



Information sharing on novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

MRCS's activities supported by the Red Cross & Red Crescent Movement partners in Myanmar

#COVID19 Helping the most vulnerable people through the most local action in Myanmar and globally



Yangon region

One month after the first confirmed case in Myanmar on 23 March 2020

MRCS staff and volunteers have been preparing the communities on potential outbreak since January and quickly shifted to emergency response mode through:

- Opening of the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) on 24 March and immediately mobilizing thousands of community-based Red Cross volunteers
- Drastically expanding services in community quarantine facilities, checkpoints, and communities, as well as psychosocial support for general public and vulnerable population
- Increasing support for returning migrants and Internally displaced people which will only expand reflecting rapidly developing situation

Latest statistics from the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) as of 11:00pm, 20 April 2020

Total Person Under Investigation (PUI) - 2,089

Confirmed - 119
Death - 5
Recovered - 7

Source: [Surveillance Dashboard](#), Global figures [here](#).

Facts and figures of MRCS COVID-19 response recorded as of 13 April 2020 (source: [MRCS](#))



4970+ services at community quarantine facilities



3812+ temperature screening at checkpoints & communities



3540+ Risk Communications and Community Engagement sessions



796+ psychosocial support for general & vulnerable population

7 fundamental principles guiding MRCS's work on COVID-19 and all times

- Humanity
- Impartiality
- Neutrality
- Independence
- Voluntary service
- Unity
- Universality

Through its life-saving and life-changing work, MRCS promotes and adhere to the Red Cross and Red Crescent Fundamental Principles at all times, while adopting the culture of mutual respect and understanding in every intervention. [Learn more here.](#)



Kachin state



Leaving No Returning Migrants Behind

Red Cross & Red Crescent societies around the globe, including Myanmar Red Cross Society, have been supporting migrants and displaced populations under the most pressing circumstances. MRCS and Red Cross & Red Crescent Movement partners in Myanmar continue to work with the most vulnerable during the COVID-19 outbreak, including 65,000+ returning migrants from China and Thailand.

Red Cross Voices from the field



Recently I started to hear about the family members of our neighbors coming back from China. Many businesses in China closed due to COVID-19 and some cities still in lock-down.

After a couple of days, I found myself assisting the returning migrants with disinfection of their belongings, temperature screening, and registering their names and addresses. I also did awareness raising on proper handwashing. Once they were discharged at the checkpoints, they moved to seven community quarantine facilities in my township. Most of them did not have hygiene products. We wanted to give every one of them hygiene kits with soap, but we didn't have enough for so many people returning...

Nowadays, I also go to quarantine facilities to provide psychosocial support. Most of the people in the facility rely on their family for food. I hope there were more food and water for them. People here are more worried about loss of income than COVID-19 itself. I am very proud and happy to help people when they need assistance. My only wish is to have more gloves, masks, and face shields for myself and other RCVs. With proper protection, we will be able to help better and safer.



The backdrop says "checkpoint for returnees from China"

Dashi Rai San (from photo), Red Cross Volunteer, Momauk township, Kachin State



Risk Comm. & Community Engagement



Services in support of government



Psychosocial support



Increased access to basic needs



Kayah state



Eastern Shan state



Kayin state



Sagaing region

of people to be directly assisted: 1.2 million people (50% women & girls), 5 million through social media

Funding gap: MMK 3,057,100,500 (approx. USD 2,190,060)

MRCs personnel involved: 751 MRCs staff & 4,000+ volunteers through 330 MRCs branches

MRCs Go Away Corona Challenge attracts 1.3 million+ views

MRCs's "Go Away Corona Challenge" aiming to provide psychosocial support to both general & vulnerable population and remind people of preventive measures such as hand washing and coughing on elbows, attracted more than 1.3 million views and over 20,000 shares on social media. Watch [here](#).



GoAwayCorona
a week ago · 457.6K Views
55K



GoAwayCorona
a week ago · 479.9K Views
35K



GoAwayCorona
a week ago · 396.8K Views
35K

IFRC revised emergency appeal highlights

On 26 March 2020, IFRC [launched](#) its revised emergency appeal for COVID-19 outbreak response. This Emergency Appeal seeks a revised **total of CHF 150 million** to enable the IFRC to support its membership to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by COVID-19. **Currently CHF 35,486,823 is received.** (see more at [IFRC Go](#))

Global: COVID-19 outbreak

150,000,000
FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (CHF)

35,486,823
FUNDING (CHF)

Useful guidelines

Disability considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak

In March 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19, to be a pandemic, due to the speed and scale of transmission.

WHO and public health authorities around the world are taking action to contain the COVID-19 outbreak. Certain populations, such as those with disability, may be impacted more significantly by COVID-19. This impact can be mitigated if appropriate actions and protective measures are taken by key stakeholders.

Download [here](#)

Three faces we must be alert to the novel coronavirus
- A guide to breaking the negative spiral -

How do the three "infectious features" structure a negative spiral?

1. Uncertainty and invisibility of the virus create a strong sense of fear.
2. Human survival instincts tell us to distance the suspected.
3. Fear of being stigmatized keeps us from getting medical attentions even when needed, which ends spreading the disease.

The first feature "sickness" leads to the second feature "fear", which leads to the third feature "stigma", which then feeds back into the first feature.

Download [here](#)



Private Sector Engagement:

Nestle Myanmar

On 21 April 2020, Nestle Myanmar donated cash and surgical masks to MRCs. The surgical masks will be provided to frontline workers and Red Cross volunteers on the ground throughout the country who are in dire need of more personal protective equipment (PPE) in the rapidly developing situation in Myanmar. Read more [here](#).

Resources and contact information

- [Daily MoHS update on COVID-19](#)
- [WHO global webpage on COVID-19](#)
- [Daily MIMU update on COVID-19](#)
- [INGO Forum COVID-19 resource collection](#)
- [IFRC Asia Pacific COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- MRCs social media ([Facebook](#)/[Twitter](#))

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For previous versions of this weekly COVID-19 update by MRCs and Red Cross & Red Cross Movement partners, please visit [here](#).