

Situation Report # 6
Coronavirus – PHILIPPINES
May 15, 2020

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Part 1: The Overall Situation

(general information is already included in IMT reports. You don't need to fill it. Just give the required info in green)

Please provide information about how the government and/or other institutions are ensuring the continuity of education or child protection services provision during the quarantine/confinement period (homeschooling, online education, distance education with homework, distribution of books, guides/brochures and educational or recreational material, education via radio, TV, among other alternatives).

New Nationwide COVID 19 Quarantine Guidelines

The Philippines shall be transitioning from the current enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) to the next phase of quarantine starting May 16, 2020 to 31 May. The Government announced on May 12 the new quarantine phases to be followed by regions nationwide which are on different levels of COVID 19 risks as follows: 1) Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) for low risk areas 2) General Community Quarantine (GCQ) for moderate risk areas; 3) Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) for high risk areas.

The three (3) areas placed under the "modified" enhanced community quarantine (MECQ) are Metro Manila, Laguna, and Cebu City. Metro Manila continues to have the highest number of coronavirus cases among all regions, with over 7,000 cases while Cebu City, became the city with the most cases after reporting 1,571 cases on Sunday, May 10. Under the modified ECQ (MECQ), local governments can allow the limited resumption of public transportation, certain industries to operate at half capacity, and persons to leave their houses only for essential goods and work. The Interagency Task Force on COVID 19 recommended the classification of quarantine levels and the areas to be under each level. On the one hand, **the entire Bicol Region (Region V)** consisting the provinces of Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, Sorsogon, Legazpi City and Naga City is under the modified general community quarantine (MGCQ -low risk area); while **Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula** (Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga City, Isabela City) is under general community quarantine (GCQ – moderate risk area).

The Philippines had undergone various phases of COVID 19 community quarantines and the Government through Presidential Spokesperson Secretary Harry Roque, on May 13 presented the transition plan from the various phases of quarantine to the *new normal phase*. The phased out transition plans include procedures and courses on how to move (a) from the “Enhanced Community Quarantine” (ECQ) to “Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine” (MECQ); (b) from MECQ to a “General Community Quarantine” (GCQ); (c) from GCQ to a “Modified General Community Quarantine” (MGCQ); (4) from MGCQ to the “New Normal”. From various transition phases of easing some quarantine restrictions and opening of more industries, the importance of following the minimum health standards in accordance with the government’s National Action Plan on COVID-19 still remain. The Department of Health (DOH) encourages the public to embrace the New Normal including minimum health standards in food and dining settings, focusing on hand hygiene, physical distancing, and compulsory use of masks. As the country ushers in the New Normal era, minimum health standards in places of worship are essential to keep everyone healthy and safe. To minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19, religious gatherings are discouraged. People are advised to watch masses or church services online or in television. (Source: https://pcoo.gov.ph/news_releases/palace-releases-mecq-details/)

Basis for classifying areas. The government uses two indicators as basis for the classification: case doubling time (how many times it takes positive cases to double) and critical care utilization rate (percentage of isolation beds, intensive care units, and ventilators used).

Government Agencies responsible on the new COVID 19 quarantine guidelines:

- i.** Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on the implementation of the ECQ, MECQ, GCQ, MGCQ and new normal;
- ii.** Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) provides interim guidelines on workplace prevention and control of COVID-19 which includes to minimize contact rate in work places, such as implementing alternative work arrangements, wearing of face mask at all times, shortened meetings with limited attendees, re-arranging of work stations to ensure proper physical distancing, and other minimum health standards that have to be enforced all the time. (Source: PCOOhttps://pcoo.gov.ph/news_releases/palace-releases-mecq-details/)
- iii.** Department of Education on education online mode, resumption of classes and assistance to pupils at all levels
- iv.** Food and Drug Administration (FDA) currently reminding all hospitals and healthcare providers to take extreme caution with the use of chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine due to the risk of QT prolongation. The magnitude of QT prolongation may increase with increased concentration of the drug. Therefore, monitoring of adverse drug reactions (ADRs) should be strictly implemented.
- v.** Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) on May 11 released financial assistance amounting to 13 Billion pesos to 542 hospitals nationwide through the Interim Reimbursement Mechanism (IRM). The IRM is PhilHealth’s financial aid to its partner health

institutions affected by natural and manmade calamities that have devastating effects on their ability to continuously provide health care to the people. (Source: COVID-19 Philippine Situationer #018 (May 15, 2020))

Executive Order No. 114, or the Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program

The Program is to assist the people who would like to move back to their home provinces to alleviate their way of living due to the pandemic specially in hard hot areas of Metro Manila and some cities in the province. There were also many Filipinos who expressed interest to go back to their provinces. To ease the movement of the people, the government commits to give an initial financial and non-cash assistance for those who would be availing of the government program, while health and quarantine protocols will still be followed in the movement of people from Metro Manila to the provinces (May 7, 2020)

Some short and long term plans in line with the Balik Probinsya Program include:

- Establishment of a council, named Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Council to implement measures under the program
- Free transportation to be provided and Covid 19 protocols observed during the movement to prevent spread of virus to provinces;
- New ecozones to be created in provinces, among other measures that will ensure balanced regional development

Education Continuity

- **DepEd Order 007 S. 2020 School Calendar and Activities for SY 2020-2021 (issued on May 11)**

The Department of Education has announced the formal opening of schools on August 24, 2020 and ending on April 30, 2021 for school year 2020-2021, consisting 203 class days. Enrollment is scheduled from June 1 to 30, 2020 for all learners intending to attend SY 2020-2021 – including those who enrolled during the early registration period in February 2020 given that circumstances have changed substantially. Schools and community learning centers are authorized to decide on the specific learning modalities which may be appropriate to their situation under the supervision of the regional and schools division. IATF advised DepEd to adopt various learning options such as but not limited to face-to-face blended learning, distance learnings, and home schooling and other modes of delivery depending on the local COVID risk severity classification

The Alternative Learning System (ALS) will open on the same date but its program duration would depend on the learner's educational background or existing knowledge level prior to enrollment in the ALS program. Saturday classes through distance learning are also authorized considering the compressed school calendar for this year.

Early Registration for incoming Kindergarten, Grades 1, 7, and 11 learners, Special Education (SPED) learners and out-of-school children and youth is scheduled from the last Saturday of January to the last Friday of February. The Brigada Eskwela and Oplan Balik Eskwela will start on June 1 and end on August 29 while Oplan Kalusugan sa DepEd will be scheduled in September with separate guidelines to be discussed. Meanwhile, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) may open as early as August, 2020, as long as they utilize flexible learning arrangements to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19. (Source: www.pna.gov.ph)

- **DepEd Memo 051 s. 2020 Guidelines on the Conduct of Remedial, Advancement, and Enrichment Classes during Summer 2020 issued on May 7**

Remedial, advancement and enrichment classes during summer are also set to begin on May 3, 2021 and end on June 11, 2021. The remedial lessons can be made in the form of tutorial, mentoring, coaching, or other ways of delivering the organized learning experience, whichever is applicable in the context of the learner (Source: www.pna.gov.ph).

- **Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES)**

Under the CHED **Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES)** an initial 120,000 students enrolled from 404 private schools nationwide will would receive a stipend for the just concluded school year 2019-2020, The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) announced on May 15, the release of a total of P3.6 billion from the Budget Department, to cover the partial payment of stipends for students enrolled in private colleges and universities for the just concluded school year 2019-2020. *TES* is a government program that gives P60,000 per school year to students who are in need of financial aid and enrolled in private schools in municipalities and cities without public colleges and universities. The TES is used by students to pay their tuition and miscellaneous fees and other education expenses. CHED would continue to give TES grants to qualified beneficiaries in the remaining private higher education institutions as soon as funds are released by the DBM.

On the one hand, some colleges and universities that ended the school year earlier due to the lockdown imposed by the government also committed to refund students for their unused fees because of the abbreviated second semester of school year 2019-2020. <https://www.rappler.com/nation/261006-ched-report-stipend-college-students-released>

Part 2: The Situation in Areas Where Educo/ChildFund Works

Bicol Region and Zamboanga Peninsula

On May 14, 2020, the Department of Health Center for Health Development - Bicol reported a total of 73 COVID 19 cases, 6 recoveries and 4 deaths. Sorsogon province on May 14, recorded its first case of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). With this, the province strengthen its protocols which, among others, include: immediate contact tracing; mass quarantining of all w/contact; disinfection of the Quarantine Facility at Matnog; giving of Vitamin C & info dissemination to all with contact or exposure,” (DOH Region 5 (Bicol) Press Release May 8/ ABS-CBN News May 14, 2020).

Provincial wide COVID 19 Status

	ALBAY	Sorsogon	CAM SUR	Catanduanes	Zamboanga
Total cases	48	1	7	1	12
New cases	2	1	0	-	2
Total death	3	0	0	-	0
New death	0	0	0	-	4
Total recovery	5	0	1	-	0
New recovery	0	0	0	-	

Note: based on DOH provincial count

Typhoon Ambo amid COVID 19 crisis A typhoon hit the Philippines on May 14, with the typhoon covering the provinces of Albay and Sorsogon in the Bicol region. As the first typhoon hits the Philippines, particularly Easter Samar and the Bicol region amid the coronavirus pandemic, the threat to homes, livelihood and lives, prompted thousands of people to seek shelter in evacuation centres despite the health safety risks from the COVID-19 outbreak. Regional authorities in Bicol reported that over 300,000 people sought refuge in some 2,300 evacuation centers across the provinces of Sorsogon, Albay, Catanduanes, Masbate and Camarines Sur. About 15,900 people have preemptively evacuated in the provinces of Northern Samar, Samar and Eastern Samar.

Practically the entire country remains under lockdown because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which could complicate emergency response efforts with severe impacts of typhoons. While areas along the typhoon Ambo path are not considered coronavirus hotspots, guidelines have been issued by Government to ensure minimum health standards are maintained, particularly in evacuation centres. Families at evacuation centers were directed to stay at least one meter apart from other families. (Source: Philippines: Typhoon Vongfong Flash Update No. 1 (As of 15 May 2020; OCHA)

Province of Albay (Municipality of Manito)

Manito is placed under the Enhanced Community Quarantine until May 15, 2020 to the General Enhanced Community Quarantine starting May 16. The Municipal Mayor of Manito has planned to adopt other measures in ECQ even if the area converts to GCQ next week. There is No reported Covid19 cases in the entire municipality of Manito. Along with this, a memo was released by the DILG ensuring the "Activation of fully functional Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) Desks and Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC)' amidst COVID19 outbreak

Health

The people continue to strictly follow the ECQ protocols such as observing physical distancing, wearing of masks and regular hand washing. With the beginning of the rainy season, Common ailments of children nowadays are colds, cough and asthma caused by change of weather. To assist the people to have easy access to medical help, Barangay Health Centers are open from Mondays-Fridays to serve the residents. They continue to do pre-natal checkups and immunization but some Midwives and BHWs prefer to visit pregnant women for the pre-natal service.

Education

Children with access to internet were able to use the DepEd Common, an online learning platform initiated by the department to support continuous education of school children. For younger ones, Educo's trained SNP and parent volunteers find time to teach and do story telling using the big books Educo has provided. Some children participated in Educo's activities like the RCCE wherein children send their artworks with messages to frontliners and others.

Livelihood

The LGU of Manito through the MSWD, completed the release of emergency subsidy of 5,000 under the Social Amelioration Program in 15 barangays. At the barangay level, the local government unit continue to distribute relief goods to all families (rice, canned goods, instant noodles & 3n1 coffee). A 3rd wave of relief good were distributed which included vegetables seeds from the Municipal Agriculture Office to interested families. However, no specific support or assistance to children are given.

Children and Senior Citizens

Children's participation in the Covid 19 response activities in the barangays are very limited if none at all. Children are not allowed to go out and play outside. On the one hand, senior citizens had a hard time during the ECQ period. They just stay at home because they are not allowed to go out. Those senior citizens that are barangay officials and BHWs are also not allowed to be on duty for their own protection. Social Pension pay-out was completed by MSWD staff of Manito by 1st week of May 2020

COVID Cases in Manito, Albay

		Manito Situation in Numbers: (as of May 14, 2020)	Remarks
1	Suspect Case (PUI)	0	According to MSWDO staff
2	Probable case (PUM)	7	Quarantined in 2 barangays: 5 Males in Balabagon ES and 2 Males in Cawayan ES
3	Confirmed (Positive)	0	
4	Deaths (Fatality)	0	
5	In Quarantine	7	They are construction workers from Manila
6	Recoveries	0	
7	TOTAL COVID-19 CASES	0	

Province of Camarines Sur

No new COVID patients and fatalities

Province of Sorsogon (Municipalities of Donsol, Picasso and Castilla)

DONPICASO 's ECQ status was lifted on May 1, 2020 and changed to GCQ where restrictions are relaxed. However, safety and preventive measures are still strongly observed. Province of Sorsogon recorded its first confirmed COVID-19 case from Matnog, Sorsogon

Health

Common minor ailments of children are colds and cough. Parents were advised to have home medication as much as possible or contact municipal Doctors for consultation or query.

Education

Primary and secondary education classes will resume on the month of August 2020. The strategies and mode of teaching and learning are still being finalized. DepEd Sorsogon - SDS Jose Doncillo convene the education program supervisors of the Curriculum Implementation Division for the Orientation on Learning Continuity Plan in times of COVID-19 and discussed the school calendar and activities for SY 2020-21

Livelihood

The MLGUs of Donsol, Pilar and Castilla were done releasing the emergency subsidy of 5,000 under the Social Amelioration Program of DSWD.

Health Issues in Albay and Sorsogon Educo Project Areas:

- Most of the parents' concern is the availability of medicines and multivitamins for their children since there's a limited supply of medicines in health centers.
- Some of the sick persons preferred home remedy and confinement due to difficulty in transportation and fear of hospital confinement due to covid-19.
- Difficulty in access to health facilities due to ECQ The 12 partner Barangays of project PACES are Geographically Isolated Areas and public transportation is very rare only "HABAL-HABAL".
- Food support/packs were not enough for the needs of the families.
- Lactating mothers don't have yet enough support coming from the Barangay and MLGU.

Province of Catanduanes

Reported no cases or death.

Province of Zamboanga

LGU requested for the extension of ECQ in Zamboanga City to remain until 15 May 2020, this request was approved by AITF, to date, Zamboanga is placed under the general community quarantine (GCQ).

The barangays continue to do rotation to ensure that everyone is already at home during curfew hours, persons violating curfew hours are apprehended by Barangay Tanods and ask to do community services like cleaning of surroundings after that they are advise to go home and not to violate the curfew hours for their own safety. Checkpoints are also in place in every barangays. Every households were provided with Quarantine pass for them to be able to go out to buy basic necessities on alternate weekly schedules.

Kadiwa on Wheels and *DTI Rolling stores* are continuously going to different barangays at the very low prices of vegetables, fish, fruits and other goods

Livelihood

- Most of the fisherfolk continue with their fishing activities, LGU continue to provide relief packages to families, difficulty of access with water supply, Barangay Health Center continue to become operational for emergency situation BLGU vehicle is available to bring patient to the nearest hospital.
- No activities related to this at BLGU and LGU, LGU are busy with the implementation of SAP, distribution of food packages, assisting PNP in manning the checkpoint and roaming in the communities during curfew hours but families continues to find ways to provide their lactating children with milk, food and their necessities for their development.

Health

- Children are not allowed to go out and can only play through their neighborhood but not outside the barangay or communities.
- VAWC and BCPC Desk are made functional
- There is proposal at the LGU level to put up an Isolation facility at the barangays in case the number of covid patient will continue to rise.
- The Mayor has signed the EO BC 567-2020-An Act Declaring GCQ in Zamboanga City and providing guidelines for its implementation starting on May 16, 2020.

Covid 19 Cases in Zamboanga Educo project areas

		Situation in Numbers: (as of date)
1	Suspect Case (PUI)	503
2	Probable case (PUM)	
3	Confirmed (Positive)	125 as of May 14, 2020
4	Deaths (Fatality)	3
5	In Quarantine	
6	Recoveries	4
7	TOTAL COVID-19 CASES	132

National Status

As of May 14, 2020, the DOH recorded 11,876 confirmed cases of the corona virus 19. Out of these cases, there were 2,337 recoveries and 790 deaths recorded. Active cases were also recorded at 8,749, with the majority of the patients exhibiting mild symptoms (7705, 88.1%). Most of the confirmed cases are Male (6407 or 54%). Most cases are within the 20-39 age group. Twenty cases with unspecified age are included in the total. A total of 7646 (64%) are confirmed cases from NCR. The proportion of cases in NCR decreased from 72% since January (start of case detection) to April 19, 2020 to 57% for the period of April 20 to May 14, 2020. The Philippines has the third most number of cases in Southeast Asia, after Indonesia and Singapore. (Source: Beat Covid-19 Today - Philippines Situationer - Issue 18 (15 May 2020) - COVID-19 PHILIPPINE SITUATIONER #018 (MAY 15, 2020))

As of 11 May, a total of 1,991 health care workers have so far tested positive for COVID-19, including 34 deaths. WHO emphasizes the importance of proper adherence IPC and PPE use, as well as the need for special surveillance and contact tracing for health care workers at hospital level. Online IPC trainings are continuing for both hospital workers and community health workers. Health workers who attend IPC in Community Settings and IPC in Hospital Settings will soon be given Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credits by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). Instructions are given to attendees at the end of the webinar. The webinar is increasingly attended by organizations and offices in anticipation of the

lifting of the enhanced community quarantine. UNICEF continues to conduct online training sessions on IPC for community health workers. (Source: (COVID-19) Situation Report 30 Philippines 11 May 2020)

National Case Summary, as of 14 May 2020

	New additional	Total
Cases	258	11,876
Recoveries	86	2,337
Death	18	790
Active cases (net of death and recoveries)		8,749
➤ Mild		7,705 (88.1 %)
➤ Asymptomatic		962 (11%)
➤ Severe		57
➤ Critical (intubated)		25
Probable		1,612
Suspect		19,976

Source: DOH Tracker

Health Concerns in Albay and Sorsogon Educo Project Areas

- Most of the parents' concern is the inadequate availability of medicines and multivitamins for their children since there's a limited supply of medicines in health centers.
- Some of the sick persons preferred home remedy and confinement due to difficulty in transportation and fear of hospital confinement due to covid-19.
- Food support/packs were not enough for the needs of the families.
- Lactating mothers don't have yet enough support coming from the Barangay and MLGU.

Social Protection Concern:

Education Concerns in Albay and Sorsogon Educo Project Areas

- The children, particularly those graduating expressed frustration that they were not able to continue their classes, take examinations and experience the graduation rites.
- No proper closure of classes due to COVID-19 and how to support children to cope up and start for the next school year.

- The suggested learning resources like mobile apps and e-online tutorials are not applicable in the areas because of the unavailable android phones and unstable internet connection;
- With the strict implementation of ECQ, children tend to have more time with gadgets like tablets and cellphones. Those who have access to internet were able to use facebook (for teens) and games. But the problems of access to more learning materials and games are confined to children belonging to poor households.

Livelihood Concerns in Albay and Sorsogon Educo Project Areas

- A lot of working parents find difficulty in providing the needs of their family due to unemployment.
- Livelihood of those daily paid worker were affected by the ECQ.

Security and Safety:

Quarantine protocols are strictly enforced by the local government in all public areas and establishments in the project areas. Likewise, strict compliance to curfew hours, wearing of mask and “no quarantine pass no going out” policy is still being imposed despite being ECQ. all children and their families strictly complied with the curfew hours.

There is No reported child abuse case in the municipalities and Tanods, BHWs and barangay council members are vigilant and protective to all children in their community. All senior citizens are not allowed to go out. BHWs monitor and check them regularly and ensure that Senior Citizens Social Pension pay-out in the 12 partner Barangays are extended timely.

Child protection risks caused or exacerbated by crisis (for example mental health problems/psychological distress, domestic violence, elder care, child labor, discrimination etc.) There is no report of child abuse or death among Educo beneficiaries.

How many of our beneficiaries and families are affected? NSTR from SitRep 01

There is No reported beneficiaries and families in the partner areas who are affected by COVID 19.

Part 3: Educo/ChildFund’s Preparation, Response and/or Recovery action

- Planned, desired or ongoing action – inside or outside current operational areas. (just mention it. It will be further developed in a separate template). PLEASE SPECIFY IF DESIRED OR ONGOING
- Do any of the above initiatives cover the areas where we have sponsored children? If yes, please indicate which initiative and the area it covers.
- Who are we partnering or collaborating with to provide our action?

- What kind of response activities or interventions are being provided? What support are needed (or have been collected/distributed)?
- How is Educo/ChildFund linked with humanitarian coordination structures, i.e. in which clusters or working groups do we participate at country level?
- Next steps

Planned and Desired Response: NSTR from SitRep 01 – the desired response below also has been shared in the submitted COVID-19 Response Plan

PROGRAM STATUS

Please indicate any communication established with external donors in relation to current and potential grants, especially with such donors that are directly managed through the Country Office. The purpose of this information is to keep HO informed, specifically the Resource Mobilization unit.

ChildFund Korea: COVID Response proposal submitted to CFK through HO last May 8, 2020.

UNICEF Philippines: CO followed up with donor about the Expression of Interest (EoI) it submitted last March 6, 2020 – Project on developmental delay and disabilities in 0-4 children (ECCD). Because of COVID-19, the award may be put on hold until the end of April. Educo expressed with donor our interest to collaborate or participate in any possible ECCDiE response.

AECID (OTC Manila): Pending modification of the Educo Philippines master logframe to highlight needs to targeted communities in Manito and Legazpi City and to share with AECID OTC.

- **Advocacy and communication actions at network and platform level NSTR same as Sitrep 5**

- **NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTION IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE WE SPONSOR AND HAVE PROJECTS (IF APPLICABLE)**

As of May 1-14, 2020, Educo Project Areas as reported by Field staff and MLGU

Region V- Bicol Region	Manito, Albay	0 Death toll 0 Suspect/ 0 probable
	Camarines Sur	0 Suspect case 0 Death 4 Recovery
	Caramoran, Catanduanes	0 Suspect case 0 Death
	Sorsogon	1 Suspect 0 Death

Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula, Mindanao	Zamboanga City	125 Confirmed positive case
		3 Death
		4 Recoveries

- Possible sources of funding**

.1 Provide information about potential sources of funding for these emergency response efforts using the chart below.

Donor	Projects	Amount (Euro)	Requested? (Y/N)	Confirmed? (Y/N)
ChildFund Korea	TBD	157,000	Yes	TBD
UNICEF	TBD			
AECID	TBD			

- Budget**

Internal project reorientation (in terms of budget and activities) were completed and forwarded to HO last May 12, 2020. The CO identified around 18 M pesos or 351,000 euros for potential reallocation to a COVID-19 Response project – this is pending HO’s review and approval.

- Media/Communications NSTR from SitRep 01**

NO NEED TO FILL.

This information will be informed through IMTs

- Program support needed or requested from HO – whether onsite or remote.**

- Constant updates on the Global initiatives in line with COVID-19 Response Resource Mobilization for Philippines COVID response **NSTR from SitRep 01**

