SITUATION OVERVIEW & EMERGING NEEDS

- Confirmed COVID-19 cases continued to rise with record number of new daily cases reported on 8 October 2020 (4,850).
- The highest number of new cases came from the provinces of DKI Jakarta, East Java, West Java, and Central Java.
- To slow rates of community transmission, the Government of DKI Jakarta reapplied large-scale social restrictions (PSBB), effective 14 September 2020.
- IOM continues to provide a range of ongoing support, including for COVID-19 infection prevention and control, to more than 7,800 refugees and asylum seekers registered in IOM’s integrated community assistance programme across nine cities in Indonesia.
- IOM also bolstered COVID-19 emergency response measures for recently arrived Rohingya women, men, and children, as part of its coordinated response with government, international, and civil society partners. IOM facilitated COVID-19 testing, expanded measures to promote compliance with health protocols on site, supported infection prevention and control efforts, and worked with refugees to increase awareness on personal preventative measures, such as hand hygiene (pictured above).
- Together the Directorate General for Immigration, the Ministry of Health, the National Border Management Authority, and the National Agency for the Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers, IOM has assessed 10 key Points of Entry nationwide to identify additional response measures and capacity needs to increase case detection capacity, to improve case referrals, and to reduce the risks of travellers and migrants moving through airports, seaports, and land borders, as well as frontline officers.

FEATURE STORY

INTEGRATING COVID-19 MEASURES INTO DISASTER RESPONSE EFFORTS

On 13 July 2020, severe flash floods in North Luwu, South Sulawesi, forced 14,000 people to flee their homes in search for higher ground.

Being one of the first natural disasters in Indonesia since the onset of the pandemic, together with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the ministry’s TAGANA volunteers, and BAZNAS, IOM assessed the situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) throughout North Luwu in September, with an additional lens focused on COVID-19 awareness and prevention measures in displacement sites.

“Among our joint findings of 4,143 IDPs, we found there to be high levels of awareness of the virus, but adherence to COVID-19 health protocols were a challenge for IDPs,” according to Pak Fachrul Rizky, from IOM’s disaster response team.

Physical distancing, regular use of masks, and a lack of disinfectant and cleaning supplies were among the most common challenges related to COVID-19.

“We knew COVID-19 would add a layer of complexity during emergency responses, including for responders,” Pak Rizky added. “The information gathered from this exercise will be a useful reference and benchmark for government and non-government partners to improve COVID-19 measures as part of forthcoming natural disasters.”
HIGHLIGHTS FROM IOM ACTIVITIES ACROSS INDONESIA

**KUPANG, EAST NUSA TENGGARA**
IOM installed hand washing stations in 5 schools and early childhood education centers.

**BATAM, RIAU ISLANDS**
Integrated COVID-19 protocols to support assisted voluntary returns from Indonesia to countries of origin.

**MEDAN, NORTH SUMATERA**
3,000 cloth masks produced by refugee volunteers were donated to local residents throughout Medan.

**PEKANBARU, RIAU**
Weekly disinfectant in community housing accommodations in Pekanbaru is an ongoing prevention measures against COVID-19.

**JAKARTA**
IOM is conducting assessment at points of entry to strengthen mitigation measures with the Ministry of Health and the DG Immigration.

**SURABAYA, EAST JAVA**
IOM provided hygiene kits to refugees in the community housing to help prevent COVID-19.

**SEMARANG, CENTRAL JAVA**

**BOGOR, WEST JAVA**
IOM continued PPE distributions to hospitals across 20 cities in Indonesia, including the Cibinong regional general hospital in Bogor.

**MAKASSAR, SOUTH SULAWESI**
IOM donated hygiene kits and shared COVID-19 prevention measures to organizations supporting disadvantaged children.

**BANJARMASIN, SOUTH SULAWESI**
IOM is conducting training and provide PPE to 8 hospitals in Banjarmasin.

**SURABAYA, EAST JAVA**
IOM provided hygiene kits to refugees in the community housing to help prevent COVID-19.

**BOGOR, WEST JAVA**
IOM continued PPE distributions to hospitals across 20 cities in Indonesia, including the Cibinong regional general hospital in Bogor.

**JAKARTA**
IOM is conducting assessment at points of entry to strengthen mitigation measures with the Ministry of Health and the DG Immigration.

**TANJUNG PINANG, RIAU ISLANDS**
Health promotion and COVID-19 education sessions with refugees together with the Kawal Community Health Center (Puskesmas) in Bintan.
SNAPSHOT OF IOM RESPONSE IN INDONESIA

Strategic Priority 1: Ensure a well-coordinated, informed and timely response through mobility tracking systems and strengthening partnership and coordination structures established at the community, national and regional levels

- IOM co-facilitated weekly multi-sectoral cluster coordination meetings through the National Cluster on Displacement and Protection, led by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA). Main topics discussed included the prevention of COVID-19 transmission during emergency disaster responses and displacement event, and the collaboration between cluster members to support MOSA’s community-based disaster preparedness programme, named Kampung Siaga Bencana (Village Disaster Preparedness).
- Meanwhile, at the sub-national level, with city and district of Bogor remaining an area of concern, IOM facilitated meetings with the Social Affairs Office of Bogor District to support COVID-19 multi-sectoral coordination and responses between government and non-government actors, modelling effective coordination practices undertaken through the national cluster system.
- In collaboration with government of Makassar City, IOM held a webinar on multi-sector integrated data management during the pandemic. A total of 1,148 participants attended online, with speakers from BAPPENAS, the Ministry of Health, the University of Oslo (Norway), and Hasanuddin University in Makassar. The action was held through the USAID-funded Building Health Cities project.

Strategic Priority 2: Contribute to global, regional, national and community preparedness and response efforts for COVID-19 to reduce associated morbidity and mortality

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Directorate General of Immigration, the National Border Management Agency, and the National Agency for the Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers, IOM assessed 10 prioritized Points of Entry nationwide to identify opportunities for increased COVID-19 mitigation measures.
- In addition to ongoing distribution of masks, hand sanitizer, soaps and disinfectants to refugees and asylum seekers in IOM’s assistance programme, in September, IOM distributed 250 hygiene kits to organizations working with disadvantaged children in Makassar, and 200 kits to homes for the elderly in Tangerang. In Kupang, IOM installed and supplied 5 handwashing stations in local schools. Nationwide, regular environmental disinfections of community accommodations continued.
- IOM continued direct distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) to hospitals and health care providers in Makassar, Kupang, Pekanbaru, Tangerang, Bekasi, Bogor, and Semarang in coordination with local health offices and the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB).
- Risk communication and community engagement with the 7,800 refugees in IOM’s programme continued throughout the period, including through online and in-person prevention and education activities, together local health authorities and health clinics (Puskesmas).
Regular exchanges with refugees include updates on the COVID-19 situation in the localities, maintaining vigilance on personal and family prevention measures, awareness of symptoms and referring cases, the evolving regulations and policies related to restrictions on gatherings and stay-at-home requirements, and coping measures and activities to do while staying at home.

- For refugees under its care, IOM and government partners continued to collaborate closely for case screening, contact tracing, monitoring, and surveillance of cases. For refugee resettlement and movement support, enhanced procedures include phone triage before refugees visit migration health assessment centers, screening before entering health premises (whether clinics or hospitals), pre-departure observation, and final assessments conducted at the airport before embarkation.

### Strategic Priority 3: Ensure access of affected people to basic services and commodities, including health care, and protection and social services

- IOM trained 30 TAGANA volunteers and staff from the National Zakat Agency (BAZNAS) in preparation for a displacement tracking and assessment exercise following flash floods in North Luwu, South Sulawesi. The displacement tracking exercise, which gathered information from 4,000 IDPs, integrated COVID-19 as a line of inquiry in order to support government and non-government responders in preparedness for future displacement events, including when IDPs are temporarily in camp-like settings.

- IOM continued to work together with various COVID-19 test laboratories and local health offices in conducting PCR and rapid tests for indications of COVID-19 cases among the refugee community in Indonesia. For individuals under self-quarantine or isolation, observations of symptoms and physical examinations are carried out to monitor health conditions.

- Individual psychosocial counselling services continued for refugees under IOM’s programme. IOM also sustained its ongoing preventative, primary, secondary and tertiary health care services for non-COVID-19 health concerns for refugees in collaboration with its network of health care providers and hospitals.

- In September, IOM facilitated the third country resettlement of 122 refugees and the assisted voluntary return of 31 individuals with COVID-19 safety protocols.

- IOM continued to support the drafting of the Protocol on the Protection of Refugee Children and Internally Displaced Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic with the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection and UN partners.

### Strategic Priority 4: Support international, national and local partners to respond to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

- Amidst the pandemic and the loss of livelihoods for millions of families in Indonesia, the Government’s Anti-Trafficking Task Force, IOM, and civil society partners have observed an increasing prevalence of trafficking in persons experienced by both Indonesian migrant workers exploited abroad, and internal trafficking cases inside the country. Of particular concern is the trend of
trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, including of minors.

- In response to this trend, IOM trained 21 staff from government and NGO service providers on safely delivering victim-centred assistance to trafficking survivors on 21-25 September. IOM maintains its essential victim assistance services during the pandemic, with 89 survivors (10 F; 79 M) since March 2020 alone.

- Limiting the impact on refugee children’s education remains a high priority in IOM’s refugee assistance programme. IOM supported distance learning modalities for refugees to access online classes, and coordinated with teachers and schools where more than 650 refugee children in IOM’s programme are enrolled. In Semarang, IOM partnered with Bina Putra School and the Harvey Foundation to increase refugee children’s access to private teachers and tutors to assist with online lessons.

- Preliminary findings from an ongoing assessment led by IOM on the socio-economic impact on Indonesian migrant workers indicate that nearly 70% of respondents remain unemployed, and many more faced stigmatization following their return home. IOM will continue to expand the survey’s coverage over the upcoming months.

### RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS & FUNDING APPEAL

IOM’s initial funding request of USD 10,000,000 currently stands at 25% resourced, with financial contributions from the United States Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, the Australian Department of Home Affairs, and the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid.

Within the wider framework of IOM’s Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan, IOM Indonesia is responding to both humanitarian and development priorities to ensure that displaced and vulnerable mobile populations are not left at risk to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and to meet requests for assistance from Government partners and the National Task Force to mitigate impacts of COVID-19.

Urgent priorities requiring additional financial resources include, among others:

- Expanding rapid response measures for COVID-19 mitigation as part of coordinated humanitarian assistance efforts for Rohingya refugees in Aceh
- Improving COVID-19 mitigation measures and capacities at Points of Entry to Indonesia in preparation for reopening of internal and international travel, trade, and the placements of Indonesian migrant workers overseas
- Further augmenting government capacities to support the safe return and stabilization of Indonesian migrant workers – including seafarers and fishers – cut off from their economic livelihoods, including addressing protection needs and strengthening recovery prospects
- Addressing the needs migrants stranded in Indonesia to safely, voluntarily return to their home countries
- Strengthening Government of Indonesia’s preparedness and responses to natural disasters during COVID-19

Read the full IOM Indonesia’s Strategic Preparedness & Response Plan for details.

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