

ChildFund International  
Humanitarian Situation Report Template

Humanitarian Situation Report [1]  
COVID-19 – [Guatemala]  
[24 March 2020]  
[Rodrigo Bustos, Country Director, rbustos@childfund.org]  
[week of 23 March 2020]

**FOR UPDATES, PLEASE HIGHLIGHT UPDATED SECTIONS IN RED**

## Part 1: The Overall Situation

### COUNTRY

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
20	1	0
SOURCE: <a href="https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6">https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6</a>		

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
Sacatepéquez	2	1	N/A
SOURCE: National Ministry of Health or other reliable source			

### Any relevant background information about areas affected.

There are three people infected with COVID-19 in Sacatepéquez (Departamento), one in Cuilapa, Santa Rosa and 16 in Guatemala City. It is expected that the situation will deteriorate over the days with the increase of more confirmed cases, the high demand for services, the limitations of public transport and the possible saturation of the health system, at the same time that more drastic measures are issued. for the containment of the pandemic.

ChildFund has work in some municipalities of Sacatepéquez that are exit areas.

Host government posture: Have they declared a state of emergency and/or requested outside assistance? Which nationwide measures has the government taken, e.g., limitation on meetings, internal travel, school closures etc.

What travel restrictions has the government put in place for travelers entering the country?

**State of Public Calamity (Government Decree 06-2020). 03/05/2020.**

Meetings of more than 130 people across the country are prohibited. Massive events, meetings in churches, sports centers and the like are canceled.

**Ratification of the State of Public Calamity (Legislative Decree 08-2020). 03/12/2020**

The measures decreed with the State of Calamity continue. Any type of meetings are suspended. On March 15, the president announced measures aimed at restricting social interaction between people, the cancellation of educational classes at all levels, cancellation of religious events (processions and regular celebrations), public events and patron saint fairs, allowing only those who do not gather more than 100 people. That same afternoon, a communiqué from the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction (CONRED) was circulated, requesting the Departmental Governors and Municipal Mayors to declare the Population Red Alert in their territories (departments and municipalities) in order to focus all their efforts and resources to contain the virus.

On March 16, at night, in a message to the nation, the president confirmed five new cases, indicating that they were already in containment at the Villa Nueva hospital, while announcing the closure of the country's borders where only Guatemalan nationals and accredited diplomatic corps will be allowed to enter, although they must comply with their quarantine or isolation process. The closure of shopping centers, bars and nightclubs was decreed, and ordered the suspension of the work of public and private sector employees. Only businesses and employees from the health sector, the food sector, the security sector, the energy sector, telecommunications and other crisis response sectors can work, as well as businesses and basic services. Freight transportation that mobilizes food, shops, pharmacies, private hospitals, fuel and restaurants with home delivery only. Home office is promoted.

**Reform Government Decree 05-2020 (Government Decree 06-2020). 03/21/2020**

The previous measures continue, and a curfew is decreed for the circulation of anyone from 4:00 p.m. to 04:00 a.m. From March 22 to 31. During this time, only emergency vehicles, police, motorists from pharmacies and fast food restaurants may circulate. All basic services related to supply may be open. The restriction will not apply to heavy transport that brings food into the city, those that transport fuel and those that take merchandise to the ports, these may circulate without time limits.

What responses has the government put into place to address the health crisis and/or the economic impact?

The president, Alejandro Giammattei, opened a temporary hospital to serve Covid-19 patients in Parque de La Industria facilities that was adapted as a hospital in Guatemala City with the capacity to serve 3,000 people. Likewise, the opening of two other temporary hospitals is expected: one in the city of Quetzaltenango and the other in the east of the country.

These temporary assistance centers will have intensive and between 250 and 300 beds. However, these measures do not contribute much to address cases in rural areas far from urban areas near hospitals. One

of the big criticisms is that the country's hospital network still does not adequately equip doctors and nurses, nor are there any supplies to attend emergencies. The staff has also not been adequately trained.

The President presented to the Congress of the Republic, a plan to reactivate the country's economy in the face of the emergency caused by the spread of the coronavirus, which includes various support measures for companies, assistance to the population and tax exemption for donations. In addition, he asked for a budget expansion of Q7 billion to meet the emergency. The proposal includes a US \$ 200 million loan with the World Bank to attend to the emergency. As well as a US \$ 193 million loan with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (BCIE, for spanish) for the construction of hospitals.

### **Giammattei asked the Congress**

1. A fiscal policy that increases investment.
2. Implementation of transfers for more than 160 thousand families. Currently under discussion.
3. Promote low-cost housing financing for Q100 million.
4. Provide resources to schools to renovate them with an investment of Q175 million.
5. Release of medicines, food and fuels.
6. Provide food to vulnerable communities.
7. Availability of a Q100 million fund for Small and medium business
8. Refund of tax credits for Q2.6 billion.
9. Reforms to the Banking law.
10. Reforms to the ISO law (tax).
11. Reforms to the Leasing law.
12. To Land for the construction of a building for Congress.
13. Exemption from taxes on loans to donations.

## 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			
Tierra Nueva -	3683	4083	N	0	0
Renacimiento	3372	4038	Y <sup>1</sup>	0	0
ADP	3545	4450	N	0	0
PIES	3004	3315	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	DFC
Tierra Nueva -	suspended	suspended	suspended	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work
Renacimiento	suspended	suspended	suspended	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work
ADP	suspended	suspended	suspended	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work
PIES	suspended	suspended	suspended	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work	Suspended/ only office work

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

<sup>1</sup> There is 1 case in Antigua Guatemala, Sacatepéquez. This is not a case of a Sponsored or enrolled child.

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

- School closure until March 31st.
- Some food shortages in specific items and on some hygiene supplies (gel, alcohol).
- All meetings of any kind in the communities are prohibited.

Child protection risks caused or exacerbated by crisis situation.

### Part 3: ChildFund's Response

Who is or will be leading/managing the response?

From the Country Office: Country Director, and the SMT

Planned, desired or ongoing response – inside or outside current operational areas.

1. As ChildFund we follow the instructions of the Government of Guatemala, which has considered a quarantine of 15 days, considering lifting it on March 31, depending on the increase in cases, or contention of the same.
2. Members of CO and LP have been instructed to follow government instructions, and to safeguard the integrity of program participants and collaborators
3. The local partners have been instructed to maintain communication via telephone and other communication tools, with their collaborators and community leaders, to follow up with possible members of infected families, to aid or guidance. A work team was formed between Sponsorship and Programs to follow up, in direct communication with the coordinators of the local partners.

Who are we partnering or collaborating with to provide our response?

The situation is under analysis evaluating the possible options.

What kind of response activities or interventions are being provided? What support items are needed or have been collected/distributed? How is ChildFund linked with humanitarian coordination structures, i.e., in which clusters or working groups do we participate? The most recent/next meeting and who is representing ChildFund? Donor meetings we have attended, or missions that we are aware of related to the response?

ChildFund participates in two cluster of the Humanitarian Country Team: Health and Protection clusters. Next date of Health cluster meeting is on March 24th.

The participation on the Health Cluster meetings has overseen by Guillermo Leverman, OP protection specialist and Jairo Hernández, program officer.

#### Next steps

1. Local partners and their staff inform and guide families, through leaders and guide mothers (local volunteers), about actions of protection.
2. Make continuous reports about families in the communities.

3. Follow-up of cases, if any.
4. We are determining with the local partners what could be our contribution to the situation, especially with the sponsorship resources.
5. We are analyzing the creation and/or socialization of communication products for the communities regarding the COVID-19 and the link to protection issues.

For sitreps submitted after ChildFund response has been initiated, what is the current progress of implementation vs. the established response plan?

1. We will be receiving, for every Monday of each week, updating of member reports,
2. And the Country humanitarian team- Health Cluster, Guillermo Leverman, Protection Officer, will be updating us when the meetings are held.

**Below Sections for Internal Use Only**

**Part 4: Office and Staff Status**

Office Status (Open/Closed)	Number of Staff: 33 ( CO 11 – GRANTS 15 – GSS 2 - Multi-country 1- International staff 2 - Regional Office Staff 2				
	Diagnosed with COVID19	Diseased from COVID19	Working from Office	Working from Home	On Special Leave
Closed	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>All Staff</u>	<u>0</u>

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>.

**In process - (Looking for the training course in Spanish for staff)**

**Part 5 Human Resources**

Which visitors are there in the country? Please include names, functions, contact information and arrival/departure dates for both IO and RO staff (note: due to the travel ban, this will apply only once the ban has been lifted)

Any gaps in staffing/need for deployment from other COs or Global Teams?

Are there any other major HR issues?

Name: Henrietta Teh - Intern at Toronto University of Canada

(Agreement between the University of Toronto and ChildFund's CONFIO Project)

Henrietta Teh is a student intern from the University of Toronto who is carrying out her internship with the PICMCA/CONFIO project and team to provide support in project management, communications and knowledge management tasks. There has been a signed agreement with the PICMCA/CONFIO project and the University of Toronto regarding her internship.

Due to the COVI-19 pandemic, the University of Toronto has advised and taken actions to bring all their students and interns in countries of placement back to Canada and for them to continue their internships remotely. On Sunday the 15th of March, Henrietta Teh was notified that she had a flight for Tuesday the 17th of March. So, the ChildFund team drove her from Quetzaltenango on Monday to Guatemala City. But, on Monday night the government in Guatemala announced that they were going to close the borders till the end of the month due to the country's lockdown measures. Her flight was cancelled. So, she is waiting in Guatemala City for the soonest flight

possible either commercial or a repatriation flight to Canada under the university's advice.

## Part 6 Safety & Security

Are police and other services functioning in the normal manner?

Yes

Are the courts still operating?

Yes only specific time and issues. Some employees work from home

Are there reports of looting or increased criminality?

No

Have military personal being deployed to patrol towns or cities?

No, only the police during the curfew hours

Confirm the safety of staff and their families in the affected area.

Staff has reported to be safe and secure

Have Safety and security risks/mitigation plans been updated to current environment?

No is pending

Recommendations around any upcoming travel planned for staff or donors (note: Only once global travel ban has been lifted)

All upcoming travels for staff and donors are suspended. All borders are closed. In addition, the Government has suspended all the labor activities with some exceptions until 31 March.

## 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)
12-0354	CONFIO	GAC	Suspended *	Do not know
24-085	Juega Conmigo	LEGO Foundation	Suspended	Yes

- CONFIO staff are working in reports, and elaboration of training materials. All the field work has been suspended.

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

The regional manager of CONFIO Grant is in contact with the prime (Children Believe) and will get information soon.

LEGO Foundation has contacted Bizuwork Negussie the guidance received from Andrea Arriaga of LEGO Foundation is as follow:

*“For now, regarding COVID-19 and the LF guidance, let me start by saying that the wellbeing, health, and safety of your team, the partners you’re working with, and the families and workers that are being reached by this project are our top concerns. We are all in the midst of an unprecedented situation right now and recognize that in all likelihood a number of the efforts that our partners are undertaking around the world are going to be deeply impacted by this health emergency. As a funder it is our intention to approach this reality with flexibility, patience, and understanding.*

*Knowing that shifts in planned activities and deliverables are likely, a request that we have of you at this time is that you document and communicate known shifts as openly as you’re able to right now and as we continue to move forward. Because we are still in the midst of a constantly changing situation, it may be difficult to form and enact mitigation plans at this point, but it will be valuable to have a record of activities/deliverables that are being impacted by the crisis. This will be especially helpful once we’ve moved past this moment and are able to assess the overall impact on the project. We can then work with you to develop a responsive and responsible mitigation strategy accordingly.”*

## 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)

## Budget

- Outline how we will use this funding with a rough topline budget.
- As recommended by the Funding Policy, we will be allocating 25% of the sponsorship funds to carry out the information process on radio stations, for hygiene measures, and safeguarding protection, and we are in dialogue with the Partners, for support measures for communities and families

## Part 9 Media/Communications

List of media who will be or have been contacted with press releases.

The list of possible contacts in press, Tv and radio, in case of press releases:

Press media	Name	Position	E-mail	Phone Number
elPeriódico	Julia Corado	Manager	<a href="mailto:icorado@elperiodico.com.gt">icorado@elperiodico.com.gt</a>	
	Luisa Paredes	Web editor	<a href="mailto:lparedes@elperiodico.com.gt">lparedes@elperiodico.com.gt</a>	
	Lucy Chay	Editor in chief	<a href="mailto:lchay@elperiodico.com.gt">lchay@elperiodico.com.gt</a>	
Prensa Libre/ Guatevisión	Antonio Barrios	Journalist	<a href="mailto:abarrios@prensalibre.com.gt">abarrios@prensalibre.com.gt</a>	
	Andrea Orozco	Journalist	<a href="mailto:aorozco@prensalibre.com.gt">aorozco@prensalibre.com.gt</a>	
	Ana Lucía Ola	Journalist	<a href="mailto:aola@prensalibre.com.gt">aola@prensalibre.com.gt</a>	3016-8433
La Hora	Douglas Gámez	Editor	<a href="mailto:d.gamez@lahora.com.gt">d.gamez@lahora.com.gt</a>	
	Cristina Vélix	Journalist		5410-8721
Nuestro diario	Mario Ramos	Editor	<a href="mailto:m.ramos@nuestrodiario.com">m.ramos@nuestrodiario.com</a>	
Publinews	Omar Solís	Journalist		3053-2185
República Gt	Winther Flores	Journalist		4758-7226
	Henry Pocasangre	Journalist		5690-4152
Sonora	Raul Morales	Journalist		5510-6808
	María solares	Receptionist	<a href="mailto:maria.soalrez@sonora.com.gt">maria.soalrez@sonora.com.gt</a>	
La red	Fernando Andrino	Journalist		7770-7185
Emisoras Unidas	Adrián Soto	Journalist		5150-4346
	Oscar Canel	Journalist		5981-1081
	Karla Marroquín	Journalist		5741-6027
Canales Nacionales	Beatriz Rivera	Editor	<a href="mailto:beatrizrivera@canal3.com.gt">beatrizrivera@canal3.com.gt</a>	
			<a href="mailto:beatriz.ramirez@canal3.com.gt">beatriz.ramirez@canal3.com.gt</a>	

	Luisa Velásquez (Canal 3)	Journalist		4399-0866
	Daniel Collin (TN23)	Journalist		5762-8092
	Magaly Alvarado (Canal 7)	Journalist		3020-5992
	Axel Cardona	Journalist		5536-6813
TV Azteca	Jessica García	Journalist		4152-2842
	Alejandro Castillo	Journalist		4868-4937
Radio Punto	Lourdes Arana	Journalist		5860-6619
	Francisco Quiñonez	Journalist		4151-4841
Canal Antigua	Sergio Osegueda	Journalist		5651-7898
	Juan Diego Zebadua	Journalist		4770-0062

As an observation, as ChildFund we have not had a press release by ourselves. We usually have these actions as Joining Forces.

### List of emergency CO spokespeople, including name, location, contact information, and languages spoken.

Name	Location	Mail	Languages
<b>Rodrigo Bustos (CD)</b>	Guatemala CO	<a href="mailto:rbustos@childfund.org">rbustos@childfund.org</a>	English and Spanish
<b>Mónica Mazariegos</b>	Guatemala CO	<a href="mailto:mmazariegos@childfund.org">mmazariegos@childfund.org</a>	English and Spanish

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

Due to the government measures, we are not allowed to travel to the communities to get in touch with the partners and the families and continue with the photos and stories collection. So, we will work with the backup material we have, as photographs, to share in our social media platforms. This includes the programs photos.

We plan to use free animation pictures from Canvas, to inform. In the communication plan we are going to publish about coronavirus context in the country, childcare through the pandemic, emergency response, material for local fund raising and continue with the ChildFund institutional media resources.

Also, we are going to evaluate the resources from the international office, to adapt them to Guatemalan context.

### Key points for messaging and visibility, particularly any host-government sensibilities that must be considered.

- National Information about COVID 19
  - Share national information from the decisions of the government;
  - Prevention and hygiene measures.

- Organizational information
  - Regular post
  - Child protection posts during the pandemic
  - Emergency response actions information;
  - Marketing post.

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

We need from P&P particularly from Business Development to consult with Children Believe and LEGO Foundation if there will be time extension of the CONFIO and Jugando Contigo Grants.