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| Situation Report: Confirmed COVID-19 | Location: The Gambia |
| Date of Report: 11th August 2020 | Investigation Start Date: 17th March 2020 as of 18hrs. |
| Prepared by: | Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit, MoH, The Gambia |

I. HIGHLIGHTS

This is the 117th 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

- 10 new COVID-19 related deaths recorded, bringing the total registered by the country to 43 – a crude case-fatality ratio of 2.8%
 - Whiles 7 of these new deaths are males, 9 are aged 45 years and above
- 79 new cases registered, taking the total number of COVID-19 cases ever confirmed in the country to 1,556
 - This represents a 43% test positivity rate (79 out of 184 total tests performed)
 - A significant number of the new cases are residents of Western Health Region 1 (over 70%)
- 184 new laboratory test results received from MRCG and NPHL
 - Of these, 7 new tests returned indeterminant and 79 new tests were positive for COVID-19
- 20 new discharges effected from the treatment centres, bringing the cumulative number of recoveries to date to 267 (17% recovery rate)
- Whereas 23 persons were newly taken into quarantine, 10 new discharges were made
- The country currently has 354 people in quarantine, 1,246 active cases, 172 probable cases and a crude case-fatality ratio of 2.8%

COVID-19 SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

- Confirmed Cases: **20,551,787**
- Recoveries: **13,433,738**
- Deaths: **744,914**

Senegal

- Confirmed Cases: **11,380**
- Recoveries: **7,449**
- Deaths: **238**

The Gambia

- Confirmed Cases: **1,556**
- Recoveries: **267**
- Deaths: **43**

II. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

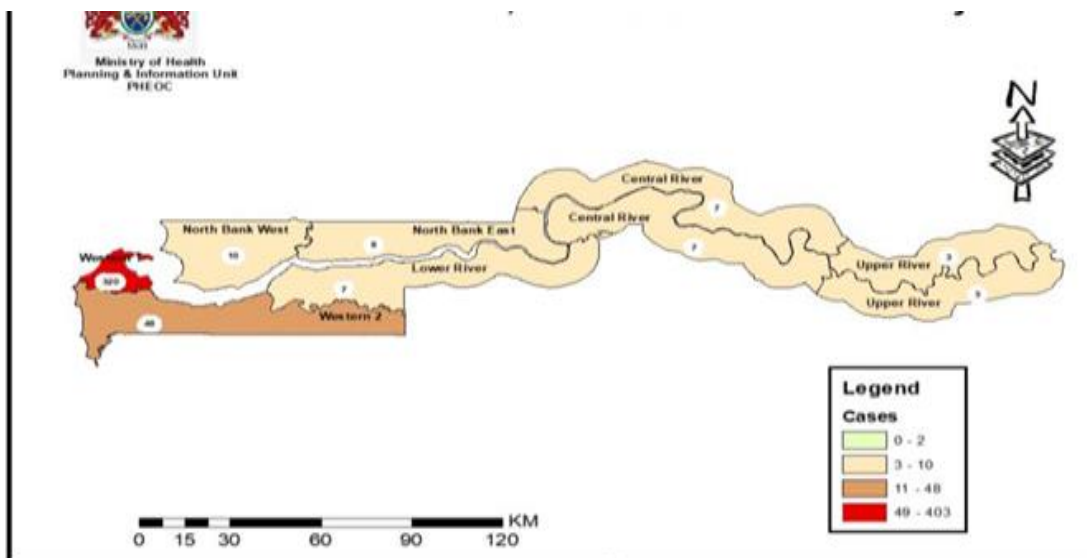


Figure 1: Distribution of COVID-19 cases by region, The Gambia, 2020

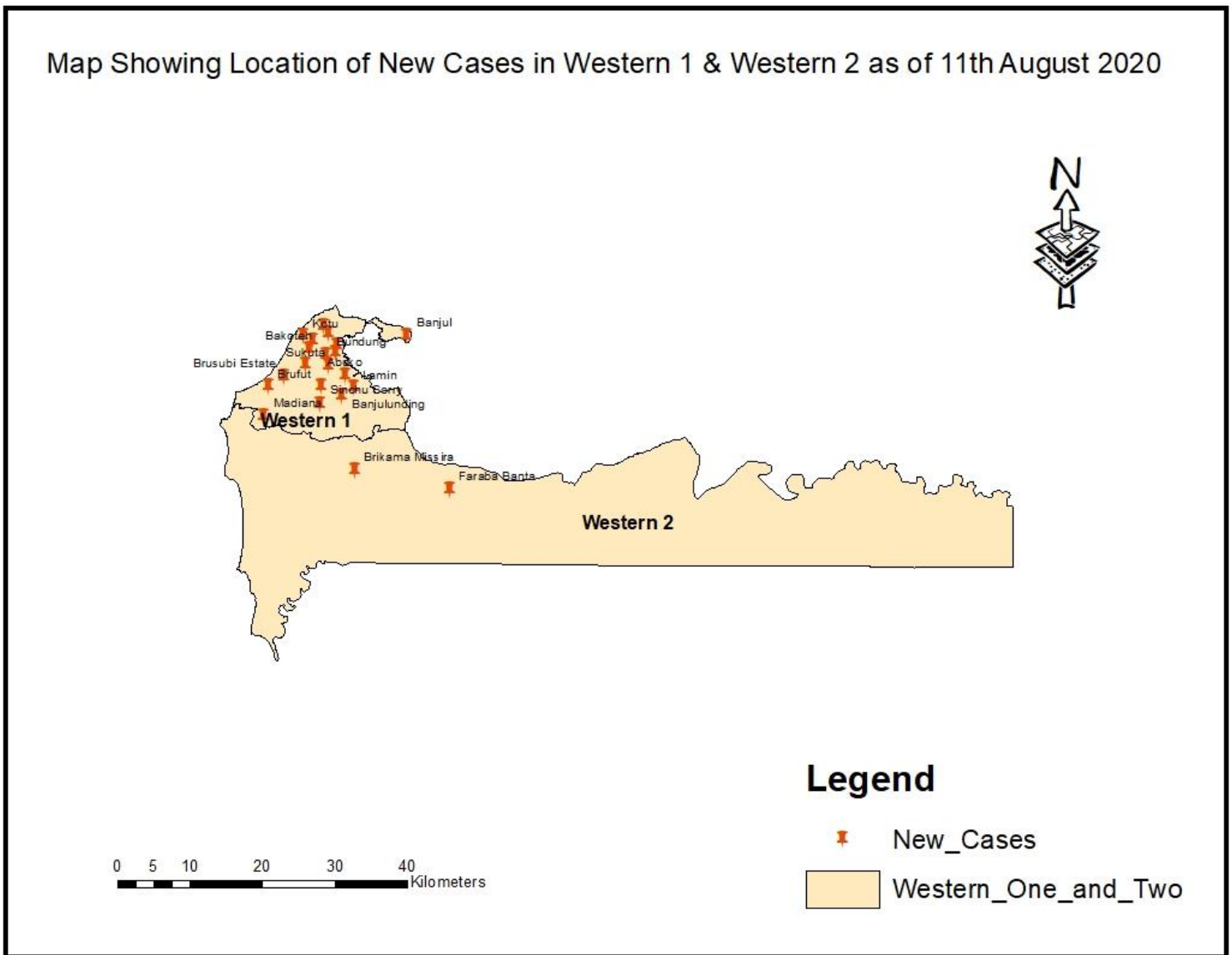
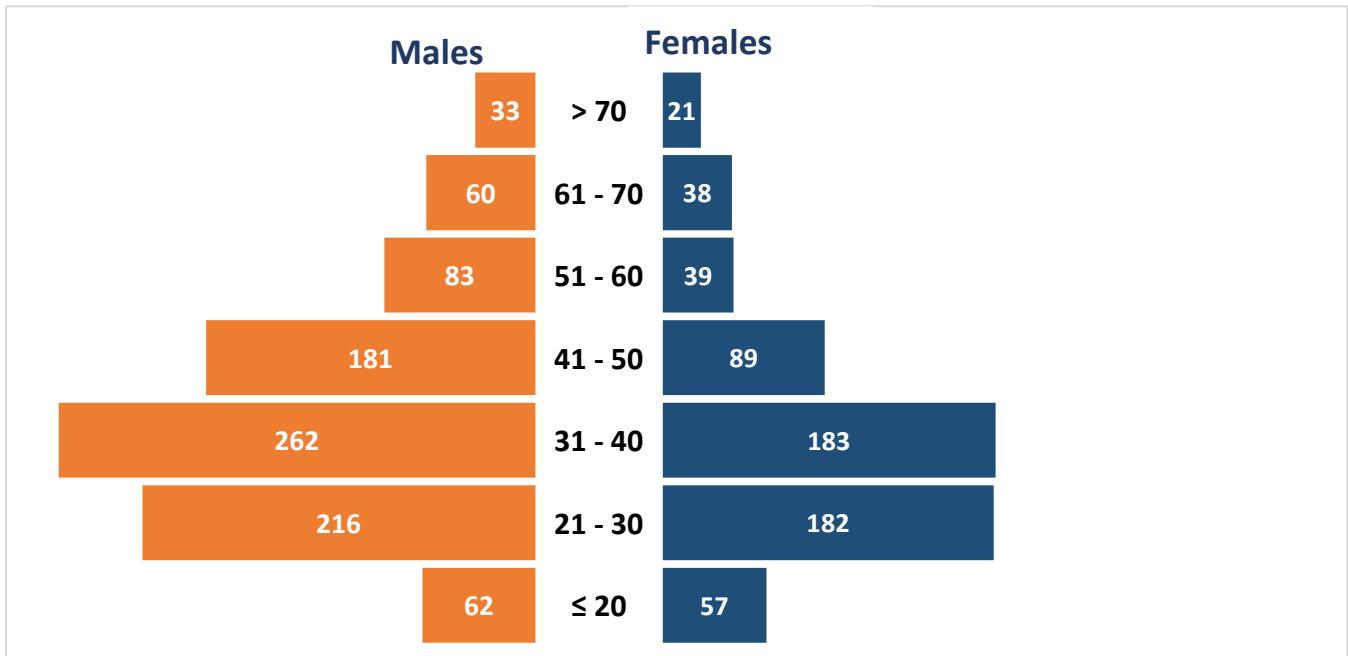


Figure 2: Distribution of COVID-19 cases in Western 1 & 2 Health Region, The Gambia, 2020

- All 7 health regions have reported cases of COVID-19 (See Fig. 1)
- Comparatively, there is a disproportionate concentration of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Western 1 Health Region (See Fig. 1)
- A soupçon of these new cases are health workers in WR1(See Fig. 2)



Figures 3 and 4 are the age-sex distribution and the Epi-curve of confirmed cases by reported date, respectively.

Fig. 3: Age-Sex Distribution of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, The Gambia, 2020

* This excludes the 27 confirmed cases whose demographic information are not yet available

* 24 of the newly confirmed cases are not included in the age-sex distribution chart because of late receipt of the information. Notwithstanding, this will be added in the subsequent reports

- Twice more males than females aged 70 and above were confirmed positive for COVID-19 (See Fig. 3)
- About 60% of the confirmed cases are males (See Fig. 3)
- About 65% of the confirmed cases are below age 40 (See Fig. 3)

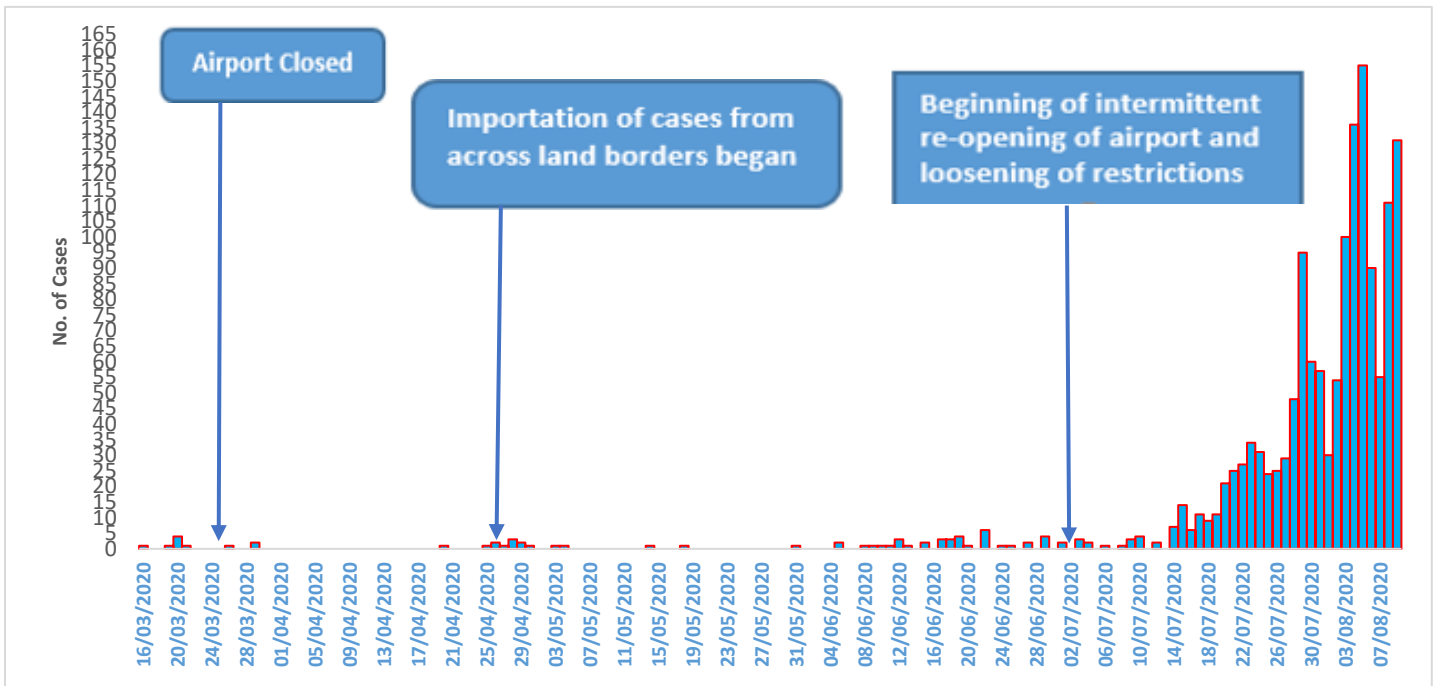


Fig. 4: Epidemic Curve of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases by Date Reported, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2020*.

* A considerable amount of time elapsed between date of reporting and the date of laboratory confirmation of some cases

- Three main waves of infection occurred – the pre airport closure wave, the importation from Senegal wave and the intermittent airport re-opening and loosening of restrictions wave (See Fig. 4)
- Within the last 10 days, there has been over a 100% increase in the number of COVID-19 cases reported by the country (See Fig. 4)

Table 1: Summary of New and Cumulative Public Health Response Outputs, COVID-19 Pandemic, The Gambia, 2020

| Status | New | Cumulative |
|---|------------|---------------------|
| In Quarantine | 23 | 354 |
| Completed quarantine | 10 | 1,879 |
| Completed follow-up (asymptomatic people with travel history to affected countries) * | 0 | 310 |
| Contact(s) Traced (Target)** | 0 | 1,681/1,731(Target) |
| Follow-up Made to Low-Risk Contacts | 674/709 | |
| Completed follow-up of low risk contacts | 0 | |
| Total Tests conducted (Repeat Test (s))*** | 184 (0)*** | 8,991 |
| Positive test result (Repeat Test (s)) | 79 (0) | 1,556 |
| Negative test result (Repeat Test (s))*** | 98(0)*** | 7,035 |
| Inconclusive test result (Repeat Test (s))*** | 7(0)*** | |

* Follow-up completed prior to the 17th March (when the first confirmed case was reported)

** Includes both low-risk and high-risk contacts and not mutually exclusive with number quarantined (as some have been quarantined)

*** Includes repeat tests in bracket

III. Major Response Activities

Table 2: Major response activities undertaken newly, COVID-19 Outbreak, The Gambia, 2020

| Component | Interventions |
|--|--|
| Coordination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily coordination meetings held at both central and regional levels |
| Surveillance/ Laboratory | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 79 new cases registered, taking the total number of COVID-19 cases ever confirmed in the country to 1,556 • This represents a 43% positive test rate (79 out of 184 total tests performed) • 184 new laboratory test results received from MRCG and NPHL • Of these, 7 new tests returned indeterminate and 79 new tests were positive for COVID-19 |
| Case Management / Psychosocial Support & Research / IPC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 new COVID-19 related death recorded, bringing the total registered by the country to 43 – a crude case-fatality ratio of 2.8% • 38 persons in quarantine and at the treatment centre benefitted from psychosocial support interventions • Community sensitization on psychosocial impact of COVID-19 ongoing |

Risk Communication and Community Engagement Activities

| Public Information Center Actions | | | | | Community Engagement Actions | | | | Feedback from Media Engagement Actions | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| Total No. of Calls received on toll free helpline | Calls referred to Contact Tracing team for Action | Calls referred to Quarantine team for action | Calls referred to Rapid Response Team for Action | Calls referred to safety and security team for action | No. of Religious leaders reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services | No. of Local Government Authorities reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services | No. of Traditional Communicators reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services | No. of Traditional Healers Reached on COVID-19 through messaging on prevention and access to services | Toll Free Helpline: No. of people shared their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs | Radio phoning programme: No. of people shared their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs | TV phoning programme: No. of people shared their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs | Social Media pages: No. of people shared their concerns and asking questions/clarifications for available support services to address their needs |
| 67 | 7 | 19 | 4 | 5 | 20 | 40 | 12 | 0 | 38 | 102 | 6 | 43201 |

IV. GAPS/CHALLENGES:

- Existence of pervasive community transmission of COVID-19 in the country, especially in Western 1 and 2 Health Regions
- Uptick of COVID-19 among healthcare workers
- Cost borne by government at designated quarantine facilities is prohibitive and may be unsustainable

V. NEXT STEPS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Imposition of stringent lockdown measures in both Western 1 and 2 regions in order to curb the spread of the virus
- IPC measures should be strictly adhered to in all public and private health healthcare facilities
- Provision of adequate stocks of PPEs to all health facilities
- Health workers to observe all COVID-19 preventive measures including the donning of appropriate PPEs at all times
- Implementation of updated quarantine and isolation guidelines

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PARTNERS

