# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## Situation Report – 73 Timor-Leste



Data as reported by 11 November 2020

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- MoH Timor-Leste delegations attended the resumed 73<sup>rd</sup> World Health Assembly. The second leg of the 73<sup>rd</sup> WHA followed the reduced (de minimis) meeting of 18-19 May 2020.
- WHO coordinated and supported the MoH and HNGV to carry out a two-day orientation on Mental Health and COVID-19. More than 20 health workers and mental health focal points participated, including nurses from the acute care unit at HNGV, MoH staff, and mental health case managers from all 13 municipalities, including RAEOA.
- The Secretary of State for Social Communication in collaboration with UNICEF broadcast three radio drama programmes on parenting. They focus on how parents can support and protect their children from COVID-19 and prevention measures. The three radio dramas are being further broadcast by 17 community radio stations across all 13 municipalities.

#### **SITUATION IN NUMBERS**

30 confirmed (0 new)0 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.

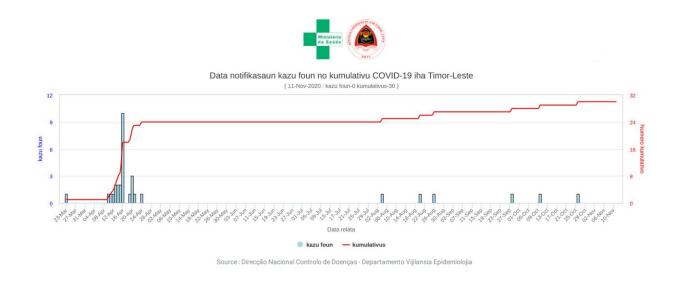
GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS Total (new) cases in last seven days

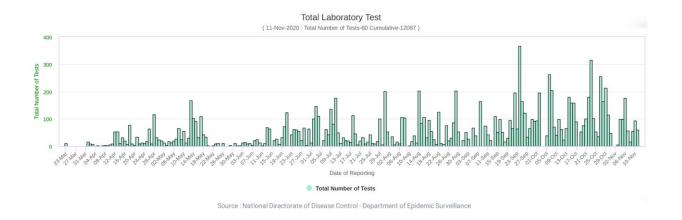
## Globally

49 727 316 confirmed (3 690 495) 1 248 373 deaths (54 835)

- UNICEF supported the MoH in establishing health promotion corners in 18 Community Health
  Centres in Manatuto, Lautem, Manufahi and Dili municipalities. They will be used to facilitate
  regular information dissemination around COVID-19 prevention, as well as other health
  information for patients and community members.
- The MoH and SAMES together with UNICEF and WHO participated in the orientation of personnel involved in vaccine supply chain management and monitoring of the tools and resources for planning and preparing cold chain capacity for a COVID-19 vaccine once available. The MoH presented the current country situation regarding the national logistic and cold chain equipment.
- UNICEF assisted SAMES to conduct the distribution of infection and prevention control supplies to Baucau, Ermera and Manatuto Municipalities.
- WHO is supporting the National TB Programme, MoH in conducting the first-ever Drug Resistance Survey in the country. WHO provided intensive support in the area of protocol development, DRS electronic database development, capacity building, implementation, data analysis and final report writing. The findings of the survey have been presented to the ethics committee at the INS and will be presented to the Council of Director, MoH next.

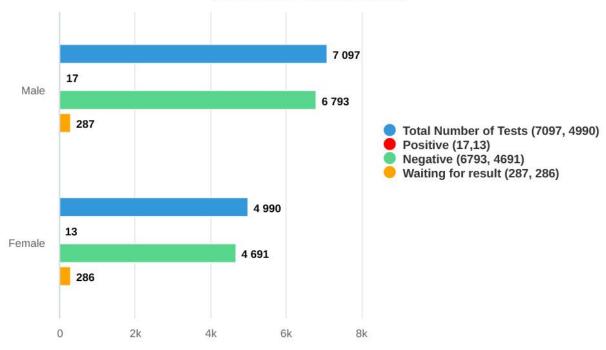
- WHO technical team visited the Oecusse District Health Office and referral hospital to assess and support the ongoing sentinel surveillance. Among the technical issues discussed, the team reviewed the COVID-19 sentinel surveillance progress and stressed on the importance of sentinel surveillance and improving sample collection.
- WHO together with UN Women, WFP, UNDP, and other partner organizations, participated in the
  development partner project exhibition at the Timor-Leste Korean Friendship week held in
  Oecusse. Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) control and elimination project, COVID-19 response,
  Health Security & IHR (2005) projects and the progress made were on display.





## Laboratory Test Results: COVID-19 Timor-Leste

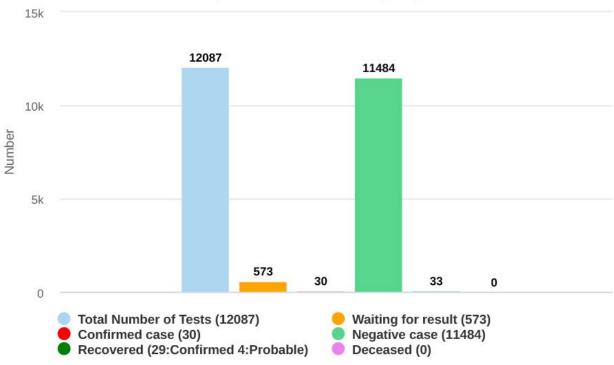
(11-Nov-2020: Cumulative figures)



Source: National Directorate of Disease Control - Department of Epidemic Surveillance

## Current Situation: COVID-19 Timor-Leste

(11-Nov-2020: Cumulative figures)



Source: National Directorate of Disease Control - Department of Epidemic Surveillance

#### 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 <a href="mailto:singhsho@who.int">singhsho@who.int</a> and <a href="mailto:hasane@who.int">hasane@who.int</a>