



# COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## ASIA-PACIFIC SITUATION REPORT



15th May 2020, Issue 4



### 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.



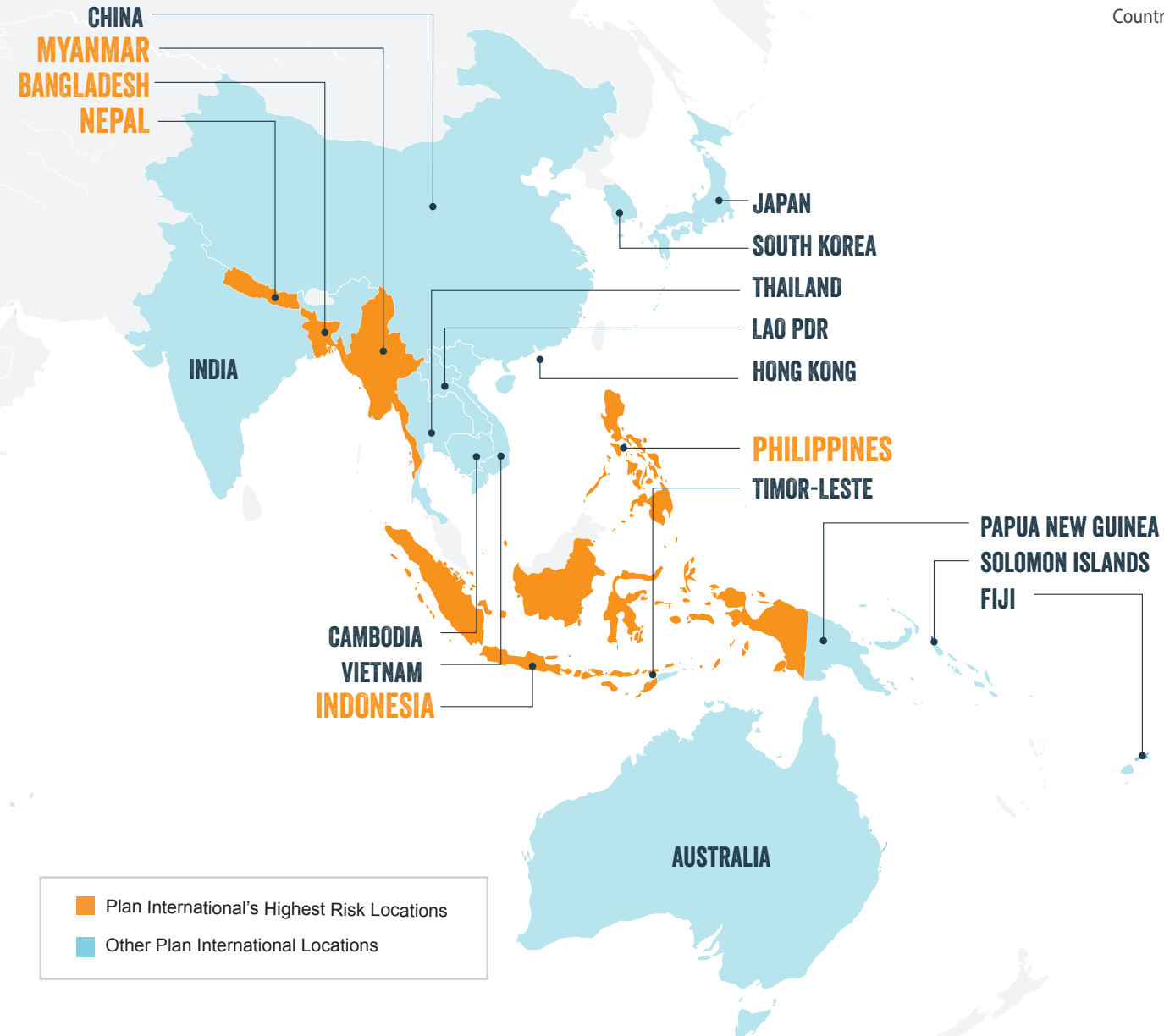
### INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT!

Plan International Myanmar launched a virtual adolescent-led education and protection campaign in partnership with UNICEF. The campaign aims to empower youth to take control of the situation and become leaders by educating their peers, supporting and protecting each other, especially girls and young women, from violence and abuse during social isolation. The virtual campaign was rolled out in Kachin and Nyaung U supporting youth at refugee camps and host communities.



# COVID-19 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Countries, territories or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths as of 14 May 2020 (WHO, Sitrep #115)



LOCATIONS	TOTAL CONFIRMED	TOTAL DEATHS
Bangladesh	17 822	269
Cambodia	122	0
China	84 464	4 644
Fiji	18	0
India	78 003	2 549
Indonesia	15 438	1 028
Lao PDR	19	0
Myanmar	181	6
Nepal	246	0
Papua New Guinea	8	0
Philippines	11 618	772
Solomon Islands*	-	-
Thailand	3 018	56
Timor-Leste	24	0
Vietnam	288	0

\* No data for Solomon Islands on WHO SitReps

## REGIONAL INFLUENCING

-Released a Joint Statement with 17 other aid agencies calling on governments to allow refugees stranded in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea to disembark, [read here](#).

-Actively engaging with Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) and participating as a speaker in their webinar series.

-'Stop widening gender inequalities: Asia's COVID-19 responses must leave no one behind' blog published on DEVPOLICY, a leading aid and development platform, [read here](#).

All Plan International countries in Asia-Pacific have completed COVID19 Emergency Response Plans





# REGIONAL REACH



**BENEFICIARIES  
REACHED SO FAR**

**2,645,929**  
PEOPLE



Including

**1,325,979**  
girls and women



**182,166**

non-food items have been distributed including personal protective equipment, hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits.



**779,702**

People reached with key messaging around COVID-19 prevention hygiene behaviours



**48,342**

Vulnerable families that have received food rations



**153,483**

Girls and boys who are/have been engaged in distance learning programs



**89**

Handwashing and sanitation facilities (in households, community and institutions built or repaired)



**6,752**

People have received livelihood support (105 of which are people with disability)



**437**

Primary healthcare facilities have received essential support to prevent, control and manage COVID-19



**15,445**

Education and Communication materials have been produced and distributed

*Figures as of 13 May 2020*





# PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS

## PHILIPPINES



-Coordinating with national Department of Education to support interventions in response to extended school closures.

-Together with Girls Advocacy Alliance, released a joint statement on spike in gender-based violence during quarantine and calling for gender-responsive approach.

-Supported 3,113 vulnerable families with cash assistance.

-Distributed 2,130 hygiene kits for children in sponsorship communities.

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

-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.

## MYANMAR



-Launched 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.

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

-Launching online "Plan Challenge" campaign to encourage parenting practices for COVID-19 care.

## INDONESIA



- Providing support to local governmental education offices to produce radio programmes so children can continue to learn during lockdowns.

- Coordinating with Ministry of National Development Planning to analyse assessments, policy briefs and impacts COVID-19 has on children.

- Trained people with disabilities to become entrepreneurs and produce reusable sanitary pads and face masks.

- Supporting Youth Coalition For Girls to advocate for inclusive education.

## NEPAL



--Collaborating with Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen to broadcast child protection messages on 273 radio stations.

-Distributed 46,127 Euros worth of medical supplies to the Government of Nepal.

-Launched Girls Voices initiative with 100 girls who campaign and call on decision-makers to respond to girls' needs during lockdowns.

-Training 28 youth to build their media skills to raise their concerns and voices during COVID-19.

## BANGLADESH



-Reached 41,369 beneficiaries through 10,694 awareness raising sessions in programme areas.

-Reached 6,641 adolescents, pregnant women, mothers and couples through counselling support.

-Procured 25,000 hygiene kits to be distributed in Bhola District.

-Provided cash support to 4,005 sponsored families in programme areas.

-Disseminated prevention and awareness messages at refugee camps in Cox's Bazar.

-Published a child-friendly storybook about COVID-19 reaching 12,000 children.

-Launched distance parenting sessions through mobile phones while supporting parents on protecting girls.



Right now, adolescent girls and women are facing a big problem due to unavailability of sanitary pads during periods. Therefore, we are using clean clothes available at home. Pregnant women are also facing problems because they are not able to have nutritious food.

Manisha, India



I feel restless and I'm really worried about how we will cope if cases keep on increasing and that girls and women might become victims of various forms of violence.

Neha, Nepal



Most parents in my village dropped out of school early so they don't have the knowledge to support their children's education and help them study during this time.

Yusti, Indonesia



School Partially Open



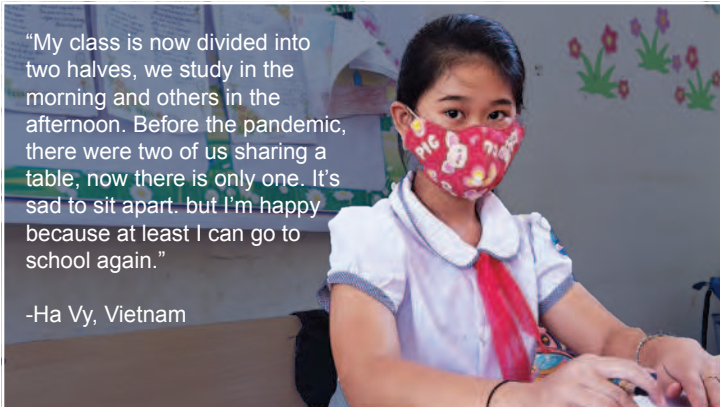
School Closed



Reported Cases of COVID-19



# PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS



“My class is now divided into two halves, we study in the morning and others in the afternoon. Before the pandemic, there were two of us sharing a table, now there is only one. It’s sad to sit apart, but I’m happy because at least I can go to school again.”

-Ha Vy, Vietnam



“ COVID-19 is directly affecting our lives and mental health. In my family, women normally do all the cooking which means that we must go to the market where it is crowded, putting us at greater risk. ”

Baifeun, Lao PDR



## TIMOR-LESTE



-Supported Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport with hygiene and disinfection packages to 158 schools in Aileu and Ainaro.

-Collaborated with Ministry of Health to promote access to sexual and reproductive information and services through a radio talk show.

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

-Built 64 hand washing stations for 51 households along with hygiene promotion activities.

-Distributed 1,500 menstrual hygiene management kits to programme areas.



## THAILAND



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

-Supporting local youth leaders in prevention campaign in programme areas.

-Developing pre-school level teaching kit on COVID-19.

-Disseminated ‘Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention and Control in Schools’ to 660 teachers

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

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA



-Installed hand-washing facilities in schools and distributed learning materials while training teachers to promote hygiene practices.

-Trained 40 people on COVID-19 awareness and prevention to support healthcare workers in Arawa.

-Launched awareness and prevention campaign in 40 locations in Central Bougainville.

## LAO PDR



-Supported the Ministry of Health with 100,000 surgical masks, [read here](#).

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

-Collaborating with the Ministry of Education and Sports on the Back to School campaign.

## VIETNAM



-Built 27 hand washing system at schools in programme areas, reaching 3,387 beneficiaries.

-Distributed learning materials to schools in 19 sponsorship communes.

-Reached 33,182 with a communication campaign through awareness and prevention messages.

-Together with 800 initial participants, launched online campaign on impact COVID-19 has on girls and women.

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

## INDIA



-Reached 1 million people in 2,098 villages through awareness raising programmes.

-Contributed to government’s efforts to ensure family nutrition by distributing 45,426 food kits.

-Distributed personal protective kits to 16,609 frontline health workers.

-Supported 55,545 families with hygiene kits.

-Reached 8,956 through nutrition awareness activities with pregnant women, young mothers and families.

## SOLOMON ISLANDS



--Delivered awareness messaging and hygiene demonstrations in programme areas, reaching 8,235 people.

-Shipped water tanks along with learning materials through government to Otong Java.



## CAMBODIA



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

-Supporting distant learning programmes in 32 primary schools.

-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.

## FIJI



-Working with partners to deliver activities in protection, agriculture and livelihoods, water, sanitation and hygiene and psychosocial support.

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

## CHINA



-Designing communications materials about online safety for children and youth, social distancing in the recovery phase targeting and schools and water, sanitation and hygiene.

-Collaborating with a major international clothing brand to raise funds for programmes supporting women affected by COVID-19.