

**ChildFund International  
Humanitarian Situation Report Template**

**Humanitarian Situation Report [3]  
COVID-19 – [Sri Lanka]  
[Prepared on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020]  
[12<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020]**

**UPDATES HAVE HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW**

**Key Contact Persons:**

Katherine Manik: Country Director, ChildFund Sri Lanka, [kmanik@childfund.org](mailto:kmanik@childfund.org)  
Nalaka Siriwardena, Acting Country Director, ChildFund Sri Lanka, [nsiriwardena@childfund.org](mailto:nsiriwardena@childfund.org)  
Kaushal Attanayake\_ER Focal [Point\\_AAttanayake@childfund.org](mailto:Point_AAttanayake@childfund.org)

**Part 1: The Overall Situation**

**COUNTRY**

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
102	0	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Including 227 suspected persons who are currently under diagnostic investigation, 1707 persons have tested for COVID 19 since the beginning.</li> <li>45 Quarantine centers have currently established and above 3600 persons are accommodated at quarantine centers.</li> <li>Above 8000 persons are currently under domestic level quarantine.</li> <li>Community spread believed to be started as few cases identifies without specific link form where they contacted the virus.</li> </ul>		
SOURCE: <a href="http://www.epid.gov.lk/web/images/pdf/corona_virus_report/sitrep-sl-en-24-03_10.pdf">http://www.epid.gov.lk/web/images/pdf/corona_virus_report/sitrep-sl-en-24-03_10.pdf</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 (Districts)	Total Number of COVID19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
Polonnaruwa	24	0	
Puttalam	8	0	0
Batticaloa	4	0	
SOURCE: Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka <a href="http://www.epid.gov.lk/web/images/pdf/corona_virus_report/sitrep-sl-en-24-03_10.pdf">http://www.epid.gov.lk/web/images/pdf/corona_virus_report/sitrep-sl-en-24-03_10.pdf</a>			

**Relevant background information about areas affected.**

Sri Lanka Situation:

- Entire country is under curfew since 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. For the western province including three districts where the capital is located will have continues curfew until further notice. These areas have been identified as the high-risk areas. Government has established and Task Force to ensue food supply to family level during the curfew. In the other areas, government will establish village level/small community level food supply system in the districts under continues curfew.
- 26<sup>th</sup> March morning curfew will be lifted in other districts for 6 hours and reimpose afternoon of the same day till further notice.
- Government has declared the period from 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March as period of working from home for all and the period may extend as per observation of ChildFund SL.
- All passenger arrivals suspended from all countries at Bandaranaike International Airport (BIA) in Katunayake effect from 18<sup>th</sup> March until March 31, however, it is reported that cargo, departures and transit are to be continued. The Jaffna International Airport (JIA) is closed for two weeks with effect from 16<sup>th</sup> March for two weeks. On arrival visa is cancelled for all countries till further notice.
- The government has declared 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March as public holidays except for health and essential services. Further, government have urged private sector to consider the decision.
- Government has decided to extend the validity period of all types of Visas issued to all tors.
- On 16<sup>th</sup> March, government instructed people who have arrived in Sri Lanka from Europe, Iran or South Korea during the period from 1 – 15 March 2020 to register with the Police immediately.
- Health Authorities have taken necessary actions to respond to the COVID 19 outbreak and have established 15 main laboratories for diagnostic investigation. The government has declared 14 days quarantine period for immigrants coming from high risk countries and who seem to be suspected.
- All schools, universities, religious education and private classes and preschools in the island are closed off from 13<sup>th</sup> March until further notice.
- As per observation and revealed through media, general public have been panicked and begun swarming supermarkets and bulk buying goods, raising concerns. Endless queues were seen at petrol stations as residence waited in long lines to pump their vehicles with gas, amid fears daily life will be severely disrupted by the spread of coronavirus during recent curfew lifted hours and also in the period before the curfew was imposed.
- Government has not declared and state of emergency up to now
- Formal and informal request issuing from the District Level government bodies for Assistance and whereas National Government stated that situation is under control and government has resources.
- ChildFund Sri Lanka and our Local Partners have received different request for assistance from the districts.
- There is no special security concern been reported and security situation remain normal

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

- Government has established a new coordination structure called National Emergency Operation Center for COVID 19 Response which coordinate overall response actions in the country. This platform is headed by Army Commander and this network include mainly

government institutes. From the Development Sector, WHO is part of the structure at the National level. Other development agencies are currently not requested to take part.

- As usual at the sub national level, response actions are leading by Central Government Administrative office/District Secretaries. Health Authorities, Police, Militaries are providing necessary coordination support.
- Aggressive the awareness campaign by the government through all types of media on the preventions measures is up and running
- Identification of the possible infected through the identified cases is done rigorously and they are under strict guidance for self-quarantine.
- Rapid program to improve the hospital facilities, wards, number of beds and life support equipment underway and a fund is established by the government to resource the efforts.
- In addition to the medical services, government is distributing dry food rations. However, there is no information shared, how much budget has been allocated on this and about any reach out of the dry ration distribution of government to affected population.

**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			
Partner 1	As per the updates received from the Local Partners and Field Contacts, ChildFund Enrolled Community has not directly affected by COVID 19.				
Partner 2					
etc.					

**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
Partner 1	All field level program implementation is suspended until further notice due to mobility restriction. All partners are working from home. All sponsor visit have halt until further notice.					
Partner 2						

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.) Child protection risks caused or exacerbated by crisis situation?**

- Risk communication and community awareness have become a larger challenge. Even though the Health Authorities doing continues risk information communication through mass media and Internet, remote and underprivilege families have poor access to information. In addition to that, as per the observation and reported by partners, most of the people and children at the remote areas having poor practice of hygienic recommendation and there is a gap in the facilities. Hence, effective risk communication has become a priority.
- Since 13<sup>th</sup> March, schools have closed until further notice. The schools were closed down as an immediate decision and children are disconnected from the school settings and school course work. This shown a country wide total interruption of the formal education process.
- Due to the fear of risk, most of children are panicked and their routine has totally disturbed. Many misinformation sharing in the social networks which put parents and children under more pressure. It was head from partners that parents do not allow children to play in outdoor and engage with others where their social relationships have disturbed. What ChildFund has realized overall, this situation has affected to the psychosocial wellbeing of children. By looking into the restrictions that have been imposed by government, the situation may course psychological issues among children.
- Most of the daily wage/temporarily income based families are largely affected due to the disruption and all partners highlighted that children in the poor families are at risk. This situation could leads to food shortages, security issues and health issues.
- Food supply chain has largely disturbed. The availability of food items in the shops have become less due to large swapping of shopping centers during the first/second week of the incident. Hence, there is a considerable food shortage in the ground level.

### Part 3: ChildFund's Response

ChildFund Sri Lanka NERT met for 4 times over the period and have taken following actions in responding to the situation since 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2020.

#### **General/Operational:**

- Sri Lanka has decided to launch response program and we are planning to develop a Response Plan for Actions and Resource Mobilization.
- ChildFund has decided to call NERT every Monday and send out SitReps on every Wednesday till further notice.
- ChildFund is connected and participated with several networks which are coordinating response actions. They are participated for UN Humanitarian Country Team meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March, Participated for meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March with UN Education in Emergency Sectorial Working Group, Participated for National INGOs Forum meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Planning to participated for UN Sector Working Group of Child Protection in Emergency on 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- Further ChildFund Local Partners are connected with District Coordinating Platforms in the districts of Puttalam, Batticaloa, Mullaitive, Nuwara Eliya, Trincomallee and Hambantota.
- ChildFund Sri Lanka together with partners have decided to halt community and field-based activities effect from 16<sup>th</sup> March until further notice.

- Effective from 17<sup>th</sup> March, ChildFund Sri Lanka staff will work from home arrangements until 31<sup>st</sup> March. NERT will meet to discuss the situation again on 30<sup>th</sup> March and will inform staff on future arrangements.
- ChildFund Sri Lanka has developed two main scenarios on impact Corona Outbreak and currently in the development of Business Continuity Plan.
- ChildFund Sri Lanka all staff and local partners have been made aware on the situation and alerted. Staff and LPs are informed take safety measures.
- A list of necessary standby Items has prepared and necessary sanitary items are stored at office which accessible to staff.
- A WhatsApp group has created among staff and all partners for immediate communication and monitoring the situation.
- All travel internal and international travel halt. All sponsor visits are postponed till further notice. Next sponsor visit scheduled for June.
- Development of supplementary guideline for Child Safety on the risk of Corona virus for conducting programs.

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

- Through local partners, ChildFund has received request for assistance on safety gears, health equipment, dry food rations, NFIs for affected population and service providers. The requested districts are Puttalam, Mullaitive, Batticaloa, Hambantota and Nuwara Eliya. These requests have considered for support and currently processing under the resources available at Local Partner Safety Nets.
- ChildFund is planning to get connected with ChildFund Alliance Members, Cooperates, UNICEF in the resource mobilization. Regarding the implementation, ChildFund Sri Lanka planning to lead the national level actions and Local Partners to lead the District Level implementation. Regarding the coordination with relevant authorities, ChildFund plan is to linked with National Operation Centre of COVID 19 of Government, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Child Affairs, Ministry of Education, District Central Governments and Disaster management Centre.

**Next steps.**

- Development of COVID 19 Response Plan as immediate.
- Development of ChildFund Sri Lanka Business Continuity Plan.
- Next NERT meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> March

**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
Closed	0	0	0	All Staff	1

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

- 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?

No visitors in the country.

Part 6 Safety & Security

- Are police and other services functioning in the normal manner? No but they are delivering services fairly.
- Are the courts still operating? Not during Curfew periods
- Are there reports of looting or increased criminality? There are few cases which can be ignored as a concern.
- Have military personal being deployed to patrol towns or cities? Yes, in some locations
- Confirm the safety of staff and their families in the affected area. Yes
- Have Safety and security risks/mitigation plans been updated to current environment? Yes, fairly it has updated but not for all requirements.
- Recommendations around any upcoming travel planned for staff or donors (note: Only once global travel ban has been lifted) To be postponed till further notice.

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)
There are 6 grant projects active.	Information will provide in the next SitRep. The field-based activity implementation has suspended till further notice. All staff are working from home.			

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

No yet

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)
No Information				

**Budget** (Outline how we will use this funding with a rough topline budget.)

No plans yet.

Part 9 Media/Communications

- List of media who will be or have been contacted with press releases.
- List of emergency CO spokespeople, including name, location, contact information, and languages spoken.
- Plans for collecting photos/videos/stories, e.g., should an outside photographer be hired?
- Key points for messaging and visibility, particularly any host-government sensibilities that must be considered.

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

ChildFund Sri Lanka has developed few leaflets for risk communication and supporting for children. Those leaflets and messages are currently posted in the social media pages of ChildFund and shared among ChildFund staff including partners.

Other than that, there is no any other update on the communication matters.