



NATIONAL DISASTER COUNCIL

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

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NATIONAL SITUATIONAL REPORT- 09

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ISSUED BY: National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)
NEXT UPDATE: **Upon availability of new info**

Contents

- A. HIGHLIGHTS
- B. CURRENT SITUATION.....
- C. SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
- D. N-DOC SECTOR COMMITTEE UPDATES
- E. P-DOC SECTOR RESPONSE
- F. OTHER NATIONAL SUPPORT
- G. OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES AND GAPS
- H. RECOMMENDATIONS.....
- I. NEXT UPDATE.....
- J. ANNEXE

All new information in red coloured font

A. HIGHLIGHTS

- The Government established Joint Oversight Committee (OSC) for COVID-19 under the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet maintains its role in providing strategic direction.
- Solomon Islands remains under a **“State of Public Emergency”** (SOE) declared by His Excellency, the Governor General and further extended for another four months starting from 25th March 2020.
- **“Honiara (Alligator Creek to Poha River) declared as the Emergency Zone”** by the Honourable Prime Minister on Friday 27th March 2020.
- **“Restriction of movement of small craft vessels declared for Solomon Islands Papua New Guinea Boarder”** by the Honourable Prime Minister on 8th April 2020 under Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulation 2020.
- National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) and Provincial Emergency Operations Centres for all Provinces including Honiara City Municipality remains on **“Full-On Activation mode”** to support national and provincial coordination.
- National Disaster Operations Sector Committees (N-DOC Sectors) and Provincial Disaster Sector Committee (P-DOC) remains on Full-On Activation Mode.
- Provincial Disaster Committees (PDCs’)/Provincial Disaster Operations Committees (P-DOCs’) on all ten Provinces and Honiara Municipality (HCC) has stepped up preparedness for response to COVID-19.
- To date, the country has **NO CONFIRMED CASES** of COVID-19.

GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS

The numbers are based on WHO Situation Report 134 as at 02nd June 2020 (total new cases in the last 24 hours)

Globally

6 194 533 confirmed (113 198)

376 320 deaths (4242)

Western Pacific Region

184 305 confirmed (1107)

7044 deaths (7)

Countries/territories/areas affected

213

Countries with no Confirmed Cases

North Korea, Turkmenistan, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, Tonga, Marshall Islands, Palau, Tuvalu, Nauru

- Official handing over of the NRH Molecular Laboratory for qPCR and Gene Xpert testing by DFAT, PRC and WHO on Wednesday 20th May 2020.
- National Emergency Response Team (NERT) 2nd deployment to Western and Choiseul Provinces to provide provincial surge capacity and support in the border operations.
- Solomon Islands Medical Assistance Team (SOLMAT) 2 deployed to provide support in the border operations.
- First two repatriation flight for stranded nationals and essential foreign TAs commenced on the 26th and 27th May 2020.
- **Since “going live”, the first samples for COVID-19 testing performed locally using Gene Xpert has tested negative.**

B. CURRENT SITUATION

Solomon Island remains COVID-19 FREE to date. Solomon Islands through RSIPF continue manning our Western border with Papua New Guinea given the potential high-risk area of importation of COVID-19 through this border.

The Government also remains committed to implementing strict measures to prevent the importation and potential spread of COVID-19 within its borders. First two repatriation flight of nationals stranded overseas commenced on the 26th and 27th May 2020. Among passengers who arrived are some foreign essential TAs for Tina Hydropower Project and State Owned Enterprises and diplomats cleared by the Government to enter the country. All passengers from COVID-19 affected countries will be quarantined for 28 days and passengers from non – COVID-19 affected countries will be quarantined for 14 days. Essential cargo flights are also being done on need- basis to support COVID-19 operations. International trade continue with Honiara and Noro operating with strict measures in place for all incoming foreign vessels.

On-going responses by N-DOC Sector Committees continue based on the Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19. These sector responses have been extended to provinces including coordination through the Provincial Disaster Management arrangements.

C. SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

- Oversight Committee established by Cabinet to provide strategic direction on a whole-of-government planning and response to COVID-19 continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss relevant measures.
- The **State of Public Emergency** declared on the 25th March 2020 has extended to another four months as of Wednesday 08th April 2020. The four months extension commenced on 25th March 2020.
- N-DOC Sector Committees are continuously stepping up in their COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plans (PRP) with the focus on broader socio-economic impacts at both the national and provincial levels.
- Budget for implementation of the Preparedness and Response Plan has been allocated to the respective lead ministries of N-DOC Committees (MAL, MEHRD, MHMS, MWYCFA, MID, MPNSCS & MECMDM).
- N-DOC Health Sector Committee is leading the health aspect of COVID-19 with broader coordination through the N-DOC arrangements.
- N-DOC Camp Management Sector Committee continues to manage all Institutional Quarantine Facilities (IQFs).
- National Emergency Response Team (NERT) support to the Guadalcanal Province EOC and Camp Management EOC remains.
- RSIPF step-up boarder security as part of the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulation 2020 that restricts

movement of small crafts on the Solomon Islands-PNG border.

- First two repatriation flight for stranded nationals and essential foreign TAs commenced on the 26th and 27th May 2020. All are subject to quarantine in Institutional Quarantine Facilities (IQFs).
- **Government through the Oversight Committee continues with its weekly Sunday Radio Talk Back Show based on the messaging strategy of ‘UMI TOGETA AGAINST COVID 19’.**

D. N-DOC SECTOR COMMITTEE UPDATES

D1. CAMP MANAGEMENT SECTOR COMMITTEE (Institutional Quarantine Facilities)

- Camp Management Sector Committee (CMSC) Team continues to roll out its SOPs.
- All persons coming in on the repatriation flights on the 26th and 27th May 2020 are subject to quarantine.
- SIG has established Airport Motel, Honiara Hotel and Access Apartment as additional IQFs. Total IQFs that are now operational are GBR, Access Apartments, Vimo Apartments, Airport Motel, Pacific Casino, National Hosting Authority (formerly Telekom Recreational Centre) and Honiara Hotel.

Table 1: Summary details of IQF as of 02/06/2020

IQF	No. of Rooms	Bed Capacity	Current Occupancy	Male	Female	Available Bed Capacity
Guadalcanal Beach Resort (GBR)	58	82	56	51	5	26
VIMO Apartments	8	11	10	2	8	2
National Hosting Authority	5	16	11	10	1	5
Airport Motel	9	16	15	4	11	0
Pacific Casino Hotel	56	80	56	27	29	18
Honiara Hotel	20	20	15	14	1	5
Access Apartments	8	8	11	7	4	1
TOTAL	164	233	174	115	59	57

D2. HEALTH SECTOR COMMITTEE

(Reports and updates received from NHEOC SITREP 11)

- **N-DOC Health Team continues with its roll out programs. Provincial Support Team through N-DOC Health have visited Malaita, Western and Choiseul with with assessments done for hospitals Isolation Units and Quarantine Facilities in Kilu’ufi, Gizo, HGH and Taro. Remaining Provinces will be covered in the next four weeks.**
- **N-DOC Health continues to coordinate with its partners to strengthen preparedness through collaboration with partners such as WHO, UNICEF, DFAT, MFAT, World Bank and Peoples Republic Of China, big ticket items such as Quarantine sites, isolation/triage sites, COVID-19 laboratory testing capacity and procurement of PPEs and Medical Equipment and supplies such as ventilators have been achieved and/or are in progress.**
- **N-DOC Health continues to coordinate and collaborate with other N-DOC Committees and Government ministries, State Owned Enterprises, private business houses, Faith Based Organizations, P-DOCs and PHEOCs and Civil Society groups for an integrated preparedness response to the COVID-19.**

D2.1 National Health Emergency Operations Centre (NHEOC)

- **NHEOC continues to lead and strengthen multi-sectoral coordination**

- NHEOC provided coordination, control, and command during the “EKSASAES AELAN LOKDAON” (simulated lockdown exercise).
- NHEOC supported Points of Entry (POE), IQF Management Teams and Camp Management in the repatriation flights by:
 - Review POE workflow, action cards and Quarantine SOPs
 - Review, prepare and implement PPEs/IPC at Henderson airport
 - Coordinate logistics and finance
 - Coordinate welfare
 - Control central communication and logistic staging at Airport.
- As of 25th May 2020, a total of 59 trainings focusing on COVID-19 preparedness were completed with 2,454 health staff and stakeholders. Majority of the training focused on IPC and clinical management of COVID-19 cases.
- IPC and NRH Nursing Admin Team conducted training on 19th to 20th May 2020 for Isolation Team 1 and 3 nurses as well as for nurses working in specialized areas (Operating Theatre & Obstetrics & Gynecology).
- IPC and NRH Admin also another training for Clinical Nurse Consultants on COVID-19 SOPs and the roles and functions of NHEOC on 13th May 2020.
- A 5 days’ workshop planning is currently underway (02/06/2020) to train COVID-19 responders on COVID-19 SOPs, Emergency Response Plans and setting the scene on Epidemiology selected topic refresher.

D2.2 Integration with Key Stakeholders

- Repatriation flights of SIG and foreign nationals has shown a multi-sectoral coordination of government NGOs.
- SOLMAT Team 2 deployed to support in the border operations have returned to Honiara on the 27th May 2020. Areas covered included completion of training for Nila Area Health Centre (AHC) Staff on PPE level 2 and 3, training of Nila AHC Staff on Triage and Isolation workflow and roll-out of Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) by PHEOC NCD and Risk Communication Staff.
- Participated in the simulated lockdown exercise.
- Provided support to Solomon Islands National University (SINU) with health requirement, SOPs for re-opening of university (university requirement checklist and SOPs)
- Provided input to Ministry of Education Schools re-opening SOPs – particularly around IPC and WASH.

D2.3 Implementing COVID-19 Surveillance & Response

- SOPs for Contact Tracing, Flow charts and Risk Metrics is completed and submitted for approval by the Senior Executive team of MHMS.
- Contact tracing teams currently being established at the Public Health Emergency and Surveillance Unit (PHESU). Maximum of 3 people in each team.
- Home Based Quarantine – there are currently NO Home-Based Quarantine persons reported.
- Surveillance Team continues to do regular monitoring in all IQFs for prompt clinical management should a person develop COVID-19 symptom like illness. Once a person is notified to be symptomatic, SOPs for St. John Ambulance, Triage and Isolation will be triggered for activation.

D2.4 Diagnostics Facilities (Laboratory)

- Official launching and handing over of the COVID-19 Testing Facility was done on 20th May 2020 with the People Republics of China, DFAT (Australia) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

- qPCR and Gene Xpert testing now going functional.
- The first sample tested locally using the Gene Xpert machine was performed on Wednesday 27th May 2020, during the repatriation operations. The duration of the testing process took one hour to get the result. Result returned NEGATIVE.
- As of Thursday 28th May 2020;
 - 3,400 qPCR tests reagents currently in stock
 - 130 Gene-Xpert tests reagents currently in stock
 - 500 Viral Swab/UTM Tubes – 50 Swabs stocked in COVID Triage
 - 100 UTM Tubes only
 - Controls for Gene-Xpert & qPCR received
 - Normal Biochemistry reagents out of stock.
- Provincial staff training on PPE & Packaging and transport. Recruitment of 14 new staff.

D2.5 Prevention & Containment of Outbreak

- The integrations between the health quarantine team and clinical team has improved during the repatriation operations.
- COVID Triage team activated during the repatriation operations to assess a “red flagged case” at around 1930 hours and stand-down at 1935 hours after result received was tested negative.
- Solomon Islands international borders remain closed to human travel.

D2.6 Risk Communication & Public Awareness

- House to house visits completed on 16th May, 2020 around Honiara municipality. HCC will continue with remaining communities that may have been missed.
- Risk Communication Team continues to deliver key health messages to the public through posters, pamphlets Solomon Telekom Television and Facebook. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials also continues to be disseminated to private stakeholders.
- Ongoing support is from WHO and UNICEF on printing IEC materials and volunteers of local NGOs in the community awareness raising

D2.7 Provincial Reports

D2.7.1 Western Province

- Joint border operations are still ongoing with efforts by the PHEOC Rapid Response Team comprising of Helena Goldie staff and Taro Hospital to support the clinical care in Shortland Islands.
- Risk Communication Team has covered nearly all Communities and Clinics for Western Province for COVID-19. Multi-sector lead by Joint National Security, with support from PEOC and MHMS.
- SOLMAT 2 Deployment successfully completed their second deployment in Short Land’s Border on Wednesday 27th of May 2020.

D2.7.2 Choiseul Province

- Banning of cooked food from markets continues till WASH requirements are met. Two water tanks have been proposed for installation at the Taro Market.
- General Clean-up for Taro Station conducted on 30th of May 2020 and will be on a fortnightly basis.
- SOLMAT 2 visited Choiseul PHEOC on the 20th of May 2020.
- Training on PPE Level 3 was conducted by SOLMAT/IPC nurse for Taro Hospital officers.

- Rapid Response Team (RRT) of Choiseul was deployed to Kulitanai on 23rd May 2020. This is the first time for RRT Choiseul to join in border operation. Team consisted of three members, (Surveillance, Dental and Logistic officers) and will be accompanied by other two members from Western and SOLMAT Team 2 at Nila & Kulitanai. It will be a collaborative effort to support the current on ground national effort.

D3. INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR COMMITTEE

- All activities reported in Situation Report No.8 is ongoing.

D4. LIVELIHOOD SECTOR COMMITTEE

- Successfully implemented safe food channels during the lock down. Made safe food deliveries to 30 households in West, Central and East Honiara.
- Honiara City Vendors Market Association will continue trialling out Mobile Marketing Services for one week commencing tomorrow.
- Livelihood committee received Tools support from UNDP this week. Tool deliveries will be commence as soon a recipient listing is completed.
- Seedling nursery distribution is still ongoing so far 200 households have received vegetable seedlings.

D5. EDUCATION SECTOR COMMITTEE

- All activities reported in Situation Report No.8 is ongoing.

D6. PROTECTION SECTOR COMMITTEE

- Team is currently supporting N-DOC Camp Management Sector Committee IQF Management Team on repatriation of stranded Nationals and foreign government officials flown in on the two repatriation flights.
- Eight National Protection Committee members are responsible to oversee protection issues and provide protection support to IQFs with the assistance from the Camp Management team leads. Support provided is on:
 - i. Procuring of children and infant kits
 - ii. Monitoring of feeding at IQFs
 - iii. Distribution of COVID-19 safe-referral phone trees to occupants at IQFs
 - iv. Continue to strengthen awareness on discrimination and stigmatization to occupants at IQFs and the general public.
- Evaluating, monitoring and recommendations is undergoing with IQF Management Team on the protection issues that are highlighted from IQFs.
- National Protection Committee continues to support Provincial Protection Committees through their respective preparedness and response plans.

D7. SAFETY AND SECURITY

D7.1 ROYAL SOLOMON ISLANDS POLICE FORCE (RSIPF)

(Updates and reports received from POC SITREP 76)

- Police Operations Centre (POC) with the support of the National Emergency Management Special Events Planning (NEMSEP) maintains performing the coordination role regarding safety and security on SIG COVID-19 response.

- Commissioner’s weekly press conference continues and remains an important avenue to inform the public on the current engagement of RSIPF regarding the whole of SIG response on COVID-19.
- Provincial Police Commanders (PPCs) effectively performing their role as the Chair of the Provincial Disaster Operations Committee (P-DOC) in all ten Provinces including Honiara Municipality (HCC).
- RSIPF resources and personnel at the Solomon Islands Border continues to provide logistical support as a whole of SIG response in its COVID-19 border operations.
- **RSIPF continue conduct routine patrols to all IQFs to ensure public and persons under quarantine adhere to rules and regulations set.**
- **RSIPF Western Province supported NERT deployment with the use of its fast craft and two officers for fieldwork in Noro and Munda.**
- **RSIPF Maritime:**
 - RSIPV AUKI has resumed duties from RSIPV GIZO and will continue with the border operations.
 - Kulitanae (Shortland Islands) is the Forward Command Base for the Solomon Island – Papua New Guinea border operations.
 - RSIPV AUKI is stationed at Kulitanae and Nila to support in the border operations.
- **Police Response Team (PRT):**
 - PRT continues to conduct high visibility patrols around Honiara Municipality and IQFs.
 - PRT continues to assist and engage in border operations.
 - PRT continues to ensure the public comply in practicing social distancing measures.

D7.1A. RSIPF PROVINCIAL RESPONSES

- **Western Province**
 - RSIPF Officers at respective outposts continue to conduct awareness at North New Georgia, Dunde, Poitete, Ringi, and Noro main market.
- **Malaita Province**
 - Police conducted a public awareness in front of Solomon Quan building, Auki.
 - Police Front-liners still monitor shops not to increase any price on goods about the COVID19 crisis forth coming to our shores. Business Houses are therefore advice not to take advantage of situation and so on to make mark-ups. Police continued to monitor situation

D7.2 CORRECTIONAL SERVICES SOLOMON ISLANDS (CSSI)

- Restrictions on prisoners visitation to all Correctional centres is still enforced.
- CSSI continues to reinforce movement restrictions from visitors to prisoners by using mobile phones. Mobile phones are donated by SIRC for all Correctional Centres.
- Planning and Educational awareness team conducted briefing in preparation for awareness and distribution of PPEs and infrastructure inspections.
- Follow up on SOPs and consultation with health division in all Provinces and CSSI Provincial Centres.
- Collaborated in the “EKSASAES AELAN LOKDAON” simulation exercise during the Lockdown to test its capacity and capability in handling COVID-19 response in its Correctional Centres.

D7.3 VESSELS MONITORING WITHIN SOLOMON ISLANDS EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE (EEZ)/WATERS

D7.3A FISHING VESSELS

The Ministry of Fisheries continues to monitor fishing vessels operating within the Solomon Islands waters, Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Vessel name	Yi Siang #1
Port of Registry	Kaohsiung
Last Port of call	19 th April 2020 - NORO
ETA Port	30 th May 2020 – NORO – 0800am
Purpose for Port Entry	Unloading at Honiara
Company/ Agent	Global Fisheries
Comment	No interaction with other vessels for the past 14 days. No crew and observer disembarking in Noro.
Vessel name	Micronesia 103
Port of Registry	Pohnpei
Last Port of call	Pohnpei
ETA Port	30 th / 31 st May 2020 – Honiara – 0800am
Purpose for Port Entry	Trans-shipment and drop off Observer
Company/ Agent	Solomon Islands Shipping Transport Limited
Comment	Solomon Islands Observer to disembark
Vessel name	San Sheng Fa
Port of Registry	Kaohsiung
Last Port of call	08 th April / Honiara
ETA Port	30 th May 2020 – Honiara – 0800am
Purpose for Port Entry	Unloading at Honiara
Company/ Agent	Global Fisheries
Comment	No interaction with other vessels for the past 14 days. No crew and observer disembarking in Noro.
Vessel name	San Zai Fa 15
Port of Registry	Kaohsiung
Last Port of call	7 th April / Honiara
ETA Port	30 th May 2020 – Honiara, 0800am
Purpose for Port Entry	Unloading
Company/ Agent	Global Fisheries
Comment	No interaction with other vessels for the past 14 days. No crew and observer disembarking in Noro.
Vessel name	Jin Tsai Fu 168
Port of Registry	Kaohsiung
Last Port of call	Noro - 24 th April 2020
ETA Port	03 rd June 2020 – Noro, 0800am
Purpose for Port Entry	Unloading
Company/ Agent	National Fisheries Development (NFD)
Comment	No interaction with other vessels for the past 14 days. No crew and observer disembarking in Noro.

D7.3B CARGO VESSELS

Ships position report received at 1505hours 02/06/2020.

Information supplied by Honiara Maritime Coast Radio Station (SIMSA)

No	Vessel Name	Present Position & ETA Honiara Or Noro
1	MV Bao Anh	Lungga
2	MV Bao Neng	Toriki

3	MV BMC Alpha	Kamamoe
4	MV Expert	Rennel Island
5	MV Festival	Noro
6	MV Ghousta	Rennell Island
7	MV Harmony Ocean	Zazaki
8	MV Kiwai Chief	From HON to Nauru – ETA 07/06/2020
9	MV Kota Hening	Honiara
10	MV Lake Castle	Honiara
11	MV Micronesia 1	Honiara
12	MV Oriental Hero	Gizo
13	MV Sea Adelaide	Island Bay, Isabel
14	MV Sea Aries	Konide, Isabel
15	MV Sea Brave	Sipo, Vella La Vella
16	MV Serenity 1	Volavu, North East Guadalcanal
17	MV Shun Wang	Rennell
18	MV Si Hang Yun	Honiara
19	MV Southampton Star	Innocent pass to Japan
20	MV Winda	Jajao, Isabel

D8. SOLOMON ISLANDS RED CROSS SOCIETY (SIRC)

- SIRC continues to actively support N-DOC Sector arrangements in both national and provincial levels by engaging in all planning process setups on COVID-19 as well as liaising with other relevant stakeholders.
- Continuous engagement on COVID-19 awareness on Honiara and through its Provincial Branches.
- SIRC continues to provide support to the national COVID-19 with 3 SIRC staff and 2 volunteers continue to provide support under Camp Management and Protection Sector Committee at four IQFs within the emergency Zone in Honiara as well as with SIRC Logistics.
- SIRC EOC Team facilitated a Lesson Learnt Workshop (LLW) for all SIRC Staff. The LLW was aimed at identifying achievements, challenges and gaps and to make recommendations to improve SIRC response to COVID-19 Cases and immediate impacts of a lockdown.
- Activity in progress includes Temotu branch continuous support to MHMS and other partners in awareness activity within Temotu province.

D9. COORDINATION (N-DOC AND NEOC)

- The N-DOC Arrangement remains the coordination mechanism for the SIG COVID-19 response as per the declaration and the Emergency Powers (COVID-19) Regulations 2020.
- N-DOC maintains lead in the SIG coordination with respective N-DOC Sector Committees leading the respective sector planning and response. Similarly, this is replicated in all the Provinces including Honiara Municipality.
- NEOC remains on Full Activation mode to support N-DOC, Sector Committees, Honiara City Council and Guadalcanal Province with respective COVID-19 and TC Harold response activities.
- **National Emergency Response Team (NERT) Updates:**
 - NERT incorporated with P-DOC Team composed of Health (Doctor and Surveillance Officer), MID Engineers, PDO and P-DOC Camp Management Sector Chair (Western) paid a courtesy call to Noro Town Clerk, COVID Sub-Committee and all SIG frontline personnel stationed at Noro

and conducted a consultation on the 28th May 2020. This has helped clarified a lot of misinterpretation of information.

- Team also conducted a Geospatial/Hazard Risk Assessment on IQF and Isolation Site for Noro and Munda on the 28th May. A specific assessment into re-purposing of the Noro Community Centre (training room) into an On-Site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) was also conducted by the team. Another specific task was also conducted by the geospatial team into collecting the data of all significant shops and hotels/motels/lodges on both Noro and Munda to prep in advance the required data-sets that could be used for geospatial products for potential lockdown plans.
- A one day training on Working in a PEOC was conducted on the 29th of May 2020 at Western PEOC attended by all Provincial reps (P-DOC Sector Committees, P-DOC Chair, PDC Chair and other provincial reps). Training ended with a table-top exercise (TTX) using COVID-19 specific scenario. This helped the team to pull together Sector Committees and identified Key agencies (RSIPF, Health, SIRC, PEOC) roles/responsibilities on COVID-19.
- Sector specific assessment was conducted on the 30th of May 2020 on the proposed Isolation Facilities and IQFs at Nila, Shortland Islands. Western P-DOC Health members in the team (surveillance and IPC person) conducted stock-check and consultations with health officers based at Nila.
- One day training on Working in a PEOC conducted on the 02nd of June 2020 at Choiseul PEOC which also included a session on the SI Coordination Arrangements for COVID-19. This included Infrastructure & Geo-hazard/GIS assessments on proposed IQF and Isolation

E. P-DOC SECTOR RESPONSE

- All Provincial Governments continue to undertake preventative measures in alignment with the National Government measures to mitigate possible importation of COVID-19.
- All Provincial Disaster Operations Committee (P-DOC) remains operational with regular meetings as part of on-going preparedness.
- On-going COVID-19 awareness in all 10 Provinces including Honiara City Council.
- All 10 Provinces have identified potential Institutional Quarantine Facilities as part of their preparedness work should COVID-19 spreads to the Provinces.
- Joint SIG team comprising of the NEOC, MID and Camp Management was deployed to support the P-DOC and P-DOC Camp Management Sector Committee on conducting trainings on managing Institutional Quarantine Facilities. Team is supporting Western and Choiseul due to the current level of risk of possible COVID-19 importation from neighbouring PNG.

F. OTHER NATIONAL SUPPORT

- Australian Government funded and facilitated COVID-19 specific training for Forensic Officers from the RSIPF. This training course helped to develop skills and procedural knowledge Forensic Officers would require working on a crime scene in a potential COVID environment.
- Development Bank of Solomon Islands (DBSI) will roll out its COVID-19 Loan Product to assist those that are affected by the global pandemic. The two products related to COVID-19 are COVID-19 Small to Medium Enterprises Products and Commercial Products for large corporation.
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provided direct support to host the ‘EKSASAES AELAN LOKDAON’ Control Team during the simulated exercise.

G. OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES AND GAPS

- Second batch of financial support to Provincial Disaster Committees (PDCs) and their Provincial Disaster Operations Committees (P-DOCs) yet to be disbursed subject to submission of acquittal of first batch of financial assistance.
- The provision of information regarding donor assistance to SIG regarding the COVID-19 response remains unclear. It is acknowledged that donors' assistance in cash and kind has significantly support the SIG response but information is not consolidated to provide the common-operating picture regarding donors' assistances.
- Provincial SOPs for COVID-19 response needs technical inputs and support from N-DOC.
- Low stock of PPEs in the Provinces.
- Limited human resources for surge capacity.
- Test reagents for normal biochemistry out of stock.
- The NRH Triage and Isolation ward still have gaps in terms of compliance with recent WHO guidelines on COVID facilities design and constructions.
- There are still major gaps in the HCC and GP screening and treatment centres workflow and infrastructure.
- Distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on house to house approach needs improvement.

H. RECOMMENDATIONS

- All N-DOC Sector Committees to continue updating NEOC on the implementation of their Preparedness and Response Programmes.
- Progress with urgency the N-DOC Sector Committees support to all the provincial sector committees in planning, implementation and resourcing.
- Strengthening of information management, resources and tracking, reporting and monitoring of all activities implemented by N-DOC Sector Committees under the Preparedness and Response Plan.
- Continuation of awareness and trainings to front liners and the public on issues surrounding COVID-19.
- Continue of awareness to the public on issues relating to Stigmatizing and how this can lead to discrimination.
- Public to cooperate with Health and other Government Ministries in preparing and responding to COVID-19.
- Strengthening of N-DOC Sectors to provide regular SITREPs that capture implemented activities under the PRP.
- N-DOC sectors to urgently consider identifying the weak-points of their sectors in responding across the country. In the absence of this, it will be the COVID-19 that will identify the sector weak-point.
- Donors/SIG stakeholders are encouraged to complete and return to NEOC the donor tracking matrix to allow SIG to build the common operating picture of the current donors assistance to SIG response.
- NERT to deploy to Tingoa to provide surge capacity support to P-DOC Renbel.

I. NEXT UPDATE

Next update will be upon availability of new information.

APPROVED FOR DISSEMINATION BY

DR. MELCHIOR MATAKI
PERMANENT SECRETARY MECDM/CHAIR NDC
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE,
DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND METEOROLOGY

Figure 1: SIG Institutional Quarantine Facilities

