MESSAGE FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR

With each passing day we gain increased experience in confronting COVID-19. Guided by the World Health Organisation, the UN and its many partners will continue to support work on suppressing transmission of the coronavirus, through early testing and contact tracing, necessary distancing, and measures to keep first responders safe. And this must be sustained until therapies and a vaccine emerge.

At the same time, we will continue to respond to the devastating social and economic dimensions of the crisis and focus on supporting people, especially the most affected: women, older people, youth, low-wage workers, small and medium enterprises, the informal sector and vulnerable groups.

And finally the United Nations will continue to work to avoid going back to where we were before Covid-19, and ensure communities are no longer so unnecessarily vulnerable to crisis. The pandemic has reminded us abruptly of the challenges faced in health systems, social protection and public services, and in opposing widened inequalities, including gender inequity, and conditions for workers not regulated or protected by the state.

Collectively, we must benefit from Indonesia’s success in achieving a more inclusive and sustainable society and increase resilience to pandemics, climate change and other global challenges. With the 2030 agenda and sustainable development goals as our roadmap, the United Nations will continue to support the Government and the people of Indonesia.

Niels Scott
UN Resident Coordinator a.i. in Indonesia
WHO and MoH distribute COVID-19 test kits

WHO and the Ministry of Health are working together to strengthen COVID-19 case detection in laboratories across the country. A recent procurement of test kits, able to conduct around 108,900 tests, was delivered to the National Institute of Health and Research Development (NIHRD) in late June. The kits will now be distributed to laboratories that are part of the national COVID-19 lab network.


UNDP, WHO and IOM provide ventilators to support Indonesia’s COVID-19 Response

The first shipment of ventilators procured by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) arrived in Jakarta in June. The shipment was part of the joint effort by the three UN organizations to provide assistance to the Government of Indonesia in its response to COVID-19. Together, UNDP, WHO and IOM provided a total of 33 ventilators over four weeks at an estimated cost of USD 762,460. WHO will contribute 27 ventilators supported through a partnership with the Government of Japan, and three each from IOM and UNDP. The logistical procurement operation is conducted by UNDP. Read more: https://www.id.undp.org/content/indonesia/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/UND-WHO-IOM-Provide-Ventilators.html

IOM Indonesia donates PPE and Hygiene Kits to MOSA to Reduce Risk of COVID-19 in Shelters

In June, IOM handed over personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA), who provide for the quarantine of migrant workers upon re-entry to Indonesia from abroad. The PPE will be distributed to returning Indonesian migrant workers as part of COVID-19 precautionary protocols. Since the beginning of the year, at least 142,263 Indonesian migrant workers have returned to the country according to government data. With the PPE, shelter staff will be able to work safely when providing services, and migrants will be at lesser risk until they return home to their hometown safely. IOM’s donation to MOSA is part of a wider package of IOM support to the National COVID-19 Task Force which has included essential medical supplies, equipment, and ventilators. Read more: https://indonesia.iom.int/news/iom-indonesia-donates-ppe-and-hygiene-kits-ministry-social-affairs-reduce-risks-covid-19

bit.ly/UNIndonesiareponse  UN in Indonesia
Health experts in Indonesia warn that efforts to control a COVID-19 pandemic infection can lead to an increase in preventable but potentially fatal cases of childhood disease. An emergency situation caused by the corona virus has disrupted a number of mass immunization activities. UNICEF supports efforts to maintain the immunization program for every child in Indonesia. For the full story, please go to: https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/coronavirus/stories/maintaining-immunization-program-during-covid-19

Managing UNESCO-designated sites during the pandemic: Cibodas Biosphere Reserve, Indonesia

Around the world, UNESCO-designated sites – World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks – protect and manage the world's most special places. The COVID-19 pandemic affects people, wildlife and their environment in different ways. Cibodas Biosphere Reserve in West Java, Indonesia surrounds the Gunung Gede-Pangrango National Park as its core area. Cibodas BR is an example of an ecosystem in the humid tropics under strong human pressure. It encompasses two volcanic peaks and mountainous rainforests, including many species endemic to Java. The buffer zone comprises production forests, tea plantations and horticulture fields, while the majority of the transition area is covered by rice irrigation fields and human settlements. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the core area of the Biosphere Reserve has been closed for visitors. Among other impacts, the closure of the park has led to positive effects on the environment, including reduced waste and re-emerging of wildlife. A video prepared by the Cibodas Biosphere Reserve management on the impact of - and responses to - Covid-19 is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Z48qq8piFM&feature=youtu.be

Maintaining a nutrition lifeline during the COVID-19 pandemic—UNICEF

Nutritionists in Klaten continue to provide critical services to keep children healthy and nourished. At the onset of the crisis, staff at the Bayat community health centre in Central Java struggled to maintain services without clear safety guidance. Movement restrictions also complicated their work, reducing interactions with patients and often requiring travel to their homes to treat more severe cases of malnutrition. By keeping in touch with mothers virtually, nutritionists have been able to provide advice to parents without having to see them in person. If they believe a mother is at high-risk, they follow up to learn more about their conditions and schedule a home visit. With support from UNICEF, a list of standard operating procedures for delivering care has been developed. For the full story, go to https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/stories/maintaining-nutrition-lifeline-during-covid-19-pandemic

UNICEF: Maintaining Immunization Program During COVID-19

Health experts in Indonesia warn that efforts to control a COVID-19 pandemic infection can lead to an increase in preventable but potentially fatal cases of childhood disease. An emergency situation caused by the corona virus has disrupted a number of mass immunization activities. UNICEF supports efforts to maintain the immunization program for every child in Indonesia. For the full story, please go to: https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/coronavirus/stories/maintaining-immunization-program-during-covid-19
UNDP delivers half a million pieces of medical masks to help Indonesia fight COVID-19

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with financial support from China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, presented 500,000 surgical masks to the Indonesian Government to help protect medical workers in their battle against the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, go to: https://www.id.undp.org/content/indonesia/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/UNDP-delivers-half-a-million-pieces.html

WHO: Supporting MOH provincial response

WHO has been supporting the Ministry of Health to develop tailored provincial COVID-19 response plans for all 34 Indonesian provinces through a series of video consultations. During these consultations, the provinces presented their respective response plans, highlighting success stories, lessons learned and challenges experienced and received recommendations from WHO, Ministry of Health and National Disaster Agency. Read more: www.who.int/indonesia/news/detail/24-06-2020-covid-19-provincial-response-planning

UNFPA: Protecting Pregnant Mothers’ Lives Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Women do not stop giving birth even during a pandemic situation and under large-scale social restrictions. Indonesia’s population projections for 2015-2045 estimate that the total number of births in 2020 is 4,432,300. This is equivalent to 12,312 women of reproductive age (15 - 49 years old) giving birth every day in Indonesia (BAPPENAS, BPS, UNFPA, 2018). These pregnant mothers, along with women of reproductive age, potentially have less access to antenatal and postnatal care and safe delivery under prolonged large-scale social restriction, which are critical to prevent maternal death. To save the lives of those women and their newborn, UNFPA is urgently working with the Government of Indonesia to ensure maternal health services remain accessible to pregnant, delivering and post-partum women amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn more: https://indonesia.unfpa.org/en/news/protecting-pregnant-mothers%E2%80%99-lives-amid-covid-19-pandemic-0