COVID-19 RESPONSE BULLETIN
ETHIOPIA

AUGUST 2020

CONFIRMED CASES
29,876

RECOVERED CASES
12,359

TOTAL TESTED
609,463

TOTAL DEATHS
528

ACTIVE CASES
16,687

MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA COUNTRY OFFICE
... Whether it’s COVID-19, disease outbreaks or responding to humanitarian and natural disasters, all are intrinsically linked to GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY.

... While health has often been viewed as a COST, the first coronavirus pandemic in history has shown how critical health investment is to national security. NO COUNTRY has been left untouched. UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE is essential to our collective global health security.

... Building back STRONGER health systems will require POLITICAL will, RESOURCES and technical EXPERTISE in high- and low-income countries alike. That is why WHO’s highest priority is to support all countries to strengthen their health systems so that everyone, everywhere can access quality health services when they need them.

It's TIME for #HealthForAll!

Dr TEDROS Adhanom
Director-General, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
... AFRICA marks SIX months since COVID-19 was first detected on the continent. Since then, more than 1 MILLION cases have been reported and EVERY country on the continent has been affected.

... While the virus has raced through many other regions of the world, the pandemic’s evolution in AFRICA has been different. In AFRICA, curbing COVID-19 is a MARATHON, not a sprint. It’s by bolstering the response at the community level that we will win this race... the COVID-19 response must be integrated into the fabric of every health district.

... I think it is important to remind for all of us to remember that COVID-19 is REAL and NOT yet OVER. With the way of life we are running, its only gonna get worse... negligence will cost us more lives.

... let’s do EVERYTHING we can to manage and minimize our risk of exposure to infection, and from passing COVID-19 to others... because it’s not just only about us, but it’s about the role we play to pass it to somebody else who could be more vulnerable.

There’s so MUCH we can do NOW to keep ourselves and others SAFE.
... It is good to see it this way, preventing ourselves from COVID-19 is an exact equivalent to protecting our NATIONAL SECURITY.

... ACTIVE participation of the public to make the ComBAT campaign a success is critical.
I kindly ask all of us to keep diligently practicing the preventive measures we have been doing ... wear a mask, clean hands regularly, keep physical distance, and cough safely away from others.

... Let’s be part of the NATION-WIDE ComBAT campaign, and play a role to curb the spread of COVID-19 in our community by practicing ALL the recommended preventive measures.

My sincere appreciation to ByteDance and TikTok for their generous donation of 100,000 COVID-19 testing kits worth USD 1.3million which will help us execute the tests planned to be managed in the ComBAT campaign.

Let’s say “I CAN’T BE A REASON”!

H.E. DEMEKE Mekonnen Hassen
Deputy Prime Minister,
Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA

Dr LIA Tadesse
Minister of Health,
Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA

WEARFACEMASK  PRACTICESOCIALDISTANCING  KEEPHANDHYGIENE  AVOIDCROWD
Overall PURPOSE of the Enhanced ComBAT Campaign has twofold:

- To obtain better information about COVID-19 community distribution at national and sub-national levels
- To strengthen the capacity to detect COVID-19 cases at woreda level with the aim of decentralizing detection capacity

DELIVERABLES | OUTCOMES

In just TWO WEEKS:
Aimed at reaching out to > 80% of woredas with ComBAT strategy, 17.5 million households (>60 million individuals), > 1000 congregate settings i.e. camps, shelters, prisons and detention centers etc.

Planned to manage 200,000 COVID-19 tests, and 10,000 cases are expected to be treated

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES of ComBAT:
REDUCE human to human transmission, CARE for those affected, CONTINUITY of essential services, HEIGHTENED whole of government, whole of business, and whole of society approach, and DEFINE next norm

REDUCE HUMAN TO HUMAN TRANSMISSION
PURPOSE: to slow down the transmission of the virus so that less people are affected, and essential businesses continue

CARE FOR THOSE AFFECTED
PURPOSE: to address the health, occupational risk and social consequences of COVID-19 directly by the virus and indirectly due to the measures being taken to control the pandemic

CONTINUITY of ESSENTIAL SERVICES
PURPOSE: to ensure basic health services are maintained so that people will not die or suffer from other emergencies or lack of getting routine services for their chronic illnesses due to the health system is focused on COVID-19 response ... this also includes other non-health essential functions (social, economic, political etc) essential for day to day life as well as crucial in shaping current and future lives

HEIGHTENED
WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT, WHOLE OF BUSINESS and WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACH
PURPOSE: to align coordination efforts, ensure timely, accurate and consistent messages are reaching to the general public consistency of messages, enhance community participation and ownership of combating the pandemic, and facilitate the efficacy of public measures to prevent human to human transmission; as well as enforce consented actions by all parts of the government, the society and the business community

DEFINE THE NEXT NORM
PURPOSE: to ensure citizens are protected from COVID-19 and its direct and indirect impacts ... fatalities due to COVID-19 reduced and livelihoods are maintained. It is a crucial activity that needs to be done following the Enhanced ComBAT campaign
Dr Lia, Minister of Health, welcomed Dr Moeti, WHO Regional Director for AFRICA, in Addis Ababa. They held talks on national and continental COVID-19 response approaches, and Dr Lia appreciated and thanked WHO for the strong partnership which has been instrumental in ETHIOPIA’s COVID-19 response (12AUG).


The national COVID-19 ministerial committee led by H.E. Demeke Mekonnen, deputy prime minister, conducted consultative discussion on implementation of ComBAT campaign in the presence of ministers, regional deputy presidents, mayors, RHB heads, religious leaders and others (08AUG).

MoH also launched Major City Emergency and Critical Care Improvement Program (MECI-P) in 5 major cities in the country … city administrations, university hospitals and regional health bureaus (RHBs) are major collaborators (08AUG).

WHO provided support to RHBs on the ongoing ComBAT campaign for COVID-19 testing across the regions.

Provided technical support to the National PHEOC in implementing the operational research on The First Few X cases and contacts (FFX) and analysis to inform the national response in the country.
MoH inaugurated a National Digital Health Innovation and Learning Center located at St. Peter Specialized Hospital. The center plays a significant role in enhancing data driven health system, sustainable digital health solutions by engaging the youth.

WHO facilitated training of 22 health workers (including physicians, nurses and support staff) from all 10 sub-cities of Addis Ababa on the implementation of Home-Based Isolation and Care (HBIC)

Supported the development of community based strategic activity plan to enhance community level IPC | WaSH interventions

Assessed 10 designated quarantine centers for international travelers; on adherence to IPC measures

Conducted orientation on IPC | WaSH for 26 food handlers at EPHI and treatment centers in Addis Ababa
Conducted training sessions for health workers from 85 priority health facilities, as part of the transport corridor project

Supported case management and IPC | WASH joint readiness assessment conducted at Adama Malaria Center in preparation for expansion of a treatment centre

Provided detailed feedback to zonal and town teams based on contact tracing activity assessment conducted
WHO continued provision of technical support on contact tracing, monitoring of events, case investigation, capacity building, and data management in all the regions through the regional IMTs.

Supported targeted community testing being managed across regions focused on vulnerable population and high-risk groups including places like markets, shops, restaurants, investment areas, churches, mosques etc.

Assisted EOCs on data management, analysis of cases, data harmonization and situation analysis across regions.
WHO conducted a joint supervisory support visits to PoEs and provided orientation of additional personnel deployed to support health screening

Provided guidance to Ethiopian airports authority’s ground staff and security people on how to address overcrowding at arrival areas

Facilitated meeting with PoE pillar stakeholders and discussed on challenges with health screening practices at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport (ADD)
WHO provided technical support on readiness assessment and re-purposing of isolation and treatment facilities, in-view of rising number of COVID-19 cases in Dire Dawa and Harari regions.

Conducted on-job training on pre-triage screening and rational use of PPE for health workers from major hospitals in SNNP region.

Provided refresher training on case management to 15 health workers called from 5 zones in Amhara region.

Supported a joint assessment conducted (with Tigray RHB) in 4 religious institutions, 3 Holy Water sites, and 3 health centers in Mekelle town to enhance adherence to IPC measures.

Supported development of checklist to assess the IPC | WaSH services in vulnerable community groups, including homeless people living in temporary shelters.

Completed a 3-day training on IPC | WaSH for 20 health workers from high priority health facilities along the major transport corridor in Amhara region.
WHO and Rotary ETHIOPIA jointly supported RHBs in conducting Polio outbreak response coordination for the planned mOPV2 campaigns in 6 priority regions

Facilitated joint supportive supervision to health facilities across regions for continuity of essential health services and ensure strict adherence of IPC measures by health workers

Continued engagement with ARRA officials and partners to strengthen COVID-19 related IPC activities in Aysaita (Afar), Tongo (Benishangul Gumuz) refugee camps

Provided technical guidance on the development of SOP for alert investigation and case detection in IDP sites of Dire Dawa

Provided nutrition supplies (6 SAM kits, 2 oxygen concentrators, 40 nasal prongs, 8 resuscitators, 2 white boards and 40 blankets) for children with severe acute malnutrition 4 health facilities in Afar region
WHO supported RHBs in the preparation to execute the planned nation-wide ComBAT campaign with a theme "I cannot be a reason" for COVID-19 transmission to others.

Conducted orientation to 44 health professionals at Wereta town of Amhara region, on demand creation and risk communication for essential health services.

Supported printing and distribution of roll-up banners prepared for the national ComBAT campaign.
My fellow Ethiopians,
the World Health Organization has launched the #WearAMask challenge
to promote the use of face masks in fighting the spread of COVID-19.
ETHIOPIA has followed suite by launching #MaskEthiopia.

Let us all take part in this campaign by promoting the proper use of face masks
as we all work to put a stop to this pandemic.

Wearing a mask saves life!

H.E. SAHLE-WORK Zewde
President, Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA
WHO is running #WearAMask Challenge!

By wearing a mask, we are sending a message of SOLIDARITY and protecting other people, especially those most vulnerable to COVID-19.

Take a photo or a video of yourself WEARING A MASK, SHARE it and NOMINATE friends to do the same.

Dr LIA Tadesse
Minister of Health, Federal Democratic Republic of ETHIOPIA

Dr Boureima HAMA SAMBO
WHO Representative, ETHIOPIA

Dr Emmanuel MUSA
Incident Manager (COVID-19 Response), WHO Country Office for ETHIOPIA

JOIN WHO’s #WearAMask Challenge! NOW

Masks play a key role in SLOWING down the transmission of the virus.

Wear a mask, along with keeping physical distancing, hand washing, and staying home.

TOGETHER, we can beat COVID-19!
THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS:
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, European Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), United Nation’s Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Irish Aid, Department for International Development (DFID), USAID, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), German Development Cooperation, and King Baudouin Foundation.
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

DIRECTOR GENERAL’S KEY UPDATES on COVID-19

ACT-ACCELERATOR

• As countries work to suppress COVID-19, we must further accelerate our work to rapidly develop and equitably distribute the additional tools we need to stop this pandemic.

• Just over three months ago WHO launched the ACT Accelerator as the fastest and most effective way to do that, as the only end-to-end global solution that combines public and private sector expertise in R&D, manufacturing, procurement and delivery for the tools needed to address the COVID-19 pandemic’s cause.

• The ACT-Accelerator has already harnessed the international public health ecosystem in a unique way of working, with early proof of its potential. The accelerator supported vaccines are in Phase 2/3 trials.

• The COVAX Facility is engaging over 160 countries. The first therapy for severe COVID-19, dexamethasone, is in scale-up … dozens of other promising therapies are under analysis.

• Over 50 diagnostics are in evaluation, including potentially game-changing rapid antigen tests … and a comprehensive framework for allocating these scarce tools for greatest global impact is under consultation.

• The coming 3 months present a crucial window of opportunity to scale-up the work of the ACT-Accelerator for global impact … to exploit this window we have to fundamentally scale up the way we are financing the ACT-Accelerator and prioritize the use of new tools.

… Being excited about COVID-19 vaccine is good … but let’s do what we can TODAY to save lives.

We should use the tools we have at hand to the maximum to SUPPRESS the virus, while investing in vaccines and therapeutics.

Keep the BALANCE!

… My message is crystal clear: SUPPRESS, SUPPRESS, SUPPRESS the virus.

If we suppress COVID-19 effectively, we can safely OPEN up societies.

As countries work to suppress COVID-19, we must further accelerate our work to rapidly develop and equitably distribute the additional tools we need to stop this pandemic.

Dr TEDROS Adhanom
Director-General, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
Through our individual actions and choices, we all have a key part to PLAY in controlling the spread of COVID-19 through practicing and promoting the live-saving preventive actions … wearing a mask properly, frequent hand-washing, and keeping our distance.

Governments and international partners also have an important role to play in EMPOWERING communities to follow health advice, especially in low-income settings.

In NIGERIA, the advocacy of community leaders encouraged more people to seek testing

In MAURITANIA, university students are helping to ramp-up surveillance

KENYA has trained over 79,000 community health workers and 15,000 youth champions, who have raised awareness among 17 million people

GHANA is using drones to transport samples, and the pooled approach to testing has rapidly scaled-up capacities

From BENIN to ZIMBABWE, countries are integrating COVID-19 in polio-established Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to provide real-time information for decision-making

As countries open-up borders, there are challenges in detecting & managing imported cases, and sustaining the intensity of public health measures as economic activities resume

I recognize that African households need support beyond the health sector to be able to play their part, especially low-income households. I appeal to govts & international partners

Dr Matshidiso MOETI
Regional Director for AFRICA, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
### COVID-19 SITUATION by WHO REGION

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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total Cases</th>
<th>Total Recovered</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global</strong></td>
<td>21,260,760</td>
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<td><strong>Western Pacific</strong></td>
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### Top THREE affected Countries in the WHO AFRICA Region

- **SOUTH AFRICA**
  - Cumulative Cases (62.01%)
  - 553,653
  - 11,677 Deaths
  - 105,035 Active Cases
  - 466,941 Recovered

- **NIGERIA**
  - 48,770
  - Cumulative Cases (5.18%)
  - 974 Deaths
  - 11,506 Active Cases
  - 36,290 Recovered

- **GHANA**
  - 42,210
  - Cumulative Cases (4.48%)
  - 231 Deaths
  - 1,832 Active Cases
  - 40,147 Recovered