COVID-19 SITUATION HIGHLIGHTS (as of 19 May 2020, 11:00 AM)

GLOBAL: *4,927,487+ Confirmed Cases *323,956+ Total Deaths

AFRICAN REGION: *91,844+ Confirmed Cases *2,908+ Total Deaths

CAMEROON: *3,529 Confirmed Cases *140 Total Deaths

SOUTH WEST REGION (as of 19 May 2020):

54 Confirmed Cases 443 Total Tested 03 Total Deaths 190,000 + Total Passengers Screened

NORTH WEST REGION (as of 19 May 2020):

44 Confirmed Cases 153 Total Tested 09 Total Deaths 200,000 + Total Passengers Screened

COVID-19 CASES PER SEX IN NWSW REGIONS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- The UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Allegra Maria Del Pilar Baiocchi visited the Mudeka IDPs along with WHO Field Coordinator, OCHA, and Reach out focal persons to oversee the Humanitarian response in the context of COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 cases expanded to 8 Health Districts in the South West region.
- The Health Cluster and SW regional delegation of public health have begun to strengthen triage and IPC for COVID-19 in primary health facilities in the South West region.
- The WHO developed the communication materials on IPC and Triage and distributed to the three health facilities in Buea.
- The Secretary of State for the Ministry of the Health paid a visit in NW Region to appreciate the COVID-19 response on 07 May 2020.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

- The region is still in need of more personal protective equipment;
- A training for Mortuary attendants and council staff in the safe management and burial of bodies of COVID-19 related deaths;
- A training of the Community Health Workers (CHWs) on IPC in communities, and the follow up of contacts in COVID-19 affected health districts.
- Re enforce triage and screening points require at the entrance of health facilities in both regions.
- Communication credits for contact tracing to health workers.

CHALLENGES:

- Insufficient the stock of personal protective equipment to meet with the huge demand in the regions.
- Majority of the Health Districts are still to be capacitated and empowered to carry out contact tracing.
KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN SOUTH-WEST REGION (COVID-19):

- A total of 444 persons suspected of COVID-19 have been tested and 54 confirmed positive.
- 03 deaths have been recorded so far due to COVID-19 (01 within, and 02 out of the Region)
- There are 38 active cases in the Region and 08 referrals have been done out of the Region
- Through contact tracing, a total of 337 contacts have been tested and 22 confirmed positive for COVID-19.
- After the Buea Regional Hospital, it was the turn of Kumba District Hospital that received an Ambulance together with some medical equipment on Friday 15 May 2020.
- The Laboratory for Emerging Infectious Diseases of the University of Buea that was recently visited by the Secretary of state in charge of epidemics and pandemics on the 7 May 2020, started testing COVID-19 specimens on the 05 May 2020
- The DHIS2 tracker has gone operational in the Country and 12 phones have been provided to the Region for tracking of COVID-19 cases and reporting.

Coordination

- There is a Regional Scientific Committee for COVID-19 that serves as an advisory body to the regional Incident Management System (IMS). This committee meets once a week during which the Regional Delegate provides feedback on activities of the IMS at the Delegation of Health.
- Weekly meetings are held between the Regional Incident Management team and partners involved in the fight against COVID-19 to follow-up and strengthen the Regional response plan. Recommendations from this meeting are channelled to the Regional Scientific Committee through the Regional Delegate.

Surveillance / Contact Tracing

- Case definition has been contextualized; anyone reporting with difficult breathing, body weakness or flu-like symptoms such as cough, fever, headache, sneezing etc., of unknown origin, accompanied by travel history to an exposed area or having made contact with a confirmed case from the 20 February 2020 (Source National SOP).

- The case definition has been made available to the Districts to enable tracking of suspects/cases; however formal training is still being awaited.
- IPC and Triage tools has been shared to health facilities to institutionalize the IPC measures in the context of COVID-19

Laboratory

- For proper collection packaging and transmission of COVID-19 specimens, sample collectors have been trained from Buea and Limbe Regional Hospitals, however, the Region has been assisting in sample collection
- Samples are no longer sent to Yaoundé, the University Buea is now carrying out testing in the Region. Results for 40 specimens are still being awaited from Yaounde.

Case Management

- There are 38 active cases in the Region (20 Limbe, 06 Buea, 10 Kumba, 02 Mamfe)
- Confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Region are being managed at the Buea and Limbe Regional Hospitals, however severe cases in need of advanced care are referred to Douala.
- Some medical personnel have since been redeployed from Muyuka and other Health Districts to reinforce the newly created 20 bed capacity COVID-19 Centre at the Buea Regional Hospital.
- To ease transportation of cases, the Buea Regional Hospital and Kumba District Hospital have each received an Ambulance from the Central Level.
KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN SOUTH-WEST REGION (COVID-19):

Communication
• The Region has been and is still using local media organs to sensitize and educate the public on COVID-19 especially on preventive measures prescribed by the government.
• On the 19 May 2020, the WHO Field Office distributed Triage and IPC posters in two health centers and Regional Hospital of Buea.

Sensitization
• The Ministry of Health as well as the Health Cluster headed by WHO have been providing some sensitization materials to the Region
• The Norwegian Refugee Council has trained 20 Community Health Workers on sensitization and WASH in Limbe, Muyuka and Tiko Health Districts after which they were provided; Soaps, posters and other sensitization material.
• The Mungo COVID-19 screening post screened over 200,000 people.
• More than 3,000 people have been sensitized at the community level by Some local NGOs and associations carrying out sensitization activities in Buea, Limbe, Tiko and Kumba Health Districts.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)
• A training on IPC is being planned for sanitation officers of Buea, Tiko, Limbe and Kumba Councils as well as mortuary staff.
• The Councils have set up Hand wash points at different locations of their municipalities
• With the assistance of administrative authorities, Council staff are also ensuring that people around public places do put on their masks.

Logistics
• The Region has provided limited personal protective equipment’s to few facilities.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN NORTH-WEST REGION (COVID-19):

• The North West Region has recorded a total of 44 confirmed cases of COVID-19 (26 Active cases, 09 recoveries and 09 deaths).
• Momo Division has recorded 5 cases and the Mezam Division has recorded 30 cases.
• Patients with mild symptoms are treated at Azam Hotel and only Patients with moderate and severe symptoms are treated at Regional Hospital of Bamenda.
• The Secretary of State for the Ministry of the Health paid a visit in NW Region to appreciate the COVID-19 response on 15 May 2020. The Minster and Regional Delegation visited the Matazem screening point, low-cost house, Incident command center, treatment center, the proposed site for construction of isolation ward, quarantine and treatment center at Azam hotel.
• The implementation of the response was presented by the governor all the NWR: Implication of some structures like City council (for disinfection and setting up of hands washing areas in the city), RD for communication, RD of commerce (for control of fake hand sanitizers and prices of sanitizers in pharmacies).
• There is a need for the training of staff at the district level in order to de-centralization of the response, More PPE, more tests, financial resources to run the Incident Command Center (ICC).
• The traditional leaders expressed their frustrations for not been involved in the COVID-19 response.
• The Call center numbers are 1510, 233361503, 675050653.
HEALTH AND WASH CLUSTER PARTNERS ACTIVITIES (COVID-19):

On 19 May 2020, WHO and the South West Regional Delegation of Public Health team visited three Health centers including Buea Regional Hospital to install the triage and distribute the communication materials. Trained around 30 health care professionals on triage at health faculties in Buea. The Triage training team led by WHO Buea Field office along with Regional delegation will continue to expand to other health districts in coming days. There is a big need of PPEs and triage set-up in all facilities (below photos of Triage setup in Buea Health Facilities).

Reach Out NGO: On 14 May 2020, the UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Allegra Maria Del Pilar Baiocchi visited Reach Out NGO’s mobile clinic, funded by WHO through CERF along with WHO Field Coordinator, OCHA, and Reach out focal persons to oversee the Humanitarian response in light of COVID-19. Allegra observed the REO mobile clinic provide timely essential health care to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Mudeka village situated in Tiko health District of SW region. She discussed the challenges that they faced in receiving primary health care in the Southwest region of Cameroon. The mobile teams consulted 129 IDPs in Mudeka.
HEALTH AND WASH CLUSTER PARTNERS ACTIVITIES (COVID-19):

IRC distributed 35 hand washing stations to communities and health centers in Bakassi and donated four hand washing stations to health facilities in Fako and Meme.

Challenges: The community members keep asking for the provision of masks as they seem to be sharing their masks with other family members at home. This is to avoid getting arrested when they move out of their homes during the day. This is common, especially in Bakassi. IRC supplied masks to the community volunteers as they carry out sensitization. In the course of the sensitization, the volunteers also encourage the community to make homemade cloth masks which can be reused.

- Limited PPE for Health Workers and CHWs
- Low level of knowledge on COVID-19, a number of beneficiaries think they can’t get COVID-19 from their family members or community members but from outsiders and hospitals thus a number of ill people do not go to seek medical attention from the rural communities.
- A lot of myths ongoing about COVID-19 in Cameroon; a number of community members during the awareness creation reportedly said COVID-19 figures in Cameroon are not real but political. They say the figures are inflated.

NRC: Trained 25 Hygiene promoters (12 males 13 Female) who embarked on COVID-19 sensitization in Ndop, Mbengwi, Bda II, Bda III, Bambui (NW Region) with 2,100 HH reached with the hygiene promotions messaging on COVID-19 and 6,300 pieces of soap distributed.

NRC also distributed NFI’s to 200 HH’s while observing the COVID-19 regulations in Ngarbuh targeting the affected victims of the Februry 2020 incident.

Social distancing at the distribution center

Integration of COVID-19 measures during training of beneficiaries for voucher distribution in Kumba.

COVID-19 preventive measures incorporated at the hospital with the distribution of hand washing stations at IRC safe spaces in the hospital in Buea-Fako

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Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Cameroon Health Cluster concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Sources: WHO Admin boundary layers: UNDP; Affected areas: Health Cluster Partners, the Media; Feedback: cm.sante@humanitarianresponse.info.