

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Emergency Readiness/ Response

Country: MALDIVES

Date: 07 / 10 / 2020

Cases reporting

- Over 153,000 samples tested to date, with country currently performing 1400-1600 tests daily – an increased number of tests per day.
- 9,427 people (89.21%) have recovered. 1,099 cases are currently active across the country.
- 10,567 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 34 deaths (0.33%) reported. 410 new cases since last week.
- 73 are hospitalized with moderate or severe disease with no cases in ICU and no one on ventilator support.
- 99.80% of cases belong to known and existing clusters – more Maldivians (63.36%) among the active cases.
- 526 people are in isolation facilities across Maldives and rest 68 persons under home isolation with 417 persons under home Quarantine.
- Cases continue to be seen mostly from Greater Male' region. 1,006 active cases are currently reported from the Male' region, with 100% of all cases in the atolls having link to travel from greater Male' area.
- Outside of Greater Male' Region - 122 active cases in 20 inhabited islands during the last week – 57 locals and 65 expats.
- In the north of the country, in Haa Dhaalu Atoll Kulhudhuffushi island has reported 7 active cases with the island currently under monitoring for contact tracing purposes.
- In the central region, in Laamu atoll there are currently 35 active cases – all with the history of travel from Male' City and under quarantine.
- The number seems higher this week due to a group of expat workers under quarantine post travel tested positive in the Southern most atoll of Maldives, Seenu Gan – with 55 active cases.
- Prior to the 55 active cases in Seenu Atoll, the island in Gaafu Dhaalu atoll Hoadedhhoo currently has NO active cases out of the 45 total cases reported in the island – with the prompt response actions lead at the atoll and island levels in coordination with HEOC.
- In the resorts – currently there are 26 active COVID-19 cases across 20 resorts – 16 staffs and 10 tourists. This includes staff from non-operational resorts as well.

Developments/ activities carried out by Member State

- HE Vice President of Maldives continue to lead the HEOC operations, including discussion with the partners to finalize guidelines for reopening of guesthouse local tourism on October 15th, 2020.
- Meetings with the relevant Ministries and Island councils are ongoing to ensure continuity of essential services in the guesthouse islands.
- Strengthening the screening at sea ports is a major priority – especially in order to make sure we don't have any cases pop up from atolls.
- The Ministry of Education has announced that schools will finally be reopened in the Greater Male' Region following the temporary closure in August 9th 2020.
- State Trading Organization (STO) has donated safety equipment for frontline workers in the country's Covid-19 response efforts by handing over 3,000 safety goggles.
- The Ministry of Tourism has announced that over 9,000 tourists from 125 countries have arrived in the Maldives during the month of September 2020, a 25% increase in arrivals.
- As of 01 October 2020, total spending towards COVID-19 health and social efforts stood at MVR 1,287.7 million; a 0.3 % increase from the week before. In this review period 48.8 % of total health and social spending was committed-spending.
- <https://www.finance.gov.mv/public/attachments/nSolunOpTs4ceefXnhtDpKCRTvnaJOycMHtOdZyo.pdf>

WCO activities

- Actively participate at daily HECC meetings to support the country's COVID-19 response.
- WHO hosted the briefing meeting for the National Immunization Program and MTAGI on the COVID-19 vaccine country readiness assessment tool.
- Lead and facilitated meeting of 6th UNCT Health and WASH working group meeting for COVID-19 response support to the country.
- Supported finalization of plans for Intensification of Measles and Rubella Immunization at regions/atolls.
- Supported recruitment of additional staff to strengthen HECC response.
- Regularly sharing information and advice with UN partner and other stakeholders.

WHO support provided to Member State

- Working with SEARO team to mobilize 15,000 PCR test kits for COVID-19 diagnosis on an urgent basis.
- Coordinated with HPA to complete a rapid assessment questionnaire for collecting data/information on comprehensive control of cancer cervix in Maldives.
- Handed over various essential equipment required to establish COVID-19 diagnostics and treatment at regional level in South and North Atolls – including items to set up ICU in two regions.