

Public Health, Occupational Health & Safety: Phased approach – unlocking economy



Dr Barry Kistnasamy



Occupational Health & Safety



29 May 2020



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Slide 1

Overview



- Assumptions
- Background
- Alert system
- Implementation



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Assumptions



- SARS –CoV-2 not eliminated until vaccine or sufficient herd immunity
- Lockdown not viable long-term



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Factors to consider...



- Formal / informal sectors
- Economic sectors (mining, agriculture, construction, manufacturing, services etc)
- Small, medium, micro enterprises
- Supply chain
- Geographic (urban / rural)
- Population density
- Transport
- 24 hour versus daily (Mon – Fri) production
- Automation
- Epidemiological data



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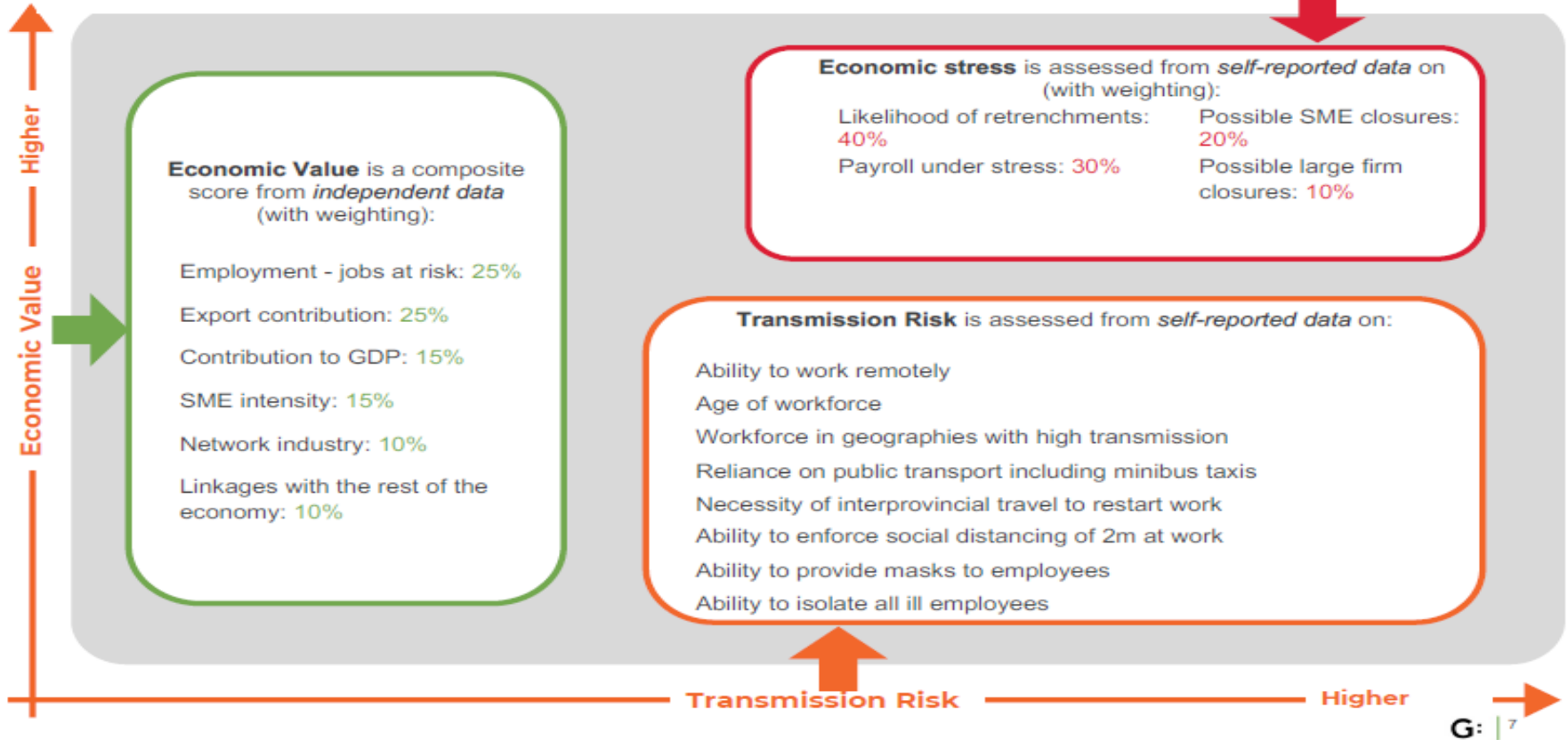
Background



Executive summary: Putting together transmission risk, economic value and economic stress in one place

According to survey response:

- Lower stress
- Medium stress
- Higher stress



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PPGI/NEDLAC. April 2020

Alert System



- **SYSTEM 1** Alert system to determine the level of restrictions in place **nationally, in provinces and in districts**
- **SYSTEM 2 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




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Summary of Alert Levels



ALERT LEVEL 5	ALERT LEVEL 4	ALERT LEVEL 3	ALERT LEVEL 2	ALERT LEVEL 1
 OBJECTIVE				
<p>Drastic measures to contain the spread of the virus and save lives.</p>	<p>Extreme precautions to limit community transmission and outbreaks, while allowing some activity to resume.</p>	<p>Restrictions on many activities, including at workplaces and socially, to address a high risk of transmission.</p>	<p>Physical distancing and restrictions on leisure and social activities to prevent a resurgence of the virus.</p>	<p>Most normal activity can resume, with precautions and health guidelines followed at all times. Population prepared for an increase in alert levels if necessary.</p>



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Use of Alert System



The **level of alert** at any given time will be decided based on the **rate of transmission**, as well as the capacity of the health system to provide care to those infected.



Different **parts of the country** may be at **different levels** simultaneously.



It is possible to **move up and down levels**, as well as to skip levels if necessary.



Essential goods and services will continue to be available at all levels.



Some precautions will **remain in place at all levels**, including **social distancing** guidelines and **safe hygiene** practices.



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Covid-19 Global / Local Situation



Situation in numbers (by WHO Region)

Total (new cases in last 24 hours)

Region	Cases	Deaths
Globally	5 488 825 cases (84 314)	349 095 deaths (5 581)
Africa	85 815 cases (2 771)	2 308 deaths (94)
Americas	2 495 924 cases (41 472)	145 810 deaths (2 071)
Eastern Mediterranean	449 590 cases (10 690)	11 452 deaths (159)
Europe	2 061 828 cases (20 124)	176 226 deaths (3 013)
South-East Asia	218 523 cases (8 250)	6 359 deaths (219)
Western Pacific	176 404 cases (1 007)	6 927 deaths (25)



WHO: 27 May 2020

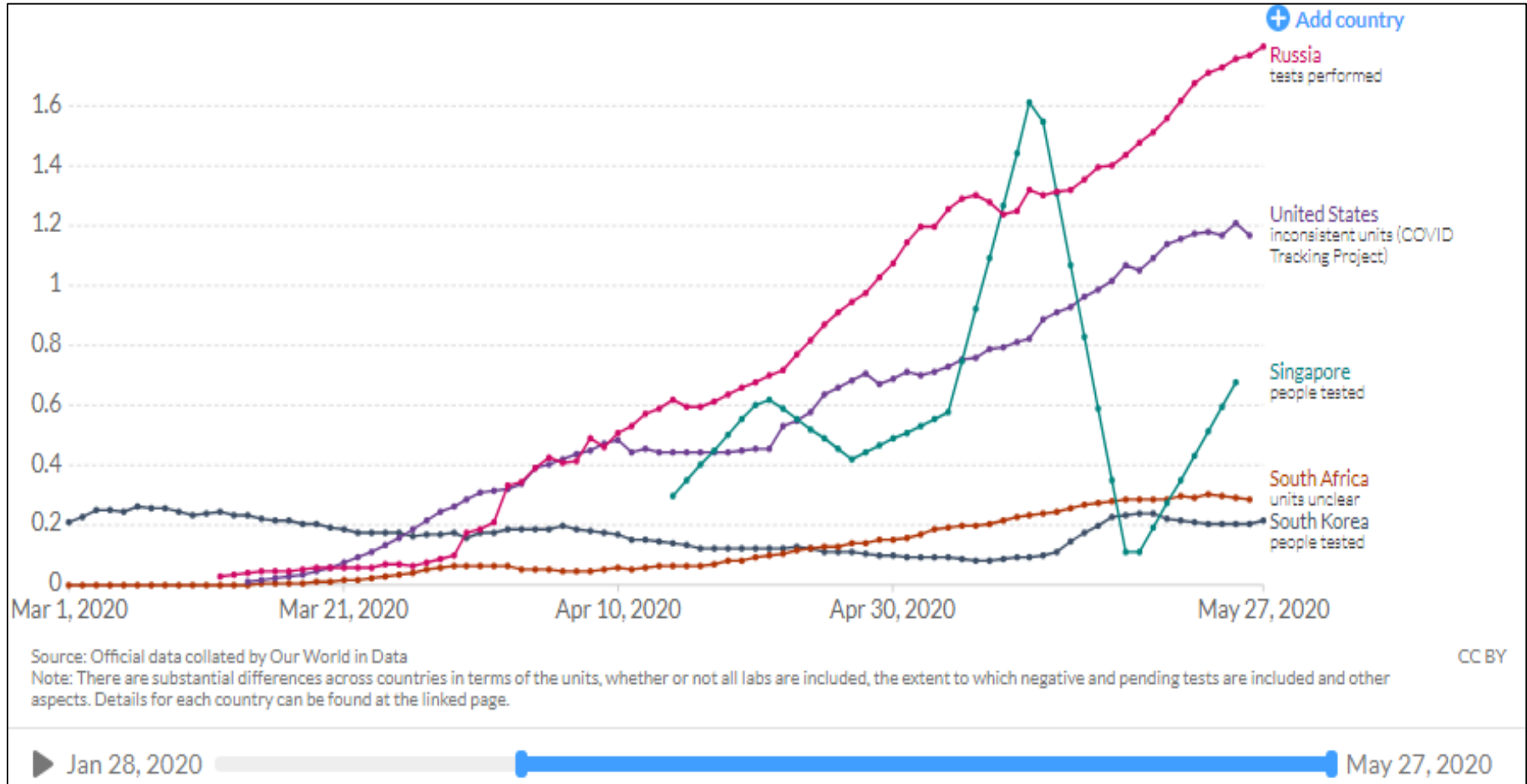
0,47% of Global; 30% of Africa



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Covid-19 Tests / 1000 Population



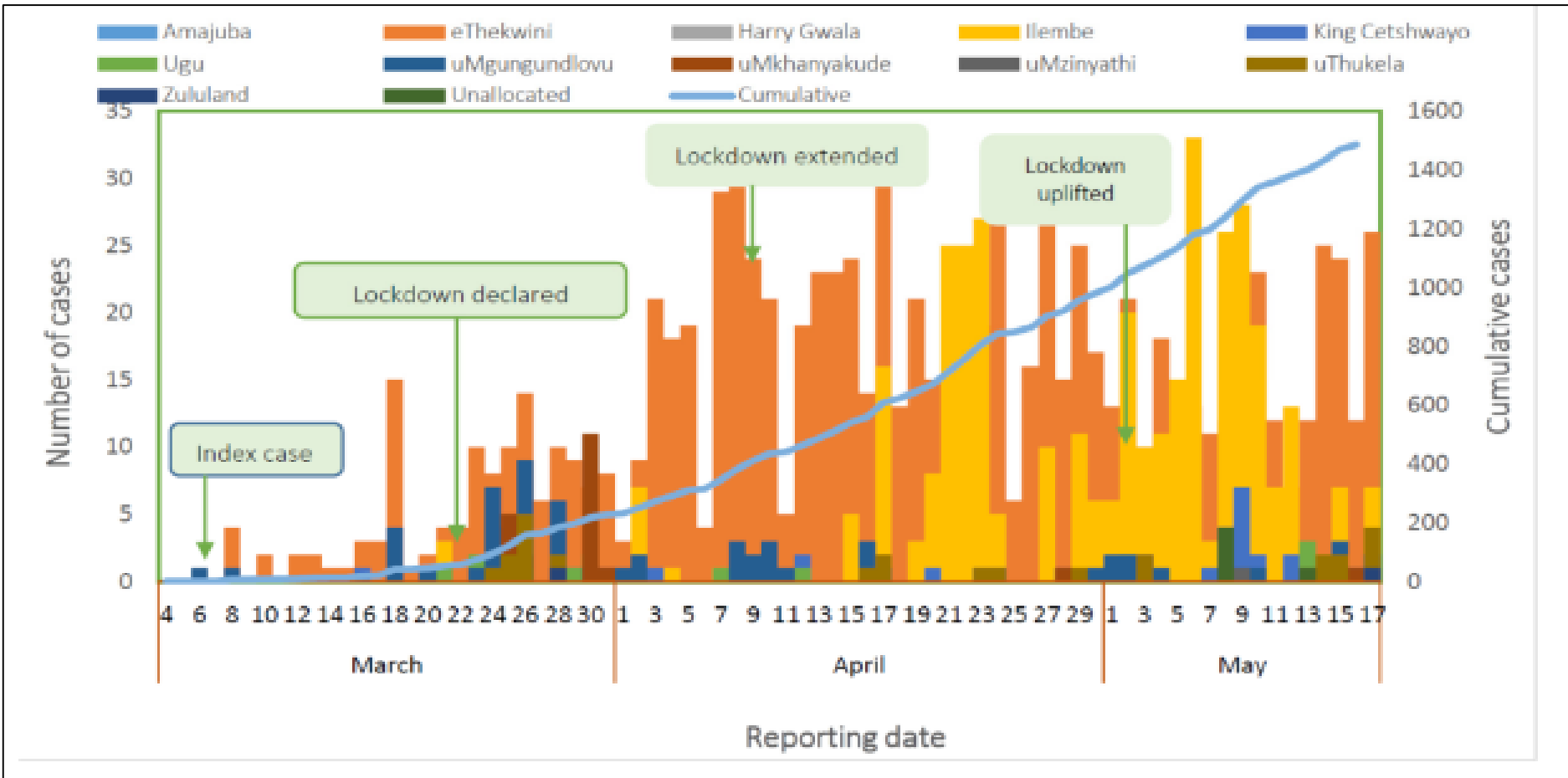
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<https://ourworldindata.org/coronavirus-testing>

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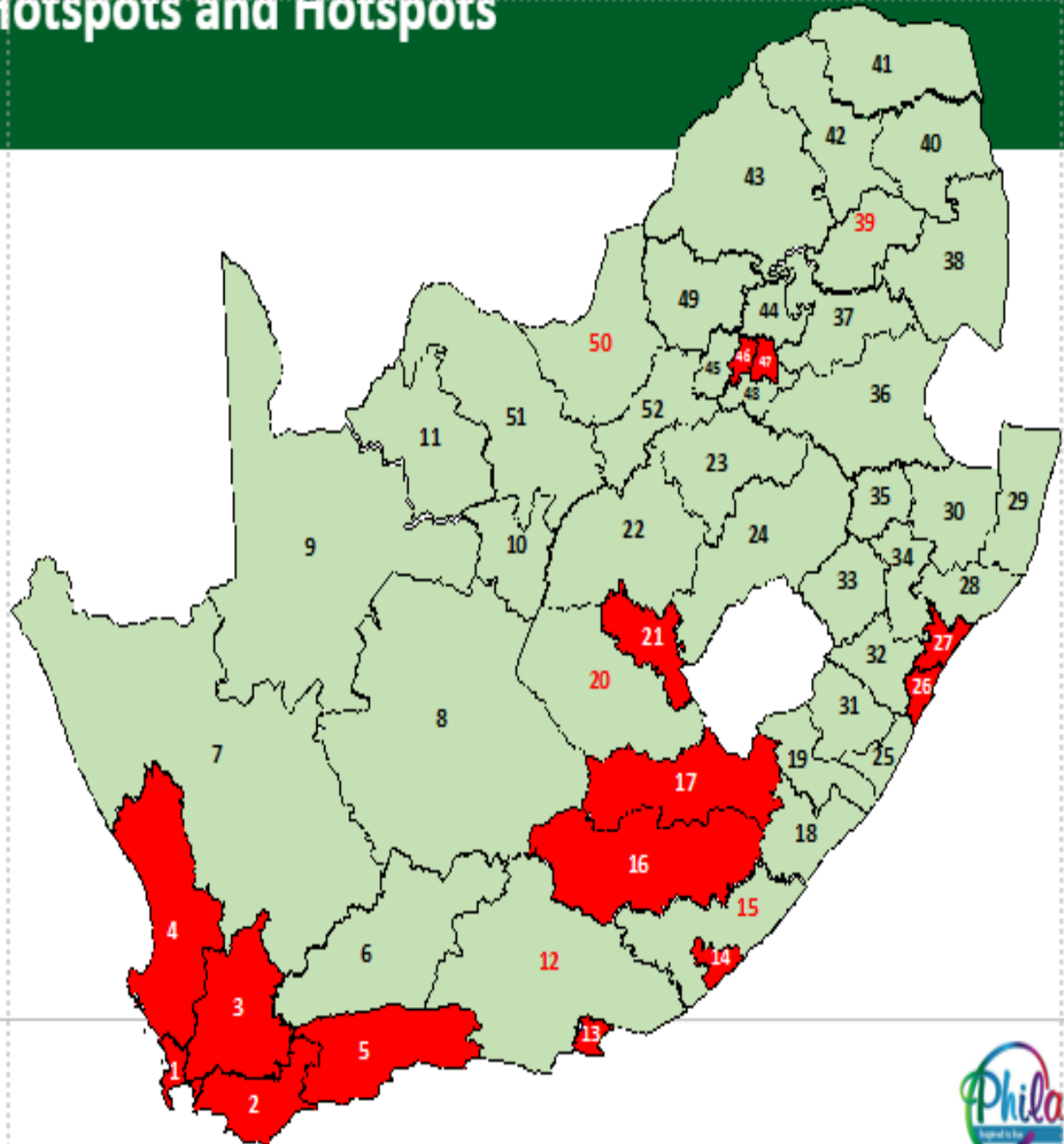
Tracking Lockdown / Districts



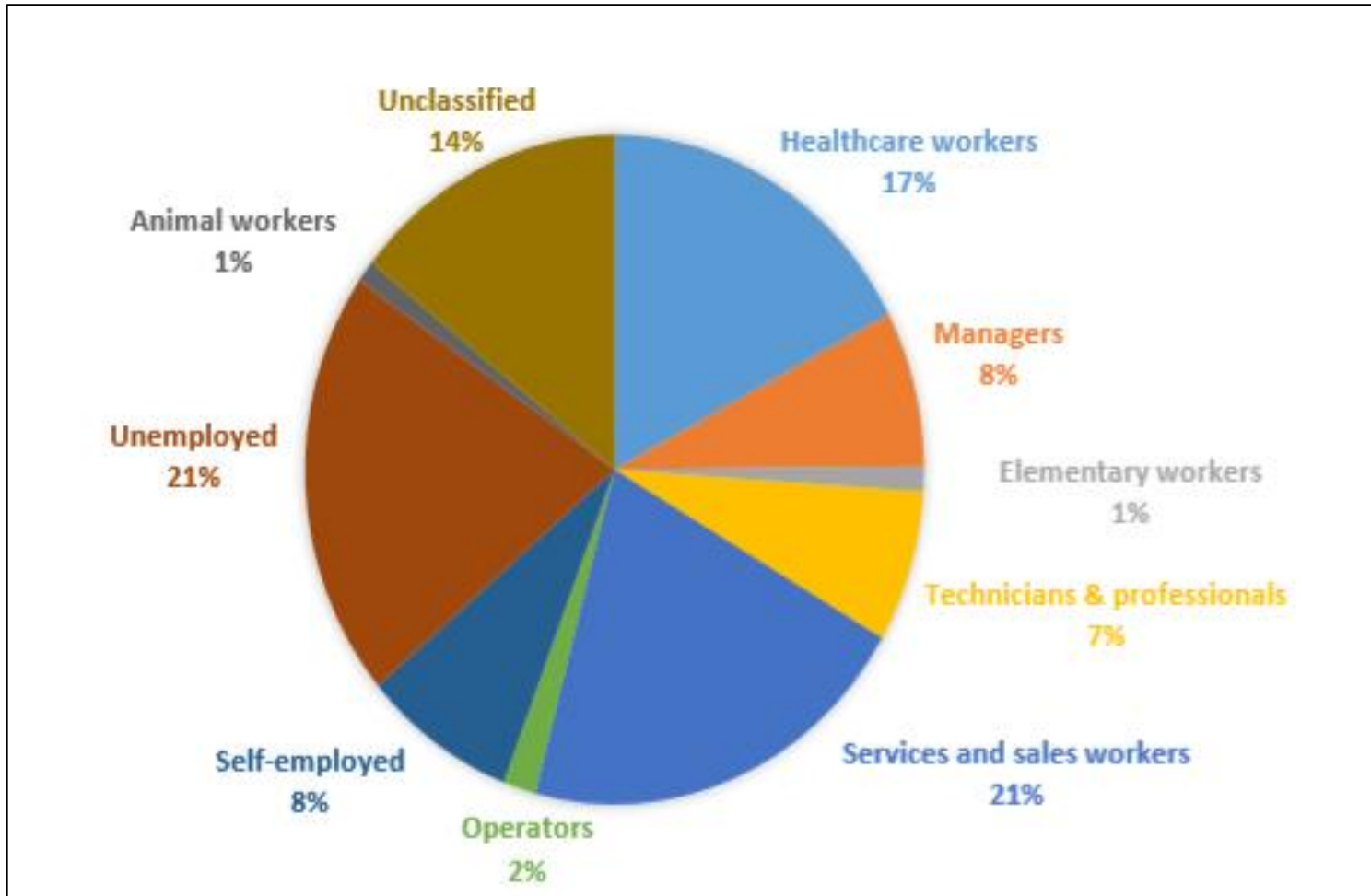
Vigilance, Emerging Hotspots and Hotspots (May 16 to May 22)

Legend (Active Cases per 100k pop)

- < 5 (Vigilance)
- < 5 (Emerging Hotspot)
- > 5 (Hotspot)



Profile of Covid-19 +Workers (n= 1225)

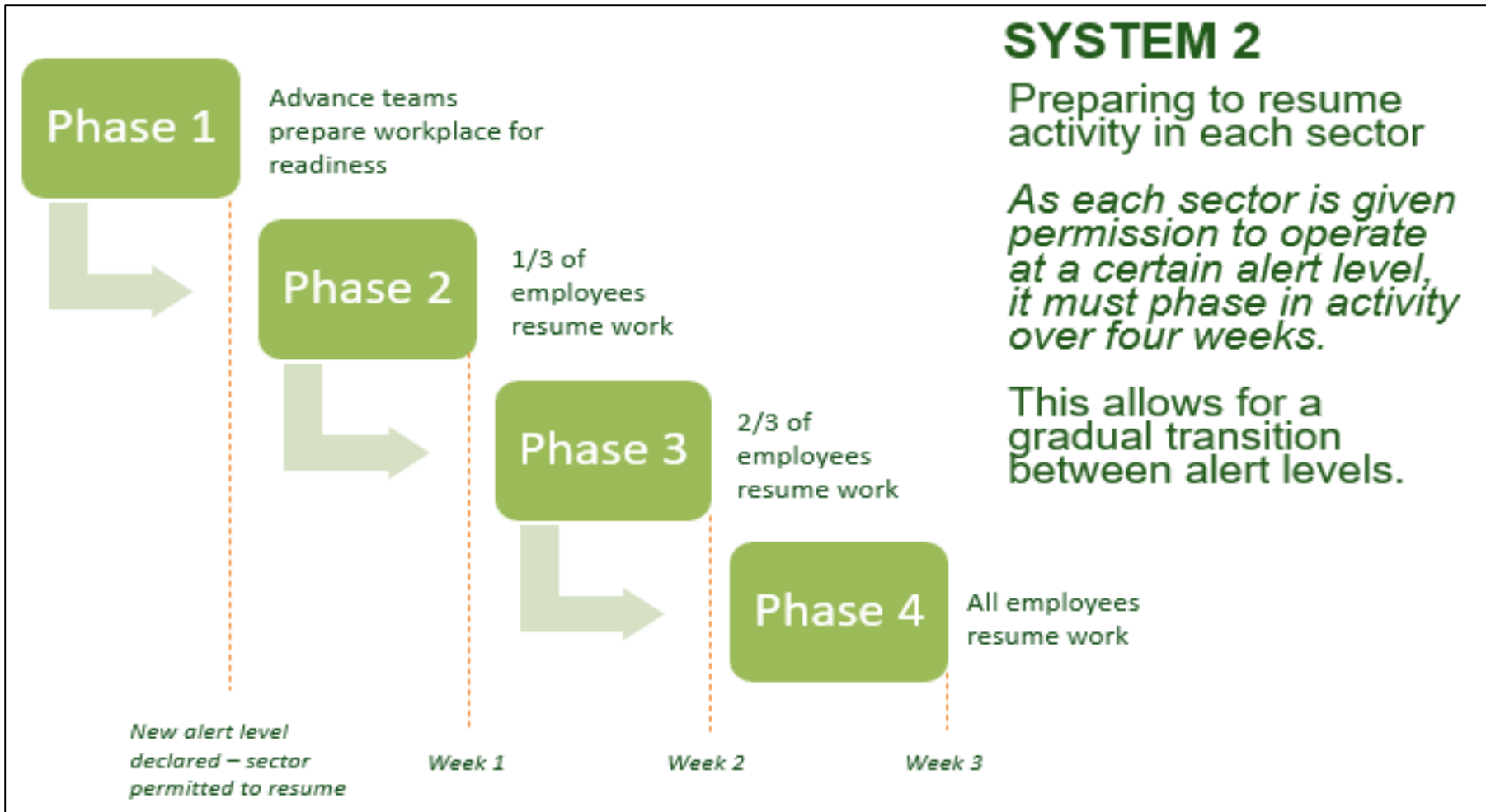


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NICD. 28 Apr 2020

Phased Approach: Workplace



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Eco-system



- worker at home / community
- worker commuting
- worker at work
- worker as a consumer



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Regulatory Framework



- Mining – Dept of Mineral Resources & Energy (GN 43335) (18 May 2020)
- Non-mining – Dept of Employment & Labour (GN 43257 (29 April 2020)
- Public Service – Dept of Public Service & Administration (Level 4 risk adjusted circular - Circular No. 18 of 2020) (1 May 2020)
- Department of Health (guidelines from national OHS workstream)
- Sectoral guidelines (DTIC)
- Covid-19 as compensable disease (DEL - COIDA)
- Covid-19 as prescribed minimum benefit (CMS)



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What should occur at Workplaces?



- Extensive consultation
- $\lt; \gt 500$ employees
- Policy / Chief Executive Officer declaration
- Risk assessment
- Public health measures
- Vulnerable workers
- Screening
- Testing
- Surveillance
- Management of positive person
- Cloth masks



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<https://www.mandela.ac.za/News-and-Events/Coronavirus-Information>

Implementation



- Governance structure (OHS workstream in Dept of Health)
- Strong coordination and partnerships (national / district, NGOs, private sector etc)
- Resource mobilisation (OHS professionals, OHS services, technical and financial)
- Guidelines from OHS workstream
- Education and training (shop stewards, managers, Boards)
- Communication / Risk Communication
- Online Tools (symptom screening, workplace readiness, workplace monitoring, risk assessments)



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Monitoring



- Need for accurate and timeous data
 - Epidemiological; tracking worker data
 - Demographic
 - Screening, testing
 - Contact tracing
 - Reporting (statutory, public health)
- Transitional arrangements for phased approach
 - Sectors
 - Ramping up
 - Sequence
- Workplace inspectorate – Mining, Non-mining & Health
- Compensation interventions if workplace exposure confirmed

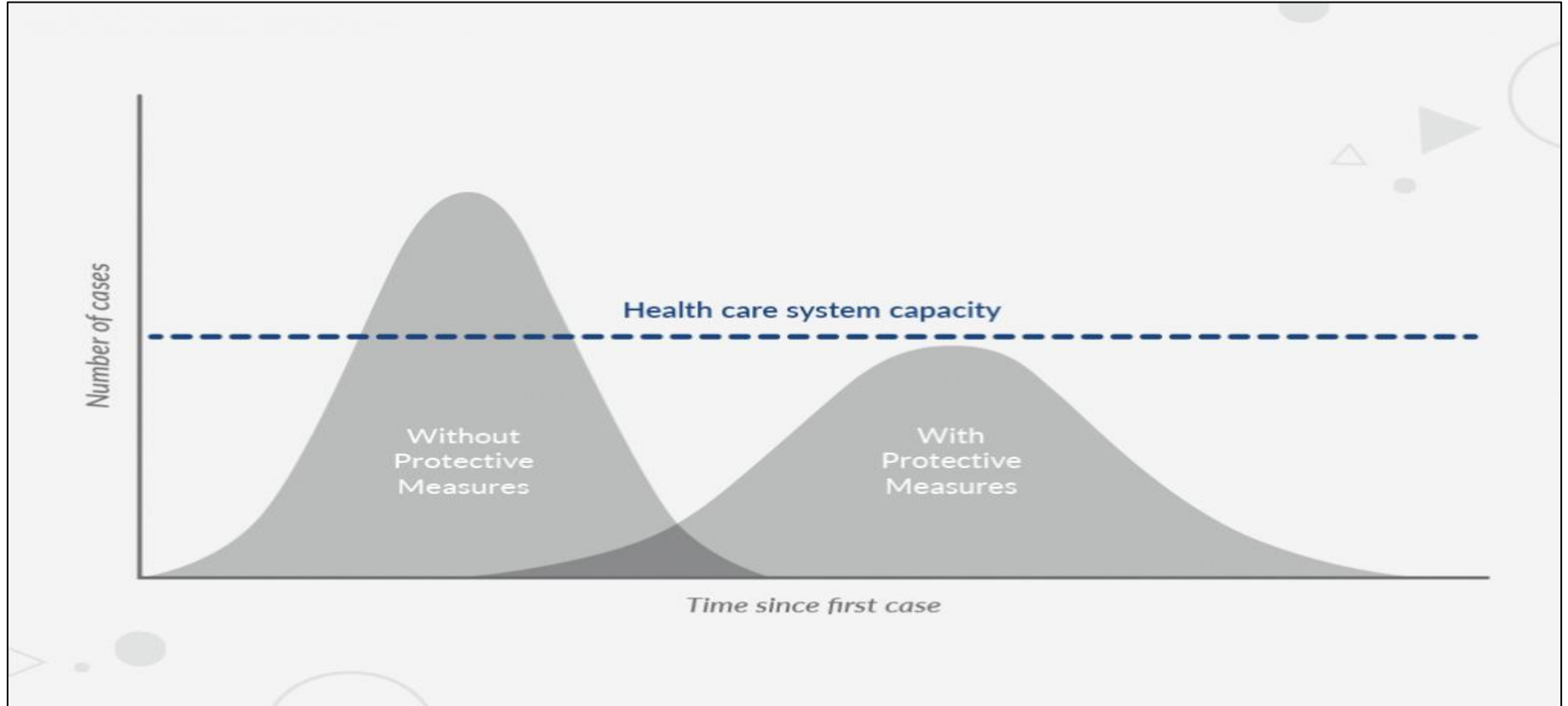


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Buying time...Saving Lives



<https://www.payfast.co.za/blog/keeping-afloat-amidst-covid-19-uncertainty/>



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Thank You



Dr Barry Kistnasamy
Head: Occupational Health
Department of Health
barry@fnbconnect.co.za
+27722200247



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