

COVID-19

Risk-adjusted approach

25 April 2020

INTRODUCTION

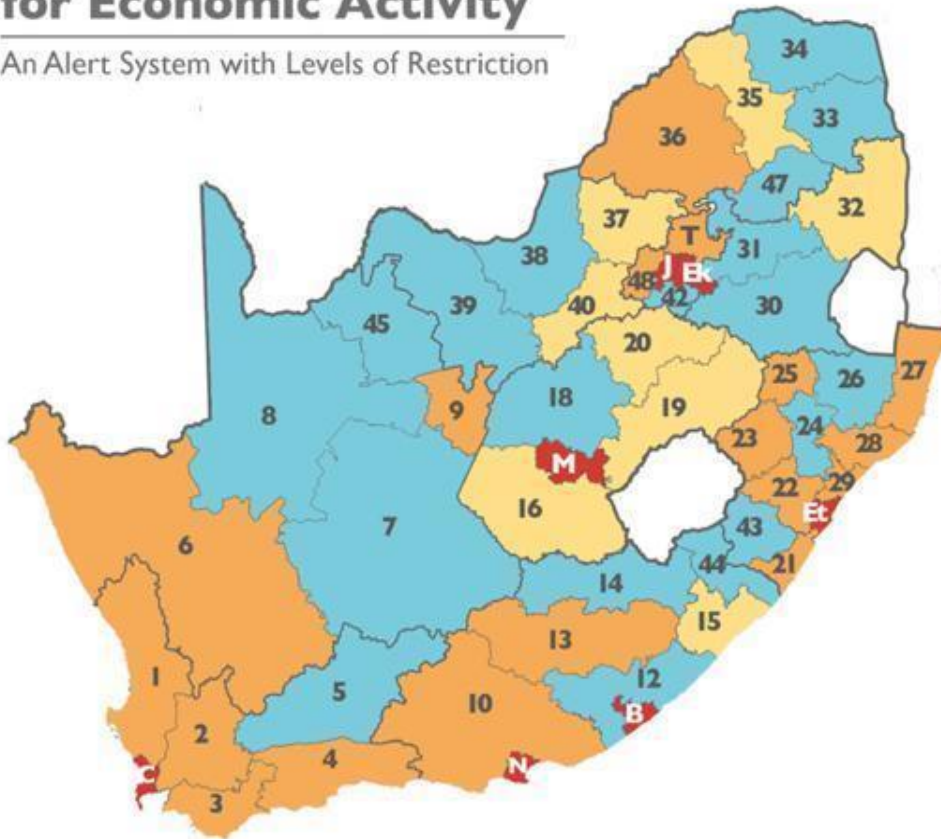
- The COVID-19 crisis presents an unprecedented challenge, unmatched since the Spanish Flu and the Great Depression. The latter decimated over 300 000 South Africa's Population.
- ***Feeling overwhelmed? Approach coronavirus as a challenge to be met, not a threat to be feared” – Bethany Teachman***
- It also presents an opportunity for South Africa to accelerate the implementation of some long agreed-upon structural changes to enable reconstruction and growth.
- These will positively impact on key economic and social sectors which will facilitate a more inclusive economy whilst unlocking local production and export potential.
- This will require that South Africa sequences and phases its priority areas with a view to deepening the fight against COVID-19 whilst rebuilding the economy.

INTRODUCTION

- The risk-adjusted approach was developed through collaboration between the economic cluster departments and the Department of Health. We have taken into account comments made by business organisations, political parties, union and commentators.
- This proposal takes into account the advice of the Ministerial Advisory Committee that the high-point of the virus spread is likely to be in September, which requires a proposal that covers the next 6-8 months.

Risk-Adjusted Strategy for Economic Activity

An Alert System with Levels of Restriction



DISTRICTS

44	Alfred Nzo District Municipality	EC
25	Amajuba District Municipality	KZN
12	Amathole District Municipality	EC
37	Bojanala Platinum District Municipality	NW
B	Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality	EC
2	Cape Winelands District Municipality	WC
35	Capricorn District Municipality	LP
5	Central Karoo District Municipality	WC
13	Chris Hani District Municipality	EC
C	City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality	WC
J	City of JHB Metropolitan Municipality	GAU
T	City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality	GAU
40	Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality	NW
39	Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati District Municipality	NW
32	Ehlanzeni District Municipality	MP
EK	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality	GAU
Et	eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality	KZN
20	Fezile Dabi District Municipality	FS
9	Frances Baard District Municipality	NC
4	Garden Route District Municipality	WC
30	Gert Sibande District Municipality	MP
43	Harry Gwala District Municipality	KZN
29	iLembe District Municipality	KZN
14	Joe Gqabi District Municipality	EC
45	John Taolo Gaetsewe District Municipality	NC
28	King Cetshwayo District Municipality	KZN
18	Lejweleputswa District Municipality	FS
M	Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality	FS
33	Mopani District Municipality	LP
6	Namakwa District Municipality	NC
N	Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality	EC
38	Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality	NW
31	Nkangala District Municipality	MP
15	OR Tambo District Municipality	EC
3	Overberg District Municipality	WC
7	Pixley ka Seme District Municipality	NC
10	Sarah Baartman District Municipality	EC
42	Sedibeng District Municipality	GAU
47	Sekhukhune District Municipality	LP
19	Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality	FS
21	Ugu District Municipality	KZN
22	uMgungundlovu District Municipality	KZN
27	uMkhanyakude District Municipality	KZN
24	uMzinyathi District Municipality	KZN
23	uThukela District Municipality	KZN
34	Vhembe District Municipality	LP
36	Waterberg District Municipality	LP
1	West Coast District Municipality	WC
48	West Rand District Municipality	GAU
16	Xhariep District Municipality	FS
8	ZF Mgcawu District Municipality	NC
26	Zululand District Municipality	KZN

THREE SYSTEMS ARE ENVISAGED.

- **SYSTEM 1** An alert system to determine the level of restrictions in place nationally, in provinces and in districts
- **SYSTEM 2** An industry classification for readiness to return at each level based on criteria, together with restrictions that should remain after the lockdown regardless of the alert level
- **SYSTEM 3** Enhanced public health and social distancing arrangements at workplaces and public spaces (including schools and Higher Education institutions that may reopen during the pandemic period)

SYSTEM 1

Alert system for the country, provinces and districts

Level 5	High virus spread and/or low health system readiness	Full lockdown
Level 4	Moderate to high virus spread with low to moderate readiness	High restrictions
Level 3	Moderate virus spread with moderate readiness	Moderate restrictions
Level 2	Moderate virus spread with high readiness	Reduced restrictions
Level 1	Low virus spread with high readiness	Minimum restrictions

SYSTEM 1

Alert system for the country, provinces and districts

On what basis will the alert level be determined?

- For community transmission, two indicators are considered:
 - Rate at which the proportion of the population tested (testing coverage) is increasing (higher is better)
 - Rate at which the proportion of positive tests is increasing (lower is better)
- For health care capacity, two further indicators are considered:
 - Rate of increase in fixed and makeshift hospital beds in both public and private sectors per 1000 population (higher is better)
 - Rate at which the proportion of hospital beds being utilized for Covid-19 is increasing (lower is better)
- All 4 measures are measures that change over time ie. They are not static measures but rather they are dynamic changes occurring over a period of time (eg. per week) and will influence the level at which the country, a province or a district will be classified.

SYSTEM 2

Industry classification for readiness to return at each alert level

In order to identify and sequence the possible priority economic areas which will require easing post the lockdown period, an alert system has been developed which considers the following criteria:

- (1) Risk of transmission
- (2) Expected impact on the sector should the lockdown continue;
- (3) Value (and economic linkages) of the sector to the broader economy (including its contribution to the GDP, employment, multiplier effects, its export earnings, supply-chain linkages and industrial policy goals); and
- (4) The promotion of community wellbeing and the livelihoods of the most vulnerable

Initially, return to work will be based on the national level, but will progressively be expanded to provincial and district level, enabling workplaces to adapt to the level of infection and healthcare readiness in their locality.

SYSTEM 3: ENHANCED PUBLIC HEALTH

A comprehensive system of public health and social-distancing arrangements will be put in place, covering areas such as the following:

- Industries are encouraged to adopt a work-from-home strategy where possible, and all staff who can work remotely must be allowed to do so.
- Workers above the age of 60, as well as workers with comorbidities, should be offered a work-from-home option or remain on leave after engagement with employers and the UIF.
- Workplace protocols to be in place that would include disease surveillance and prevention of the spread of infection, disabling contact biometric systems or making them Covid-proof
- Guidelines will be developed for public servants as well as correctional facilities.

CONDITIONS OF RETURN TO WORKPLACE: SECTOR

- In addition to generally applicable health and safety protocols, each sector must agree upon a COVID-19 prevention and mitigation plan, approved by the Minister of Health and any other Minister relevant to the sector.
- Individual businesses or workplaces must have COVID-19 risk assessments and plans in place, and must conduct worker education on COVID-19 and protection measures:
 - Identification and protection of vulnerable employees
 - Safe transport of employees
 - Screening of employees on entering the workplace
 - Prevention of viral spread in the workplace
 - Hand sanitisers and face masks
 - Cleaning of surfaces and shared equipment
 - Good ventilation
 - Shift arrangements and canteen controls
 - Managing sick employees
- Monitoring systems must be in place to (1) ensure compliance with safety protocols and (2) identify infections among employees.
- Mass testing should be carried out for workplaces over 500 workers.

THANK YOU

Siyabonga
Realeboga
Ro livhuwa