



Asia-Pacific Regional COVID-19 update

26 November 2020

This report is produced by the OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Development Coordination Office in Bangkok, in collaboration with humanitarian and development partners in countries across Asia-Pacific. It covers the period from 29 October 2020 to 04 November 2020.

1. COVID-19 CASES

Country/Territory*	Confirmed Cases		Deaths		Recovered
	Number as of 25 Nov	Number increased from last report (18 Nov)	Number as of 25 Nov	Number increased from last report(18 Nov)	
Global	60,397,539	+4,146,775	1,421,352	+71,950	38,704,716
Asia-Pacific**	12,746,727	+538,697	233,937	+9,223	11,516,039
India	9,266,705	+308,222	135,223	+3,645	8,679,138
Iran	894,385	+92,491	46,207	+3,266	625,606
Indonesia	511,836	+33,116	16,225	+722	429,807
Bangladesh	454,146	+15,351	6,487	+212	369,179
Philippines	422,915	+10,818	8,215	+258	386,955
Pakistan	386,198	+20,271	7,843	+595	334,392
Nepal	226,026	+13,109	1,389	+130	207,998
Japan	138,457	+14,938	1,983	+75	114,569
PR China	92,402	+496	4,742	0	86,888
Myanmar	83,566	+10,244	1,810	+160	63,366
Malaysia	59,817	+9,427	345	+23	46,501
Singapore	58,190	+55	28	0	58,091
Afghanistan	45,716	+1,865	1,737	+92	36,232
ROK	32,318	+2,664	515	+17	26,950
Australia	27,864	+80	907	0	25,546
Sri Lanka	21,469	+3,067	96	+27	15,447
Maldives	12,854	+470	46	+1	11,681
Thailand	3,942	+54	60	0	3,788
New Zealand	2,040	+30	25	0	1,955
Vietnam	1,321	+21	35	0	1,153
Papua New Guinea	645	+38	7	0	588
Taiwan*	623	+19	7	0	553
Mongolia	712	+207	0	0	345
Bhutan	386	+8	0	0	367
Cambodia	307	+3	0	0	298
Brunei	150	+2	3	0	145
Fiji	38	+3	2	0	33
Timor-Leste	30	0	0	0	30
Laos	25	0	0	0	23
Solomon Islands	17	+1	0	0	5

Source: John Hopkins' Coronavirus Resource Center 26 November <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

* The names of locations included here correspond with the source

**The numbers for Asia-Pacific are the total of numbers from country/territory in Asia-Pacific as listed.

2. COUNTRY UPDATES (28 OCT – 3RD NOVEMBER)

Indonesia

Situation Overview: Through a joint decree from relevant ministries, the government has announced revised regulations for face-to-face learning in the schools for the next semester (2020/2021 school year). The decree will allow local governments to make decisions about conducting physical classes, depending on the readiness of each region.

OCHA and UNDP had initial technical discussions week beginning 16 November with the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and the National Planning Agency regarding the provision of potential support for the monitoring of the COVID-19 response.

Local authorities in Aceh province have barred access to a vocational school compound where 381 Rohingya people, including 145 children, have been sheltering, following the death of an individual on the compound from COVID-19. All non-essential activities in the camp are now suspended.

Media: The Government continues to finalize the prioritization of the vaccine recipients, as the vaccine campaign is likely to start by early 2021. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/162356/decision-on-vaccine-priority-for-red-zones-expected-soon-thohir>

Indonesia has reaffirmed its commitment to align its post-COVID-19 social and economic recovery plan with the Sustainable Development Goals jointly developed by UN and the state government. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/11/12/indonesia-commits-to-aligning-post-pandemic-recovery-with-sdgs.html>

Iran

Situation Overview: A new shipment of medical equipment procured under the Iran COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (ICERP), which includes 56 portable echosonography devices, is being prepared for distribution to 56 hospitals in the country. ICERP is a new partnership platform between the WHO and the Ministry of Health and will make substantive contributions to the procurement and delivery of essential medical and diagnostic equipment to public hospitals and laboratories across the country caring for COVID-19 patients.

The German government has made a supplementary contribution of US\$1.2million to WFP-Iran to assist people affected by COVID-19 pandemic as well as by natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, locust infestation.

Media: It took approximately 75 days for the first 100,000 cases to be reported in Iran, but just eight days for the number of cases to rise from 700,000 to 800,000. <https://financialtribune.com/articles/national/106179/iran-hits-virus-milestone-800000-infections>

Starting on 21 November, several financial support plans, including tax relief measures, have been introduced to alleviate the impact of the latest round of coronavirus lockdown for businesses. <https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/106226/gov-t-rolls-out-financial-support-as-lockdown-starts>

The Central Bank of Iran plans to offer financial aid to people affected by the COVID-19 outbreak in the country. This activity will enable around 10 million households to buy food and staples at subsidized prices. <https://financiatribune.com/tags/coronavirus-in-iran>

Maldives

Situation Overview: On 22 November, Ministry of Education announced the resumption of preschool classes outside of the Greater Male' Region, after being put on hold since for eight months.

Authorities has begun conducting random sampling tests to determine the level of community spread within the Greater Male region. However, number of people voluntarily approaching the Flu testing centers to carry out the tests continues to decline.

Media: On 20 November, Visit Maldives began its month-long global media campaign to promote Maldives in 10 key markets. <https://edition.mv/news/20491>

Myanmar

Situation Overview: The State Counsellor revealed plans to relax restrictions in order to resume businesses activities, at the same that an increase in COVID-19 transmission was reported after the elections in the country.

Mandalay health authorities have authorized the use of home quarantine measures for people who have been in contact with those testing positive for COVID-19 due to a shortage of volunteers at state assigned quarantine centres.

Singapore

Media: With the resurgence of Covid-19 cases in Japan and Malaysia, Singapore is tightening its border controls for travelers who are arriving from those two countries, making it mandatory for them to undergo 14 days quarantine at dedicated facilities.

<https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2020/11/21/going-to-singapore-from-tomorrow-all-travellers-leaving-from-malaysia-subje/1924749>

3. Response Activities

Country	Main Actor	Implementing Partner	Details of activity	# of Beneficiaries	Length of activity	Funding GHRP/non-GHRP	Remarks
Indonesia	UNICEF and WHO	Ministry of Health	Provision of assistance to run a national survey on the acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccine	115,000 participated	Month and a half	N/A	-
Iran	WFP	Concerned ministries	Distribution of food baskets in areas hardly hit by natural disasters	15,660 families	One-off	N/A	Funding from Govt of Germany
	UNICEF	Health Ministries	Third round of COVID-19	A total of 216,471 kits	One-off	N/A	Funding From CERF

			test kits distribution	distributed altogether			
Maldives	Ministry of Finance	Income Support Allowance Programme	Provision of income support allowance	11,072 Individuals	On going	N/A	US\$8.38 Million has been issued under this programme.
	Government of India	India's Department of Biotechnology	Assistance to enhance the local capabilities for effective deployment of a COVID-19 vaccine when released.	N/A	Long Term	N/A	-
Myanmar	WFP	Respected govt Agency	Distribution of food rations for elders from Thabarwa Center	N/A	One-off	N/A	Total cost US\$34,000
	JICA	Yangon authorities	Provision of assistance to run awareness raising campaigns for passengers using public buses	N/A	One-off	N/A	-
	PTTEP (A private petroleum company)	National COVID-19 Committee	Provision of cash and medical supplies for public use	N/A	One-off	N/A	Cost: US\$ 900,000
	Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce	National COVID-19 Committee and Hospitals	Cash donation of US\$430,000	N/A	One-off	N/A	This fund will help to upgrade and run health facilities in Yangon
	Industrial Bank of Korea and KB Financial Group	Ministry of Health and Sports	Distribution of 3,500 COVID-19 test kits	N/A	One-off	N/A	