



# Information sharing on novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

MRCS's activities supported by the Red Cross & Red Crescent Movement partners in Myanmar

#COVID19 Helping the most vulnerable people through the most local action in Myanmar and globally



Mon state

We listen to local needs and bring local solutions



Northern Shan state

We prevent and stop the virus from spreading



Kachin state

We care for the most vulnerable & their hearts



Rakhine state

Our priority area 1.

### Risk Communication & Community Engagement

- Distributing information, health education, and communication (IEC) material
- Awareness raising on preventive measures such as proper handwashing, safer way to cough, physical distancing
- Trainings of trainers on RCCE for Red Cross volunteers & multiplier trainings in communities



Ayeyarwady region

Our priority area 2.

### Screening & surveillance in support of MoHS

- Screening & referrals guided by MoHS and MRCS HQ throughout the country including border areas
- Finding and reporting suspected cases through community-based surveillance activities
- Standing ready to run social security activities – e.g. cash transfer or WASH – in case of widespread COVID-19 outbreak



Kayin state

Our priority area 3.

### Psychosocial support

- Psychosocial activities based on needs in both affected and at-risk communities including IDP camps and community quarantine facilities
- Providing psychological first aid through hotlines, particularly for vulnerable populations
- Mainstreaming mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in all its COVID-19 activities



Watch examples of psychosocial support activities using "Go Away Corona" song, led by MRCS volunteers:

- [IDP camp in Kachin state](#)
- [Community quarantine facility in Southern Shan state](#)
- [For children and parents](#)
- [For general online followers](#)

### Red Cross Voices from the field



Our branch leader suggested psychosocial support using singing and dancing. We chose the "Go Away Corona" song which is very popular nowadays online and practiced our dance moves. Last Sunday (5 April), we visited an IDP camp in Kachin where I used to give first aid trainings. We knew that in IDP camps, people have less health information and more vulnerable, especially if an outbreak happens. When we began dancing and singing, children and adults started to gather. I saw about 100 people watching. After the song is finished, they came to thank us and asked if we have soaps, how many people were infected in Kachin, and if there is a chance of lockdown. They were worried the food price might go up if there is a lockdown."

U Aung Sant, Red Cross volunteer, Mansi township, Kachin state

### Leaving No One Behind

[How to include marginalized and vulnerable people during COVID-19 response](#)

[Readiness and response operations incl. in camps and camp-like settings](#)

[Psychological coping during disease outbreak – elderly and people with chronic conditions](#)

[Guidance on Trafficking in Persons \(TIP\) considerations during the COVID-19 response](#)

**Webinar:** Community Engagement and Participation during the response to COVID-19 in camps and camp-like settings organized by CCM Global Cluster, inviting IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional CEA Coordinator. **Recording to be shared when ready**

## Facts and figures of MRCS COVID-19 response recorded as of 6 April 2020 (source: MRCS)

Note: Below figures only reflect major interventions and do not include other activities such as referrals, provision of training of trainers, and home quarantine observations



**715+** active volunteers on COVID-19  
**120,819+** beneficiaries since early Feb 2020

### Risk Communication & Community engagement

Total 190 sessions  
# of volunteers involved  
Male 277 Female 99  
# of beneficiaries  
Male 35,532 Female 38,185

### Psychosocial Support

Total 44 sessions  
# of volunteers involved  
Male 86 Female 56  
# of beneficiaries  
Male 1,189 Female 666

### Quarantine activities

At community quarantine facility: Total 1681 sessions  
# of volunteers involved  
Male 423 Female 174  
# of beneficiaries  
Male 7,827 Female 5,759

Latest statistics from the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) as of 8:00pm, 6 April 2020

Total Person Under Investigation /Suspected - 818  
**Confirmed - 22**  
**Death - 1**  
Lab Negative - 713  
Lab Pending - 83  
Source: [Surveillance Dashboard](#). Global figures [here](#).



**1,784+** active volunteers on COVID-19  
**104,448+** beneficiaries since early Feb 2020

### Screening & surveillance in support of MoHS I

At checkpoints: Total 135 sessions  
# of volunteers involved  
Male 251 Female 202  
# of beneficiaries  
Male 11,666 Female 14,863

### Screening & surveillance in support of MoHS II

At common places: Total 1182 sessions  
# of volunteers involved  
Male 83 Female 31  
# of beneficiaries  
Male 1,912 Female 1,967

### Fumigation

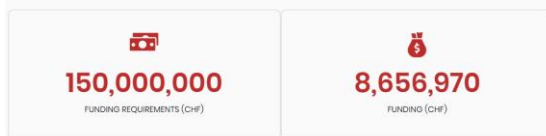
Total 177 sessions  
# of volunteers involved  
Male 664 Female 153  
# of beneficiaries  
Male 46,332 Female 59,379

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) aspect is mainstreamed in MRCS activities and data collection is gender-disaggregated.

### IFRC revised emergency appeal highlights

On 26 March 2020, IFRC [launched](#) its revised emergency appeal for COVID-19 outbreak response. This Emergency Appeal seeks a revised **total of CHF 150 million** to enable the IFRC to support its membership to deliver assistance and support to communities affected or at risk of being affected by COVID-19. **Currently CHF 8,656,970 is received.** ([IFRC Go](#))

#### Global: COVID-19 outbreak



### MRCS's COVID-19 intervention in Rakhine

MRCS's COVID-19 intervention in Rakhine state continues with a Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE), including pamphlet distribution, billboards in key township locations to support MoHS messaging and use of loudspeakers. Red Cross Volunteers are also supporting with fumigation, fever screening at checkpoints as well as with quarantine assistance for people returning to their villages from outside of Rakhine state. Established networks with village leaders and an ongoing programme presence in many of these townships has facilitated this work.

For an example of MRCS's COVID-19 intervention in Rakhine, please see a [recent RCCE and surveillance activities](#) in Thandwe township, Rakhine.

Useful guidelines



Download here

## COVID-19 Global Response

RISK COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCCE) STRATEGY ALL PARTNERS



**How your community can prevent the spread of COVID-19**

You are key to keep your loved ones safe! This document suggests key actions to help your community, on day-to-day life and slow down the spread of COVID-19, particularly for contexts where you might have been asked by your local authorities to maintain physical distance or stay home.

Localize and implement these key steps:

- 1) Learn**
  - Stay up to date with the latest COVID-19 information from your national and local health authority, the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), etc. available on your local Red Cross or Red Crescent. Or [social media](#), including Twitter, Instagram and TikTok! Ask verified information from WHO, UNICEF, IFRC and your local Red Cross or Red Crescent. Or [Sustainable ERCC and UNICEF COVID-19](#) (International Protection Consortium) for more information on your peers, family and community.
  - Do where verified to receive information from many sources and often lead to them by ensuring information is credible and trustworthy. Research and identify reliable sources that provide credible and accurate information. Be sure to do things that increase their risk of infection.
  - Where is this information from? Does the person or channel sharing the information have access to scientific evidence? The Ministry of Health in your country, WHO, UNICEF and National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are reliable sources to gather relevant information.
  - When was this information first published or shared? Sometimes, old information keeps circulating.
  - Do address misconceptions by providing verified information and being open for questions.
  - Know how to protect the most vulnerable people. COVID-19 is a particular threat to older people and those who are already sick or have pre-existing medical conditions. If they get COVID-19 they could get seriously ill or even die.
  - Know what to do and be prepared for when a family member is ill (and isolated) or might have been infected with COVID-19 (see below).
- 2) Act**
  - Ensure you and your loved ones know how to do to address the risk of COVID-19:
    - Wash your hands with soap appropriately and often and avoid touching your face.
    - Cover your coughs and sneezes (use a tissue or your bent elbow).



### Distribution of PPE & Awareness raising

Photo: Supported by the **American Red Cross**, Myanmar Red Cross volunteers reaching out to communities in need with personal protective equipment (PPE), including hand sanitizer, as well as posters for awareness raising sessions. 19 townships have been reached across various states & regions including Bago, Ayeyarwady, Rakhine, Yangon, Kayah, Mon and the number is increasing.

### Resources and contact information

- [Daily MoHS update on COVID-19](#)
- [WHO global webpage on COVID-19](#)
- [Daily MIMU update on COVID-19](#)
- [INGO Forum COVID-19 resource collection](#)
- [IFRC Asia Pacific COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- MRCS social media ([Facebook](#)/[Twitter](#))

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For previous versions of this weekly COVID-19 update by MRCS and Red Cross & Red Cross Movement partners, please visit [here](#).