

Best Practices: COVID-19

Protecting Employees and the Public

The COVID-19 pandemic presented many unexpected challenges. By following all government measures and implementing strict policies and protocols, ReconAfrica has been able to safely continue its exploration efforts in the Kavango Region.

In all of our activities, the health, safety and well-being of our employees and the public are a priority, and at the forefront of our planning and operations.

Daily Health Checks

All employees who enter our operational work sites undergo a COVID-19 health screening process, which includes screening and testing for COVID-19. These protocols increase our probability of detecting and preventing the spread of the virus.

Our office-based employees complete a self-screening process before coming to work or travelling. Those who show symptoms of COVID-19 are urged to stay home, self-isolate and report the occurrence in accordance with Company's procedures. Additionally, we screen for exposure to family or friends who are experiencing symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19. In all cases where an employee tests positive for the virus, or has had contact with someone who has the virus, the worker must strictly follow current government protocols concerning isolation or quarantine.

Remote Working

While COVID-19 has passed the pandemic stage, it remains a threat to public health. For this reason, ReconAfrica continues to implement measures to protect its workforce and the people of Namibia and Botswana. We continue to use online tools wherever possible for meetings we hold with stakeholders.

Onsite Health Protocols

Prior to arriving at our operational sites, all personnel must complete a COVID-19 screening process, which includes an antigen test for the virus. Once onsite, all personnel must continually adhere to the strict hygienic protocols and the safe practices we have in place to prevent the spread of virus and other common respiratory illnesses, including hand washing, mask wearing and social distancing where necessary, and isolation and quarantine in the event of a positive case onsite.

These health procedures are aligned with government protocols, and are appropriate for both the current epidemiological situation in our areas of operations, and the risk of a spread of the virus to our operational personnel.

Public Engagement

With the decreasing impact of COVID-19 in the countries and the communities in which we operate, we have been able to adjust our public engagement program, and return to holding outreach and face-to-face meetings, while acknowledging there still remains some risk of virus transmission. We conduct a risk-assessment prior to each meeting, with the health of the attendees as a priority. Risk mitigation measures are then implemented, which include mask wearing, social distancing, outdoor meetings and hand sanitisation.



Supporting the COVID-19 Fight in Namibia

Since the COVID-19 pandemic first struck, ReconAfrica has been helping the people of Namibia with much-needed support. In 2020, the company provided medical equipment and followed that up with a N\$15-million financial commitment in 2021 to help with immediate health-care response and longer-term support.

The funds continue to be used to support vaccine update campaigns in the Kavango region and the purchase of medical equipment, such as oxygen systems for hospitals in both Kavango East and Kavango West.



Frequently Asked Questions

How are you managing COVID-19 impacts?

ReconAfrica continues to comply with all measures imposed by government and local authorities. We continue to implement and frequently reassess our own control protocols and policies. The safety of the public and our employees remains our top priority.

All of our work activities undergo a risk-management process, where we identify risks and mitigate any potential hazards.

We continually monitor both the world and local epidemiological situation with regards to COVID-19, amend our protocols where necessary, and maintain statistics on cases or suspected cases and treatment.



Do contractor companies follow the same COVID-19 protocols and policies as ReconAfrica?

Yes. ReconAfrica requires contractors, suppliers and visitors to comply with our policies and protocols when at a ReconAfrica site.

How is ReconAfrica helping in the fight against COVID-19?

During the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, we understood that the virus had a severe impact on Namibia, with the limited resources in some of the remote areas where we are working, and the support which was required. ReconAfrica considers itself a member of the community in the areas we operate and with that comes a duty to contribute.

As a company that has established meaningful relationships and roots in Namibia - with employees, contractors, suppliers, community members and national leaders, ReconAfrica responded to calls for assistance by the Government of Namibia with its commitment of N\$15 million to the country's COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout Campaign. The money continues to support the procurement, distribution, and administration of vaccines. This is in addition to the healthcare support we provided in the Kavango area in late 2020 at the height of the pandemic.

About ReconAfrica

ReconAfrica is a Canadian-based oil and gas company working collaboratively with national governments to explore oil and gas potential in Northeast Namibia and Northwest Botswana – the Kavango Sedimentary Basin.

To date, ReconAfrica has been granted licences by Namibia and Botswana to explore and confirm the presence of their resources; we have no licence to produce oil or to engage in hydraulic fracturing ('fracing').

This project aims to prove a potential reserve that could lead to economic stimulus, funding local and regional jobs and other socio-economic benefits such as increased infrastructure, potable water access and investments in environmental and wildlife conservation.

Should oil and gas be discovered, the traditional authorities and elected governments of Namibia and Botswana will determine how they will manage those resources.

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