



COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

ASIA-PACIFIC SITUATION REPORT



30th April 2020, Issue 3



KEY MESSAGES

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.



INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT!

Plan International Philippines with AI4GOV and the Department of Health have developed KIRA (Knowledge Informs Responsible Action), an automated chatbot to improve communities' access to reliable and life-saving COVID-19 information. KIRA is available on various online platforms such as Facebook Messenger and Viber, read more here.

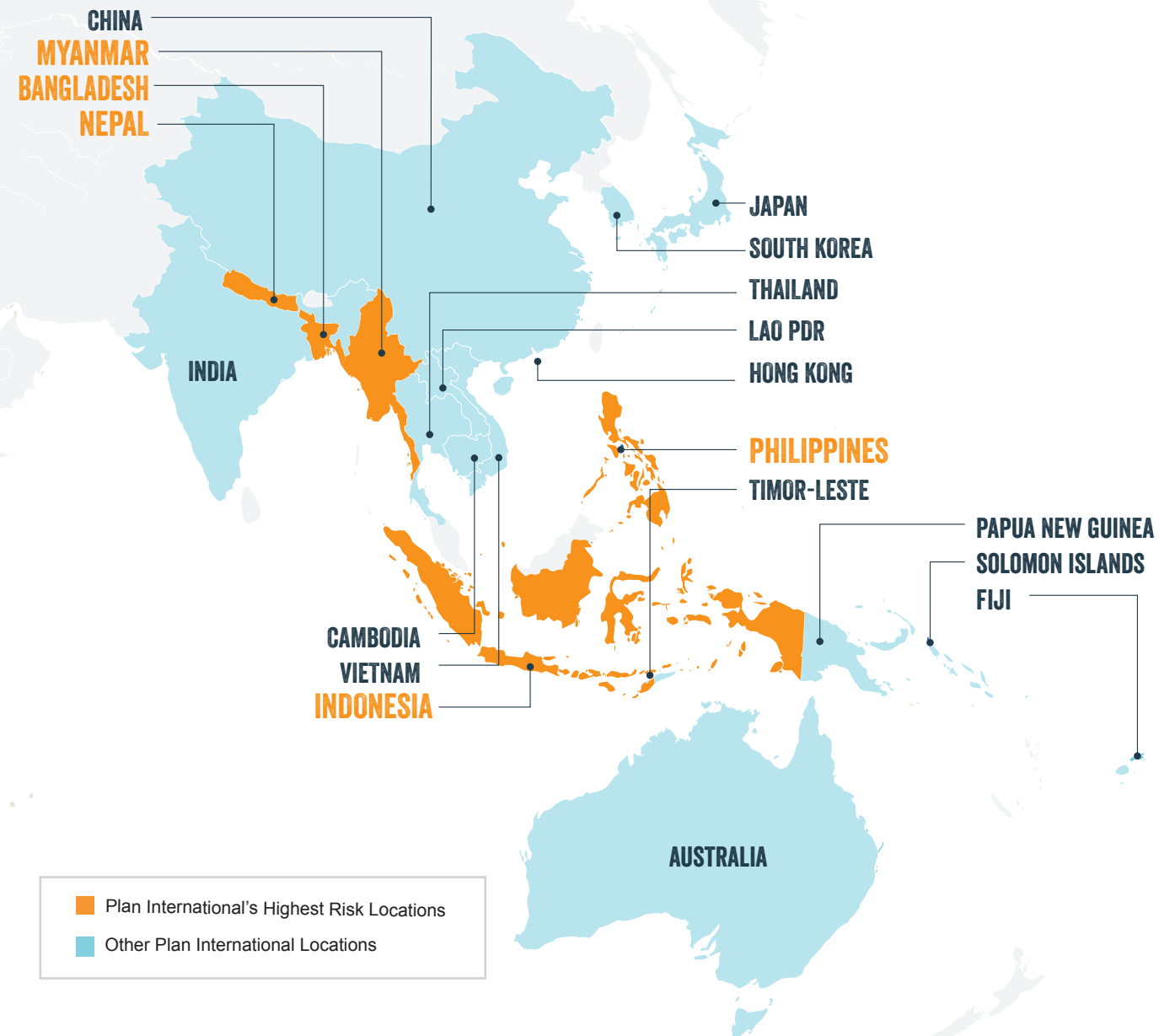


COVID-19 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Locations with reported laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths as of 29 April 2020 (WHO, Sitrep #100)

LOCATIONS	TOTAL CONFIRMED	TOTAL DEATHS
Bangladesh	6462	155
Cambodia	122	0
China	84369	4643
Fiji	18	0
India	31332	1007
Indonesia	9511	773
Lao PDR	19	0
Myanmar	150	5
Nepal	54	0
Papua New Guinea	8	0
Philippines	7958	530
Solomon Islands*	-	-
Thailand	2947	54
Timor-Leste	24	0
Vietnam	270	0

* No data for Solomon Islands on WHO SitReps



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

-Released a Joint Statement calling on ASEAN and SAARC to ensure that children's rights are at the heart of COVID-19 response strategies together with 6 other international child rights agencies.

-Coordinating with Child Helpline International on providing advice, outreach and referral services to children and young people.



RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS



**TARGET
BENEFICIARIES**

5,288,826
PEOPLE



Including

2,876,298
girls and women



24,296

Households received hygiene and dignity kits in India



10,833

Households received cash-based assistance in Nepal



70,213

Boys and girls reached in Plan International Indonesia's emergency response



172

Medical Personnel trained in Lao PDR



25,793

Beneficiaries reached in hygiene promotion and prevention sessions in Bangladesh



900

Frontline health workers and local government officials received Personal Protective Equipment in Philippines



12,000+

Beneficiaries provided hygiene products in Vietnam



14,095

Households received IEC materials in Myanmar



PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS

INDONESIA



-Working with Ministry of Social Affairs to promote protection mechanism for unaccompanied minors and separated children.

-Providing technical support in the development of a Home Learning Standard Operation Procedure by Ministry of Education

-Developing an offline learning module for students in remote areas.

-Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

MYANMAR



-Launching 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.

-Training young people to produce youth-friendly content on prevention and control, nutrition, substance abuse, coping mechanisms and mental health.

-Led implementation of community development activities reaching over 800 adolescents and youth.

PHILIPPINES



-Providing weekly inputs to the House Committee on the Welfare of Children on possible gaps, deficiencies, recommendations and other concerns in the implementation of the Bayanihan Act.

-With Joining Forces Alliance, released statement calling for the protection of children at risk and children in conflict with the law during the pandemic.

-Training young populations on journalism and media production to produce youth-friendly public service announcements about the outbreak and mental health.

-Provided 900 frontline health workers and local government officials with essential health commodities and PPEs.

-Distributed 308 hygiene kits in Metro Manila.

BANGLADESH



-Provided nearly 10,000 households with cash distribution.

-Distributed over 200 Personal Protective Equipment to frontline workers.

-Reached over 14,000 children through basic education and provided over 3,000 children with protection services.

-Conducted over 2,500 hygiene promotion and prevention sessions, reaching over 25,000 beneficiaries.

-Developing a digital platform for young people, particularly vulnerable groups, to voice their opinions on their situation.

NEPAL



-Have reached 10,000 households with cash distribution.

-Initiated schooling programmes through radio stations

-Circulating radio messages developed by the Ministry of Health on precaution measures through 9 FM stations

-Gathering the voices of 100 girls impacted by COVID-19 in order to amplify their voices and promote their issues faced in lockdown.

“The government cannot forget that while there is a lockdown in countries, our periods are not on lockdown. Governments must ensure the accessibility of sanitary napkins for all girls and women.”

Sajju, Nepal

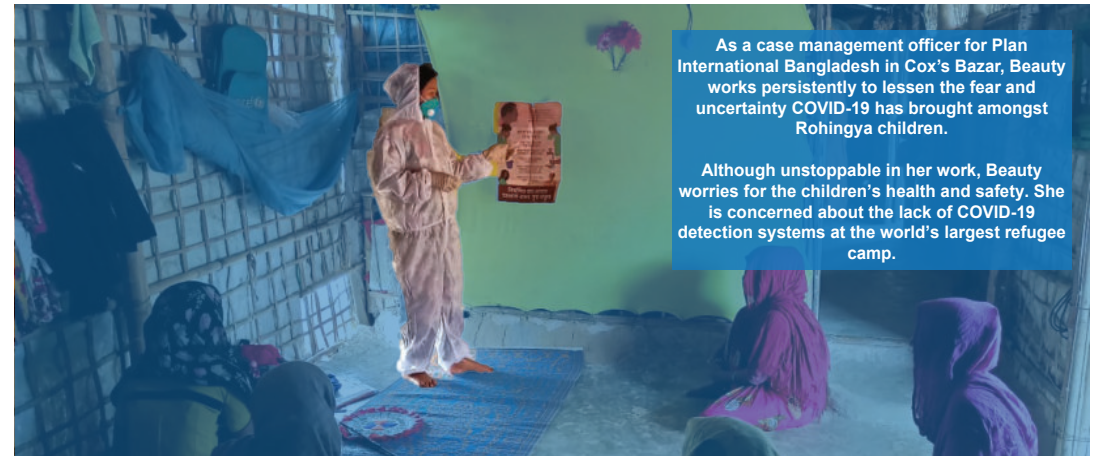


“The situation is getting worse daily. People living below the poverty line are unable to purchase food, medicine and other essential items.”

Pravalika, India

“We are learning a lot about hygiene practices but we don't have enough soap and hygiene materials for personal use. Moreover, we live in a very dense area. How can we practice social distancing?”

Kawsara, Bangladesh



As a case management officer for Plan International Bangladesh in Cox's Bazar, Beauty works persistently to lessen the fear and uncertainty COVID-19 has brought amongst Rohingya children.

Although unstoppable in her work, Beauty worries for the children's health and safety. She is concerned about the lack of COVID-19 detection systems at the world's largest refugee camp.



School Partially Open



School Closed



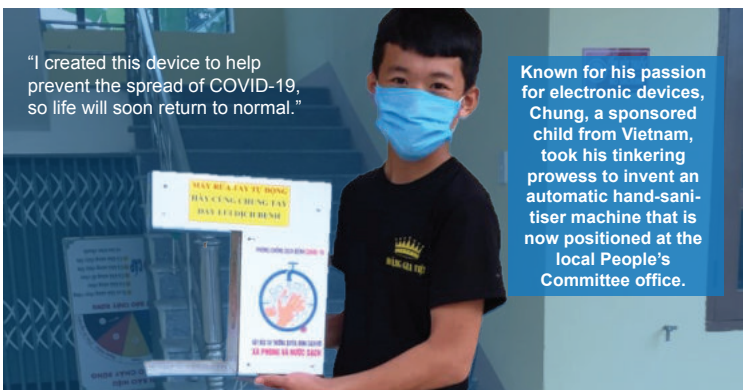
Reported Cases of COVID-19



PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS

“ The inequality that we’ve been fighting against all these years has resurfaced. Girls are suffering multiple layers of burden starting from difficulty of studying at home, more house chores, and are becoming more vulnerable to gender and domestic violence. Boys are being sent to guard the village’s entrance, just because they are perceived to be strong, when in fact they are children who are also vulnerable. My message to all is that equality must still be maintained, especially during the pandemic. ”

Suci, Plan International Indonesia’s Youth Champion and Chaperson of Kediri Village Child Protection Group



Known for his passion for electronic devices, Chung, a sponsored child from Vietnam, took his tinkering prowess to invent an automatic hand-sanitiser machine that is now positioned at the local People’s Committee office.

“ I’m really worried about my family since all public activities have been suspended and we depend on the market for income. ”

Etefina, Timor-Leste



PAPUA NEW GUINEA



-Conducting a COVID-19 prevention training with teachers and schools in Northern Bougainville

SOLOMON ISLANDS



-Delivering awareness messaging and hygiene demonstrations in programme areas.

-Distributed IEC materials to communities, focusing on communities affected by Cyclone Harold.

-Working with health clinics and medical personnel to provide hand-washing stations.

CAMBODIA



-Partnering with Child Helpline to initiate online counselling services for boys and girls.

-Launched and interactive online platform to connect youth, especially girls, to provide safe and accessible space to lead discussion, share information and voice their needs.

-Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

THAILAND



-Collaborating with the Office of Basic Education and Safe School Network to produce home learning materials and train teachers virtually.

-Distributed over 500 hygiene kits to migrant families in programme areas.

-Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

VIETNAM



-Supporting the sanitisation of classrooms and hygiene facilities in preparation for the re-opening of schools.

-Provided hygiene products to 12,500 beneficiaries.

-Finalised an action plan with Central Youth Union with focus on healthcare and child protection.

-Distributed preventive information to nearly 5,000 beneficiaries of various ethnic minorities.

-Using social media to disseminate youth-friendly messages on awareness and prevention.

INDIA



-Distributed hygiene and dignity kits to 24,296 families

-Distributed dry food rations to 22,066 families

-Distributed 1,500 personal protective equipment to frontline health workers.

-Disseminated awareness messages in more 1,000 than villages, over 12,00 families reached

-Providing digital classes in residential Child Care Institutions

FIJI



-Supporting a Rapid Gender, Disability and Inclusion analysis

-Providing cash assistance to unemployed through partnership with Disabled People’s Federation

TIMOR-LESTE



-Launching an awareness campaign to tackle harmful social norms and increase access to SRHR services for girls and young women

-Reached 600 girls with dignity and hygiene kits, and information on sexual and reproductive health

-Installed hand washing facilities in 18 community centers

-Distributed hygiene kits to 1,000 households in programme areas

-Procured disinfectant and hygiene materials for 200 primary schools and preschools

LAO PDR



-Partnered with Centre of Education and Health to disseminate age-appropriate key messages ad part of the National COVID-19 Task Force Group.

-Installed 27 hand washing stations in 24 health centers.

-Trained 172 health personnel on preventive measures.

-Distributed disinfectant materials to 41 secondary schools in programme areas to ensure safe environment when they re-open.

CHINA



-Provided 189,000 Euros worth of disinfect materials and personal protective equipment.



School Partially Open



School Closed



Reported Cases of COVID-19