

**ChildFund International
Humanitarian Situation Report Template**

**Humanitarian Situation Report [# 1]
COVID-19 – [The Gambia]
[March 25, 2020]**

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[Date Range Covered by Report: March 16-25, 2020]

FOR UPDATES, PLEASE HIGHLIGHT UPDATED SECTIONS IN RED

Part 1: The Overall Situation

The Gambia

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
3	1	0
SOURCE: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsoashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6		

ChildFund-supported areas (Provide only if you have reliable data on this. You can report on a consolidated basis or by program state/region/province/etc. if you have this detail.)

Geographical area (country or state/region/province)	Total Number of COVID19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
West Coast Region	0	0	0
Lower River Region	0	0	0
SOURCE: Ministry of Health			

The Gambia's Ministry of Health through the Minister has confirmed that the country has registered its first case of the COVID 19 virus on Tuesday March 17, 2020. The said case was a young Gambian lady who travelled into the country from United Kingdom via Dubai and Cassablanca. On March 22, 2020, the Minister announced another case after death. This one was a Bangladesh, who arrived in the country on March 13 from Senegal, and stayed at Marakas¹. The deceased was sick and received treatment for diabetics. As his health condition worsen, and was being transported to the main referral hospital, he passed on in the ambulance. The third registered case was a 71-year-old man from France who came to The Gambia on March 17, 2020 and stayed in a village in the Upper River Region. He was confirmed positive for corona virus on March 23, 2020.

As the Gambia registered more cases, the Government made declarations. Among them was suspension of all social and other related gatherings to promote the social distancing strategy. Initial 14 days

¹ Marakas refers to a center for religious (Islam) worship.

quarantine imposed on arriving passengers from certain countries, and later closure of air space, expect for medical cargos, and border closure with Senegal except for essential services. All schools including universities are closed for the next 21 days and ban on international travels for Government officials effective March 18, 2020.

With technical support from the WHO Country Office, The Gambia has developed a national COVID-19 preparedness plan (for one year). The plan worth about 8.8 million Dollars has been circulated to partners for possible support. As part of overall national preventive, and response measures, the health ministry is engaged in various activities such as awareness raising and provision of supplies to points of entry. Furthermore, trainings have been organized for officers including public health, clinical health care, immigration, food safety and quality authority, phytosanitary, fire and rescue services and Gambia Revenue Authority on infection prevention, control and proper use of personal protective equipment.

Despite these efforts at the national level, the porous nature of Gambia's borders with Senegal, lack of test facilities in the country except at the Medical Research Council The Gambia Unit, social interactions especially those using public transport systems, the crowded community markets, dissemination of mixed messages among other things, will still put the country at risk of more infections.

Part 2: The Situation in Areas Where ChildFund Works

Partner Organization (Use Salesforce identifying code/name.)	# of Enrolled and Sponsored Children		COVID19 Cases Reported in ChildFund Communities (Y/N/Unknown) Provide number if available.	Number of Enrolled Children Reported with COVID19 (If available.)	Number of enrolled children diseased as result of COVID19
	Sponsored	Enrolled			
FDDF	3831	5858	N	0	0
SKF	3740	5620	N	0	0
DDYF	2924	4670	N	0	0

Child deaths: List any sponsored child (with Partner organization and child ID from salesforce) diseased as a result of COVID19. (Note: These need to be reported immediately following the regular sponsorship protocols.)

Partner Organization (Use Salesforce identifying code/name.)	What is the status of the program/sponsorship processes (operational/suspended)?					
	Program Implementation	CVS	M&E Level 2	Enrollment /Disaffiliation	Sponsorship Communication (Only DPLs)	DFC
FDDF	Operational	Operational	Suspended	Operational	Operational	Operational
SKF	Operational	Operational	Suspended	Operational	Operational	Operational
DDYF	Operational	Operational	Suspended	Operational	Operational	Operational

Note: As a global measure, all sponsor visits have been suspended.

- What issues are children in these areas facing (food shortages, safety concerns, schools' closure, etc.)?

With the continuous increase of confirmed cases in the Gambia and the pronouncements made by Government, ChildFund the Gambia is especially worried about the children and families we serve. These families already struggle to put food on the table, to find clean water, to access health care they need, most of them live in crowded conditions making social distancing a challenge. With the closure of schools, children are loitering in the streets which makes them to be very vulnerable in contracting Covid-19.

- Child protection risks caused or exacerbated by crisis situation.

Covid -19 may affect vulnerable children and their families directly or indirectly through economic disruptions, which could cause devastating and exponential harm to the children. For example, the closure of schools could lead to exploitation of children as they continue to be used as petty traders, child beggars, domestic workers etc. These among others, posed significant child protection risk to children.

Part 3: ChildFund's Response

Key Strategies	Activities	Expected Results	Responsible Person	Timeline
Communication (Ongoing)	Dissemination of key messages	All staff, children and parents acquire awareness of and are participating and supporting good personal hygiene during the COVID-19 period and beyond	Communications Specialist	March 31, 2020
	Preventive Measures against COVID-19			
Partnership (Ongoing)	LP Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judicious use of resources to respond to COVID-19 • Resilient communities during the Pandemic 	CD/PSD/FD	March and April
	Ministry of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical items donated through GIK • Information materials donated 		

Key Strategies	Activities	Expected Results	Responsible Person	Timeline
Monitoring and Evaluation (Ongoing)	Establishment of a task team	Data on cases and death compiled and reported Sitreps updated and shared weekly		

Coordination Structures

ChildFund established a taskforce which includes LPs to oversee the overall coordination of country office efforts. Below are the members and their roles:

No.	Name	Position	Role
1.	Musu Kuta Komma	Country Director	Oversight Leadership
2.	Nfamara Dabo	Programs and Sponsorship Director	Chairperson
3.	Bubacarr Jammeh	Sponsorship Specialist	Safety and Security
4.	Awa Minteh	Programs Specialist	Health Advisor
5.	Famara Fofana	Communications Specialist	Information sharing
6.	Kebba Jaiteh	HR and Admin Support Specialist	Logistics Support
7.	Ya Sophie Jahateh	Programs Specialist – M&E/KML	Reporting and Documentation
8.	Awa Gaye	GSS Accountant	Finance advisor
9.	Edi Bah	LP Manager	Field Coordination
10.	Sunkaru Jatta	LP Manager	Field Coordination
11.	Alieu Mendy	LP Manager	Field Coordination

In addition, ChildFund participates in the following National Networks/working group:

1. Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education – Local Education Group (LEG). Discussions are done virtually and both CD and PSD participates in the group engagements.
2. Ministry of Health – National Covid-19 Preparedness and Response Team: CO has expressed interest to be part this structure.

Next Steps

1. Engagement with IO GIK Logistics Manager for possible supply of medical supply based on request from Ministry of Health
2. Commence discussions with Real Gift Catalogue team for supply of community handwashing stations and other sanitary materials

Below Sections for Internal Use Only

Part 4: Office and Staff Status

Office Status (Open/Closed)	Number of Staff:				
	Diagnosed with COVID19	Diseased from COVID19	Working from Office	Working from Home	On Special Leave
Open	0	0	25	0	0

Notes:

- Any cases of staff diseased need to be reported immediately to RD and GHR.
- Special leave as per [COVID19 Administrative Guidelines](#).

Number of staff/partner organization staff completed WHO COVID online training
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training>.

Part 5 Human Resources

Currently, there are no visitors in the country. There are no gaps in staffing at the moment, that will require deployment of staff from other COs or Global teams. One major HR issue is staff continuous use of public transport to and from office.

Part 6 Safety & Security

Operations and other services of the police and other service agencies are still going on smoothly with few or very minimal changes. The routine police patrol teams and strategic check points are still functional and helping to keep the social strata in motion.

Since after the Government's declaration banning public gatherings, courts suspend sittings in respect of such declaration. There is no definite time for the courts closure, but we are sure they will only open when the situation becomes under control.

As at now, there are no reports of increase in looting or crime rates. However, price hiking is threatening economic stability of families.

People have over the days requested the military to be deployed as back-up mechanism to enforce the ban on public gatherings. The military have welcomed this suggestion and are willing to support the country at this critical moment. However, lack of protective gears and official communication from the Government to that effect is what is keeping them in the barracks.

For now, none of our operational areas have reported any confirmed case. We only urge all to observe the personal hygiene methods and avoid gatherings of any form.

Part 7 Grants

List all active grants:

Grant Job Code	Grant Name	Donor	Status of Implementation (Normal/Reduced/Suspended)	Any specific guidance received from donor? (Yes/No)
12-0449	Dream Reader Project	ChildFund Korea	Suspended	Yes

Provide any additional narrative on how the COVID19 crisis affects implementation of your major grants.

ChildFund The Gambia, in compliance with the Presidential directives, suspended all project activities under the Dream Reader Project, until schools reopen. This has been formally communicated to the donor.

Part 8 Funding

Provide information about potential sources of funding, including grant donors, subsidy, Emergency Action Fund, Alliance members, GIK, etc., for these emergency response efforts using the chart below:

Donor	Program	Amount (USD)	Requested? (Y/N)	Confirmed? (Y/N)
ChildFund International	Subsidy	USD30K	N	N
ChildFund International	GIK (20ft Container)	USD55K	Y	N
ChildFund International	Real Gifts	USD80K	N	N
ChildFund International	Emergency Action Fund	USD150K	N	N

- Budget
 - o Outline how we will use this funding with a rough topline budget.
 1. Cash transfer to families
 2. Production and distribution of infographics
 3. Medical items donation to Government through the Ministry of Health
 4. Provision of handwashing stations and sanitary materials in communities and homes
 5. Contributing to National Emergency efforts

Part 9 Media/Communications

List of media

- Gambia Radio and Television Services
- QTV and Radio
- The Standard Newspaper
- The Point Newspaper

- The Fatu Network
- Kerr Fatou Network
- Eye Africa TV
- Foroyaa Newspaper
- Brikama Community Radio
- Teranaga FM Radio
- Bwiam Community Radio
- Kaira FM Radio

List of Emergency CO Spokespersons

Musu Kuta Komma
Country Director
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Tel: (+220)9958356/2207486
Location: Manjai Kunda
Languages: English, Mandinka, Wolof, Pulaar

Nfamara Dabo
Programs and Sponsorship Director
Email: ndabo@childfund.org
Tel:(+220)7522038/3632123
Location: Farato
Languages: English, Mandinka, Wolof

Plans for collecting photos/videos/stories, e.g., should an outside photographer be hired?

As it stands, there are no plans to hire any outside photographer / videographer

Key points for messaging and visibility

COVID-19 prevention guidelines/safety precautions such as:

Adherence to proper handwashing with soap/hand sanitizer, Social Distancing, Avoid gatherings of more than 10 people, Stay home, stay safe

Host-government sensibilities: Releasing information without being officially announced by the Government, specifically by the Ministry of Health.

Support needed or requested from IO, GSS or Global Teams – whether onsite or remote.

- Global trends/updates on the spread of COVID-19
- Infographics on the pandemic
- Child-friendly messages/posters on COVID-19
- IT Support