

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report – 36

Timor-Leste

Data as reported by 22 May 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- Timor-Leste participated in the World Health Assembly (WHA); Director General Health Services, Ministry of Health (MoH), National Director, Policy & Cooperation, MoH, and National Director, Disease Control, MoH represented Timor-Leste virtually. In her message for the WHA, the DG said, “We pledge to work in solidarity with the international community and are encouraged by the intense collaboration to develop effective vaccines, medicines and technologies. We appeal to other Member States to treat these as a ‘public good’ and ensure their equitable distribution. As this pandemic is starkly reminding us – ‘No country is safe until every country is safe!’ The DG also thanked the WHO, “I would like to express my deep gratitude for the support we have received from the World Health Organization in strengthening our COVID-19 response,” she added.
- The WHO Academy, WHO’s lifelong learning centre has launched a mobile app designed to enable health workers to expand their life-saving skills to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. The application is available for *free download* from both the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#).
- WHO is supporting the National Health Laboratory by the means of three technicians who shoulder the crucial responsibility of gene extraction and conducting the subsequent analysis for the COVID-19 testing. WHO along with partners like Menzies School of Health Research is supporting the National Health Laboratory to expand the testing capacity. In addition, WHO & USAID are also providing financial support for the transportation of samples for testing at Royal Darwin Hospital in Darwin, Australia.
- WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, USAID and Australian Aid are supporting the MoH in orientation of health professionals from Maliana municipality on Clinical protocols for antenatal, intra-partum and immediate post-partum care in the context of COVID-19.
- WHO and UNICEF conducted orientation for 29 immunization focal points from the community health centres, health posts and private clinics under Dili municipality on immunization service during COVID-19.
- WHO and USAID have roped in the former President and the Nobel Laureate, Dr Jose Ramos Horta to reemphasize COVID-19 prevention messages. As a part of this initiative, Dr Horta has filmed a series of messages, which are being disseminated through the [WHO Timor-Leste Facebook page](#) and [Twitter handle](#).

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

24 confirmed (0 new)

0 deaths

(As per data released by [Centro Integrado Gestao de Crise](#))

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 24 hours

Globally

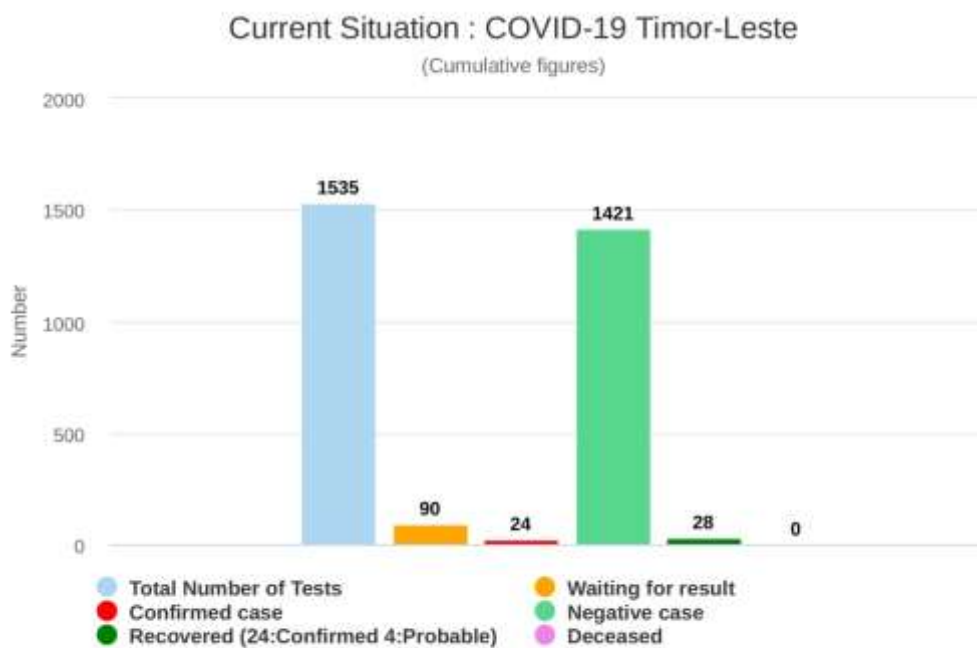
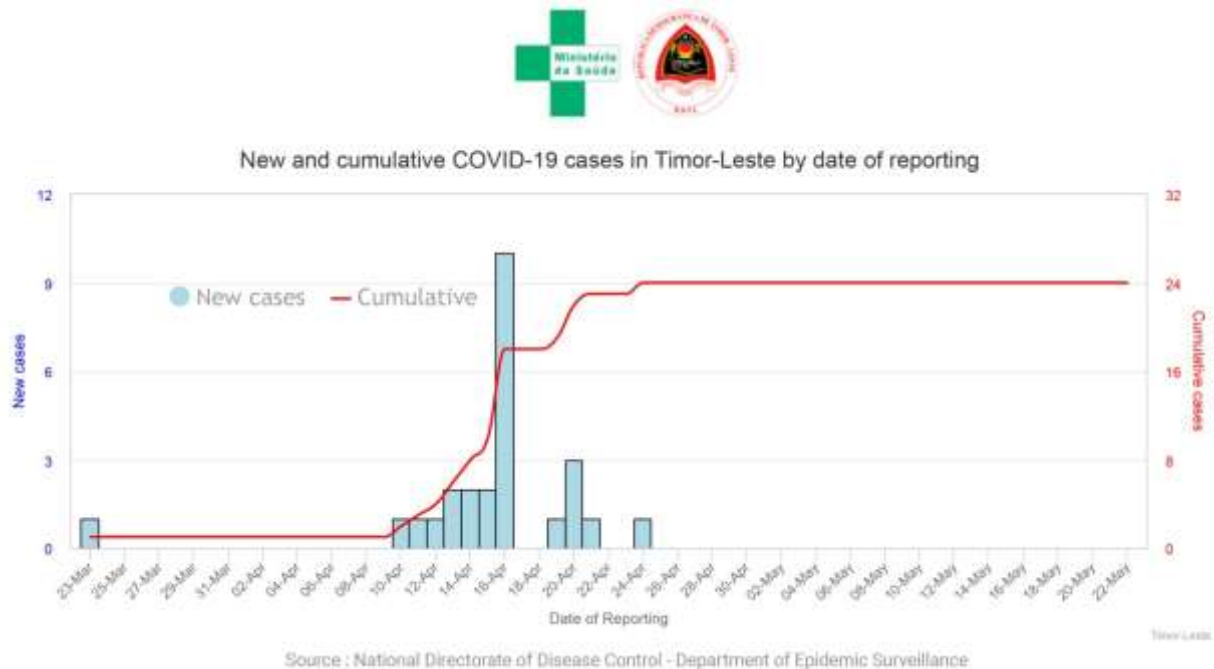
4 893 186 confirmed (103 981)

323 256 deaths (4467)

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

Global Level Very High

- The MoH with support from WHO trained health workers in Maliana municipality on the importance of hand hygiene as a part of the month long hand hygiene campaign that aims to reemphasize the importance of hand hygiene not only in the context of COVID-19, but to improve overall health outcomes.



Global Highlights

- The [World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development](#), celebrated every year on 21 May, is an opportunity to celebrate not only the richness of the world's cultures, but also the importance of cultural competency and intercultural dialogue within healthcare systems. It also reminds us that public health efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic require a whole-of-society approach and must include vulnerable populations such as refugees and migrants in national plans and strategies.
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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.
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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.

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.

More guidance on preventive measures is available [here](#).

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, [MoH Facebook page](#) provides timely updates on COVID-19 developments in the country.
 - WHO Timor-Leste through its [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter handle](#) 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 singhsho@who.int and hasane@who.int
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