

WE ARE TARGETING 5,288,826 PEOPLE IN ASIA-PACIFIC

including 1,261,781 girls, 1,160,048 boys, 1,614,517 women and 1,252,480 men for COVID-19 responses

COLLABORATION SPOTLIGHT !

Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

Plan International Bangladesh, along with 25 other major aid groups, issued a statement calling on the governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar to restore full access to mobile data and telecommunications to ensure that refugees, displaced populations and host communities can access life-saving information about COVID-19. Joint appeal available [here](#)

FIELD REPORT

Diary of a Rohingya girl on lockdown, captured by a Rohingya volunteer

“ We live in a very dense area and the lockdown makes the situation a lot more intense. I do not know how I can maintain social distancing. I learn about personal hygiene but we don't have enough soap or masks either. ”

Kawsara, 15, Rohingya Displacement Camp



KEY MESSAGES

As a global girls' rights and humanitarian organization, 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 recognize 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 all countries who provide foreign assistance to increase funding in light of COVID-19, including intensifying support and preventive measures in refugee and displacement settings.



Countries, territories or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths as of 16 April 2020 (WHO, Sitrep #87)

Locations	Total Confirmed	Total Deaths
Bangladesh	1231	50
Cambodia	122	0
China	83797	3352
Fiji	16	0
India	12380	414
Indonesia	5136	469
Laos PDR	19	0
Myanmar	85	4
Nepal	16	0
Papua New Guinea	2	0
Philippines	5453	349
Republic of Korea	10613	229
Solomon Islands *	-	-
Thailand	2672	46
Timor-Leste	6	0
Vietnam	267	0

*No data for Solomon Islands on WHO SitReps



PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS



Schools Partially Open



All Schools Closed

BANGLADESH



- Developing science and ICT lessons to be broadcast on a government channel as part of the government's integrated education continuity plan.
- Signed a joint statement calling for a full restoration of mobile data to save lives at camps and a joint appeal through Joining Forces Alliance to protect the children during outbreak.
- Supplied 400 PPE sets to health service providers in programme areas.
- Developed a story book for children on awareness and preventative measures.

INDONESIA



- Working with Ministry of Social Affairs to promote protection mechanism for unaccompanied minors and separated children.
- Distributed 11,050 hygiene kits and 8,187 posters on preventative actions in in East Nusa Tenggara Province.
- Developing an offline learning module for students in remote areas.
- Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

MYANMAR



- Finalising a virtual adolescent-led education and protection campaign to offer protection support for girls and young women living in 24 IDP camps and 24 host communities, as well as in 220 villages.
- Distributed hygiene equipment in recently displaced IDP camps in Rakhine, reaching 981 households.
- Distributed information, education and communication materials to 14,905 households.

NEPAL



- Begun cash distribution to affected sponsorship families; 425 households reached so far.
- Distributed urgent medical materials to government health facilities in programme areas.
- Developing educational messages in sign-language for visually-impaired persons.
- Finalizing an agreement with the Government to implement a response programme.

PHILIPPINES



- Signed a joint statement calling on national and local governments to increase protection measures for children and eliminate violence against children during the pandemic.
- Provide weekly inputs to the House Committee on the Welfare of Children on possible gaps, issues deficiencies, recommendations and other concerns in the implementation of the Bayanihan Act.
- Train young populations on journalism and media production to produce youth-friendly public service announcements about the outbreak and mental health.



CAMBODIA



- Building NGOs/Staff capacity for children's psychological support and referral system. Working with Child Help Line to develop services for child protection and online services/counselling.
- Reached 280,000 people through the dissemination of preventive messages.

CHINA



- Distributed 189K Euro worth of disinfectant and personal protective equipment to government institutions and local NGOs.

FIJI



- Enable partners to conduct a gender, disability and inclusion analysis together with the Australian Humanitarian Partnership.

Hong Kong



- Distributed hygiene kits to 884 families including 58,474 masks, 956 antibacterial soaps, 84 bottles of multipurpose cleansers, 1,177 bottles of hand sanitizers and 950 antiviral leaflets.

INDIA



- Distributed 50,500 dry ration kits and hygiene kits to programme areas.
- Work with para-legal volunteers to discuss issues related to child marriage during social isolation with the communities.
- Produced short videos of girl change makers to increase awareness of the experiences girls have while navigating COVID-19 which reached over 100,000 people in country.



PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS



Schools Partially Open



All Schools Closed

LAOS



- Coordinating with government's national COVID-19 Task Force to procure 100,000 surgical face masks for health workers.
- Working with government to produce radio spots to broadcast preventive messages.
- Procuring hygiene kits for teachers and students while developing an adolescent girl support program to support girls to re-enroll when schools are re-opened.
- Partnered with the District Education and Sports Bureau in Oudomxay to provide materials to support quarantine centers.
- Installed 27 handwashing stations in remote programme areas with a potential reach of 135,000.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA



- Distributed 20,500 face masks, 665 bottles of hand sanitiser and 500 emergency food kits to support some of the the most vulnerable children in Daegu and North Gyeongsang Province.

THAILAND



- Collaborating with the Office of Basic Education and Safe School Network to produce home learning materials and train teachers virtually.
- Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

VIETNAM



- Communication activities on prevention of Covid-19 and promoting hygiene exercises have been continuously carried out.
- Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

SOLOMON ISLANDS



- Deployed 5 Women WASH implementing teams to programme areas to raise awareness about preventive measures and distribute approved IEC materials.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



- Liasing with ChildFund to operate national gender-based violence helpline to access counseling and referral services for women and girls in Bougainville.
- Distributing over 9,000 approved IEC materials throughout Central and Northern Bougainville.
- Distributing over 6,000 IEC materials to frontline healthcare workers through the Department of Health.

TIMOR-LESTE



- Leading COVID-19 Task Force in 3 Municipalities focusing on child protection and gender-based violence.
- Working closely with the Ministry of Health to deliver preventive messages in sponsorship areas, reaching over 3,000 children.
- Installed 12 public water tanks and produced and distributed hygiene promotion materials.

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Released advocacy messages and briefing materials developed with Girls Not Brides on COVID-19 and child marriage.
- Co-hosting a South Asia webinar on child marriage and COVID-19 with UNICEF and UNFPA.
- Coordinating with Child Helpline International on providing advice, outreach and referral services for children and young people.
- Working with the Gender in Humanitarian Action Regional Network to update gender-related advocacy messaging.

BEING A GIRL DURING COVID-19:

A day in the life of Angel from Indonesia

4:30 am

I wake up early to help tidy up the house. I start with washing the dishes, sweeping the floor and preparing breakfast – this is my normal morning routine. But since the COVID-19 pandemic, I can't go to school, so now I must wash clothes too.

8:00 am

I am getting ready to study. **Studying at home makes me miss school so much.** Now, it's difficult for me to understand some of my school topics. Before my school shutdown, my teacher gave me homework, so this is what I am doing. **I wish we could learn online.** I wish that I still could still ask my teacher questions and talk to my friends online.

12:30 pm

It's my lunch time and I have a break. **I really miss my friends.** My teacher said we can't go back to school again until 15th of April, but I do not know for sure.

1:00 pm

I continue to do my homework. While studying on my own, no one helps me to answer. **If only I had access to technology** and could ask the teacher for help directly. **Buying internet data would add extra costs for family.** So in my house, only my father owns a mobile phone. Although I can borrow it from time-to-time, I still need to wait my turn.

3:00 pm

I have finished studying for today! Now I watch TV or play. If my father allows me, I ask him if I can borrow his phone, or go outside the house to play but stay nearby. Sometimes I feel bored....

6:00 pm

I help to prepare food for dinner. After that, I watch TV or go to sleep. Every day I hope that coronavirus will quickly disappear and will not spread in my village. **I miss being able to go back to school without feeling fear.**

