# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## Situation Report – 75 Timor-Leste



Data as reported by 25 November 2020

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- To ensure smooth continuity of information management for Pillar 3 (Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19) and further strengthen the diseases surveillance and response system, we provided a range of additional IT equipment – six laptops and six desktops – to the surveillance & quarantine team of the Ministry of Health (MOH).
- The World Bank, WHO and UNICEF met with the Minister of Health to discuss the respective agency's financial and technical commitment to the introduction and roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine.
- In preparation for the introduction of the COVID-19 vaccine once it is available, the Director-General of the Ministry of Health together with UNICEF and WHO participated in the first meeting of the Advance Market Commitment (AMC) Engagement Group. The meeting was conducted to discuss the portfolio, delivery preparedness for the COVID-19 vaccines, and associated details.

#### **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.

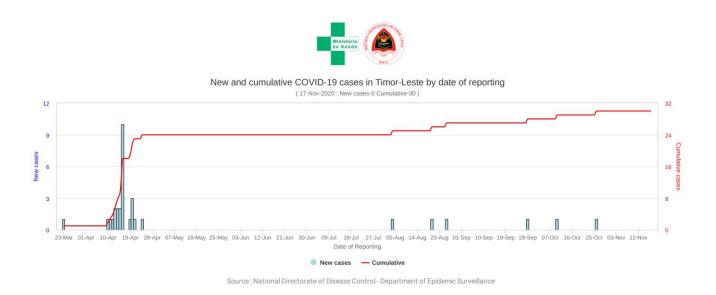
GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS Total (new) cases in last seven days

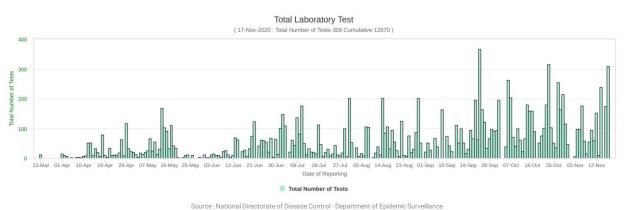
**Globally 57 882 183** confirmed (**4 060 891**) **1 377 395** deaths (**67 221**)

- UNICEF continued to work with SECOMS and community radio to broadcast 11 COVID-19
  prevention messages in Tetun and five other dialects on all community radio stations in the
  country. MOH, UNICEF and WHO supported COVID-19 prevention messages are also being
  broadcast on television.
- The Quality Control Cabinet, MoH is conducting a three-day Twinning Partnership for Improvement (TPI) workshop on the strengthening of quality in health services and infection prevention control (IPC) practices. Lessons learned from the 2-year Twinning Partnership for Improvement programme with Macao SAR Health Bureau will facilitate improved quality of service delivery across the health system. TPI focuses on the value of institution-to-institution partnerships in catalysing health service improvement.
- The MoH, the National Aids Commission, Universidade de Dili (UNDIL) in collaboration with
  partners like WHO, UNFPA and several private sector stakeholders and civil society organizations
  kicked off a weeklong of activities to commemorate the World AIDS Day, which falls on 1
  December every year. The world has made significant progress since the late 1990s, but HIV
  remains a major global public health issue. And like many other major health issues, it faces

additional challenges during the #COVID19 pandemic. The MoH has planned a series of scientific seminar on HIV that will be held at different universities in the run up to the 1st December.

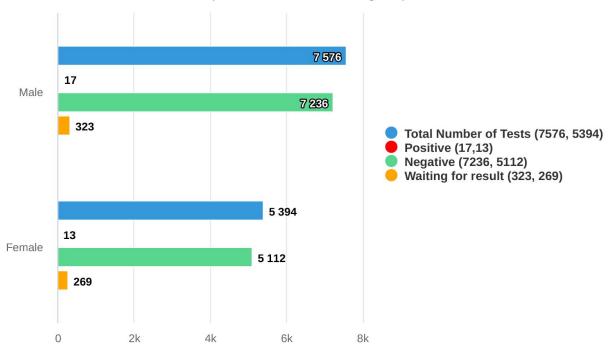
- UNICEF continued to conduct monitoring of construction of permanent WASH infrastructure facilities at border points, which are nearing completion.
- The MoH launched the second phase of Hepatitis vaccination among the key population. The
  Hepatitis B and C testing and Hepatitis B vaccination programme is fully supported by WHO as
  per the National Action Plan for Viral Hepatitis in Timor-Leste, and WHO Global Health Sector
  Strategy for the elimination of Hep B & Hep C as a public health threat by 2030.





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

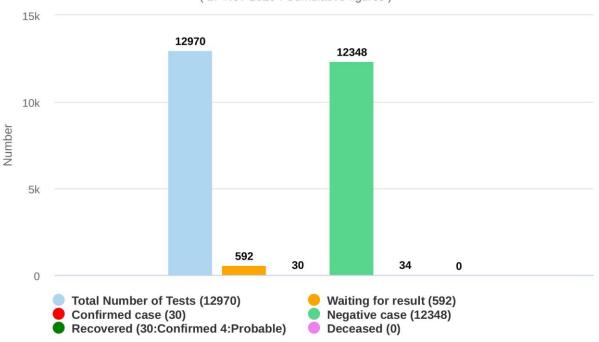
(17-Nov-2020: Cumulative figures)



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

## Current Situation: COVID-19 Timor-Leste

(17-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 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, <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="singhsho@who.int">singhsho@who.int</a> and <a href="hasane@who.int">hasane@who.int</a>