

Timor Leste Country Office

COVID-19 Situation Report

SitRep No: #6

Date: May 4th 2020

1. Situation in Numbers

Total Confirmed Cases in Country	Total Confirmed new cases in Country (since last SitRep)	Total deaths in Country
24	0	0

Please refer to WHO Sit Reps to populate this table. Available [here](#).

2. Key Issues

Include a brief statement on each of the following:

- Key government updates, including mitigation and response measures.
- Brief contextual analysis of the situation, including impact on health, education and other essential services.
- Impact on children and families in ChildFund operational areas.
- Impact and effects on ChildFund team.
- The work of other agencies and ChildFund’s relationship with them.

No new cases of COVID-19, and only 8 active cases, with 20 people recovered. Despite earlier concerns for Liquisa, no community transmission has been identified. Next week health authorities will expand surveillance processes in health centres, in order to detect COVID-19. State of Emergency (SoE) has been extended to 27 May. Borders remain closed for foreigners and nationals. All restrictions remain in force nationally, with the exception of allowing public transport as long as hygiene protocols are observed. Political tensions have risen. During the voting on extending the SoE, the new coalition led by Xanana (which is anti SoE) fell apart when the Khunto party voted pro extension. Only unconfirmed sources about threats and violence among some of the party leaders. Meanwhile Dengue season has resulted in many deaths in the past month, including children.

Expected Social and Economic Impact

- Initially, people stayed home and there was a high level of fear. In the last few weeks, movement has increased in Dili. Fear of an outbreak is now shifting to economic hardships. Today taxi drivers and micro let drivers will operate again and more shops have opened.
- There are concerns regarding longer-term impact on food security, as the country is dependent on imports for essential food supplies. There is already a shortage of medicines. Moving goods over the Indonesian land border is allowed, but could be impacted by worsening of the situation in Indonesia.
- All children remain out of school with the vast majority without access to any online resources.
- Parliament is discussing an economic stimulus package. This may include measures to support 214000 households with basic income (100 USD for 3 months); subsidising the wages of formal sector employees who are quarantined or staying at home; internet subsidies to study online for university students. The details of who qualifies and how it will be administered are

not yet clear, and there is no pre-existing system to allow the government to role this out. There is fear that this essential support will not reach households in time.

3. Operations Update

3.1 People and Organisational Development

Include a brief statement on each of the following:

- Number of staff affected by COVID-19, including the number of staff in self-isolation.
- International arrivals and departures of staff since COVID crisis.
- WFH arrangements, including any related challenges.

ChildFund Timor-Leste has extended WFH arrangements, with a skeleton staff in the office. WFH is challenging for some staff with poor internet, such as joining online meetings.

3.2 Finance, IT and Administration

Include a brief statement on each of the following:

- Challenges that relate to registration, MoU's, contracts, cash transfers and general banking.
- IT situation.

No changes

3.3 Security

Include a brief statement on each of the following:

- Update on general security level in ChildFund operational areas and security incidents impacting ChildFund since the last situation report. Please include *analysis* where necessary/possible.
- Any changes/updates to the security guidelines/evacuation plans.

Some incidents of violence. Protest by taxi drivers/Microlet drivers as the Government economic support measures have not yet been realised.

3.4 Office Status

OFFICE	OFFICE STATUS			
	Open, Fully Operational	Majority of staff working from home	100% Working from Home	Shutdown, non-operational
Dili Office		X		

4. Programs Update

4.1 Programs Activity Level (indicator of current programming level)

Project	PROGRAM OPERATIONS				
	75 - 100%	50 - 74%	25 - 49%	< 25%	0%
EDUCATION EDIC (TIM16)			X		
Every Child A Reader (TIM-8)			X		
HAKAS(Tim 17)		X			
C4C (TIM-14)					X

	LFA		X			
HEALTH	Nutrition (TIM-11)		X			
	MCH (TIM-7)			X		
YOUTH	IYC (TIM-12)		X			
	CFPICB (RO-06)					X
DRR	Disaster ready (AHP3)/PPF			X		

4.2 Overview of ChildFund Activities (with a focus on COVID work)

Summary:	Have been supporting the MoH COVID-19 response for 5 weeks, and have permission to go to the municipalities for preparedness activities. INGOs have set up a coordination mechanism. ChildFund is the lead for Lautem municipality and supporting in Liquica. We are member of Lautem municipality taskforce led by the district administrator. Pivot plans for the projects have been approved and begin this week.
Education:	Will re-print existing MoE primary school learning materials and distribute to students. Box libraries set up where parents can get books for children. Distribution of hygiene kits to households with children under 18 years.
Child Protection:	Production/distribution of IEC materials on child development and wellbeing, parenting support and COVID-19.
DRR/ ER:	DRR coordinator has travelled to Lautem to support start-up of Municipal COVID-19 taskforce. AHP and PPF1 pivot planning will be carried out this week based on PIA guidelines.
Health:	ChildFund is supporting the Health Promotion Department with awareness-raising in Lautem with printed IEC materials; promotion of tippy taps at household level. Nutrition staff are disseminating COVID-19 messages and 3 large water tanks provided for health posts. Food packages and NERS menu distributed to families in nutrition program. Distribution of non-cash incentives to community health volunteers.
SEL:	Ba Futuru is developing scripts for short films for a social media blast and through Youth Change makers targeting TIM-012 locations in Tetum and different local languages. Discussions in preparation for MFAT grant on Curriculum Development and with UNICEF for online learning platform (Interest in Aflatoun curriculum).

4.3 Partnerships

Include a brief statement on each of the following:

- The status of partner organisations and to what extent they have been able to continue operations during the reporting period.
- What, if any, support, monitoring, information sharing and/or collaboration has taken place with local partners during the reporting period?

Alola: reopened with skeleton staff ; have agreed pivot plans for Literacy and MCH projects. Ba Futuru: Staff WFH. Began implementing pivot plans for TIM-012 and planning for TIM-014. MMT: skeleton staff in office; agreed on pivot plan for Hakas project. CVTL: discussion to close CFPIB project has been communicated; coaches will be informed this week. Fraterna: adapted plans for AHP; PPF discussed and will be finalised this week; monitoring of kitchen garden, tree planting and food storage continued. Catalpa: COVID-19 related messages sent via Liga Inan SMS service (pregnant women/young mothers registered with our nutrition project will receive messages).

Local (sponsorship) partners received the end of partnership letter this week; skype calls to discuss exit plans will take place with directors and chair of council of leaders.

4.4 Child Sponsorship (managing the phase out)

Number of children (sponsored and/enrolled) affected by COVID-19: All (indirectly)

Local partners will be informed by letter of the end of partnership this week. Unable to have a discussion with respective Council of Leaders and District Administration to create transparency and joined agreement around the exit plans but will follow up via phone calls. This poses risks during exit, such as misinformation among stakeholders and our ability to ensure assets remain for the benefit of the community. Finance capacity-building for LPs has also been cancelled. Delivery of DFC and correspondence has been temporarily suspended where staff have to travel to the district.

5. Communications

- Local media, particularly news regarding ChildFund/partner activities or relevant child wellbeing issues.

ChildFund's support to the municipality COVID-19 taskforce in Lautem reported on national TV.

https://web.facebook.com/370048750482193/videos/572925646664058/UzpfSTewMjU2MjQwN DU0Mjc1NzoxNzAwMTQyNjc3OTc1NzA/?modal=admin_todo_tour