



COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

ASIA-PACIFIC SITUATION REPORT



29th May 2020, Issue 5



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.

4,283,014 PEOPLE

REACHED THROUGH OUR RESPONSE in APAC



1,218,121

Hygiene, menstrual hygiene kits and Non-Food Items distributed



722,742

IEC materials distributed



350,785

PPE equipment distributed

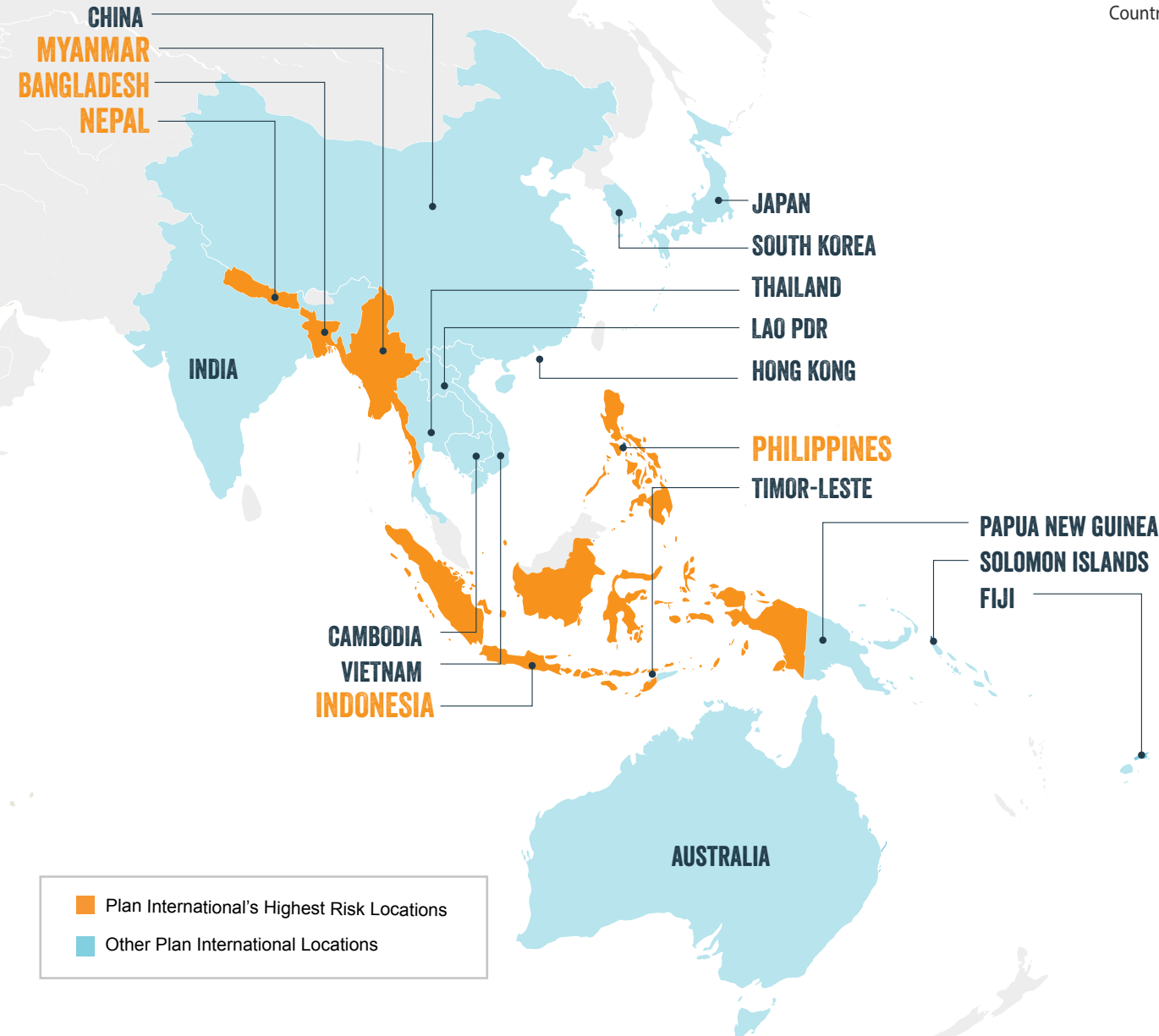


COVID-19 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Countries, territories or areas with reported laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths as of 28 May 2020 (WHO, Sitrep #129)

LOCATIONS	TOTAL CONFIRMED	TOTAL DEATHS
Bangladesh	38,292	544
Cambodia	122	0
China	85,547	4,644
Fiji	18	0
India	158,333	4,531
Indonesia	23,851	1,473
Lao PDR	19	0
Myanmar	206	6
Nepal	886	4
Papua New Guinea	8	0
Philippines	15,049	904
Solomon Islands*	-	-
Thailand	3,065	57
Timor-Leste	24	0
Vietnam	327	0

* No data for Solomon Islands on WHO SitReps



■ Plan International's Highest Risk Locations
■ Other Plan International Locations

REGIONAL INFLUENCING

- Released 'Hear it from the Girls - Asia and COVID19', a brief report highlighting ongoing impacts on girls' lives through their voices and anecdotes while incorporating regional key challenges, analysis, and recommendations to governments, [read here](#).
- Actively engaging with Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) and participating as a speaker in their webinar series, [watch here](#).
- 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.
- Participated as a panelist in a joint webinar on 'Safer Return to Schools' together with WHO, UNOCHA and UNICEF.

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



REGIONAL REACH



**BENEFICIARIES
REACHED SO FAR**

4,283,014
PEOPLE



Including

2,312,599
girls and women



2,344,966

People reached with COVID-19 prevention and hygiene messages



180,652

Girls and boys participated in distance learning programs



14,465

Parents and caregivers participated in 'Coping with COVID-19' support sessions



13,843

Children and youth participated in 'Coping with COVID-19' support programmes



1,218,121

Hygiene/Menstrual hygiene kits and Non-food items (NFI) distributed



14,025

People received cash and voucher assistance (254 of which are people with disability)



52,656

Vulnerable families received food rations



509

Primary healthcare facilities received essential support



424

Hand washing and sanitation facilities built or repaired (households, communities and institutions)



1,208

Teachers received learning support training



350,785

Personal protective equipment (PPE) distributed



722,742

Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials produced and distributed



PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS

NEPAL



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

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

-Broadcasting distant learning programmes through 10 local radio stations, reaching 5,000 students.

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

-Supported 41 youth on sexual reproductive health and rights awareness raising in Bardiya.

INDONESIA



- Collaborating with Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection and the Ministry of Education in capacity building of community-based child protection mechanisms.

-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.

- Supporting Youth Coalition For Girls to advocate for inclusive education for children in remote areas or without access to the internet.

BANGLADESH



-Distributed 495 hygiene kits to adolescent girls and women in Cox's Bazaar.

-Reached 43,972 beneficiaries in awareness and preventative sessions, including 15,287 children.

-Provided cash assistance to 10,075 vulnerable families in programme areas.

-Providing counseling services to 717 people including adolescents, pregnant mothers, lactating mothers, and newly married couples.

MYANMAR



-Distributed food rations to 46,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) living in conflicted areas.

-Trained 120 youth leaders as part of 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.

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

-Distributed hygiene equipment in conflicted areas, reaching 79,393 people.

-Installed 33 hand washing stations in 33 child-friendly spaces in IDP camps.

PHILIPPINES



-Trained 6 Barangay Councils to establish functional referral pathways for child protection and gender-based violence in Metro Manila.

-Distributed hygiene equipment to 3,334 frontliners from 15 local government units in Lago del Sur.

-Aired health-related public service announcements through five radio stations, reaching 456,676 people.

-Hosting [Cyber Talino Webinar Series](#), focusing on online safety and preventing cases of sexual abuse and exploitation of children, reaching 584 live participants so far.

-Trained 150 community volunteers in Masbate on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse, and safeguarding.

-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.



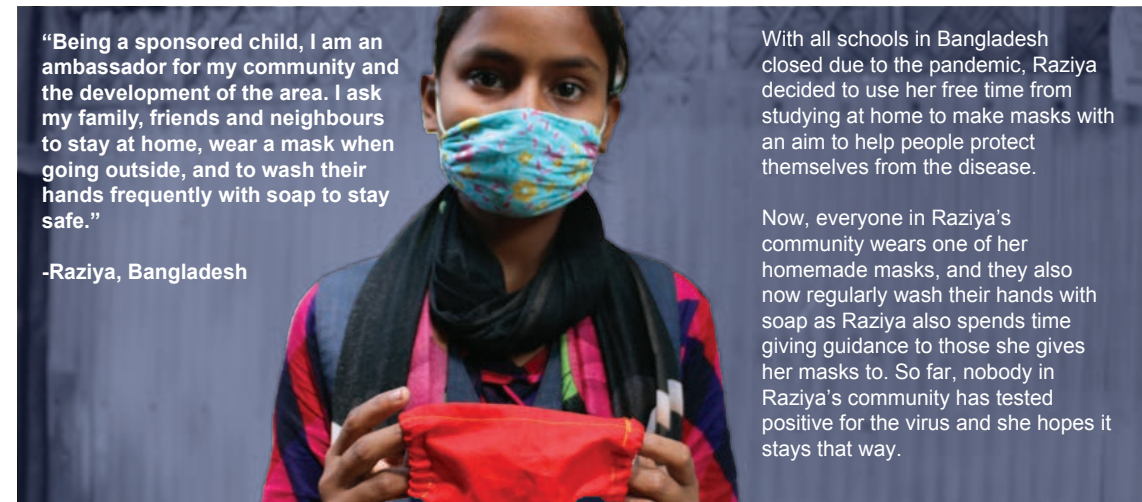
Right now, I don't know when I will be able to go back to school. School-from-home makes it very difficult for me to contact my teacher to ask questions. I would like my village to have a better phone and internet network and for me to be able to buy internet data so I can stay connected with my teachers more.

-Kamel, Indonesia



“ For less fortunate families, food is considered to be more important, so most of the limited family budget goes straight to fulfilling the need to satisfy hunger. But, female hygiene is also important to sustain their health and avoid possible complications brought by poor sanitation practices. ”

Ghene, Philippines



“Being a sponsored child, I am an ambassador for my community and the development of the area. I ask my family, friends and neighbours to stay at home, wear a mask when going outside, and to wash their hands frequently with soap to stay safe.”

-Raziya, Bangladesh

With all schools in Bangladesh closed due to the pandemic, Raziya decided to use her free time from studying at home to make masks with an aim to help people protect themselves from the disease.

Now, everyone in Raziya's community wears one of her homemade masks, and they also now regularly wash their hands with soap as Raziya also spends time giving guidance to those she gives her masks to. So far, nobody in Raziya's community has tested positive for the virus and she hopes it stays that way.



PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS

CAMBODIA



-Providing support to Provincial Department of Rural Development to carry out COVID-19 prevention campaigns in Ratanakiri.

-Supporting distant learning programmes in 32 primary schools.

-Supported 246 people, including 125 children with online protection counseling services.

-Reached 2,590 households through COVID-19 awareness raising and prevention.

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

LAO PDR



-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.

-Trained 361 teachers on COVID-19 prevention and awareness.

-Distributed 362 boxes of face masks, 865 bottles of sanitisers, 233 bottles of disinfectants, 41 thermometers and soap to schools in Bokeo and Oudomxay.

-Installed 27 handwashing stations in health centers in programme areas.

CHINA



-Working with Women's Federation to conduct activities addressing issues of sanitation and hygiene, environment and children's protection.

-Providing lunch boxes for students returning to schools in programme areas.

-Collaborating with a major international clothing brand and a Chinese foundation on a mass media campaign to raise awareness of women's economic empowerment in COVID-19 recovery stage.

“My family has faced a lot of difficulty. My father's job has been suspended and I can't go to school which is especially hard because I am supposed to sit national exams this year. Now, to support my family I have had to go to work.”

-Girll, Cambodia



“I am confident to discuss and raise awareness on gender-based violence young people in my village may face. I urge everyone to raise their voices and gain support if cases are found. During this lockdown, I stand with my fellow Champions of Change to report any cases of gender-based violence.”

-Godelina, Champions of Change advocate, Timor-Leste

INDIA



-Issued a joint statement to National Government calling for allocation of additional funds to prevent under-5 child mortality and maternal mortality during COVID-19.

-Collaborating with UNFPA to develop a mobile app targeting vulnerable families to request for support, including safe transportation, tele-counseling, and sexual and reproductive health services.

-Distributed food rations to 50,792 families.

-Provided 36,013 frontline health workers with personal protective equipment and 14,255 hygiene kits.

-Distributed hygiene kits to 60,151 families including 601,510 sanitary napkins for adolescent girls.

-Supported 243 pregnant women and 40 senior citizens to receive medical care and treatments.

-Reached 747 people through 83 youth advocates on child protection and safeguarding measures using WhatsApp.

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.

-Distributed 1,421 face masks and 1,391 bottles of hand sanitizer to migrant workers and children in Bangkok and programme areas.

-Distributed food rations to 155 families in programme areas.

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

TIMOR-LESTE



-Continuing to work with Ministry of Health to promote access to sexual and reproductive information and services through radio talk shows.

-Handed over 64 hand washing stations to the government to support 51 households with hygiene promotion.

-Constructing a water transmission pipeline to reach remote communities.

-Distributed 1,000 IEC material to prevent violence against children in programme areas.

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

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



-Supporting the Ministry of Health to set-up COVID-19 information booth in Buka to disseminate education and communication materials, and proper hygiene management.

-Collaborating with Women's Federation to train women on how to prepare tippy taps in Buka.

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

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.



All School Open



School Partially Open



School Closed



Reported Cases of COVID-19

SOLOMON ISLANDS



-Collaborating with Ministry of Health to train community facilitators in Makira-Ulawa on hand-washing and sanitation practices.

-Partnering with the Solomon Islands Development Trust to train youth on preventive measures and awareness raising.

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

VIETNAM



-Launched an online campaign focusing on impacts of COVID-19 on girls and women with nearly 5,000 participants.

-Providing counseling to families with children at risk of school dropout or early marriage.

-Launched online competition with Central Women Union to promote positive parenting, safeguarding and gender equality during the pandemic, receiving 9,796 submissions and will be aired on national television channels.

-Distributed 234 hygiene and menstrual hygiene kits to girls and women in Ha Gian's quarantine center.

-Providing technical and financial support to students returning to school and on the maintenance of education including building hand washing stations, facilitating communication sessions and maintaining learning facilities.

-Reached 755 girls and 1,0945 women with 1,800 hygiene kits in communication sessions on COVID-19.

-Distributed 154 sets of information and communication materials to schools and communities in programme areas.

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

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