

MALDIVES RESPONSE TO COVID-19

SITREP: 22 September 2020



SUMMARY OF SITUATION

Update



Confirmed Cases	9770
Recoveries	8390(86%)
Deaths	34 (0.34%)
Active Cases	1346
Hospitalized Cases	107

Active cases: Geographical distribution

Greater Male' Area	1299
Haa Alif Dhidhdhoo	1
Haa Alif Ihavandhoo	7
Haa Alif Kelaa	1
Haa Dhaal Hirimaradhoo	1
Shaviyani Kanditheem	1
Shaviyani Feevah	1
Noonu Manadhoo	1
Raa Dhuvaafaru	1
Lhaviyani Naifaruu	3
Kaafu Himmafushi	1
Kaafu Huraa	1
Alifu Alif Maalhoo	1
Dhaalu Hulhudheli	1
Thaa Veymandoo	1
Gaafu Alifu Villingili	1
Gaafu Alifu Maamendhoo	1
Gaafu Dhaalu Gadhdhoo	1
Gaafu Dhaalu Hoadedhdhoo	19
Gaafu Dhaalu Thinadhoo	1
Seenu Gan	1
Seenu Hulhudhoo	1

Public health risk alert levels

National	Level 2	YELLOW
Male' City	Level 4	RED
Hoadeddhoo	Level 4	RED

Key updates

COVID-19 transmission in the Maldives

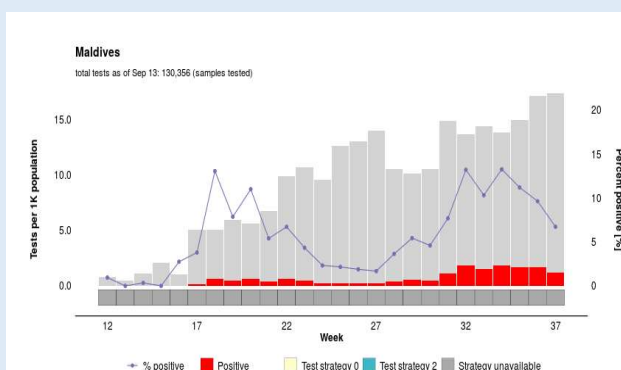
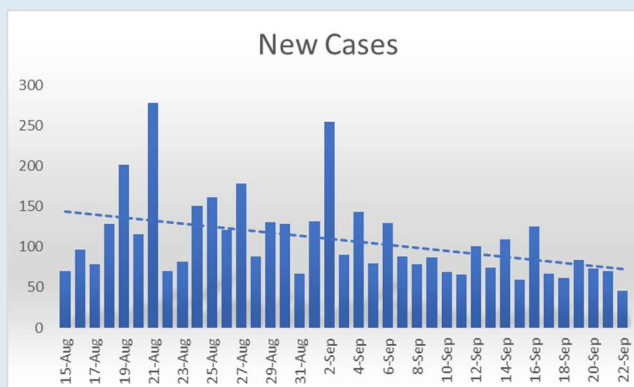
The COVID-19 transmission in the Maldives is on decreasing trend in September 2020. Total number of active cases decreased from 2,227 at end of August to 1,346 on 22 September 2020, a 40 % decline. In the same time period COVID-19 positivity rate amongst people visiting Flu clinics decreased from 21.2 % to 12.3 % and sample positivity rate reduced from 14 % to 5 %. As a result of decrease in COVID-19 transmission the doubling time of number of cases increased from 39 days to 76 days.

COVID-19 transmission in the country continues to be focused in Male. Majority of case in Male have link to existing clusters. It is mandatory for all people coming to an island to stay in quarantine and only interact with community after the COVID-19 RT-PCR test or GeneXpert test is negative. Majority of the cases reported in peripheral islands have been identified at the quarantine period and linked to Male clusters. Compliance to this strategy is high and as a result community transmission outside Male is minimal.

Outside Male, Hoeddhoo Island in Gaafu Alifu Atoll is having clustered cases in community and active interventions are being coordinated by the Health Emergency Coordination Committee with involvement of the local council. The action taken and progress to a holistic approach in the island is discussed as part of a separate agenda in the daily HECC meetings.

Maldives testing rates are one of the highest globally. Till date more than 141,000 samples have been tested, which is equivalent to 25% of the population of Maldivians and expatriates living in the country. Testing and identification of case early in the transmission is one of the core interventions to reduce community transmission. From a central laboratory in Male, additional 7 laboratories in the country including at periphery is currently undertaking COVID-19 testing whether using the conventional PCR technique or through the GeneXpert. Current testing capacity in greater Male' region alone is at 2650 samples per day.

All 1340 current active cases are under isolation. Confirmed cases continue to be identified mostly among contacts of active cases, people who have symptoms of flu and through active surveillance. As a result of decrease in new cases and high recovery rate, many isolated cases are being discharged. Currently the capacity to absorb 1000 more confirmed cases exists in various facilities in the country.



More than 13,500 tourists have arrived in the country. The resorts are following standard procedures for COVID-19 management. Currently there are 38 active cases in 21 resorts. 23 cases amongst staff have been identified, primarily during the quarantine period. 15 tourists have been confirmed to be infected with COVID-19 during their stay and are managed as per the national protocol.

All cases reported in Atolls have a link to Male and mainly identified during their quarantine period after reaching an island. Currently there are 47 active cases in 22 inhabited islands. Mechanisms are in place to control imported cases in inhabited islands.

COVID-19 cases are being managed in 10 hospitals. 5 in Male and 5 Regional Hospitals. Each Regional Hospitals have 15-20 beds and each of them have at least 2 ventilators to attend to critically ill cases. The regional hospital teams have been trained by the central level "Clinical Management Team". 93 COVID-19 cases with moderate to severe diseases are currently hospitalized. 8 of them are in ventilator and 1 in ICU, majority of them are above 65 years of age.

COVID-19 HOSPITAL FACILITIES - GREATER MALE' AREA

	Facility Name	Capacity	Pax	Local	Foreigners	Vacancy	No.of ICU beds	No.of Isolation beds	No.of ventilators
1	Dharumavantha Hospital (DH11)	10	4	4	0	6	10	-	9
2	Dharumavantha Hospital (DH16)	8	-	-	-	8	-	-	0
3	Dharumavantha Hospital (DH20)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
4	Hulhumale' Medical Facility	245	107	99	8	138	28	-	12
5	PVT 5	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	262	113	105	8	153	38	0	21

*Total of Hulhumale' Medical Facility includes 6 bystanders

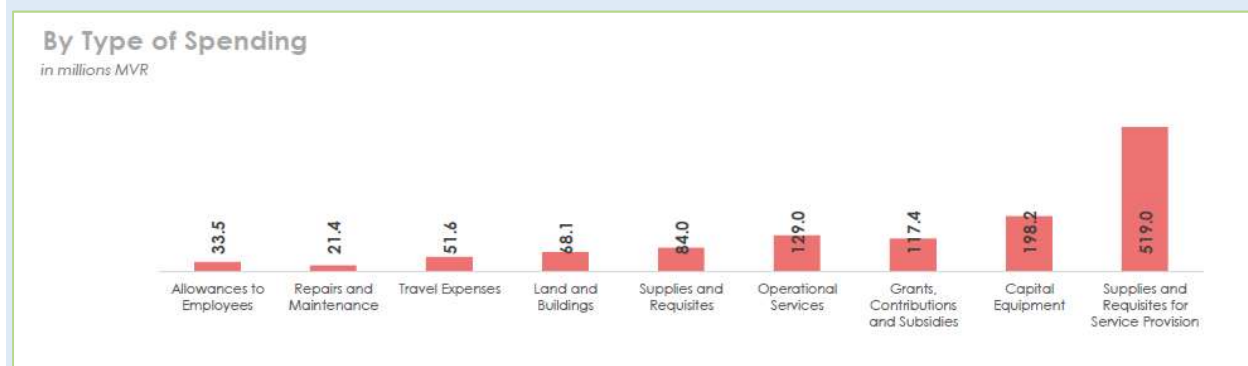
COVID-19 HOSPITAL FACILITIES - OTHER ATOLLS

	Facility Name	Capacity	Pax	Local	Foreigners	Vacancy	No.of ICU beds	No.of Isolation beds	No.of ventilators
1	Sh Fumadhoo Covid Facility	57	2	2	-	55	20	37	2
2	B Eydhafushi Covid Facility	45	-	-	-	45	20	25	2
3	L Gan Covid Facility	28	-	-	-	28	15	13	2
4	Ga Villingili Covid Facility	23	2	2	0	21	18	5	2
5	Addu Covid management facility	41	-	-	-	41	20	21	2
	TOTAL	194	4	4	0	190	93	101	10

Establishment of diagnostic, isolation, quarantine facilities and strengthen capacity of health workers at the regional level have been key activities to decentralize COVID-19 management. Rapid Response Teams are active and with the Island Task Force ensuring new arrivals in the islands are complying with quarantine procedures. To ensure the sustenance of quality of intervention, WHO continues to offer and support capacity building activities as a priority and promoting to give due importance to the Essential Health Services and sustain the scenario based approach which is the country best practice.

COVID-19 Weekly Spending Report – 14th September 2020

The Ministry of Finance, Maldives provides weekly update on COVID-19 response expenditure. As of 10th September 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,222.2 million (USD 79.3 million), which is an of 1% increase from the week before. In this review period 50.8 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending. In terms of week-on-week spending, MoH spent MVR 9.5 million, which was significantly higher compared to its peers. Approximately 47% of MoH spending for the week was on operational services for covid-19 efforts, and the latter on medical consumables, catering, travel and on maintenance. To date, NDMA, MoH and IGMH account for 91.5% of all COVID-19 spending on health and social efforts.



Maldives has initiated providing allowance for frontline health workers. The allowance will be provided to 2948 health workers as per the following table. So far MVR 33.5 million (USD 2.2 million) has been disbursed for the purpose.

High Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible if nature of work requires direct contact with COVID-19 patients Allowance: MVR 500 /daily
Medium Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible if nature of work requires direct contact with high-risk individual Allowance: MVR 250 /daily
Low Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible upon logging in more than 6 hours of work at the National Emergency Operation Centre each day Allowance: MVR 200 /daily

Similarly, the total disbursements made to Economic Response Plan (ERP) schemes showed an increase of 1.2% from the previous week. As of 10 September 2020, total disbursements made to ERP schemes stood at MVR 996.8 million (USD 64.6 million), which includes disbursements made towards the Income Support scheme, COVID-19 Recovery Loan scheme to support businesses and Discount on Utility Bills (Electricity and Water).