

Monkeypox preparedness and awareness in South Africa



Port Health Readiness Ms. MP Mainganye



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



INTRODUCTION



- Port Health Service has mandate of preventing, protecting and providing public health response by monitoring the Points of Entry (PoE).
- The service is defined as the first line of defense to protect the citizens of RSA against the health risks associated with cross-border movement of people, conveyances, imported cargo.
- Port health services are provided in South African ports of entry incl. air, sea and land ports of entry by Environmental Health Practitioners (Port Health Officers) supported by other health officials incl. Nurses.
- Port health is responsible for early detection of suspect cases through implementation of Multi-layered screening measures and response interventions to any suspect case.

VIEW OF PORTS OF ENTRY

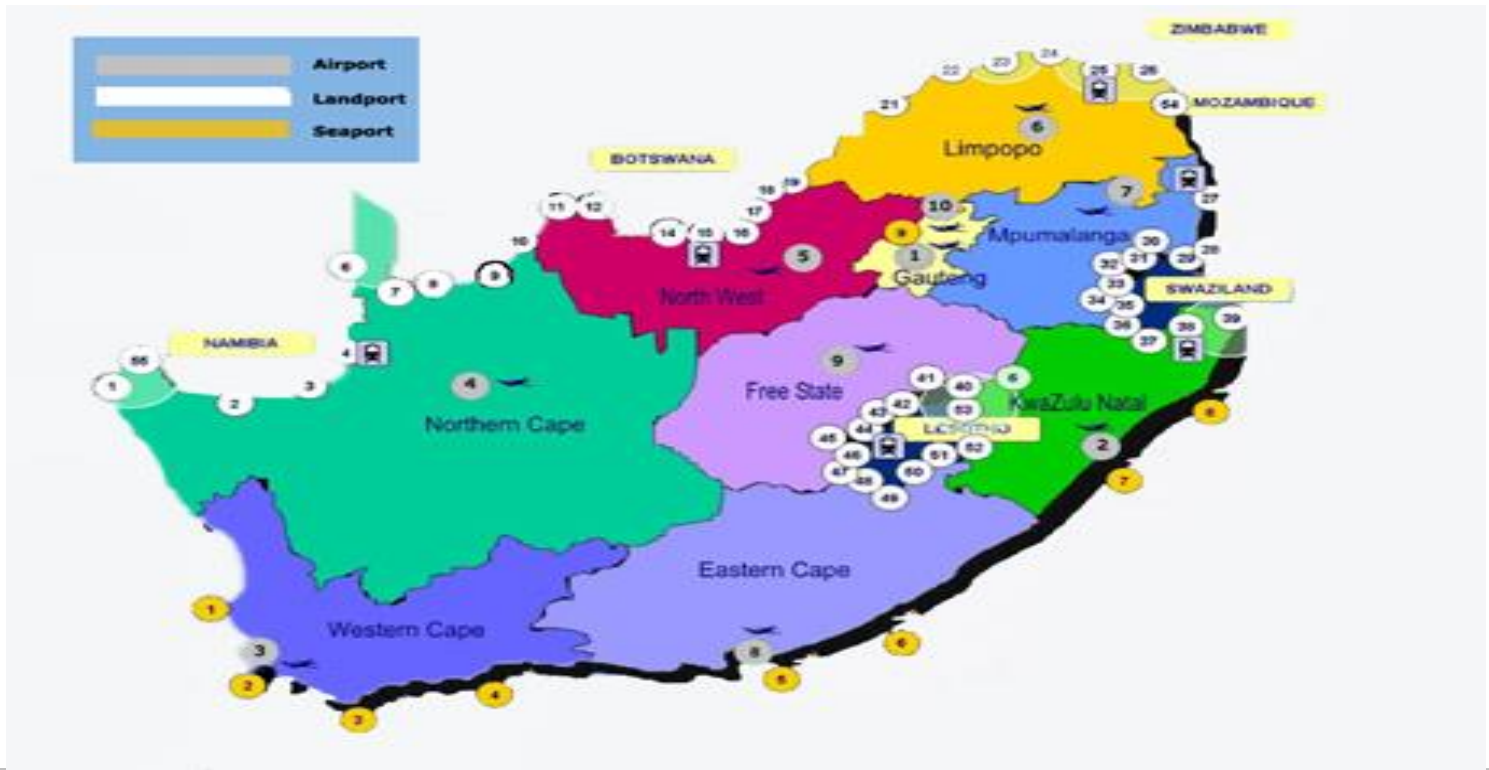


- Ports of Entry: 72
- Port Health services in 36 Ports of Entry, which include all international Airport, Harbours and Land border

 11

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 53



PORT HEALTH RESPONSE READINESS



The declaration of COVID-19 as a PHEIC has resulted in the department enhancing port health services readiness at the ports of entry to assist managing various public health risks that arise as a result of international travel and trade:

- The Department has intensified screening measures at the ports of entry aimed at early detection and response of suspect travelers.
- The Department has procured additional thermal scanners to assist in screening of travelers
- Human resources capacity has been strengthened by appointment of Community Services EHPs
- Capacity Building trainings has been provided to officials on communicable disease control and responses
- In the last financial year 36 ports of entry were assessed on the implementation of IHR core capacities and action plans
- All Ports of entry have reviewed their public health contingency plans to cover gaps that have been identified during assessments and lesson learned from COVID-19 responses



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CONCLUSION



- The Department has Communicated information on Monkey Pox together with the signs and symptoms that ports officials should be on the look out for.
- The officials at the port of entry have been requested to intensify screening measures and be on high alert for any suspect travelers
- All ports of entry have arrangements in place for transportation of sick travelers to the nearest health facilities
- Head office is continuously providing technical support to all PoE



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THANK YOU



END

NGIYA THOKOZA!

ro livhuwa!

dankie! ke a leboga!

ENKOSI!

inkomu!

thank you!

udo livhuwa!

ke a leboga!

ngiyabonga!

siyabonqa!



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