As a global girls’ rights and humanitarian organisation, Plan International’s experience indicates that girls and young women are particularly vulnerable in health emergencies. We call on governments to include meaningful participation of girls and women in its decision-making processes related to the COVID-19 response and recognise that outbreaks, quarantines and isolation affect girls and boys, women and men differently.

We believe that sex and age-appropriate interventions that address increased risk of child marriage, sexual violence, sexual reproductive health and rights, mental health and burden of domestic work facing girls and women are particularly essential and we call on countries to provide foreign assistance to increase funding in light of COVID-19, including intensifying support and preventive measures in refugee and displacement settings.
COVID-19 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths as of 6 August 2020 (WHO, Sitrep #199)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATIONS</th>
<th>TOTAL CONFIRMED</th>
<th>TOTAL DEATHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>246,674</td>
<td>3,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>88,804</td>
<td>4,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1,964,536</td>
<td>40,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>116,871</td>
<td>5,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>21,390</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>115,980</td>
<td>2,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solomon Islands*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>3,330</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No data for Solomon Islands on WHO SitReps

REGIONAL INFLUENCING

- With Save The Children, released a thematic policy brief: “Because We Matter: Addressing COVID-19 and Violence against Girls in Asia-Pacific” to secure commitment from regional and national leaders to priorities and invest consistently in the protection of girls.
- Collaborated with peer Asia-Pacific Coalition for School Safety’s members, Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education, and Norwegian Refugee Council, to launch the inter-agency resource – “Safe back to School: A practitioner’s Guide across Asia region”.
- Actively participating in regional COVID-19 working groups such as Regional Migrant and Refugee, the Regional WASH and the Regional Logistic working groups.
- Co-leading the priority action on Regional Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) with youth and children together with UNICEF and WHO as part of the Regional RCCE Working Group.

*Plan International is also responding to Cyclone Amphan in Bangladesh and India, monsoon floods in Bangladesh and landslides in Nepal.

All Plan International countries in Asia-Pacific are implementing their 6 months COVID-19 Emergency Response Plans.
Regional Reach

Beneficiaries Reached so Far

18,240,645 People

Including

9,113,787 girls and women

- 4,585,223 People reached with COVID-19 prevention and hygiene messages
- 1,864,753 Hygiene/Menstrual hygiene kits and Non-food items (NFI) distributed
- 1,572 Handwashing and sanitation facilities built or repaired (households, communities and institutions)
- 427,391 Girls and boys participated in distance learning programs
- 54,615 People received cash and voucher assistance (254 of which are people with disability)
- 361,374 Parents and caregivers participated in ‘Coping with COVID-19’ support sessions
- 217,304 Children and youth participated in ‘Coping with COVID-19’ support programmes
- 106,155 Vulnerable families received food rations
- 849,079 Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials produced and distributed
- 1,108 Primary healthcare facilities received essential support
- 943,022 Personal protective equipment (PPE) distributed
- 7,500 Teachers received learning support training

Figures as of 28 July 2020
**Program Snapshots**

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**Indonesia**
- Working with Education Cluster and the Ministry of Education to develop Home Learning guidance.
- Developing policy brief on Community-Based Total Sanitation including menstrual hygiene management to feed into national policy discourse.
- Broadcasting issues on child protection through radio talk shows in South Central Timor and Nagekeo Districts.
- Supporting children to access education in remote areas by broadcasting educational content on 1,000 stations.

**Bangladesh**
- Led the Voluntary National Review 2020 and Youth Perspectives. Read here.
- Collaborating with National Alliance to End Violence against children and Joining Forces to advocate for children rights amid pandemic.
- Working with Education Cluster and the Ministry of Education to develop Home Learning guidance.
- Developing policy brief on Community-Based Total Sanitation including menstrual hygiene management to feed into national policy discourse.
- Broadcasting issues on child protection through radio talk shows in South Central Timor and Nagekeo Districts.
- Supporting children to access education in remote areas by broadcasting educational content on 1,000 stations.

**Myanmar**
- Collaborating with Ministry of Education and Press Institute Bangladesh to facilitate a Facebook-based live education classes reaching millions of adolescents and children.
- Reached 4,862 people, including 2,322 children, with child protection awareness raising messages.
- Distributed hygiene kits reaching 25,500 households in Bhola district.
- Distributed menstrual hygiene management kits to 1,454 adolescent girls in Teknaf.
- Provided counselling services to 5,631 pregnant women and their husbands, and lactating mothers.
- Provided 765 students from 7 high schools with education kits.

**Philippines**
- Facilitated online discussion on Trafficking in Persons during the COVID-19 Pandemic on July 29. The online discussion is called “Protecting Fishers from COVID-19 and Human Trafficking”.
- Facilities a series of short orientations on menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and COVID-19 prevention tips, reaching 1,500 participants in the City of Manila.
- Distributed hygiene management materials to health and frontline workers in 64 barangays, benefiting 61,762 people.
- Distributed 729 MHM kits to adolescent girls and young women in schools in Western Samar.
- Partnering with Y-Peer Pilipinas to disseminate youth-friendly information and educational materials called #QuaranTIPS and co-leading peer education sessions called #QuaranTalk.
- Training youth to build their media skills to raise their concerns and voices during COVID-19.

**Nepal**
- Engaging with local government in Sindhuli to continue education and learning opportunities for children staying at home.
- Continuing to broadcast child protection messages through on radio stations in programme areas.
- Distributed food rations and personal hygiene materials to 2,488 migrant workers along the border in Banke.
- Broadcasted health and hygiene messages through local radio stations in Sunsari and Sindhuli districts, reaching 66,813 households.
- Providing cash assistance to 24,488 vulnerable families in programme areas.
- Using social media to disseminate COVID-19 prevention and awareness messages.
- Training youth to build their media skills to raise their concerns and voices during COVID-19.

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**In the community in Soe, Indonesia** schools, markets and public places have been closed since the end of March 2020. Girls and young women are particularly vulnerable during crisis as it is difficult for them to manage their periods safely and with dignity due to lack of access to sanitary products, toilets and handwashing facilities. To respond to their needs, Plan International Indonesia is distributing dignity kits to girls and women containing sanitary pads, soap, toothpaste and detergent.

“Normally people think of food or clothing, but menstrual hygiene products are too often neglected,” she says. “People may forget that these products are a necessity for girls like me.”

- Yalen, Indonesia

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When the government announced the lockdown, I was worried about affected my mental health, but the "For more information, contact: Vanda Lengkong, Regional Head of Disaster Risk Management Vanda.Lengkong@plan-international.org When the government announced the lockdown, I was worried about affected my mental health, but the "For more information, contact: Vanda Lengkong, Regional Head of Disaster Risk Management Vanda.Lengkong@plan-international.org When the government announced the lockdown, I was worried about affected my mental health, but the "For more information, contact: Vanda Lengkong, Regional Head of Disaster Risk Management Vanda.Lengkong@plan-international.org When the government announced the lockdown, I was worried about affected my mental health, but the "For more information, contact: Vanda Lengkong, Regional Head of Disaster Risk Management Vanda.Lengkong@plan-international.org When the government announced the lockdown, I was worried about affected my mental health, 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