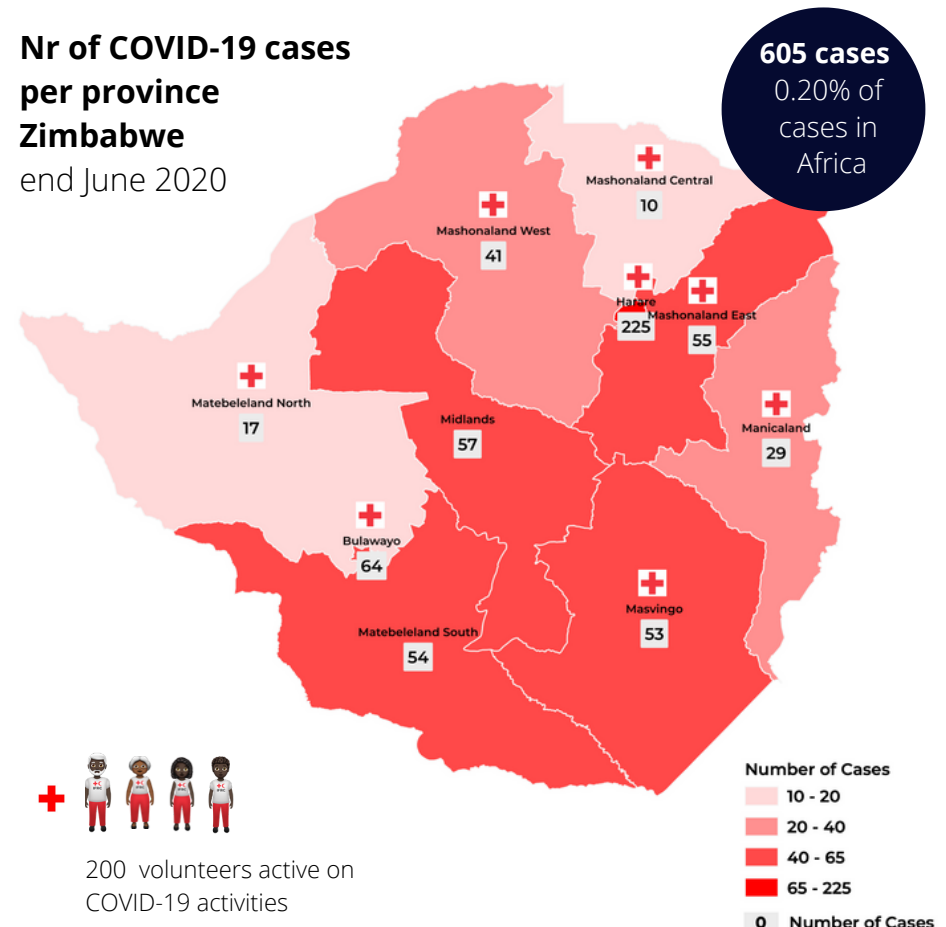
Preparations continue for the phased reopening of schools on 28 July with 80% of schools having been reportedly disinfected.

Meanwhile public wearing of masks and 21 day quarantine of returnees and visitors to Zimbabwe remains mandatory.



Red Cross Movement funding to ZRCS: 1.45m CHF (574.3m ZWD)
includes IFRC, ICRC & PNS funding

**Nr of COVID-19 cases
per province
Zimbabwe**
end June 2020





JUNE 2020

TIMELINE

- 17 March 2020**
Government declares a State of Disaster
- 20 March 2020**
First confirmed case of COVID-19
- 30 March 2020**
Lockdown begins for 21 days
- 01 May 2020**
Government announces extended but downgraded Level 2 lockdown
- 17 May 2020**
Lockdown extended indefinitely
- 11 June 2020**
Churches allowed to reopen
- 12 June 2020**
Informal sector resumes operations
- 29 June 2020**
School exams start
- June 2020**
Government relaxes COVID-19 restriction measures and approves reopening of safari operations for local hunters and for restaurants to serve sit-in meals at 50% their capacity



ZIMBABWE

716
181
8



CLUSTER

200 555
96 137
3 295



AFRICA

479 845
230 016
11 400



GLOBAL

11 561 484
6 531 226
536 567

* cases * recovered * deaths

5 July 2020

Zimbabwe Red Cross Activities



- 1 020 people were screened at the Zimbabwe Red Cross clinic in Harare. Testing by ZRCS is to start on 18 July.



- Provided homes for the elderly with 20l handwashing buckets with taps, 2ltr hand sanitizers and 1ltr handwashing liquid



- 14 staff members have completed intensive training at the National Reference laboratory to do PCR testing



- Pitched 5 tents for the ZRCS run school to ensure social distancing

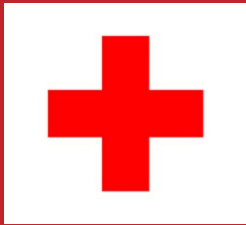


- 6 risk communication sessions held on 8 radio and tv stations (Star FM (multicasting on Diamond and Nyaminyami FM), Hevoi FM, Midlands FM, Radio Zimbabwe, National FM and ZBC TV)



- Provided 1 680 free telephone call services and WiFi access to returnees from various countries at the Beitbridge isolation centre, the Plumtree isolation centre and at the Tongogara Refugee camp

ZRCS distribution teams during hygiene pack distribution in homes for the elderly observed that many of the institutions are very poorly resourced, are in deplorable, extreme states of neglect and completely excluded from mainstream COVID-19 response interventions.



Local Action, Global Reach