



Report No. 17, 2020

Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 04th & 05th April 2020	Investigation Start Date: 17th March 2020 as of 18hrs.
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I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 17th national situation report since the confirmation of the first case of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in The Gambia, on the 17th March 2020.

- 3 laboratory test results received from MRCG - 2 were negative and 1 was inconclusive (a Probable Case)
- 2 new people have been taken into quarantine
- The newly quarantined are a British national and his Gambian host
- 41 individuals newly completed their mandatory 14-day quarantine and have thus been discharged
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, the country reported a total of 4 confirmed cases (2 of whom recovered, 1 passed away and 1 undergoing treatment) and 1 probable case
- All four confirmed cases were imported – there is yet to be any evidence of the existence of local transmission

Regional situation: As of 06th April 2020, 08:24 hrs, 46 African countries (including The Gambia) reported 4,827 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Senegal (The Gambia's only immediate neighbour) reported 222 cases. The first set of cases in affected African countries were imported. However, local transmission is now on the rise.

Global situation: Since 31st December 2019 and as of 06th April 2020, at 08:24, a total of 1276,587 cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries) have been reported from 206 countries, areas or territories. Of these, 69,522 deaths were registered - a crude case fatality rate of 5.4%.

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

Tables 1, 2, and 3 show the line list of confirmed cases, epi-classification of cases and the summary of outputs on the various public health activities undertaken:

Table 1: Line List of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Case No.	Nationality	Age (Years)	Sex	Onset Date	Transmission Classification	Current Status
001	Gambian	28	Female	16/03/2020	Imported	Recovered/Discharged
002	Bangladeshi	70	Male	19/03/2020	Imported	Died
003	Gambian	71	Male	20/03/2020	Imported	Recovered/Discharged
004	Gambian	53	Male	26/03/2020	Imported	Currently Hospitalized

□ Probable case

- The new probable case is a 21-year old female Dutch national who arrived in the country on the 10th March 2020
- She began manifesting symptoms similar to those of COVID-19 on the 3rd April 2020
- With this development, she and her husband have been taken into quarantine while awaiting the next sample collection date.

Table2: Epi-Classification of Reported Cases, by Region, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Region	2020 Population Estimates	Epi Classification									
		New					Cumulative				
		Suspected case(s)	Probable Case(s)	Confirmed case(s)	Recovery (ies)	Death (s)	Suspected case(s)	Probable Case(s)	Confirmed case (s)	Recovery (ies)	Death(s)
Western Health Region One	950,266	1	1	0	0	0	103	1	3	1	1
Western Health Region Two	514,999	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
Upper River Region	283,911	0	0	0		0	17	0	1	1	0
North Bank West	130,196	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Bank East	129,629	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lower River	88,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central River	257,332	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
National Total	2,354,433	2	1	0	0	0	127	1	4	2	1

Table 3: Summary of New and Cumulative Public Health Response Outputs, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Status	New	Cumulative
In Quarantine	2	30
Completed quarantine	41	253
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries)	0	310
Contacts Traced	0	233
Total Tests conducted	3	137
Positive test result	0	4
Negative test result	2	131
Inconclusive test result	1	1

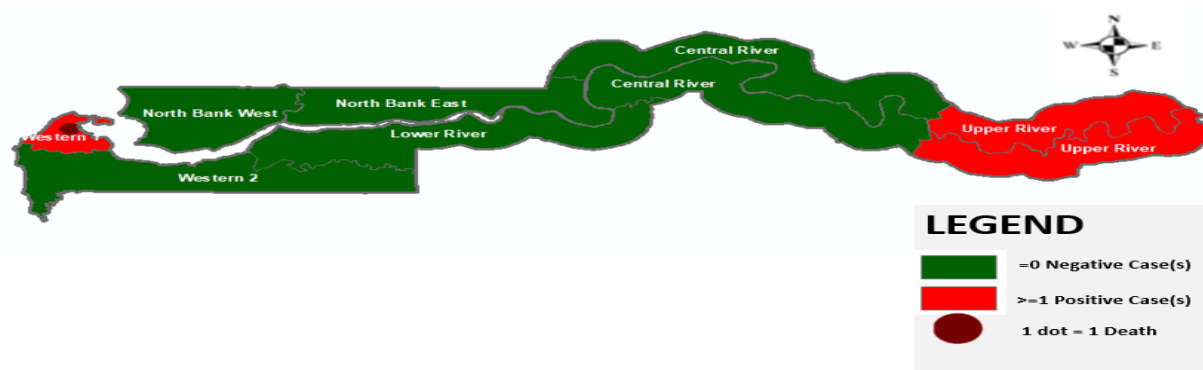


Fig 1: Map of The Gambia showing COVID-19 affected regions

III. Major Response Activities

Table 4: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Component	Interventions
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily coordination meetings ongoing at both the strategic and technical levels
Surveillance/ Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community surveillance on COVID-19 initiated in Western 2 Health Region 3 new test results from MRCG Laboratories. Of these, 2 were negative and the third was inconclusive Probable case will be re-sampled in a couple of days to conclusively determine whether she is positive for COVID-19 or not Regular monitoring of the condition of all persons under quarantine Regular follow up of all persons discharged from quarantine ongoing 2 new people have been taken into quarantine The newly quarantined are the British national who came into the country through one of the land points of entry (after passing through 4 countries) and his Gambian host A total of 41 people (including the 34 close contacts of the 3rd case) have been discharged from quarantine upon completion of their 14-day quarantine period To ascertain their current status, samples were taken from all of them prior to their discharge Thus, as of today, only 30 people are currently in quarantine
Case Management & IPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case management and IPC trainings conducted in 5 public health facilities in Western 1 Health Region Provision of regular psychosocial support to people in quarantine Fourth case still receiving treatment and remains in stable condition (clinically and psychologically) and awaiting a repeat lab test
Logistics/Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment report of POEs, Isolation, and quarantine centers have been validated by partners on Sunday 07th March 2020 at the PHEOC.
Risk Communication and Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 TV and 19 radio programs successfully conducted 2 press briefing conducted 24 communities sensitized/engaged on COVID-19 preventive measures using different community structures Summary of calls made to 1025: a total of 567 calls received

- Summary of Social media activities
- 6 Facebook and 2 twitter posts shared with over 19, 000 people reached
- U-report poll found that over 92% of respondents heard about COVID-19 and that most respondents (47%) got COVID-19 related information from TV

IV. Next Steps/Recommendations:

- Provide feedback on the outcome of laboratory tests to people whose samples were collected
- Follow-up and provision of continuous psychosocial support to people who have just been discharged from both quarantine and the treatment centers
- Engage and sensitize religious and cultural leaders on the need to practice social distancing
- Test all persons (symptomatic or not) who are about to complete their quarantine period
- Review and implement national quarantine SOPs
- Immediate pre-positioning of PPEs in all health facilities
- Develop and distribute national COVID-19 treatment guidelines
- Continue with daily follow-ups of low risk contacts and those discharged from quarantine
- Encourage public reporting and self-reporting of high risk individuals through the toll-free line (1025)
- Increase psychosocial support to affected communities, persons under quarantine and those being followed up
- Forster collaboration between PHEOC and National Security Taskforce for COVID 19 response
 - Outbreak case definition (**see below**)

1. Suspected case:

Any person with

- History of travel from any affected country within 14 days OR
- Close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 infection within 14 days OR
- Exposure to healthcare facility in a country where hospital associated COVID-19 infections have been reported **with or without** fever, cough, difficulty breathing

2. Community Case Definition:

Any person with hot skin, cough, not breathing well, and who has travelled outside The Gambia recently OR who has taken care of sick person in The Gambia

3. Probable case:

A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive or for whom testing was positive on a pan-coronavirus assay

4. Confirmed case:

Any person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection with or without signs and symptoms

For comments or questions, please contact:

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