Dengue-1 Outbreak in the Cook Islands: Situation Report: 30 April 2019

Overview
- On the 27th of February 2019, the Cook Islands Ministry of Health declared a dengue outbreak in the country.
- Between 28 January 2019 and 30 April 2019, there have been a total of 40 cases reported.
  - 18 confirmed DENV-1 cases, all from Rarotonga
  - 22 probable cases (NS1Ag positives), including 3 from the Island of Aitutaki.
  - The first confirmed DENV-1 case was a German visitor who arrived from French Polynesia.
  - 29 cases have been hospitalised
  - No deaths reported
- Case definition: Fever, with one or more of the following; nausea/vomiting, rash, aches and pains (e.g. headache, retro-orbital pain (eye pain), joint pain, myalgia, arthralgia), travel history.

Demographic
- 37 cases from Rarotonga, and 3 from Aitutaki
- Age range: 5 years to 71 years
- Female = 18  Male = 22

Public Health Response
- National Clean-up campaign – “Operation Namu19”
- Ongoing Public health awareness – Media releases, radio, television, news paper
- Roll-on health messages at the airport
- In-flight announcement on dengue precautions on Air New Zealand flights
- Distribution of Dengue flyers during Tahiti flights
- Mosquito larvae trapping and monitoring at risk areas such as the hospital, ports of entry (Airport and wharf), and the market, on Rarotonga and Aitutaki
- Peri-focal spraying up to 400m radius from case’s home, and the schools
- Larvical application: in stagnant ponds/swamps.
- Risk assessments: House to house inspections for mosquito breeding and resting places.
- Daily surveillance report, to key stakeholders and health staff.

Action Plan
- Introduce mosquito larvae trapping and monitoring in the schools, and the rest of the outer islands