Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)Situation Report – 104 Timor-Leste



Data as reported by 16 June 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

• The Ministry of Health (MoH) reported 504 new cases of COVID-19 since the last time of reporting (09.06.2021) – this takes the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 8,478. All patients are admitted to the designated isolation and treatment facilities at Vera Cruz, Tasitolu, Tibar, and other government identified isolation hotels. The MoH has also granted permission to some cases for home isolation. For more details, please see the epidemiological update section.

The surveillance team, as per the national guideline, is working on further investigation and contact tracing. More details about the new cases can be found at the MoH's Facebook page, Palacio das Cinzas.

- The Government of Timor-Leste launched the National COVID-19
 Immunization Programme of the second dose of COVID-19 vaccines with 76,800 doses from the COVAX Facility and 24,000 doses from the Government of New Zealand under the COVAX vaccine sharing initiative.
- Pillar 2 team, as per the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan
 (SPRP), for COVID-19 response under the MoH, continues to proactively conduct sensitization
 and advocacy to government, university students, and at the community level and the second
 phase of COVID-19 vaccination with support from WHO and UNICEF and several other partners
 in 13 municipalities.
- The MoH reported one additional COVID-19 death since the time of last reporting (09.06.2021).
 The COVID-19 death toll now stands at 19.
- UNICEF supported SAMES to distribute the recently received vaccines to all municipalities. The administration of second doses to frontline workers and first doses to the priority population is underway in the municipalities.
- UNICEF and WHO are providing technical support to the municipality and CHCs level (Dili, Liquisa, Manatuto, Baucau and Ermera) on the Training of Trainers (ToT) on COVID-19 vaccine rollouts for health workers (medical doctors, nurses and midwives), and, also in monitoring the COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

8478 confirmed (**504** new) **7184** recovered (**1027** new) **1275** active cases **19** deaths

(As per data released by the Ministry of Health)

Follow WHO Timor-Leste on Facebook and Twitter.

More information and guidance by WHO regarding the current COVID-19 outbreak can be found here.

GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS
Total (new) cases in last seven
days

Globally

175 333 154 confirmed (2 655 782) 3 793 230 deaths (72 528)

- UNICEF and WHO are supporting the COVAX secretariat in the country to roll out the vaccination campaign for specific groups and priority populations. This includes providing technical support to NITAG and COVID-19 technical working group to review and update enumeration and support the rollout of 70,000 doses of vaccines and monitoring processes in Dili.
- UNICEF and WHO continue to support the MoH in supportive supervision and monitoring at CHC and the DHS level to continue routine immunization and essential health services.
- UNICEF and WHO along with several health development partners like PLAN, CARE, CVTL have
 also supported coordination meetings with NGOs on supporting the next phase campaign and
 supporting ongoing advocacy meetings at the administrative post and suco level, broadcast
 COVID-19 prevention and uptake messaging on community radio and television.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL UPDATES

The number of COVID-19 cases had been surging since early March 2021; but has been showing signs of stabilizing – with a downward trend nationally – since early June 2021. As of 16 June 2021, 8,478 cases were reported, of which 7,184 have recovered and 19 deaths. Currently, there are 1,275 active cases in the isolation/treatment centres of Tasi Tolu, Vera Cruz and other facilities in Dili and the Municipalities or at home for isolation and follow up.



 Distribution of newly reported, recovered and active cases by municipalities, as of 16 June 2021.

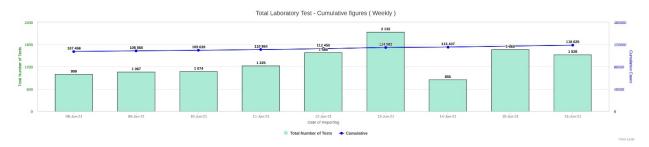
Municipality	New Case	Cumulative Case	New Recovered	Cumulative Recovered	New Deceased	Cumulative Deceased	Active Case
Aileu	1	29	0	23	0	0	10
Ainaro	0	44	0	33	0	0	15
Baucau	0	311	0	253	0	0	129
Bobonaro	5	203	12	164	0	2	55
Covalima	0	207	0	119	0	0	90
Dili	46	6739	132	6188	0	16	887
Ermera	0	73	0	96	0	0	14
Lautem	0	39	0	35	0	0	13
Liquiça	0	25	0	23	0	1	1

Viqueque Total	0 66	171 8478	1 145	159 7184	0 0	0 19	29 1275
Oecusse	4	13	0	9	0	0	10
Manufahi	0	55	0	55	0	0	3
Manatuto	10	32	0	27	0	0	19

- As demonstrated in the above table, majority of the cases (85%) are reported from Dili, followed by Baucau, Covalima, Bobonaro, and Viqueque. In all, 19 deaths have been reported, of which 15 are from Dili, one from Liquica and one from Bobonaro.
- The test positivity rate from the last 7 days showed 5%, (compare to 10.7% from the previous week) showing early signs of control over this current surge. However, with low testing in the municipalities coupled with low vaccine coverage outside of Dili, the largely susceptible population in the districts could easily upend this early stabilization. Strict adherence to public health and social measures (masking, hand washing, physical distancing and avoidance of mass gatherings) must continue as vaccine coverage is ramped up outside Dili.



 As of 16 June 2021, 117,097 PCR tests were done by the National Health Laboratory and referral hospital laboratories since the beginning of the response. The NHL now can return results within 24 hours of collecting the samples.



CASE MANAGEMENT

	01/06	02/06	03/06	04/06	05/06	06/06	07/06	08/06	09/06	10/06	11/06	12/06	13/06	14/06
Isolation Centers Dili	1002	953	908	911	944	905	861	770	681	637	597	580	539	505
Home- isolation Dili	173	173	185	180	180	184	170	154	150	117	112	116	120	92

All isolation Municipalities	573	560	557	566	573	596	557	543	520	412	374	383	412	399
Grand total	1748	1686	1650	1657	1697	1685	1588	1467	1351	1166	1083	1079	1071	996

The table shows that the number of cases in (1) Dili and (2) home-isolation have almost halved the first 2 weeks of June, which it has reduced by approximately 40% in other districts. This is broadly in line with the testing results from the National Laboratory.

Pillar 7 and HNGV team have continued to prepare for the treatment and care of mild to critical patients, including in all 5 Referral Hospitals.

VACCINATION UPDATES

- With submission of COVAX vaccine request in December 2020 and National COVID-19
 Vaccination Deployment Plan (NVDP) in January 2021 and Timor-Leste became eligible to
 receive COVAX Facility donated COVID-19 vaccine 263,556 persons equal to 20% of the total
 population of Timor Leste.
- Timor Leste has received 124,800 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine through COVAX Facility. In addition to the vaccines from COVAX Facility, Timor-Leste received additional COVID-19 vaccine stocks from different sources as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: COVID-19 vaccine Receipts to Timor Leste

Vaccine	Procurement Type	# Doses	Date Received
		Received	
1. SKBio-AZ - Korea	COVAX Facility	24,000	5 th April 2021
2. SII-AZ – India	UN – Bilateral Deal	1,000	21 st April 2021
3. CSL -AZ - Australia	Govt of Australia donation	20,000	7 th May 2021
4. CSL -AZ - Australia	Govt of Australia donation	20,000	19 th May 2021
5. CSL -AZ - Australia	Govt of Australia donation	20,000	28 th May 2021
6. CSL -AZ - Australia	Govt of Australia donation	10,000	02 nd June 2021
7. Sinovac- China	Govt of China donation	100,000	05 th June 2021
8. Catalent - Italy	COVAX Facility	76,800	09 th June 2021
9. SKBio-AZ - Korea	COVAX Facility	24,000	09 th June 2021
Total		295,800	

The administration of COVAX COVID-19 vaccine commenced on 7 April 2021 targeting frontline
essential staff. With receipt of additional vaccine donations from the Governments of Australia
and China, the MoH has re-strategized to vaccinate different priority groups after considering
current COVID-19 transmission dynamics in consultation with WHO and other partners as
indicated in the Table 2.

Table 2: Place of deployment and target populations by different consignments of vaccines

Vaccine	Procurement Type	# Doses Received	Place of deployment and target population
1. SKBio-AZ - Korea	COVAX Facility	24,000	All 13 municipalities; Front Line Essential staff 1 st dose
2.SII-AZ – India	UN – Bilateral Deal	1,000	UN Staff 1 st and 2 nd dose
3.CSL -AZ - Australia	Govt of Australia donation	70,000	Dili Municipality; over 60 years, persons with comorbidity and above 18 years - 1 st dose
4.Sinovac- China	Govt of Chania donation	100,000	Dili Municipality; above 18 years - 1 st dose and 2 nd dose including university students, teachers, pregnant and lactating mothers
5.SK Bio- Korea and Catalent - Italy	COVAX Facility	100,800	12 Municipalities excluding Dili; Front line essential staff; 2 nd dose and 1 st dose for over 60 years and persons comorbidity
Total		295,800	

- One hundred and seventy thousand (170,000) doses of vaccines donated by the Governments
 of Australia and China were deployed only in the Dili Municipality to vaccinate persons over 18
 years, irrespective of risk groups. However, priority was given to university students and school
 teachers. It is expected to vaccinate close to 50 % of Dili over 18 years population with these
 vaccine stocks.
- The consignments of vaccines received from COVAX Facility was deployed to vaccinate front line
 essential staff, population over 60 years and persons with comorbidities in 12 municipalities
 excluding Dili as envisaged in National Covid-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan.
- At the time of preparation of this report (16 June 2021 afternoon) in total 112,040 COVID-19 vaccine doses comprising 104,347 1st doses and 7693 2nd doses has been administered. The breakdown of number of doses administered by 1st and 2nd dose for priority population groups is given in the Table 3.

Table 3: COVID-19 vaccine doses administered to different priority groups by 1st and 2nd dose

Priority Group		Male		Female				
	1 st Dose	2 nd	Sub	1 st Doe	2 nd Dose	Sub		
		Dose	Total			Total		
Health care staff	4597	1523	6120	3928	1054	4982		
Other front-line staff	20833	4236	25069	8759	1530	10289		
Persons 60 years	1908	61	1969	1634	36	1670		
and above								
Persons 18-59y with	6181	112	6293	5599	42	5641		
comorbidity								
Persons 18-59y with	29576	373	29949	24275	317	24592		
no comorbidity								
Total	63095	6305	69400	44195	2979	47174		

WHO TIMOR-LESTE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Interrupt human-to-human transmission including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and health care workers, preventing transmission amplification events;
- Strengthening of surveillance systems and increasing laboratory capacity to detect COVID-19 cases;
- Ensuring adherence to the strictest standards of infection prevention and control (IPC) and increase capacity for IPC;
- Identify, isolate and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

Wash your hands frequently

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

Why? Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub kills viruses that may be on your hands.

Maintain physical distancing

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and others.

Why? When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing is infected.

Use face mask when physical distancing is not possible

Why? If when you're in a setting where maintaining the physical distance of 1 meter or more is not possible due to the space constraint, then it is imperative that you use a face mask as it can help in stopping the transmission of COVID-19

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth

Why? Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and make you sick.

Practice respiratory hygiene

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue safely immediately.

Why? Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of health authorities.

Why? Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also protect you and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.

Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow advice given by your healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Why? National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on whether COVID-19 is spreading in your area. They are best placed to advise on what people in your area should be doing to protect themselves.

Protect ourselves and our loved ones against #COVID19:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face
- Avoid crowded places and limit time in enclosed spaces
- Keep a distance of at least 1 metre from others
- Use of mask is imperative when physical-distancing is not possible.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Isolate yourself from others if feeling unwell and seek care, if needed

More guidance on preventive measures is available <u>here</u>.

COVID-19 Information and media queries:

- The MoH has established a hotline number 119 for COVID-19 on which people can call to get any COVID-19 related information.
- Additionally, <u>MoH Facebook page</u> provides timely updates on COVID-19 developments in the country.
- WHO Timor-Leste through its <u>Facebook page</u> and <u>Twitter handle</u> also disseminates information on preventive measures, questions and answers, myth-busters and latest updates on COVID-19 globally and nationally. For media queries and interviews requests can be sent to <u>singhsho@who.int</u> and <u>hasane@who.int</u>