

Tax Alert 4 of 2020



We continue to serve you through the “extreme social distancing” period

Ensuing the declaration of the “State of Emergency” in Botswana in response to the outbreak of COVID-19, the government has laid out a plan to support workers and to stabilize businesses.

Support for workers

Government will provide a wage subsidy for citizen employees of businesses mostly affected by COVID-19, to enable them to retain employees.

Stabilising businesses

To give businesses some cash-flow relief Government will do the following;

- Guarantee loans by commercial banks to businesses mostly affected by COVID-19 ;
- Give eligible businesses affected by COVID-19 access to credit to support ongoing operations in conditions where credit becomes more difficult to obtain and;
- Give tax concessions to businesses in eligible sectors.

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development will provide more details on the criteria and guidelines for implementation of these particular measures.

How this impacts you, and how we can help

Tax payers' tax compliance matters most during these time. A valid tax clearance and submission of all your tax returns may be required to avail government's intervention plan for COVID-19. Please note that Grant Thornton will continue to provide taxation services to all our clients and taxpayers during the extreme social distancing period which comes into effect from midnight **2 April 2020**.

We have a dedicated tax team working remotely, that can assist with your online transactions with BURS. We are available to assist in filing your tax returns to ensure your tax compliance is up to date. We are committed to helping you, your people and your business make it through this difficult time.

For any queries in this regard, please contact Rajesh Narasimhan, Partner in charge of Tax via e-mail rajesh.narasimhan@bw.gt.com.