HIGHLIGHTS (15 May 2020)

- With Lesotho confirming on 13 May its first case of COVID-19, all countries in Southern and Eastern Africa have now been affected by the pandemic.

- South Africa, the first country in the region to report a imported case on 5 March, has confirmed that over 12,000 people contracted COVID-19 so far.

- The number of people with COVID-19 is rising in Somalia, where the weak health system lacks capacity to respond. Cases in Djibouti and Tanzania are also increasing.

- Multiple locations have reported a spike in gender-based violence, as communities face rising economic pressure.

- Resources are urgently needed to scale-up the life-saving response and common services for the outbreak.

KEY FIGURES

- **Total cases in the region (as of 14 May)**: 21,150
- **Total deaths**: 501
- **Countries affected in the region**: 26

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ANGOLA – TRENDS (14 May 2020)

With over 40 cases, the country confirms its first local transmissions

- **First case**: 19 March 2020
- **Total cases**: 43 (as of 13 May 2020)
- **Total deaths**: 2
- **Schools**: Closed (affecting nearly 8.7 million leaners).
- **Borders/Flights**: All international flights cancelled effective from 20 March 2020. All land borders closed.
- **Containment measures**: National State of Emergency declared on 27 March; domestic travel allowed only for seeking/providing essential services; 14-day self-quarantine for those who had contact with symptomatic people.

Situation:
Angola recorded its first person with COVID-19 on 19 March 2020. Since then, the country has confirmed 43 people with the infection, including two who died. On 28 April, the country registered the first person who contracted the virus through local transmission, increasing concerns of a faster increase in the number of people affected in the coming weeks. The Government declared a National State of Emergency on 27 March, banning non-essential internal travel, meetings and public activities, and closing all schools. International flights to and from Angola were suspended on 20 March and the country has also prohibited circulation of people at land borders during the same period. Docking and disembarkation of cargo ships and crew members for medical assistance and humanitarian reasons remain operational. The police are enforcing the measures outlined in the State of Emergency. However, the ban on travel, meetings and public activities imposed on 27 March has reportedly only been adhered to by a small part of the population, according to media reports quoting a senior police officer.

COVID-19 has arrived in Angola at a time when much of the population was already struggling to meet their basic needs. In 2018-2019, southern Angola experienced a devastating drought - with temperatures the highest seen in 45 years - driving increasing hunger and malnutrition, especially in Cunene, Huíla, Bié and Namibe provinces. Angola is also facing macro-economic challenges following multiple consecutive years of economic contraction since 2014, when the country was hit by the oil price crisis. At least 40.6 per cent of the population live below the national poverty line, and nearly 1 in 2 people (47.6 per cent) live below the international poverty line of US$1.9 per day. COVID-19 is expected to exacerbate the situation for the most vulnerable, with 72.6 per cent of the population relying on informal employment.

Response:
- The Government has approved a National Contingency Plan to Control the Epidemic.
- Additional health care spending to mitigate COVID-19, estimated at US$40 million, has been announced and tax exemptions on humanitarian aid and donations have been granted.
- A contingent of over 250 health professionals sent from Cuba on 10 April is completing quarantine and will be deployed across the country.
- The Ministry of Social Action, Family and Women Empowerment will disburse AOA 315 million (nearly US$562,500) to support food distribution to vulnerable groups.
- UN entities in Angola have reallocated $16 million to support the Government-led response to COVID-19, including $12.5 million for the health response and $3.5 million for food security in Namibe, Huila, Cunene and Cuando Cubango provinces.

Official sources:
- Ministry of Health

Other links:
- Potential Socioeconomic Impact of COVID-19 in Angola: A Brief Analysis, by UNHABITAT/UNDP
- Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF
- COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
- COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
- Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

BOTSWANA — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

State of Public Emergency extended for six months
- First case: 30 March
- Total cases: 24 (as of 13 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 1
- Schools: closed (609,146 learners affected)
- Flights/Borders: Closed since 16 March for specific countries, and totally closed since 2 April, except for nationals returning home.
- Containment measures: State of Emergency declared from 2 April 2020, and extended for the next six months. Only essential services are allowed, and providers have to apply for a permit.

Situation:
Botswana has confirmed that at least 24 people in the country have contracted COVID-19 as of 13 May. The 28-day State of Public Emergency imposed by the Government on 2 April has been extended by the Parliament for the next six months. The State of Emergency reinforced previous measures announced on 16 March, restricting public gatherings and establishing norms of social distance. Since 2 April, all shops and business have been closed and movements out of the houses are only allowed to seek or provide essential services. A movement permit is mandatory for employees of authorized business, including butchery, fuel station, supermarket, funeral palours, health centres, finance (insurances, banks, medical aid), and restaurants. The Government has publicly reiterated that no actions will be taken against irregular immigrants stranded in Botswana after the lockdown and is working with Zimbabwe to repatriate those who want to return home.

Response:

- The Government has established the COVID-19 Relief Fund encourages the private sector, individuals and organizations to contribute.
- An economic package was approved, and will facilitate loans by commercial banks to businesses mostly affected by COVID-19 and give tax concessions to businesses in eligible sectors.
- From 20 April, the Government is informed it will start a massive screening campaign across all regions, while implementing measures to ensure that citizens have sufficient potable water and sanitation services during the period of lockdown.

Official sources:

Botswana Government Official Twitter and Botswana Government website
Presidential address declaring the State of Emergency - 31 March
First containment measures - 16 March 2020

Other links:

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

BURUNDI — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

19 people in the country contracted the virus

- First case: 31 March 2020
- Total cases: 19 (as of 13 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 1
- Schools: Open (except for the French and Belgian schools)
- Flights/Borders: All international passenger flights and visa issuance suspended on 22 March, except for cargo, including humanitarian aid, diplomatic community and ambulance flights. The land borders, temporarily closed with the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, have been reopened on 15 April to allow the movement of goods and commodities. The border with Tanzania has remained open for the movement of goods and merchandise and for the return of Burundians in their country.
- Containment measures: Since 5 March, self-financed 14-day quarantine is mandatory for travellers and anyone who has had contact with symptomatic people.

Situation

With 19 people with COVID-19 confirmed, Burundi continues to trace and monitor those who have been in contact with those who contracted the virus. The country has had over 2,500 people in mandatory quarantine, including 650 children (some unaccompanied), pregnant women and elderly citizens. There are reports that many people confined in hotels, motels, or other Government designated buildings do not have the financial capacity to complete their 14-day quarantine. In addition, the lack of triage and isolation facilities, the inadequate logistical and operational capacity of rapid response teams and other frontline health workers, as well as the shortage of safe water, sanitation and hygiene equipment throughout the country constrains the response effort. The Government and partners are working to increase training of health personnel in the detection, diagnosis, and surveillance of respiratory diseases, as well as hygiene awareness among the population. This is especially important as it will help to protect the most vulnerable groups, including internally displaced people, returnees, host communities and people with humanitarian needs, including 1.7 million people that are severely food insecure.

Response
In parallel to the Strategic Response Plan developed by the WHO and partners, a contingency plan has been prepared by the Government, requesting US$8.2 million. To date, over $15 million has been pledged or made available for the COVID-19 response efforts. Some partners are also in the process of reprogramming and reallocating the EVD funding towards COVID-19 response.

The National Steering Committee for Public Health Emergency Management, chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight Against AIDS, has been reactivated, together with pillar-based technical working groups.

Health authorities are screening travellers and have supplied laboratories with COVID-19 testing kits, however both require enhancements.

A campaign has been launched to tell people about the COVID-19 preventive measures and hotline is answering questions from the public. The service is however overwhelmed, and a call centre with greater capacity is needed.

To learn more about the COVID-19 in Burundi and its humanitarian impact, check out the OCHA Burundi Situation Report, available in English and French.

Official sources:
Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Minister of Health Twitter

Other links
OCHA Burundi – Humanitarian Response
OCHA Burundi – COVID-19 Information page – Humanitarian Response
World Health Organization Situation Report: 27 April 2020
COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

COMOROS – TRENDS  (14 May 2020)

11 COVID-19 infections confirmed as of 13 May

- **First case:** 30 April
- **Total cases:** 11 (as of 13 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 1
- **Schools:** Closed (277,099 learners affected)
- **Flights/Borders:** All international passenger flights suspended; only cargo accepted. Sea travel between islands suspended.
- **Containment measures:** Mandatory quarantine for travellers from countries with COVID-19 confirmed cases. Multiple measures taken to restrict gatherings.

The Comoros confirmed the first case of a person with COVID-19 in the country on 30 April. Since then, 10 more individuals have contracted COVID-19 along with one reported death as of 13 May. The Government have had, so far, extremely limited testing capacity. The first testing centre just started its operations at the end of April, after the Government announced it had received the equipment and supplies for 5,000 tests on 23 April. On the containment side, the country suspended all international commercial passenger flights from 20 March and the National Agency for Maritime Affairs restricted all movements of people coming from Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mozambique and any other nation that reported outbreaks. Sea travel between Comoros’ islands has been suspended until further notice. Travellers are strictly quarantined for a period of at least 14 days. All public festivities and gatherings have been suspended until further notice, with weddings restricted to no more than 20 people and burials restricted to only family members, relatives of the deceased, and residents of the villages concerned. On 25 March, President Alazi signed a decree prohibiting Friday and collective prayers in mosques. A national curfew from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. has been implemented.

Official sources:
Government COVID-19 webpage

Other links:
U.S. Embassy in Madagascar and Comoros - 18 April Health Advisory
Worldometer's COVID-19 data
DJIBOUTI — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)

Number of people with COVID-19 infection surpasses 1,200

- **First case:** 17 March 2020
- **Total cases:** 1,268 (as of 13 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 2
- **Schools:** Closed, affecting over 142,000 learners.
- **Borders/Flights:** All land, sea, and air borders closed effective from 18 March 2020. Only cargo flights are authorized.
- **Containment measures:** Quarantine mandatory for those who have had contact with positive cases.

**Situation:**
The number of people with COVID-19 is rising in Djibouti, with 1,268 cases confirmed on 13 May, according to the Ministry of Health. With a total population of around one million, Djibouti is reportedly the country with the highest prevalence of the disease on the continent, according to the Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, quoted by the media. Recent rains and floods across the country have affected more than 110,000 people and displaced many of them, increasing the risk of transmission. The lockdown imposed on 23 March continue, with all stores closed with the exception of food markets, pharmacies, banks and gas stations. The Government closed the airport on 18 March for all commercial flights, allowing cargo to operate normally. Schools have also been closed, affecting 142,564 learners countrywide.

**Response:**
- The Ministry of Health and its partners have increased their preparedness by building surveillance, testing, quarantine and health worker capacity. WHO has delivered protective and medical equipment, including tests and respirators.
- On 9 April, the United Nations organized a virtual conference on COVID-19, with the participation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the spokesperson for the Government, the Minister for the Economy and Finance, religious leaders, the representative of WHO and the United Nations Resident Coordinator. The conference discussed Government and UN response actions to the COVID-19 crisis.

**Official sources:**
Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Ministry of Health website

**Other links:**
COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
United Nations Country Team in Djibouti - Situation Reports
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

ESWATINI — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)

Containment measures strengthened after cases almost doubled in one week

- **First case:** 16 March 2020
- **Total cases:** 187 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 1
- **Schools:** Closed (353,796 learners affected).
**Borders/Flights:** Only cargo, returning citizens and legal residents allowed to enter the country since 27 March. Some landborder posts closed, including Sicunisa, Gege, Lundzi, Sandlane, Bulamba and Nsalitje.

**Containment measures:** Domestic travel allowed only for seeking/providing essential services; 14-day self-quarantine required for those who had contact with symptomatic people.

**Situation:**

In Eswatini, the number of cases reached 187 on 14 May, according to the Ministry of Health. With the increase in cases, the Government announced on 23 April that it will reinforce the partial lockdown imposed on 27 March and remove all the relaxed measures, including public transport. On his statement, the Prime Minister says "the country's health system cannot withstand an upsurge of infections and neither the available resources are adequate to manage an uncontrollable transmission of the virus". Earlier this week, the Deputy Prime Minister had acknowledged the shortage of personal protective equipment to effectively contain the COVID-19 and informed the Government was intensifying the efforts to procure this and other medical supplies.

With the details of the new measures yet to be announced, the gazette with the Eswatini COVID-19 Regulations already included restriction of movements, prohibition of gatherings, closure of schools, borders and non-essential services and regulations on isolation or mandatory quarantine, price control, among other measures. Since 27 March, only cargo, returning citizens and legal residents are allowed to enter the country. Patients who knowingly expose others to coronavirus may be arrested and prosecuted for attempted murder or murder. Refusal to quarantine, the spread of false information or failure in complying with COVID-19 Regulations will be punished by up to five years in prison or a fine not exceeding 25,000 Emalangeni (around US$1,300), depending on the offence.

The containment measures are reportedly exacerbating pre-existing humanitarian needs in Eswatini. There are reports of increasing hunger in some communities, including Kwaluseni Township, in the Manzini District, where most of the population reportedly lost their incomes with the closure of factories. Across the country, more than 11,000 vulnerable children are reportedly without food following the closure of all Government’s Neighbourhood Care Points, where they previously received two meals a day, according to media reports. The situation has compounded the closure of schools and the interruption of the school feeding scheme. The Ministry of Health encouraged farmers to embark on the production of maize, beans, vegetables and other food crops during the winter season.

**Response:**

The Government reports that additional health workers, including eight doctors, 145 nurses, environmental health specialists, and paramedics have been recruited and 1,007 nurses, 147 doctors and over 3,000 rural health motivators have been trained on COVID-19 case management.

**Official sources:**

Eswatini Government Official Twitter and Kingdom of Eswatini COVID-19 Situation Reports

Eswatini COVID-19 Regulations - 27 March 2020

**Other links:**

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO

Global Monitoring of School Meals During COVID-19 School Closures, by WFP

COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)

Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

**ETHIOPIA — TRENDS (14 May 2020)**

Pandemic likely to increase the already high food insecurity in the country

- **First case:** 13 March 2020
- **Total cases:** 272 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 5
- **Schools:** Closed (24,646,497 learners affected)
- **Flights/Borders:** All land borders have been closed, except for essential goods. The main airport is open for international flights, although Ethiopian Airlines has been forced to suspend services to various destinations. United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) cargo operations still ongoing.
- **Containment measures:** All passengers arriving in Ethiopia are placed in a mandatory quarantine at several designated hotels for 14 days at their own expense as of 23 March 2020.
Situation

Ethiopia recorded its first COVID-19 infection on 13 March 2020. Since then, 272 people contracted the virus and five of them died from the disease, according to the Ministry of Health. The country declared a State of Emergency on 8 April for five months, closing schools and universities, banning public gatherings and requiring most employees to work from home. In addition, regional authorities have imposed strict measures limiting population movements within and between regions. These restrictions have impacted ongoing humanitarian operations, including COVID-19 response activities, according to partners in the country. While humanitarian organizations are working with authorities to establish the appropriate mechanism to enable the continuity of life-saving operations, an estimated 15 million people could experience food consumption gaps as a result of COVID-19, according to the Government’s National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC) and the Food Cluster. The risk of transmissions and increased humanitarian need is especially high amongst the 1.7 million internally displaced people (IDP) living in collective sites or host communities across the country. Almost all IDPs have limited capacity to follow the recommended norms of social distance and lack access to proper hygiene facilities and supplies such as soaps. In most IDP sites, shelters are crowded, and many people sleep in groups or crowded communal halls. Cases of intimidation related to the stigmatization of foreigners and Ethiopian diasporas in field locations have also been reported. In addition, thousands of Ethiopians have been deported, mainly from Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Kenya and Sudan since the beginning of the outbreak, increasing challenges related to their reception and assistance.

COVID-19 has arrived in Ethiopia at a time when more than 7 million people were already severely food insecure and struggling to meet their basic needs. The county has also been dealing with other outbreaks, including cholera and measles, putting more pressure on the already weak health system.

Response

- At the Federal level, the multi-sector COVID-19 response is coordinated by the Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) led by the Commissioner of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC). All humanitarian partners are supporting the centre.
- At the regional level, coordination centres have been established. NDRMC will be working to ensure that regional Coordination Forums mirror the Federal Coordination Mechanism.
- The Government and partners are expanding quarantine and isolations centres to all points of entry (air and land) and major cities; extending the number of testing facilities to cover major cities; carrying out house-to-house COVID-19 surveillance and community awareness;
- The humanitarian system reactivated the Logistics Cluster to coordinate demands for emergency COVID-19 supplies throughout the country.

Official source:
Minister of Health Twitter and The Ministry of Health website

Other sources:
Ethiopia COVID-19 Humanitarian impact
COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

KENYA – TRENDS (14 May 2020)

Government reinforce restrictions in specific areas of Nairobi and Mombasa

- First case: 15 March
- Total cases: 758 (as of 14 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 42
- Schools: Closed country-wide (14.3 million learners affected).
- Borders/Flights: Borders are closed and all international passenger flights suspended from 25 March.
- Containment measures: Countrywide curfew (7 p.m. to 5 a.m.) effective from 27 March; cessation of movement from other counties into and out of Nairobi, Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa starting 6 April for 21 days; public gatherings limited to 10 people; masks to be worn in public areas.
With at least 758 people with COVID-19 reported, including 42 who died from the disease as of 14 May, Kenya is reinforcing containment measures in specific areas to prevent transmissions. The Government announced tougher measures to contain the outbreak in Eastleigh in Nairobi and the Old Town in Mombasa. The order, effective on 7 May, includes a ban on movements and public transport in and out of the two neighbourhoods, and the closure of markets and eateries. Meanwhile, heavy rains and flooding in at least three quarters of Kenya’s counties have affected over 233,000 people, including 116,000 displaced, increasing the risk of health emergencies, including higher levels of COVID-19 community transmission at overcrowded camps.

To contain the COVID-19 outbreak, a ban on movement in and out of Mandera County have been imposed following a sharp increase on number of people with the virus, the majority of them with history of travel to other counties. Previously on 7 April, the Government declared the Nairobi Metropolitan Area and the counties of Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa as "COVID-19 infected", and mandated the cessation of all movements into and out of these areas. Sports activities have been banned with effect from 7 April; prison visits have been suspended and public gatherings are limited to 10 people, including for funerals. The ban on international passenger flights, effective from 25 March, continues.

On 22 April, Human Rights Watch (HRW) launched a report denouncing several allegedly cases of police violence. According to HRW, officers shot and beat people at markets or returning home from work, even before the daily start of the curfew. The organization documented cases of police breaking into homes and shops, extorting money from residents or looting food in several locations across the country. HRW urged Kenyan authorities to ensure that the police do not use excessive force. The Government of Kenya's Independent Policing Oversight Authority has recorded at least 35 cases of police brutality related to enforcement of the COVID-19 curfew, 12 of which resulted in death, and has opened investigations into a number of the cases.

Response:

- The Government has earmarked Ksh40 billion (approximately US$377.7 million) in funds for additional health expenditure, including enhanced surveillance, laboratory services, isolation units, equipment, supplies, and communication; social protection and cash transfers; food relief; and funds for expediting payments of existing obligations to maintain cash flow for businesses during the crisis.

- On 9 April, the United Nations and humanitarian partners launched an Emergency Appeal to support the Government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. The plan seeks $267.5 million to respond to the most immediate and critical needs of 10.1 million people that will likely be affected by the current situation.

Official sources:

- Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Ministry of Health website
- WHO Kenya Official Twitter
- Fourth Presidential Address on the Coronavirus Pandemic - 17 April 2020
- COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
- COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
- Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

INTERACTIVE (15 May 2020)

Kenya COVID-19 Dashboard
LESOTHO — TRENDS  (13 May 2020)

First person with COVID-19 registered in the country

- First case: 13 May
- Total cases: 1 (as of 13 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 0
- Schools: Closed (579,807 learners affected)
- Borders/Flights: All travellers are screened for coronavirus.
- Containment measures: National Emergency declared 28 March, restricting all movements and closing all non-essential services.

The Government confirmed on 13 May the first case of a person with COVID-19 in Lesotho, after conducting nearly 600 tests. As the country has no testing capacity to date, it relies on South Africa to test people who might have been in contact with the virus. The Lesotho Medical Association have raised concerns over the lack of basic medical supplies and claimed they would not be able to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak should it escalate in the country. The Government declared a National Emergency and imposed a lockdown on 28 March 2020 to prevent the virus from entering Lesotho. Since then, the Prime Minister and Police Commissioner have called on law enforcement agencies to uphold people's rights during the national emergency. However, there have been reports of excessive use of force by security officers and the Government also informed about an increasing on criminal activities during the lockdown. On 18 April, the Prime Minister deployed the army onto streets to 'restore peace and order', claiming law enforcement institutions were undermining democracy. His announcement on national television came a day after the Constitutional Court overturned his 3-month suspension of Parliament as part of the coronavirus lockdown extension declared on 17 April, according to media reports.

Meanwhile, all shops and business will remain closed, except those providing essential services. Social gatherings, except for funerals, have been prohibited. The country is carrying out controls at all borders and all travellers are tested for symptoms. Those coming from affected countries are placed under quarantine. All schools are closed, leaving an estimated 390,000 children without access to school meals, according to WFP.

Prior to the global COVID-19 pandemic, more than a quarter of the population in Lesotho - over half a million people - were facing severe food insecurity as the result of a devastating drought. Humanitarian partners launched a Flash Appeal to respond to the most urgent and life-saving needs, which is just 10 per cent funded.

Response:

- A M700 million (approximately US$38.6 million) fund has been set aside for the National COVID-19 Response Integrated Plan 2020, more than half of which will be used for health care personnel and purchase of critical goods and services, with the remainder covering logistics, security, and border management.

Official sources:

Government of Lesotho webpage and COVID-19 National Command Centre

Other links:

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF
MADAGASCAR — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

State of Health Emergency extended

- **First case:** 20 March 2020
- **Total cases:** 230 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 0
- **Schools:** Closed (277,099 learners affected).
- **Borders/Flights:** The Government of Madagascar announced a suspension of all international air travel starting 20 March, for 30 days.
- **Containment measures:** 14-day quarantine mandatory for individuals who have had possible exposure to COVID-19; travel limited to essential services and work.

**Situation:**

As of 14 May, Madagascar's total amount of COVID-19 cases is 230. The Government announced the first three COVID-19 cases on 20 March and declared a national Public Health Emergency the same day. All international and regional passenger flights and cruises have been suspended and a 15-day lockdown was declared for Toamasina and Analamanga regions, including the capital, Antananarivo. On 17 April, President Rajoelina extended the State of Health Emergency for another 15 days, maintaining the ban on all public and cultural events and the closure of all schools and universities, churches, public spaces (bars, restaurants, shops, etc.). The curfew (8 p.m. – 5 a.m.) remains in place.

Madagascar has the fourth highest rate of chronic malnutrition among children under five in the world, and has been buffeted by floods and drought in recent months. Across the country, more than 567,700 children are no longer receiving vital school feeding, according to WFP.

**Response:**

- Key measures include: (i) increased spending on epidemic prevention and control; (ii) cash-transfers and in-kind necessities to the poorest and those unemployed; and (iii) tax relief, suspension of government fees and waived social contributions.
- On 12 March 2020, the World Bank provided a grant of US$3.7 million to strengthen prevention against the COVID-19 pandemic, purchase materials and equipment, and train health workers. On 2 April, the World Bank approved $100 million Development Policy Operation (DPO) for budget support to improve the human capital. On 3 April 2020, the IMF approved a disbursement under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF), equivalent to US$165.9 million, to meet the external financing gaps arising from COVID-19.

**Official sources:**

Ministry of Health Facebook Page and President Official Twitter

Government COVID-19 Official webpage

**Other links:**

Containment measures extended, by Orange Madagascar

U.S. Embassy Madagascar and Comoros COVID-19 Information

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO

COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)

Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF

MALAWI — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

Cases rise to 63

- **First case:** 2 April 2020
- **Total cases:** 63 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 3
- **Schools:** Closed (5,495,017 learners affected)
- **Borders/Flights:** All international flights and cross-border passenger and buses banned since 1 April.
**Containment measures:** State of disaster declared 20 March; domestic travel allowed only for seeking/providing essential services; 14-day self-quarantine for travellers arriving from countries with local transmission cases or those who had contact with symptomatic people.

**Situation:**

With 63 confirmed cases and three deaths as of 14 May, Malawi has engaged in a judicial dispute over the COVID-19 containment measures. The 21-day lockdown from 18 April to 9 May announced by the Government was barred by the High Court of Malawi on 17 April. The decision followed and application by members of the Human Rights Defenders Coalition (HRDC), who argued that more consultation was needed to prevent harm to the poorest and most vulnerable people. Several groups, including traders and civil society organizations, had also called on the Government to reconsider the lockdown and ensure that measures taken to prevent the COVID-19 pandemic include support to vulnerable people who rely on daily wages to feed their families. Teachers urged authorities to release their April salaries in advance of the lockdown to help them to face the impact of the restrictions. In response, the Government appealed the High Court decision, claiming that measures to cushion the vulnerable population in the informal sectors have been put in place.

The lockdown would reinforce previous measures imposed on 23 March, including the ban of public gatherings and closure of schools and universities; and the ban of all international flights and cross-border passenger buses since 1 April. If the new order is approved, all non-essential services and business will remain closed. Security officer have reportedly been deployed to patrol borders and mount roadblocks in strategic points countrywide.

The country is also facing challenges in the medical response. Doctors and nurses in the commercial capital Blantyre organized a protest on 14 April and reportedly continued a strike they started during the weekend of 11 April to protest against allegedly unfavorable working conditions, including a critical shortage of personal protective equipment needed to treat COVID-19 patients.

**Response:**

- On 8 April, Malawi Government launched the National Covid-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, with a budget of US$213 million (MWK157 billion). The response plan includes US$20 million (0.25 percent of GDP) in spending on health care and targeted social assistance programs. This includes hiring 2,000 additional health care workers.
- The Minister of Population Planning and Social Welfare reportedly announced on 11 April that all Government social cash transfer beneficiaries will receive a four-month disbursement. The measure aims to cushion them from the economic slowdown caused by the pandemic and to boost compliance with social distance orders.
- On 15 April, the World Bank approved $7 million in immediate funding to support Malawi’s response under a new Malawi COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness project. In addition to the new operation, $30 million has been made available from the Disaster Risk Management Development Policy Financing with a Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option (Cat-DDO) to strengthen the country’s response to the pandemic.

**Official sources:**

Malawi Government Official Twitter and Malawi Government Facebook Page

Ministry of Health COVID-19 Dashboard

**Other links:**

Malawi Government dispenses 4-month cash transfer to fight COVID-19, by Nyasa Times

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO

COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)

Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

**MAURITIUS — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)**

All 322 COVID-19 positive patients have officially recovered, according to Ministry of Health

- **First case:** 19 March 2020
- **Total cases:** 332 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 10
- **Schools:** Closed (277,099 learners affected).
- **Borders/Flights:** Commercial flights have been suspended since 19 March.
**Situation**:

As of 14 May, the Ministry of Health remains COVID-19 free after confirming that all 322 COVID-19 positive patients have officially recovered. To contain the virus, a total lockdown of supermarkets, shops and bakeries was declared on 24 March, following an order restricting movements since 23 March. The measures have been extended to at least 4 May, with some changes to facilitate access to essential services and food. Supermarkets and shops reopened on 2 April under strict sanitary conditions. Each family is allowed shopping twice per week and have limited access to essential products to prevent shortages.

**Response**:

- The Government has announced plans to increase general public health spending by Rs208 million (approximately US$5.25 million), with half already disbursed, according to the IMF.

**Official sources**:

Government of Mauritius Official Twitter and Government of Mauritius COVID-19 webpage

**Other links**:

- U.S. Embassy in Mauritius Travel Advisory – 14 April 2020
- COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
- COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
- Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF

**MOZAMBIQUE – TRENDS (14 May 2020)**

**State of Emergency until the end of May**

- **First case**: 23 March 2020
- **Total cases**: 115 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths**: 0
- **Schools**: Closed country-wide for 30 days (7.9 million learners affected).
- **Borders/Flights**: Entry for non-nationals and non-residents is restricted. As of 13 April 2020, Ethiopian Airlines is the only commercial airline continuing to offer flights departing from Mozambique.
- **Containment measures**: State of Emergency effective 1 to 30 April, restricting movements and closing schools and non-essential services; mandatory screening at airports and other points of entry and 14-day quarantine for all travellers; temporary suspension of issuance of visas.

**Situation**:

The total number of cases in Mozambique is 115 as 14 May, according to the Ministry of Health. Cabo Delgado Province holds the highest number of infections in the country. On 21 April, the Cabo Delgado Government informed it could impose a lockdown to prevent people from living the Province to contain the virus. The decision could have a negative impact on the humanitarian situation and operation in the region, where thousands of people have been displaced by the ongoing armed attacks and many others are still recovering from the impact of Cyclone Kenneth one year ago.

Across the country, the President, Felipe Nyusi declared a 30-day state of emergency, effective 1 April, limiting movements and closing establishments, including schools and universities. The official Government website indicates that more than 508,000 passengers arriving from abroad and contacts have been traced, while over 11,000 people are in quarantine, as of 24 April. The restrictions on movement have reportedly been met with mixed reactions and some protests. On 30 March, transporters of the 15-seater minibuses in some routes in the capital Maputo went on strike to protest the imposition of a three-passenger-per-bench rule, leading the Government to flexibilize the rule. Now, the transport vehicles can operate with the normal capacity, provided that passengers wear masks.

**Response**:

- The Government has increased the budget allocation for health, from about approximately US$29.8 million (MT 2 billion or about 0.2 per cent of GDP) to about $49.2 million (MT 3.3 billion or 0.3 per cent of GDP).
The Government has requested $700 million from partners to help deal with the impact of the pandemic.

Official sources:
- Mozambique Government COVID-19 webpage
- Ministry of Health Official Twitter
- WHO Mozambique Official Twitter

Other links:
- COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
- COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
- Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF

NAMIBIA — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

No new confirmed cases since 6 April

- First case: 14 March 2020
- Total number of cases: 16 (as of 14 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 0
- Schools: Closed (745,566 learners affected)
- Borders/Flights: Commercial flights not operating. Road borders closed for non-resident foreign nationals, with exceptions including people seeking medical treatment, essential services, truck drivers transporting food and other essential commodities.
- Containment measures: State of Emergency declared 17 March; self-quarantine for returning residents and nationals; mandatory quarantine in isolation facilities for symptomatic cases; restriction of all movements in Khomas and Erongo regions, except for essential services.

Situation:
Nambia's number of cases remains at 16 as of 14 May, with no new confirmations from the Government since 6 April. The country extended the lockdown initially imposed for Khomas and Erongo regions to the whole country, lasting until 4 May. The State of Emergency declared on 17 March was also extended by the Parliament for a period of six months. The borders will remain closed and schools will not re-open until further notice. Travels across the country will only be permitted within each region. Any movements in and out the regions are allowed only with previous official permits and in specific situations, including people seeking medical treatment, attending funerals, assisting family members or friends and other reasons approved by authorities as essential. Individuals providing essential services and transporting critical commodities are exempt from the requirement for a permit. With the new order, mining operations, an important sector for the country’s economy, have been suspended, while informal trading and open markets will be allowed to operate subject to strict hygiene and limitations on numbers of customers at the same time.

Response:
- On 1 April 2020, the Government launched Economic Stimulus and Relief Package to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 for approximately US$344.5 million (8 billion Namibian Dollars, or 4.25 percent of GDP), including approximately $119.5 million (2.2 billion) for health, wage subsidies, and income grants; and guarantees of up to $124.9 million (2.3 billion) to support low interest loans for small and agricultural businesses, and individuals.

Official sources:
- Namibia Presidency Official Twitter
- Presidential Statement on extension of lockdown

Other links:
- Namibian lockdown: Travel with permit allowed, by Namibian newspaper
- COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
- COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
- Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF

RWANDA — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)

Lockdown partially lifted on 4 May

- First case: 14 March
- Total cases: 287 (as of 14 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 0
- Schools: Closed (3.4 million learners affected).
- Borders/Flights: Closed since 20 March, except for cargo.
- Containment measures: Lockdown since 21 March; domestic travels allowed only for seeking /providing essential services; 14-day quarantine for people coming into the country.

Situation:

Rwanda has 287 confirmed cases of COVID-19 as of 14 May. The Government extended, on 17 April, the lockdown until 30 April. On 1 May, the lockdown was partially lifted allowing businesses to operate from 4 May. Rwanda was one of the first countries in the region to close its borders and restrict movements, on 20 and 21 March respectively. Since then, movement and visits outside homes are only permitted for essential services, including those seeking or providing healthcare, groceries or banking services. With all social gatherings banned, schools and places of worship were closed. There were reports of violence by security forces against people who allegedly violated the lockdown regulations. Some businesses have also been fined for selling commodities at higher prices.

Response:

- The Government announced a social protection plan to support vulnerable people across the country during the lockdown, with door to door provision of foodstuffs and groceries to vulnerable homes since 28 March.

Official sources:

Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Ministry of Health COVID-19 webpage
Ministry of Health Statement on New Measures to Prevent COVID-19 Coronavirus Transmission – 14 March

Other links:

BBC Rwanda COVID-19 coverage
COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

SEYCHELLES — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)

No new cases confirmed since 16 April

- First case: 14 March
- Total cases: 11 (as of 14 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 0
- Schools: Closures localized, affecting the most populated islands.
- Flights/Borders: closed since 23 March, except for repatriations.
- Containment measures: Curfew imposed from 17 April, restricting movements from 7 p.m until 6 a.m; mandatory quarantine for travellers and contacts with positive cases.

Situation:
Seychelles has confirmed 11 COVID-19 cases as of 14 May, with no new reports from the Government since 16 April. The Government has implemented further restrictions on the movement of people from 17 April for a period of two weeks. A curfew have been imposed from 7 p.m until 6 a.m, and workers in critical services need a permit to move around. Additionally, all shops must close from 6 p.m. in the evening until 6.30 a.m. the next morning. All public schools and daycare centers on the three most populated islands, Mahe, Praslin and La Digue, including the post-secondary institutions are also closed until further notice. The Seychelles’ International Airport will remain closed until the end of May, while new maritime surveillance will be applied in the island nation to track where vessels and boats are located at any given moment.

Response:

- The government announced it will be cut non-essential spending across most ministries, departments and agencies by introducing measures such as placing a freeze on recruitment, restricting travel and reducing allowances. With the cancellation of several festivals and delaying the national census to 2021, the resources saved will be used to finance the construction of an isolation center, increase actual quarantine capacity and other health-related projects.
- Financial assistance will reportedly be provided to businesses to ensure that all their employees are paid in April, May and June 2020.

Official sources:

Seychelles State House Official Twitter and Ministry of Health webpage
Additional restrictions of movement in Seychelles, by State House on 16 April
Presidential address on COVID-19 situation on 14 April

Other links:

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

SOMALIA — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

Pandemic likely to compound fragile humanitarian situation

- First case: 16 March
- Total cases: 1,284 (as of 14 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 53
- Schools: Closed (544,000 learners affected)
- Borders/Flights: Closed for all international passenger flights since 18 March. Cargo flights allowed. Land borders with Kenya and Ethiopia closed.
- Containment measures: Curfew from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m imposed on 15 April for the capital Mogadishu. Nationwide ban of public gatherings. Self-quarantine required for travellers or those who had contact with symptomatic people.

Situation:

Somalia has recorded 1,284 COVID-19 cases, including 53 deaths, as of 13 May. Most of the cases have no travel history, signifying community transmission. The country has a weak healthcare system with limited capacity to prevent, detect and respond to a pandemic like COVID-19. Less than 20 per cent of the health facilities have the required equipment and supplies to manage an outbreak. There are also significant lacks in surveillance, laboratory testing and personal protective equipment. The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to compound an already fragile humanitarian situation in Somalia.

The country hosts large numbers of vulnerable people, including over 2.6 million internally displaced people (IDPs) living in 2,000 overcrowded sites, with poor access to safe drinking water, clean latrines and hygiene kits including soap. More than 1.2 million people are severely food insecure. The Government announced on 17 March a series of measures to contain the virus, including the closure of schools and a ban on large gatherings. All international and domestic flights are suspended and borders closed since 18 March. The travel ban has limited movement of humanitarian staff and contractors to and within the country, disrupting humanitarian operations. The closures of borders affected the usual movements of people between Doolow in Gedo Region in Somalia, Dollo Ado in Ethiopia and Mandera in Kenya, including people who were recently displaced by violence in Gedo.

Response:
The Government launched on 26 March a national preparedness and response plan, which seeks US$57.8 million to scale up operations over the next nine months.

Visit the COVID-19 Response in Somalia page to learn more about the pandemic and the humanitarian situation in the country.

Official sources:
Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Ministry of Health webpage
COVID-19 Response in Somalia, by Ministry of Health and OCHA

Other links:
COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF

SOUTH AFRICA — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)

Government allows once-off movement of people stranded out of their place of residence or work

- First case: 5 March 2020
- Total cases: 12,739 (as of 14 May 2020)
- Total deaths: 238
- Schools: Closed (14.6 million learners affected).
- Borders/flights: Closed for all non-resident foreign nationals.
- Containment measures: Nationwide lockdown imposed since 27 March and further extended.

Situation:
As of 14 May, South Africa confirmed 12,739 people including 238 reported deaths. After more than a month since the complete lockdown has been imposed on 27 March, the Government informed on 1 May that any person who was not at their place of residence or work before the restriction period started and could not travel between provinces, metropolitan and district areas since then will be permitted, on a once-off basis, to return to their places of residence or work. Those who use the permit will be required to stay in such place until the end of the total lockdown, according to the Government. Currently, only the following categories of professionals are allowed to move from their houses to their work places: health workers; emergency personnel; security services; and those involved in the production, distribution and supply of food and basic goods, essential banking services, the maintenance of power, water and telecommunications services, laboratory services, and the provision of medical and hygiene products. On 21 April, President Cyril Ramaphosa acknowledged that “the nationwide lockdown is having a devastating effect on the economy” and added that “the pandemic has resulted in the sudden loss of income for businesses and individuals alike, deepening poverty and increasing hunger.” The statement followed a series of protests and disturbs across the country over access to food parcels handed out by the authorities. Several food stores have reportedly been looted in different localities. There have also been reports of violence by police, including alleged killings, since the lockdown began. The President announced a social and economic package to respond to the pandemic and support the most vulnerable. Two days later, on 23 April, the President announced that the lockdown, expected to end on 30 April, would be gradually eased since 1 May and new measures will be taken to re-open the economy. Some activities and business will be authorized and restrictions of movements will start to be lifted, following a system of early warning to assure that more strict measure will be put in place in regions or localities in case the transmission spikes.

Response:
- The Government announced on 21 April a R500 billion Rand (approximately $26.4 billion) social relief and economic support package, involving, according to the authorities, a health budget to respond to coronavirus, the relief of hunger and social distress, the support for companies and workers, and the phased re-opening of the economy.

Official sources:
Government COVID-19 Official website
Presidential Statement on Lockdown - 24 March 2020
Presidential Statement on increased violence against women and girls during the lockdown - 13 April 2020

Other links:
https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/
SOUTH SUDAN — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

COVID-19 will likely exacerbate an already fragile humanitarian situation

- **First case:** 5 April 2020
- **Total cases:** 203 (as of 13 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 0
- **Schools:** Closed (3.5 million learners affected).
- **Flights/Borders:** All international passenger flights suspended from 24 March, except for humanitarian aid, medical and relief services. All land borders closed.
- **Containment measures:** Nationwide curfew from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. imposed from 29 April. 14-day quarantine mandatory for those arriving from abroad. Self-quarantine, with daily phone calls from public health officers, required for those who are suspected of having been in contact with people who contracted COVID-19.

**Situation**

South Sudan recorded its first COVID-19 case on 5 April 2020. Since then, 203 people with COVID-19 have been identified by the country’s High-Level Task Force as of 13 May. Containment measures have been imposed since 13 March, including the temporary closure of schools and universities, religious activities, ban on gatherings, sports events, and norms for physical distancing. All international passenger flights and land crossing borders have been suspended since 24 March by the Government-led High-Level Task Force, allowing only humanitarian cargo, food and fuel trucks to enter the country. On 13 April, the Government also suspended all internal passenger flights from Juba along with all passenger transport, both private and public.

Humanitarian partners are working to make sure the pandemic does not disrupt aid operations in South Sudan. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) cargo flights continue operate and the World Food Programme (WFP), on behalf of the humanitarian system, is engaged with national authorities to enable critical programme personnel movement within the country. COVID-19 testing previously required for all humanitarian staff travelling in Juba on official missions have been removed effective 1 May. However, all travelers must observe a 14-day quarantine prior to travel and authorized health workers from the Ministry of Health must be allowed free regular access to the quarantine facility.

COVID-19 will likely exacerbate an already fragile humanitarian situation in South Sudan. The cumulative effects of years of prolonged conflict, chronic vulnerabilities and weak essential services have left 7.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. More than 1.6 million people are internally displaced, nearly 6 million people are severely food insecure and most of the population lack access to health services.

**Response**

- The country’s High-Level Task Force on COVID-19, chaired by the first Vice President, is leading the response, with technical support from WHO, US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and humanitarian partners. Training of health workers, surveillance, contact tracing, risk communication, case management and expanding the John Garang Infectious Disease Unit from 24 to 80 beds are among the main activities.
- WHO, in support of the Ministry of Health, pre-positioned COVID-19 supplies as part of the national COVID-19 preparedness and response plan to 20 locations across the country.
- Humanitarians are targeting more than 5 million vulnerable people with assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Up to 12 months of nutritional supplies are being prepositioned for vulnerable families, focusing on tackling acute malnutrition, pregnant and breast-feeding women and the chronically ill.
- Communal hand-washing sites are being set up in high-density areas like Juba, Wau, Malakal and Bentiu.
- Tens of thousands of educational flashcards, pamphlets, banners and posters in multiple languages are being distributed.
- Radio Miraya, a radio station owned and operated by the UN Mission in South Sudan, is broadcasting health information to people across the country.
- A media desk is set up at the Ministry of Health to improve the flow of information to the public and journalists are being trained in how to curb misinformation and rumours.
To learn more about the COVID-19 and its humanitarian impact in South Sudan, visit this page.

Official sources:

Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Government Official Twitter

WHO South Sudan Twitter

Other sources:

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
Policy Response to COVID-19, by IMF

SUDAN — TRENDS (14 May 2020)

Federal Ministry of Health confirms 1,818 cases as of 13 May

- **First case:** 14 March 2020
- **Total cases:** 1,818 (as of 13 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 90
- **States affected:** All 18 states
- **Schools:** Closed (8,375,193 learners affected).
- **Borders/flights:** All land borders closed. On 20 April, Sudan Civil Aviation Authority extended the closure of airports for international and domestic flights until 20 May 2020. This excludes scheduled cargo, humanitarian aid and technical and humanitarian support flights; airlines operating in the oil fields; and evacuation flights for foreign nationals. UNHAS passenger flights have stopped, while cargo are still operational.
- **Containment measures:** Khartoum State is under three-week lockdown since 18 April. Bridges linking Omdurman and Khartoum North are closed. People can access neighbourhood shops, bakeries and pharmacies between 6 a.m. and 1 p.m. daily. In addition, the Ministry of Awqaf (Religious Endowments) has suspended prayers in mosques and church services in the state during the three-week lockdown period. Some states in Darfur Region have closed borders and have imposed curfews to limit the movement of people.

Situation

Sudan recorded its first COVID-19 case on 14 March 2020. Since then, the Federal Ministry of Health has confirmed that 1818 people contracted the virus, including 90 who died from the disease. The majority of the confirmed cases are in Khartoum State. In advance of the three-week lockdown in Khartoum State, authorities targeted 600,000 urban poor for a one-off assistance, including food parcels and other essential supplies during the emergency period. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) has also been working on different options to support the population during the COVID-19 lockdown. Among the activities, the MoFEP developed a plan to scale up financing to the health sector and provide cash transfers to 80 per cent of the population–more than 30 million people—most of them informal sector workers whose livelihoods will likely be affected by the restrictions. Each person will receive SDG500.00 (around US$9.00) per month, according to the Ministry. In addition, the MoFEP informed it would carry out a civil service salary reform to help those on fixed incomes; cushion the private sector through tax and customs exemptions; and it is also evaluating possible support for exporters and other productive industries affected by exchange rates and depreciation.

The Federal Government, the United Nations (UN) and humanitarian partners have joined their efforts to prevent and respond to the COVID-19 outbreak in Sudan. A COVID-19 Country Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP), organized around eight pillars, is currently being implemented by UN agencies, NGOs and other partners in support to the Sudanese Government-led response.

Immediate priorities include:

- Strengthening the state coordination mechanisms.
- Improvement and scale up of isolation centres at the state level.
- Scaling up the risk communications and infection, prevention and control activities.
- Scaling up testing capacity and prevent delays.
- Strengthening of screening and quarantine facilities at points of entry.
- Improvement in contact tracing.
TANZANIA – TRENDS (14 May 2020)

Rapidly rising COVID-19 infections is causing concern

- **First case:** 16 March
- **Total cases:** 509 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 18
- **Schools:** closed until 17 April (13,683,005 students affected).
- **Borders/Flights:** all international passenger flights suspended since 12 April.
- **Containment measures:** 30-day ban on public gathering and closure of schools expiring on 17 April; no restriction of movements or closure of business, except for refugees in Kigoma Region, who cannot leave the camps; quarantine mandatory for travellers.

Tanzania's total amount of COVID-19 remain at 509 with 21 reported deaths, as of 14 May, since no official reports of new cases have been announced. President Mugufuli has reportedly declared three days of national prayer as COVID-19 pandemic ravages, starting on 17 April, and despite the banning on public gatherings imposed on 17 March, the leader reportedly called on the citizens to "pray in our respective denominations and regions". The Government has not announced any new containment measures as the 30-day order closing schools and universities and banning public gatherings expires on 17 April. No countrywide restriction of movements or closure of business have been imposed, except for specific groups in Zanzibar and Kigoma regions: Zanzibar banned all tourist flights from entering region and authorities Kigoma Region have advised refugees to stay inside the camps or risk losing their refugee status. The Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority announced on 12 April the suspension of all international passenger flights. Cargo flights are allowed, but crew members will be quarantined at Government's designated places. Tanzania's immigration authorities extended the validity of visas for visitors who were unable to travel because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Response:**

- President John Magufuli has banned the 56 Union Celebrations, normally held on 26 April, and ordered that the Sh500 million that was budgeted for the event be spent on boosting the COVID-19 Special Fund for the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar.

Official sources:

**Ministry of Health updates on COVID-19**

Other links:

- [WHO Situation Report - 28 April](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [BBC Tanzania COVID-19 coverage](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)

UGANDA – TRENDS (14 May 2020)

Government starts to ease containment measures
**First case:** 21 March 2020

**Total cases:** 139 (as of 14 May 2020)

**Total deaths:** 0

**Schools:** Closed countrywide (9.6 million learners affected).

**Borders/Flights:** All borders closed; International flights suspended until 24 April, except for aircraft in a state of emergency, humanitarian aid, medical and relief flights and technical landings.

**Containment measures:** National curfew from 7 pm to 6:30 am from 31 March. Closure of all shopping malls, arcades, hardware shops, businesses selling non-food items, saloons, lodges and garages.

**Situation:**

Uganda has reported 139 COVID-19 cases as of 14 May. The Government has instituted 54 measures to contain the virus, including: closing all educational institutions, suspending communal prayers in mosques, churches and other venues; stopping all public political rallies, cultural gatherings or conferences; and banning the movement of all privately owned passenger vehicles. On 14 April, the [President announced](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/) that these measures would be extended until 5 May. In his speech, he highlighted that, even during the lockdown, certain activities must continue such as: work on farms to produce crops for food and cash; work in the factories, provided the factories camp their workers nearby; cargo transport; provision of utilities; medical services; and others. [UNHCR](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/) has urged all countries in the region, including Uganda, to continue to provide protection and access to asylum to people fleeing war and persecution during this challenging time.

**Response:**

The Government has implemented a house-to-house food distribution during the lockdown. President Museveni has stated that the [food support is targeted in urban areas](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/) towards people who relied on daily earnings that have been impacted by the anti-COVID-19 measures—including working in hair salons; bars; night clubs; garages; selling non-food items in markets; etc—and who do not grow their own food.

**Official sources:**

- Ministry of Health Official Twitter and [Ministry of Health COVID-19 webpage](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [WHO Uganda](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [President Museveni’s fourth address](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)

**Other links:**

- [UNHCR stepping up coronavirus prevention measures for refugees across East, Horn and Great Lakes region of Africa](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
- [Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)

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**ZAMBIA — TRENDS  (14 May 2020)**

**Kafue district on lockdown from 15 April**

- **First case:** 19 March
- **Total cases:** 654 (as of 14 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 3
- **Schools:** Closed country-wide from 20 March (4 million learners affected).
- **Borders/Flights:** Borders are still open, but international flights are only allowed in and out of Kenneth Kaunda International Lusaka Airport.
- **Containment measures:** Travellers required to self-quarantine for 14 days; public gatherings, including conferences, weddings, funerals and festivals restricted to not more than 50 people.

**Situation:**

[Read more](https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/southern-eastern-africa/)
Despite some limitations and closure of some businesses, the Government has directed that international borders remain open to avoid the negative impact on trade and economy. The Government has banned public gatherings and, effective 26 March, gyms, bars, casinos and night clubs were closed, and restaurants allowed to only serve takeaway. Essential services, including pharmacies and food stores, remain open, with orders to adhere to strict hygiene standards. Schools, colleges and universities were closed from 20 March, but markets and churches continue to operate. On 14 April, the Government announced that Kafue District would be placed on complete lockdown from 15 April to allow for mass screening and disinfection. Nearly 1.2 million children are missing out on school meals in Zambia due to the COVID-19 containment measures, according to WFP. The Zambian economy is expected to be adversely impacted by the decline in copper prices, depreciation of local currency, and economic disruptions due to lockdowns in trading partners, according to the IMF.

**Official sources:**
- Ministry of Health Official Twitter and Ministry of Health Facebook Page
- Ministry of Health Situation Reports
- President’s address on COVID-19 impact and response - 25 March 2020
- Other links:
  - Global Monitoring of School Meals During COVID-19 School Closures, by WFP
  - COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO
  - COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)
  - Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
  - Policy Responses to COVID-19, by IMF

**ZIMBABWE – TRENDS (14 May 2020)**

**Government declares COVID-19 crisis a national disaster**

- **First case:** 20 March
- **Total cases:** 37 (as of 13 May 2020)
- **Total deaths:** 4
- **Schools:** Closed (4.1 million learners affected)
- **Borders/Flights:** No commercial international flights permitted during nationwide lockdown. Borders remain open for cargo.
- **Containment measures:** National lockdown in place since 30 March; domestic travels allowed only for seeking/providing essential services; 21-day self-quarantine for travellers arriving from countries with local transmission cases or those who had contact with symptomatic people.

**Situation:**

Zimbabwe has 37 confirmed COVID-19 cases, as of 13 May, including four deaths. The Government declared the COVID-19 crisis a "national disaster" on 27 March and introduced a national lockdown on 30 March, during which all flights in and out of Zimbabwe are suspended. Only essential services are allowed in the country, while all public transport is suspended. Schools are closed and citizens have been advised to limit their visits to the informal markets, which are still allowed to function. People found guilty of spreading fake news on coronavirus can be charged with 20 years of prison. On 14 April, the High Court granted an interim order that the police, army and other enforcement officers engaged in implementing the country's lockdown must respect human rights, dignity and fundamental freedoms, according to the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights.

The Human Rights Watch (HRW) group has raised concerns over the severe water and sanitation crisis, which is likely to undermine the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. According to HRW, thousands of women and school-age children are spending eight to nine hours and all night in lines at crowded boreholes or narrow water wells to get water, increasing risks of violence. The Women’s Coalition of Zimbabwe has reported that at least 764 cases of gender-based violence (GBV) occurred during the first 11 days of the COVID-19 national lockdown, above the monthly average of 500 GBV cases.

**Response:**

- The Government launched its COVID-19 National Preparedness and Response Plan on 19 March and has said it will increase cash transfers for 1 million vulnerable households.
- On 2 April, the United Nations and humanitarian partners launched a Humanitarian Response Plan, which calls for US$715 million to respond to rising needs in the country and includes an addendum on COVID-19. The plan is currently being revised to fully reflect COVID-19 response requirements.
Official sources:

Ministry of Information Official Twitter and Ministry of Health Official Twitter

Zimbabwe COVID-19 Dashboard and Ministry of Health Daily Updates

Other links:

Unsafe Water Raises COVID-19 Risks, by Human Rights Watch

20 years in jail for spreading fake coronavirus news, by The Standard

High Court granted an interim order that police must respect human rights, by ZLHR Lawyers

COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response, by UNESCO

COVID-19 World Travel Restrictions, by the Emergency Division of the World Food Programme (WFP)

Global COVID-19 Airport Status, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Response to COVID-19, by IMF

INTERACTIVE (15 May 2020)

Interactive map - COVID-19 in Southern and Eastern Africa

Click to see number of people who contracted the virus, deaths and the trends across the region and by country.

View this interactive graphic: https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNWQ1NTgyYmYtNDcwYS00MzRkLWJiNDgtMTU4NzkwNzU1IiwidCI6IjBmOWUzNWRiLTU0NGYtNGY2MC1iZGNjLTQwYTQwMzU1IiwiaCI6IjA4NjU0NjI1OTg1MjQ5MDAxNjcyODY5MzE5MCIsImMiOjh9

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