

COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT #11

24 June 2020

On 11 March, the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a pandemic. As of 20 July, 14,457,916 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in more than 190 countries and territories, resulting in 605,205 deaths and 8,123,869 recoveries.¹

This SitRep will provide an overview of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on ChildFund’s programs, operations and people, and provide updates on how we are responding to the risks facing the children and communities with whom we work.

TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES ²			
Country	20 July 2020	22 June 2020	Increase
Australia	11,441	7,461	3,980
Cambodia	171	129	42
Fiji	26	18	8
Laos	19	19	0
Myanmar	341	290	51
Papua New Guinea	15	9	6
Philippines	65,304	30,052	35,252
Solomon Islands	0	0	0
Timor-Leste	24	24	0
Vietnam	382	349	33

OUR PEOPLE

As of 24th July, there are no confirmed cases among staff, and no employees are in self-isolation. There have been a number of instances where staff have been tested and have self-isolated pending test results – all of which have come back negative. Of our 15 offices, 2 have varying forms of working from home arrangements (Sydney and Myanmar) in place (down from 4 the previous month). The Sydney office has reverted back to full time working from home arrangements wef 22nd July 2020. This is a precautionary measure given the recent commentary from NSW Premier to try and contain the potential for a significant second wave in NSW. This will be monitored weekly. Given the recent outbreak in PNG, ChildFund staff will closely monitor the situation to determine whether WFH arrangements need to be intensified.

- Cambodia: 45 new cases; no domestic travel bans however schools remain closed. All offices are fully operational.
- PNG: New outbreak in NCD related to and restrictions re-imposed by government on 23 July in anticipation of increase community transmission. ChildFund staff still in office.
- Timor-Leste: The state of emergency ended on 27 June. No new cases in last month, and ChildFund office has re-opened. Political tensions easing.
- Vietnam: All staff are working in the office; schools have reopened; quarantining for all incoming travellers remains in place.
- Laos: No new cases in last 3 months. All staff working in the office. Schools will resume after summer break on 1 September.
- Myanmar: Most new cases related to returning travellers. Schools to reopen on 21 July. Staff working from the office in rotating teams.
- Regional Office: staff working from home and/or office depending on location.

¹ [John Hopkins University](#)

² [World Health Organisation COVID-19 Situation Report 181, 19 July 2020](#)

OUR OPERATIONS

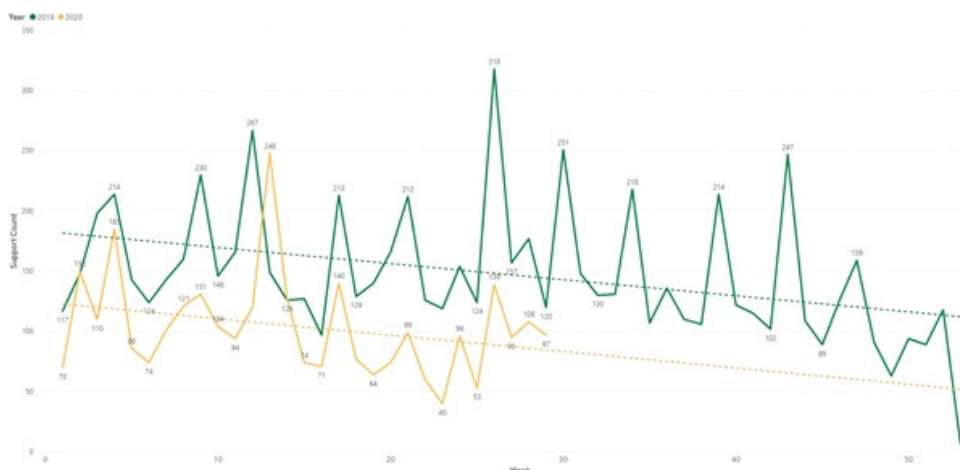
The FY2021 budget was approved by the board in late June and operations are underway in implementing the plan. The FY2021 Strategic Directions were also approved and has been activated.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Regular givers

Shopping Centre teams are operating with caution and COVID-19 plans in place in SA, QLD and NSW. The team in Victoria is unable to operate in line with government restrictions.

Week	Start date	Cancellations	Holds
13	22 March	248	120
14	29 March	127	103
15	6 April	74	64
16	13 April	71	74
17	20 April	140	36
18	27 April	78	22
19	4 May	64	17
20	11 May	74	46
21	18 May	99	19
22	25 May	60	7
23	1 June	40	15
24	8 June	96	48
25	15 June	53	14
26	22 June	139	19
27	29 June	94	9
28	6 July	108	26
29	13 July	97	16



Week 29 started two days before the payment run and saw 97 cancellations and 16 holds. Direct debit cancellations during this week will be postponed till Week 30. The cancellation rate continues to be lower than the same time last year. The percentage of supporters making a successful payment after a 1-3 month hold in 2020 has increased to 46%, 12% increase from June 2020 results.

Appeals

The Infectious Disease Appeal for PNG is currently at \$235K; this is \$60k ahead of the appeal at the same time last year. As the COVID-19 situation in PNG is rapidly changing and the focus of media

reports, we are working on ChildFund’s commentary in relation to the impact on children and services. In the meantime, the appeal will remain open. Work is also being undertaken on the August appeal: the impact of COVID-19 in Kenya.

PROGRAMS

- The final round of reporting on ANCP COVID-19 pivot activities was submitted to DFAT on 8/7, including indication of activities completed, number of beneficiaries reached and approximate spend. This completes the monthly pivot reporting requirements, with the next reporting due as part of the annual Performance Reports that are due to DFAT on 14 October 2020.
- As an essential service, the 1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain (Helpline) in PNG remains open to provide essential counselling support, with the number of counsellors increased and hours extended due to additional funding secured from UN Women and UNICEF.

Highlight

In Timor Leste, radio messages have been recorded in three local languages to provide information on child safeguarding and gender-based violence referral services during COVID-19. These have been aired on on Lautem community radio over the past few weeks.

CHILDFUND ALLIANCE & CHILDFUND INTERNATIONAL

ChildFund International

- Monitoring COVID-19 rates and responses in all country offices they manage (ChildFund Australia supports thousands of sponsored children across Africa, India, and South America).
- Have issued *Minimum Standards for Program Implementation During the Coronavirus Outbreak* to country offices, focussed on protection and prevention of the coronavirus for children, communities and staff.

ChildFund Alliance

- Has launched a joint appeal, instigated regular fortnightly meetings of CEOs, and is coordinating joint opportunities for new COVID programming.
- Alliance Committee members have identified key topline activities to be carried out across Programs, Policy, Partnership, Voices, Fundraising and Monitoring as part of an Alliance FY21 Strategic Plan focused on the COVID-19 response and recovery.

Total Confirmed Cases in CFI Country Offices (CFA Group One Priority only) ³			
Country	20 July 2020	22 June	Increase
Kenya	12,750	4,738	8,012
Ethiopia	9,503	4,532	4,971
Zambia	2,980	1,430	1,550
Uganda	1,062	755	307
Indonesia	84,882	45,891	38,991
India	1,077,618	425,282	652,336
Sri Lanka	2,708	1,950	758

³ [World Health Organisation COVID-19 Situation Report 181, 19 July 2020](#)

COUNTRY	OFFICE	OFFICE STATUS			
		Open, fully operational	Majority of staff WFH	All Staff WFH	Closed, non-operational
Australia	Sydney			x	

PROGRAM OPERATIONS					UPDATE
75 - 100%	50 - 74%	25 - 49%	< 25%	0%	
Kiribati		Solomon Islands	Fiji		<p>24/7 All Sydney staff working from home, skeleton staff and staff with special circumstances are in the office on limited days.</p> <p>27/7 Solomon Islands: State of emergency in place until 27 July. Programs activities progressing through remote work from Sydney and with on the ground partners. Public gatherings permitted, with certain requirements, and community pilot of swipe safe has progressed as planned. Alternative activities are being examined to digitise community curriculum instead.</p> <p>In Fiji, FCOSS, Empower Pacific and Rainbow Pride Foundation continue to carry out risk communication and community engagement on COVID-19. All AHP actors are adjusting activities to include COVID-19 in implementation plans where possible.</p> <p>ChildFund Kiribati is coordinating with Government, WHO, and other NGOs to deliver communication</p>

						materials on COVID-19 prevention practices to communities. ChildFund is actively preparing prevention activities and activating clusters to work on CP activities. Kiribati were successful in an application to MFAT for funds to undertake child protection activities addressing COVID-19 and preparedness. Preparation for this work is underway. All programs in Kiribati remain operational.		
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	x				x	20/7 All schools are closed. MoEYS is implementing e-learning. Govt may open universities, international schools on 1 August. Two health projects have been approved and will be implemented from July 2020. Empowerment of children with disabilities education project has begun in Battambang Province. Pass it Back project has been closed and will be converted to a Regional Project from 1 July 2020.	
	Kratié	x				x		
	Battambang	x				x		
	Svay Rieng	x				x		
Laos	Vientiane	x				x	22/7 ChildFund will be working with Plan, CARE and SCI in a new consortium which which support vulnerable schools and provide students with access to sanitary environments and learning materials. MoUs have been recently signed with the Laos Govt and UNFPA.	
	Houaphan	x				x		
	Xiangkhoang	x				x		
Myanmar	Yangon	x				x	22/7 Education, CP, SEL projects are operational. DRR project start date delayed from July to October.	
Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	Semi				x	x (Sto pi m Hevi)	23/7 Program teams implementing all programs: portfolio of 9 projects. All active including start-up of 2 new grants. Programs have continued to maximise field activities in Central Province and NCD; plans

Regional Office		x								<p>underway for ENB activities to resume. ChildFund needs to plan for and monitor implications of escalating cases of COVID on operations and implementation.</p> <p>22/7 Planning for recovery activities is well underway. Reconnect sessions delivered across Laos (30%) and Vietnam (70%). The pilot phase of Reconnect will conclude at the end of July, when updated curriculum, tools and protocols will be put in place based on a review. Online Coach training in the Philippines has concluded; very time consuming and challenging with many lessons learnt. Over 100 organisations have expressed interest in online safeguarding delivery, with over 20 registering for the 5-month support program.</p>
Timor-Leste	Dili	x								<p>x education, health, DRR</p> <p>x education in health, youth</p> <p>x education</p> <p>20/7 ChildFund continues to support Ministry of Health in COVID-19 response in risk communication and community engagement (pillar 2); essential services eg, MCH, family planning, immunisation (pillar 9). Also involved in MoH planning meetings. Some projects have started new FY activities while some projects are pending final review at PQC. By August 2020, all approved projects will be in start-up implementation mode.</p>
Vietnam	Hanoi	x								

Hao Binh	x				
Cao Bang	x				
Bac Kan	x				

x				
x				
x				

22/7 All programs now fully operational. All schools in program areas now open. New research highlights increase in family violence during 4-week lockdown period; ChildFund now monitoring. Goals for interim strategic plan now in development.