

# UNITED NATIONS INDONESIA

## COVID-19 RESPONSE

*Saving Lives, Protecting Societies, Recovering Better*



### MESSAGE FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR

**T**he wide-range of initiatives shown in this newsletter underline the United Nations' strong commitment to supporting the people and the Government of Indonesia through and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic – and to ensuring no one is left behind in our work to support the most vulnerable, rekindle enterprise and ensure the environment is protected.

Looking beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, we are also mindful of the need to maintain other basic health services such as essential immunisation, to address possible drought and food shortages in around 15 provinces which are facing drier weather than usual and respond to natural disasters such as forest fires, floods and landslides.

Additionally, we are concerned by the longer-term effect of the largest disruption to education in history and prolonged school closures which may further entrench inequalities in access to learning. In the words of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, “as the world faces unsustainable levels of inequality, we need education – the great equalizer – more than ever.”

In facing the pandemic and supporting our recovery, we can reset, rebuild and work towards the future we want.

The actions described herewith underline once more that solidarity is our best line of defence not only against COVID, but in achieving sustainable development.

**Niels Scott**

UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in Indonesia



## Supporting Women in Peace Villages during pandemic



While the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted people's livelihood everywhere, the crisis has posed new challenges for community mobilizations and the distribution of humanitarian aid. Simply put, the crisis has exacerbated living conditions for people who were in vulnerable positions before the outbreak. As a result of the pandemic, the residents of the Peace Villages, a women-led initiative to promote peaceful and resilient communities that was conceived by UN Women and the Indonesian NGO Wahid Foundation, have lost their jobs and seen a rise in food insecurity. To respond to these new challenges, UN

Women through the GUYUB project, jointly implemented with UNODC and UNDP, are providing essential support to women in the Peace Villages. Guyub in Indonesian means "getting along" or "in togetherness". It's a philosophy of living socially where you are connected with everyone in the community. To fight food insecurity, UN Women in partnership with the Wahid foundation distributed over 500 food and hygiene packages to families in 10 Peace Villages across Java, during the ongoing pandemic. Read more: <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2020/07/covid-19-and-the-peace-villages>

## Supporting vulnerable communities during pandemic



The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected the livelihoods of vulnerable and marginalised groups such as transgender people. In Indonesia, many transgender women lost their jobs at the start of the

pandemic, leaving them unable to support themselves or their dependents. Seeing the critical need for support, UNAIDS Indonesia, as part of the Crisis Response Mechanism (CRM) Consortium, fronted by the civil society organizations LBH Masyarakat, Arus Pelangi, Sanggar Swara and GWL Ina, raised funds for the transgender community. Since 28 March, the CRM Consortium has raised over USD 15,000 from public donations and USD 35,000 from development partners. These funds are being used for distribution of food and hygiene packages as well as for rent allowances to over 2,000 transgender women in Indonesia. Read the full story: [https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/april/20200406\\_transgender\\_covid19](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2020/april/20200406_transgender_covid19)





## Supporting female entrepreneurs to keep businesses thriving

With savvy honed in for UN Women’s WeLearn training, female entrepreneurs in Indonesia keep their businesses afloat. The commercial shutdown caused by the coronavirus pandemic has hit Indonesia’s smaller businesses especially hard. But some female entrepreneurs have survived – and even prospered – by using the savvy and skills they learned in a UN Women entrepreneurship training. WeLearn’s online and in-person trainings improve equal learning opportunities to empower women who want to start or grow their business. More than 4,900 women from micro and small enterprises have participated since the project started

in October 2019. Read more: <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2020/05/with-savvy-honed-in-un-womens-welearn-training-female-entrepreneurs-in-indonesia>



## Reaching Domestic violence survivors amid the pandemic



With the COVID-19 pandemic restricting people’s movements and weakening protection systems, women and girls are at greater risk of experiencing GBV. UNFPA’s latest research

expects 31 million additional cases of gender-based violence (GBV) to occur globally if the lockdown continues for at least 6 months. For Indonesia, the pandemic has increased GBV cases by 12% according to a recent online survey by the National Commission for Violence against Women (NCVAW). To ensure GBV survivors can access and receive the necessary services on time, UNFPA has been working closely with the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (MOWECP) and Integrated Services Center of the Women and Children Empowerment (P2TP2A) to adjust the protocol on GBV case management and referral pathway during COVID-19 pandemic. Read more: <https://indonesia.unfpa.org/en/news/reaching-domestic-violence-survivors-amid-pandemic>

## Celebrating midwives and continuity of care

Celebrating midwives who play key roles in the provision of quality sexual and reproductive health care for women, in many parts of the world, WHO, UNFPA and other partners declare 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. The COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges for pregnant women in accessing midwifery care, while midwives strive to provide the best care they can but often leave their own safety as the last priority. Through online education, UNFPA Indonesia has supported IBI in reaching out to field midwives to ensure the continuity of midwifery care for women’s reproductive health during the pandemic. Read more: <https://indonesia.unfpa.org/en/news/midwives-%E2%80%93-celebrate-demonstrate-mobilize-and-unite>



## Delivering masks to refugees



As part of the COVID-19 protection intervention, with thanks to contribution from donors UNHCR procured 6,000 mask cloth from Makassar. Some of the masks are produced and distributed to refugees by partner organisation Dompet Dhuafa. The masks are distributed to refugees who live independently in several urban areas such as Jakarta and greater Jakarta area, Medan, Makassar, Pekanbaru, Aceh and other locations.

## UNODC partners with the Indonesian National Police (INP) to keep communities in East Java safe during COVID-19

UNODC recently provided 10,000 face masks, an essential component of personal protective equipment (PPE) to be available for the Indonesian National Police in East Java. This support forms one component of the Guyub Project, a joint United Nations programme between UNODC, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Women to prevent violent extremism in East Java. The Guyub Project is funded by the Human Security Trust Fund, and is implemented jointly with the East Java government, civil society and key partners. Read more: <https://www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/en/indonesia/2020/07/inp-covid-19/story.html>



## UN Women: Using Data to Support policymaking on pandemic response

To better support Indonesia COVID-19 response conveys the needs of women and girls, as well as to promote a quick recovery, UN Women is partnering with Indosat Ooredoo to collect new data on the socio-economic impact of the pandemic on women and men, including in particularly vulnerable groups such as those in informal employment, who are the among the most at risk of falling back into poverty. This survey was conducted in many countries across the Asia Pacific and for the first time in Indonesia, is currently the largest of its kind generating valuable information to inform policymakers on major issues such as unemployment, changes in earnings, trends in unpaid domestic, care work in the household, and health differentials between women and men. It also will build upon and complement numerous smaller surveys and rapid assessments being conducted by national and international development partners. Read more: <https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2020/06/un-women-and-indosat-ooredoo-partners-to-assess-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-women-and-girls>

**indosat ooredoo** **UN WOMEN**

### Mari bantu UN Women pahami dampak COVID-19 bagi perempuan dan laki-laki di Indonesia

Jika kamu adalah salah satu pelanggan Indosat Ooredoo yang menerima pesan survei online, kamu bisa berkontribusi dengan:

- 1 **Buka SMS dari INDOSAT**
- 2 **Klik link pada SMS untuk mengisi survei online**

**Ayo isi survei sebelum 10 Juli 2020**





## Disseminating the revised national COVID-19 guidelines



WHO supported the Ministry of Health to disseminate the fifth revision of the Indonesian COVID-19 prevention and control guidelines to all 34 provinces. Around 1,900 healthcare workers from healthcare facilities and District and Provincial Health Offices joined the multi-day online event to discuss the guideline updates to surveillance, data recording, laboratory quality control, risk communications and the continuation of essential health services.

Read more: <https://www.who.int/indonesia/news/detail/11-08-2020-disseminating-the-revised-national-covid-19-guideline>

## Prioritising Youth Needs



Ninety percent of young people in Indonesia feel anxious during the COVID-19 pandemic, with social distancing measures forcing schools and workplaces to close. This is one of the findings of an online survey recently conducted by UNFPA Indonesia's Youth Advisory Panel (YAP). Supporting and engaging young people, especially those who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, is one of UNFPA Indonesia's key focus

areas in its COVID-19 response strategy. UNFPA supports the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs (Kemenko PMK) and Ministry of Health (MOH) in developing a National Action Plan to meet the needs of young people in the long term. Read more: <https://indonesia.unfpa.org/en/news/prioritizing-youth-needs-national-covid-19-response>





## Providing psychosocial counselling to Rohingya refugees

Rohingya refugees in Aceh seen wearing the masks from Makassar. Photos: UNHCR/H.Therik

At the end of June, the Indonesian Government allowed the safe disembarkation to almost 100 Rohingya refugees in Lancok Village, Lhokseumawe, North Aceh, after the group had been stranded on a boat for days in Indonesian waters. After concluding registration, UNHCR provided psychosocial counselling to the group that consist of 12 men, 31 women and 56 children. "Saving lives must always be the top priority. We applaud the Indonesian authorities for allowing these vulnerable women, children and men to reach safety.

Indonesia has several times been a country that has set an example to others in the region, having also provided life-saving humanitarian assistance to Rohingya boat people in Aceh in 2015 and in 2018. We are grateful to see that same humanitarian spirit today," said Ann Maymann, UNHCR Representative in Indonesia. Moving forward, UNHCR will continue to work in coordination with authorities and partners to provide the necessary assistance to the refugees, including to provide sensitization on COVID-19 prevention to the group.

## Reconstruction project to restore lifeline in quake-hit Indonesia's Sulawesi



The collapse of two suspension bridges during the 2018 earthquake crippled life in Central Sulawesi's Kampong Toraja. Since then, villagers have been forced to partially travel on foot to sell their produce in nearby towns. They have also been struggling to get access to critical healthcare. UNDP's PETRA project has recently completed the design of the new bridge that many consider the "treasure of the Tuva community". UNDP is collaborating

with YKMI, a national CSO working in Central Sulawesi for post-disaster recovery. YKMI has been working with the Tuva community to rebuild suspension bridges and irrigation canals. The reconstruction of Tuva bridge will allow residents to once again access the market, health care and other facilities in Tuva. . Read more: <https://www.id.undp.org/content/indonesia/en/home/presscenter/articles/2020/UNDP-reconstruction-Sulawesi.html>



[bit.ly/UNIndonesiaresponse](https://bit.ly/UNIndonesiaresponse)



UN in Indonesia