

Situation Summary

- **Out of total 224,264 confirmed cases reported in the Philippines until today, 56% are male, with the most affected age group 20-29 years (26%) followed by 30-39 years (24%)**
- 56% of cases reported from National Capital Region (NCR), followed by CALABARZON (15%), Central Visayas (9%), and Central Luzon (4%). Largest increase in new cases from NCR.
- **Out of 3,597 confirmed deaths, 61% are male, with the most affected age group over 70 (33%) followed by aged 60-69 years (28%)**
- 49% of deaths reported from NCR, followed by Central Visayas (29%), CALABARZON (9%), and Central Luzon (3.5%). Largest increase in new deaths from NCR.
- **Department of Health (DOH) and WHO emphasizing the need for compliance to, and proper implementation of, national guidelines at LGU level**
- 99% of health facilities daily reporting to DOH's DataCollectApp showing 48% occupancy rate of ward, ICU and isolation beds for COVID-19 patients nationally. In NCR, out of 180 health facilities, 71% of dedicated COVID-19 beds are occupied. In CALABARZON, 268 health facilities report 59.4% occupancy rate of dedicated COVID-19 beds.
- **Currently 85 laboratories using RT-PCR are accredited for COVID-19 testing, as well as 28 laboratories using GeneXpert. 73% of applications still in various stages of accreditation.**

PHILIPPINES SITUATION IN NUMBERS



Upcoming Events and Priorities

Metro Manila will stay under a General Community Quarantine (GCQ) for the whole of September, but the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) recommended placing Iligan City under a Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ). The President approved the IATF recommendation on Monday night, enforcing a month-long quarantine in the National Capital Region instead of the fortnightly extensions imposed in previous months, in a meeting with members of the task force in Malacanang. The provinces of Bulacan and Batangas and the cities of Tacloban and Bacolod are also under GCQ from Sept. 1 to 30, while the rest of the country will be under Modified GCQ.

A P89.1 million budget for the country's participation in the World Health Organization's (WHO) global Solidarity Vaccine Trial for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has been approved by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). The main objective of the trial is to evaluate the efficacy of a two-dose regimen of SARS-CoV-2 candidate vaccine against RT-PCR confirmed symptomatic COVID-19 cases. DOST said this initiative is considered the best short-term strategy that the country could adopt to make the COVID-19 vaccine available in the Philippines at the soonest time possible. It will allow the country to avail of COVID-19 vaccine candidates which are already in the later or more advanced stages of vaccine development.

With more businesses expected to open, the Joint Task Force (JTF) Covid Shield on Monday assured additional law enforcers will be deployed to ensure business owners and customers are complying with health standards against the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic, urging the police commanders to anticipate more people who would go outside as additional business establishments are expected to resume operation starting Sept. 1. Testing and tutorial centers, review centers, gyms, fitness centers, personal grooming, and pet grooming will also be allowed to reopen.

The Department of Health (DOH) on Sunday reported that 433 more health workers contracted the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) over the past week, raising the total to 6,932 as of August 29.

In its daily COVID-19 report, the DOH said total recoveries among health workers climbed to 6,148 after 389 more recovered from the respiratory disease, while the death toll climbed to 40 with one new fatality. The other 744 medical workers are active cases undergoing treatment or quarantine. The five medical professions with the highest number of COVID-19 cases are nurses with 2,401 infections, doctors with 1,433, nursing assistants with 484, medical technologists with 304, and radiologic technologists with 138 cases.

National Transmission Assessment

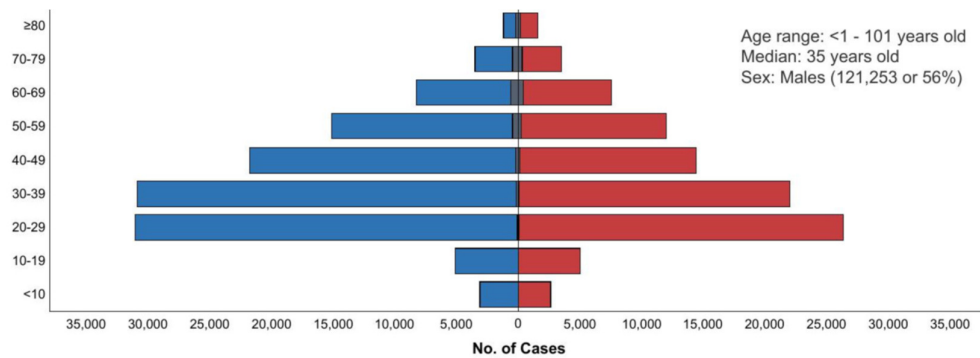
At national level, the Philippines remains in **Stage 2, localised community transmission** with some geographic areas showing higher transmission intensity and indications of wide spread community transmission. There is ongoing evidence of an increasing trend in the number of cases and higher transmission, especially in NCR, Region 3 and Region 4A. At national level, the bed occupancy rate for COVID-19 allocated beds is currently at 48% occupancy, with variation between Regions. Additional beds are being allocated for COVID-19 cases, as per the direction of the government. In the past weeks there has been a further increase in daily reported cases, deaths and recoveries. Recently DOH has changed the reporting of recovered cases based on the national criteria. Mild and asymptomatic cases are tagged as recovered 14 days after onset or specimen collection. Additional data validation and harmonisation efforts are ongoing. The government is responding across sectors, including through enhanced community engagement, targeted isolation and quarantine measures, expansion of contact tracing and continuous increase in laboratory capacity.

Epidemiology

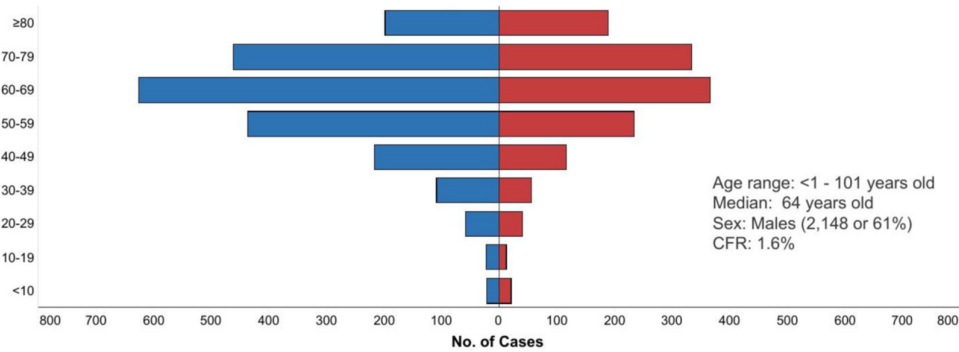
As of 1 Sept, a total of 224,264 confirmed COVID-19 cases including 3,597 deaths have been reported in the Philippines. The proportion of deaths among COVID-19 confirmed cases is now 1.6%.

Epidemiological Update COVID-19	Tests	Cases	Deaths	ICU
Data reported on 24 Aug 2020 compared with data reported on 17 Aug 2020 (% difference compared to previous 7 days)	394,756 Tests past 7 days	27,100 New cases past 7 days	559 Deaths past 7 days	54% ICU Utilization Rate past 7 days
	2,602,023 Cumulative Unique Individuals Tested	224,264 Cumulative Cases	3,597 Cumulative Deaths	1,748 ICU beds for COVID-19 patients
	10.6% Positivity rate			
Health Service Provision COVID-19	12,195 Health care workers trained on IPC	426 Healthcare worker cases reported past 7 days	1,925 Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients	18,791 Non-ICU Hospital beds in hospitals
	11,159 Community workers trained on IPC			164,395 Hospital beds in TTMF

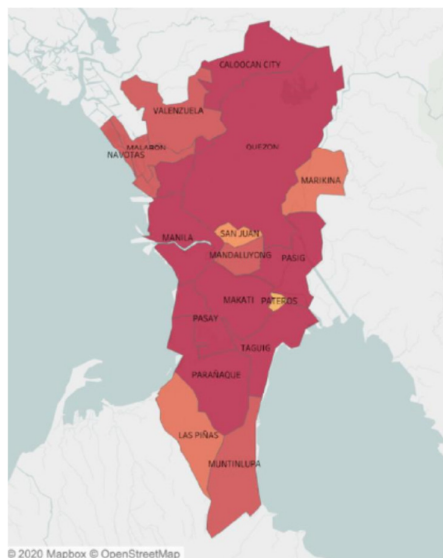
Age distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the Philippines in %
18 January- 1 September 2020 (N=224,264)



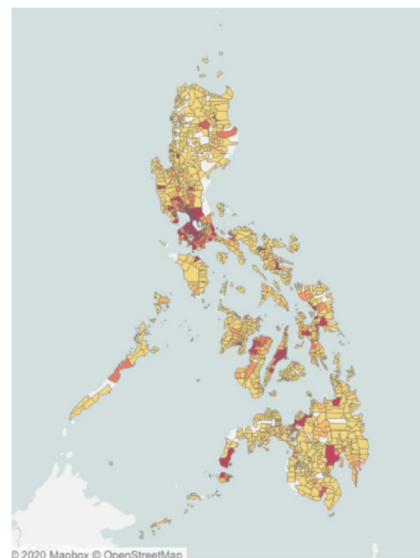
Age distribution of confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines in %
18 January- 1 September 2020 (N=3,597)



Map of COVID-19 cases in NCR by city/municipality
18 January- 1 September 2020 (N=224,264)



Map of confirmed COVID-19 cases by city/municipality
18 January- 1 September 2020 (N=224,264)



Strategic Approach

The IATF/NTF Coordinated Operations to Defeat Epidemic (CODE) team visited Quezon City on Saturday to launch the Mask Para sa Masa campaign. The Mask Para sa Masa campaign aims to provide the poor and vulnerable families with free face masks as one way to protect them from Covid-19. The CODE initiative demonstrates active case finding strategies to prevent and eliminate clusters of community transmission of the virus. Active case finding means systematic screening and clinical evaluation of patients in the community.

The cost and time it will take to get results using saliva samples for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) tests and regular swab tests may be similar, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) said Saturday. This, as the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine set out to study the use of saliva samples for COVID-19 testing to reduce discomfort in swab tests and minimize exposure between patients and health workers.

Clinical trials for the use of virgin coconut oil (VCO) against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) symptoms may take 2 months before researchers reach a conclusion, the country's science chief said Saturday, as the clinical trial needs 56 more volunteers. Experts earlier said giving VCO to some COVID-19 patients saw positive results. Aside from VCO, the government was looking at the use of lagundi and tawa-tawa as supplemental treatment for COVID-19, citing their "anti-viral" properties.

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) on Saturday said that, with the legislation of House Bill 6970, efforts on the Balik Probinsya Program should be intensified as high population density became the major cause of the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019. Legislating the Balik Probinsya bill will relieve the socio-economic effects of urban congestion and concentration of economic activity in Metro Manila. It will assist in stimulating growth at the Philippine countryside as workers who lost their jobs during the pandemic are constrained to go back to their respective provinces.

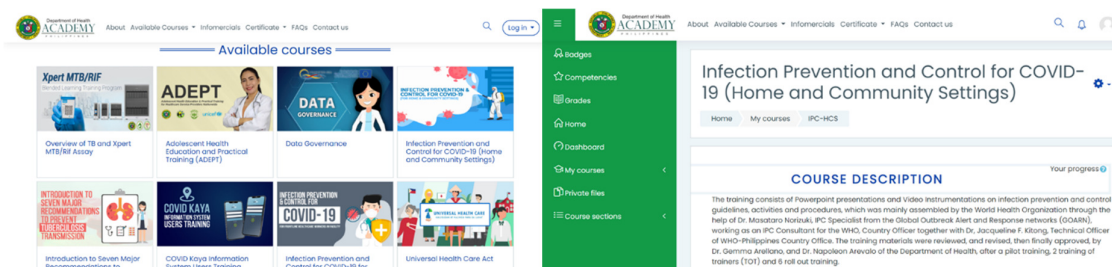
The Pasay City government will strictly implement starting September 1 the City Ordinance that calls for the mandatory wearing of face mask, face shield and the other health protocols under the Inter Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) guidelines. Under the ordinance, violators will be fined the amount of P1,000 for the first offense, P2,000 for the second offense or detention for 15 days or both depending on the decision of the court. Violators caught for the third time will be fined the amount of P5,000 or face one month imprisonment or both depending on the decision of the court.

Laboratory strengthening

There are currently laboratories certified to conduct COVID-19 testing by DOH using RT-PCR technology, as well as laboratories using GeneXpert, with an additional public and private laboratories under assessment.

Infection prevention and control

UNICEF supported the development of the DOH Training on Infection Prevention and Control for COVID-19 in Home and Community Settings. This training is now accessible through the DOH Academy E-Learning Platform. UNICEF conducted the initial rollout of the training through webinars and face-to-face mode which reached 11,159 individuals from April 6 to August 21, 2020. Interested individuals may now sign up for this training by logging into the DOH Academy at <https://learn.doh.gov.ph/>.



Best Practices / Lessons Learned

UNICEF

UNICEF, in partnership with Philippine Red Cross (PRC), have distributed 300 family cleaning and hygiene kits to 1,498 people in three barangays (Malanday, Sto. Nino, Tumana) in Marikina City, with planned additional distributions of 2,675 family cleaning and hygiene kits in NCR cities (Caloocan, Navotas, Malabon, Manila, Pasay, Quezon, Mandaluyong) and Region 7 cities (Cebu and Lapu-Lapu).



UNICEF distributed personal protective equipment to the Quezon Institute which serves as a COVID-19 isolation facility, receiving patients from hospitals and local government units. The delivery included 3,400 coveralls, 1,720 N95 respirators, 1,400 face shields, and 20,250 surgical masks for the protection of frontline workers and persons at the facility.

UNICEF, in partnership with NNC and DOH, conducted Episode 2 of the Home Online Nutrition Exchange entitled "Iwas Stunting sa Gitna ng COVID-19." This was conducted on August 14, 2020 and had a reach of 17,000 individuals. The event recording can be accessed through thislink:

<https://www.facebook.com/142974735801699/videos/701743790375920>



UNICEF continues to support the nationwide helplines of Philippine Red Cross. As of August 24, 2020, 9,790 helpline callers were provided with lifesaving information on mental health and case management concerns, among others (5,624 male, and 4,166 female callers).

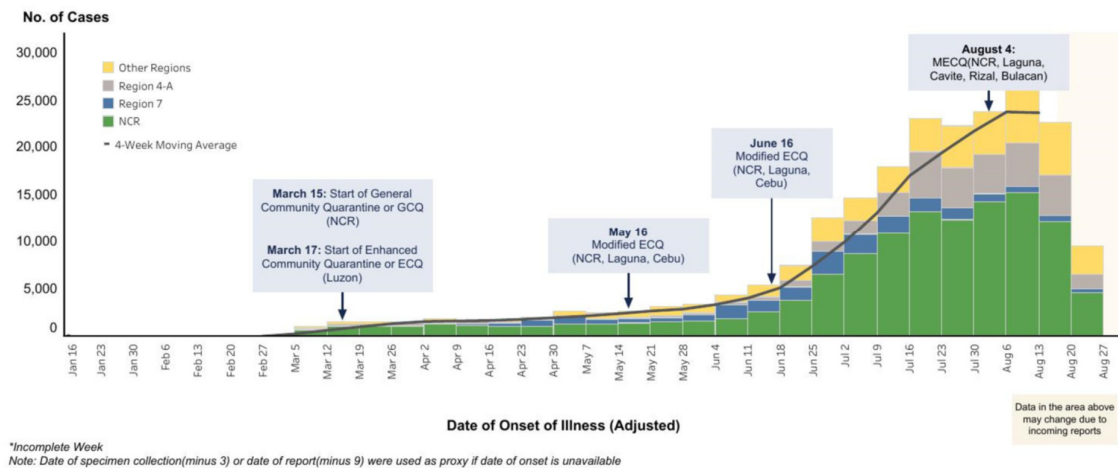
With support from UNICEF, the National Child Protection Working Group (NCPWG) is now in the process of finalizing the development of the Philippine National Implementation Guidelines for Child Friendly Spaces in infectious disease settings, to guide field-level service providers in organizing psychosocial support activities for future emergencies alongside the COVID-19 pandemic response.

UNICEF released a statement on the findings of its global study showing 463 million children lacking access to distance learning around the world. UNICEF continues to support the Department of Education to ensure continuity of learning despite the pandemic. The statement is available here:

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2020/08/28/2038384/463-million-children-lack-access-distance-learning>

Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)

Figure: Timeline of NPIs with EPI curve combined with NPI implementation dates
16 January-1 September 2020

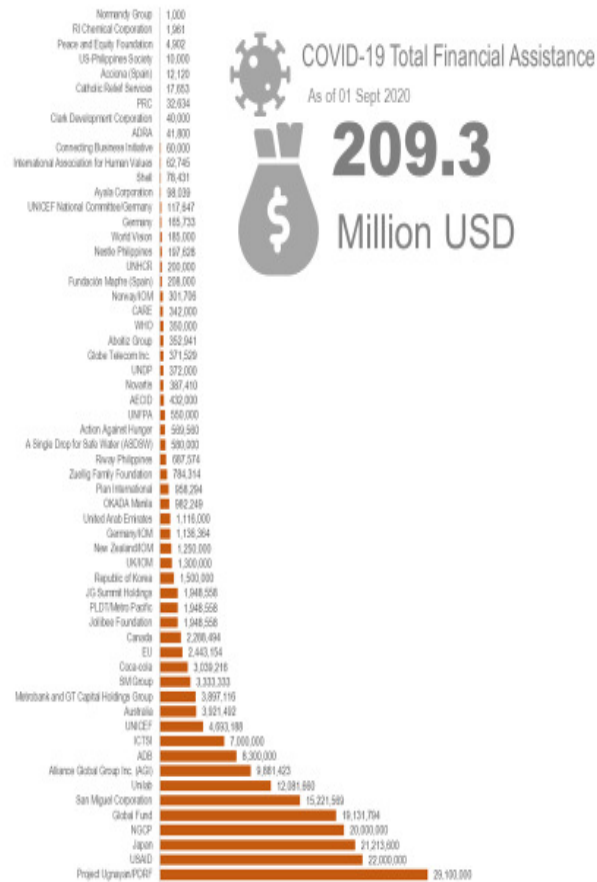


NPI	Monitoring status					
	Date first implemented	Date last modified	Implementation		Lifted for some areas	Lifted for all areas
			Geo-graphical	Recommended /Required		
Wearing Face Masks, Hand Hygiene, Respiratory Etiquette	13 March	-	National	Required	No	No
School Closure	10 March – Metro Manila	3 June	National	Required	3 June with limitations	No
Workplace Closure	13 March	4 Aug	National	Required	15 May	No
Mass Gatherings	10 March – Metro Manila	4 Aug	National	Required	3 June with limitations	No
Stay at Home	13 March	4 Aug	National	Required	15 May	No
Restrictions on Internal Movement (within country)	13 March	4 Aug	National	Required	1 June	No
Restrictions on International Travel	31 Jan - China	4 Aug	National	Required	1 June	No
Others; specify in narrative	None	None	-	-	-	-

Important links:

- <https://covid19.healthphilipinas.ph/>
- <https://www.doh.gov.ph/covid19tracker>
- <http://www.covid19.gov.ph/>
- <https://www.lguvsocovid.ph/>

Annex: Resource mobilization



Logistics, procurement, and supply management

Who	What	Delivered	Expected
ADB	Laboratory facility for 45,000 tests	1	
Americares	N95 masks	73,120	33,800
	Surgical masks	17,500	36,500
	Face shields	60	
	Thermal scanners	3	
	Disinfectant alcohol (1 gallon)	6	
	Oxygen tanks with accessories	3	
CARE	Water tanks	5	
	PPE (full set)	2,029	
	Thermal scanners	23	
	Hygiene kits	9,364	
Chinese government	Water station facilities	5	
	COVID-19 test kits	100,000	
	PPE (full set minus goggles)	10,000	
	N95 masks	10,000	
IAHV	Surgical masks	100,000	
	N95/KN95 Masks	34,922	
IMC	PPE (full set)	200	
	Examination gloves	767,184	
	Surgical masks	666,200	
	N95 masks	150,445	
	Surgical gowns	5,115	
	Goggles	470	
	Electric fans	20	
	HTH Chlorine (Kg)	225	
	Stethoscope	2	
	Sphygmomanometer	2	
	Digital thermometer	6	
	Sprayer	2	
	Sanitizer (Lt)	225	
	Body bags	50	
	Hospital Beds	2	
	Cot beds	10	
	Breast milk container, 180ml	160	
	Electric fan	20	
	Scrub suits	90	
	Folding table, 72in x 30 in	2	
	Rubber apron	40	
	Stretcher	2	
	Metal bench, 3 seater	6	
	Tent, 6mx 10m, x 2m	1	
	Tent, 11ft x 11 ft x 7ft	2	
	Canopy tents, 3m x 3m	3	
IOM	Surgical mask	15,000	
	Gloves	5,000	
	Face shields	400	
	Isolation gowns and shoe cover	300	
	Suits/coveralls	300	
	Thermal scanner	50	
Japan government	Multipurpose tents	3	
	PPE	12,000	
National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP)	Decontamination chambers	2	
	Ventilators	12	
	Powered air purifying respirators	32	
	Closed suction system	200	
	Test kits	10,000	
	Gallons of 70% alcohol	42,000	
	Gallons of disinfecting solutions	3,800	
	Infrared thermometers	2,100	
	Hazmat suits	3,000	
	Goggles	45,000	
	Surgical caps	60,000	
	Full face shields	65,000	
	Disposable gowns	75,000	
	Pairs of shoe covers	85,000	
	N95 and surgical masks	3,300,000	
	Gloves	3,300,000	
PRC	Medical tents for isolation and treatment	30	
	Face masks	36,000	
	PPE (full set)	2,000	
Samaritan's Purse	Medical supplies, masks, alcohol, food	6 Manila hospitals	
	Medical tents for isolation and treatment	3	
	Mattresses	200	
	KN95 mask	1,300	
	Face Shield	1,300	
	Gown	1,300	
	Gloves	54,000	
	Surgical Mask	3,600	
	Hygiene kits	810	

Who	What	Delivered	Expected
UNDP	Ventilators		15
UNFPA	Face masks	110,000	
	Handheld thermometers	1,130	
	PPE (full set)	386,355	
	Medical Triage Tents and equipment sets	4	2
	Hygiene kits for women	750	350
	Clean delivery packs		500
	Women Friendly Space Tents	1	2
	Women and Child Protection Unit equipment	1	
UNHCR	PPE	12,152	
	Sleeping mats	64	
	Hygiene kits	64	
	Blankets	64	
	Plastic sheets	1,020	
	Solar lamps	1,020	
	Mosquito nets	1,020	
UNICEF	Tents for triage and isolation purposes 72m² and 42 m²	74	
	Coveralls for health workers	20,860	51,520
	Face shields	33,000	
	N95 masks for health workers	35,680	
	Surgical masks	38,750	370,450
	Gloves, heavy-duty, rubber/nitrile	1,000	
	Goggles, protective, indirect-side-venti	500	
	Apron, protection, plastic, reusable	500	
	Boots, rubber/PVC, reusable, pair	500	
	Coveralls for cleaning and disinfection personnel	1,000	
	N95 masks for cleaning and disinfecting personnel	15,000	
	Cleaning and disinfection kit	500	
US government	Cots	1,300	
	Disposable shoe cover	14,000	
	Disposable head cap	14,000	
	Disposable surgical gown	12,600	
	KN95 mask	9800	
	Face shield	2800	
	Goggles	2800	
	Nitrile gloves	119,000	
	Pulse oximeter	210	
	Infrared thermometer	210	
US Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)	Medical Mask		23,920
	N95 Mask		15,140
	Gloves (pair)		21,220
	Gown		12,000
	Face Shield		9,370
	Shoe Cover		1,640
	Alcohol (500ml Bottle)		5,590
WFP	Mobile Storage Unit	3	
	50 kVA generator	2	
	Shower/toilet unit	1	
WHO (with USAID funding)	Laboratory supplies		
	E-gene EAV kits	335	
	RdRP-gene kits	99	
	N gene/E gene/RdRp gene vials	12	7
	Sanger sequencing reagents vials	3	
	Universal Transport Media viral kit	89,350	
	Flexible Mini Tip	2,000	10,000
	Extraction kits		
	QIAgen QIamp RNA Kit	235	
	SuperScript III Platinum One-step qRT-PCR	109	
WHO (with DFAT funding)	Goggles	1,200	
	Gloves	31,000	
	N95 masks	900	
	Surgical masks	100,000	
	Surgical gowns	817	
	Hand sanitizer	240	
	Face shields	640	
	Bio bags	400	
World Vision	Mobile Storage Unit 10 x 32m	4	
	Tents (child-friendly space) 7 x 6m	17	
	PPE (full set)	458	
	Disinfectant kits	30	