



Report No. 14, 2020

Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19	Location: The Gambia
Date of Report: 1st April 2020	Investigation Start Date: 17 March 2020 as of 18hrs.
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I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 14th 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.

- 11 new laboratory test results received from MRCG were all negative
- 51 individuals completed their mandatory 14-day long quarantine and were thus discharged
- 3 Senegalese who recently sneaked into the country, by sea, were apprehended and placed in mandatory quarantine
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, the country reported a total of 4 confirmed cases (2 of whom recovered and 1 passed away)
- All four confirmed cases were imported – there is yet to be any evidence of the existence of local transmission

Regional situation: As of 1st April 2020, 13:43 hrs, 46 African countries (including The Gambia) reported 3,786 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Senegal (The Gambia's only immediate neighbour) reported 190 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 1st April 2020, at 13:43, a total of 882,751 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, 44,150 deaths were registered - a crude case fatality rate of 5%.

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

☐ Index Case:

- The 28-year old Gambian female arrived from London on the 15th March and self-reported for a laboratory test at the MRCG Laboratories on the 16th March.
- She was since isolated/hospitalized at MRCG and got discharged from admission on the 31st March 2020, after producing two consecutive negative test results

☐ Second Case:

- The deceased was a 70-year old male Bangladeshi national who arrived from Senegal on the 14th March after passing through four other countries
- Died on the 20th March and buried on the 25th March

☐ Third Case

- The 71-year old male Gambian hails from URR, and returned from France on the 17th March, 2020
- Patient was hospitalized at MRCG and was discharged on the 1st April upon recovery

☐ Fourth Case

- A 53-year old Gambian who arrived in The Gambia from France on the 15th March and resident at Busumbala Village (was in the same flight with the index case)
- His issue was reported to the RRT through the 1025 Hotline by a concerned citizen. A sample was collected on the 27th March and test results came out on the following day (28th March)
- Currently receiving treatment at the government treatment centre

☐ Probable Case

- 16 year old male, close contact of the 3rd case
- Sample collected on the 27th March and an inconclusive test result came out on the 28th March
- A follow-up confirmatory test will be done to determine whether suspect is covid-19 positive or not in a few days

Tables 1 and 2 show both the epi-classification of cases and the summary of outputs on the various public health activities undertaken:

Table 1: 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	11	0	0	0	0	84	0	3	1	1
Western Health Region Two	514,999	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Upper River Region	283,911	0	0	0		0	16	1	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	0	0	0	0	0
National Total	2,354,433	11	0	0	0	0	105	1	4	2	1

Table 2: Summary of New and Cumulative Public Health Response Outputs, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

Status	New	Cumulative
Quarantine	3	199
Completed quarantine	51	51
Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries)	0	310
Contacts Traced	0	233
Total Tests conducted	11	113
Positive test result	0	4
Negative test result	11	108
Inconclusive test result	0	1

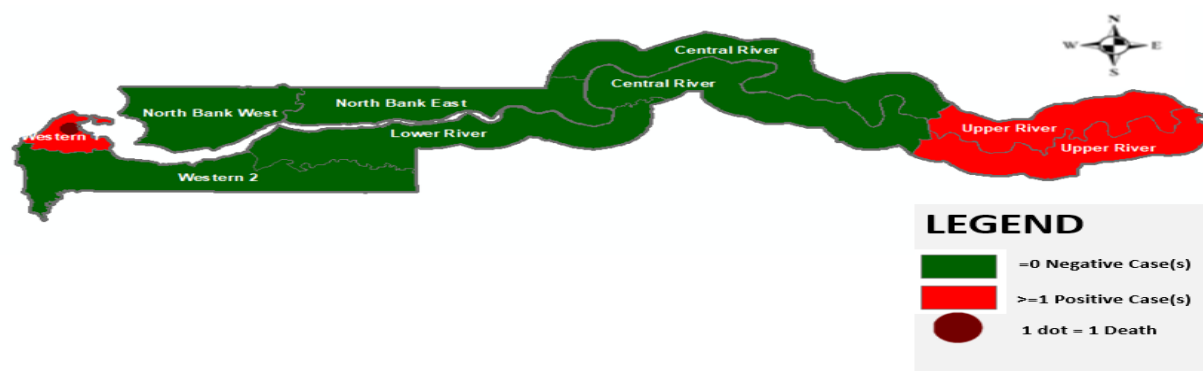


Fig 1: Map of The Gambia showing COVID-19 affected regions

III. Major Response Activities

Table 3: 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"> 1000 swabs & virus transport media received from the WHO Country Office Regular monitoring of the condition of all persons under quarantine Tracing of contacts and contacts of contacts of the confirmed cases is ongoing All 11 laboratory test results received from MRCG on the 1st April came out negative 3 new persons placed under mandatory quarantine
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted a rapid needs assessment of isolation wards in all major health facilities and treatment centers in the country Fourth case still receiving treatment and remains in a stable condition (both clinically and psychologically)
Logistics/Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHEOC continues to receive donated items from private organizations/businesses such as medicines, IPC materials and food for the upkeep of staff on duty
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 TV and 14 radio programs successfully conducted 1 press briefing conducted 13 communities sensitized/engaged on COVID-19 preventive measures using different community structures Summary of calls made to 1025: a total of 532 calls received <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of the total calls received, 450 calls were related to COVID-19 inquiries and 82 calls were not related to COVID-19 17 calls were booked and referred for further follow-up

IV. Next Steps/Recommendations:

- Test all persons (symptomatic or not) who are about to complete their quarantine period

- Develop 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
- 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
 - 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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