

# MoET COVID-19 Contingency Plan Progress Report Template

## Ministry of Education and Training COVID-19 Contingency Plan Progress Report 05 *Reporting period: 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020- 08<sup>th</sup> May 2020*

### 1. Overview

Since the declaration of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) as a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 and the State of Emergency (SOE), the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) has been taking measures to ensure the safety of school children/students in Vanuatu. However, since TC Harold impact, COVID 19 activities are disturbed for schools in Malampa, Sanma, Penama and Torba provinces, currently they are responding the TC Harold impact. Nevertheless, MoET will come up with a plan with the help of NDMO and MoH to re-open schools that are not affected by TC Harold including Shefa and Tafea.

This progress report presents the significant and emerging developments/achievements for **Shefa** and **Tafea** Province that have been made from **27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – 08<sup>th</sup> May 2020**. During the stated period, some of the significant developments that were achieved includes, but not limited to:

- Last cluster meeting was held in the AUF Conference room, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2020.
- **For health & hygiene in schools**, WHO has advice that, all efforts should be directed towards the setting up of hand washing station and proper respiratory etiquettes, as these are the cheapest and safest way for schools to keep their children safe form the COVID- 19 and help us stop spreading it.
- New Zealand government has donated a 21 million Vatu for hygiene kits for all schools in Vanuatu.
- In regards to **Social gathering**, majority of the schools have implemented the strategy of alternative classes (part of the class have lesson in a scheduled period while other part continue with HSP, and the next period the class swap so every class members have a turn to be taught by their teacher). There were also a number of schools that continue with HSP and teachers developed their own strategy to monitor students.
- The **psychosocial team** will be departing on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2020, to the affected province (Sanma, Malampa and Penama) to run training to teachers.
- **Home-Schooling packages**
  - **Development**
    - Tafea Province
      - 61 ECCE centers provided report.
      - 53 Primary schools provided report.
      - 10 Secondary schools provided report.
    - Shefa Province
      - 55 schools have completed HSP development.
      - 19,655 HSP developed for students.
      - 575 Teachers present.
  - **Distribution**

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## *Tafea Province*

- 54 ECCE centre completed HSP distribution.
- 18 primary schools completed HSP distribution.
- 3 secondary schools completed HSP distribution

## *Shefa Province*

- 51 schools have distributed HSP.
- 15,213 students received HSP
- **Monitoring**
  - 94 schools have a monitoring plan (teachers making time available to support and assess learning)
- **A COVID -19 guideline** for resumption of schools has been developed by WHO & UNICEF and being adopted by Fiji. Therefore, from the Fiji guideline, MoET adapted the guideline into our (Vanuatu) context and is already in draft. The team is progressively working on the draft and it is expected to complete soon, and communicate to schools for their use.
- Schools are currently updating their enrolment data in OV, in order to receive the **tuition fee**. The due date is 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2020. The payment from the Department of finance and treasury should start in the month of June.
- All schools in Shefa and Tafea Provinces resumed. However, for the four remaining provinces, there is a request letter with list of schools from the MoET to NDMO to re -open schools not affected by TC Harold. The letter was dated on the 27th April 2020 and still waiting for the respond.
- **Stimulation package:** currently the TMU are working closely with all provinces to collect school support staff (ancillary staff and those that are not in payroll) information's from ECCE to PSET. All education authorities are included, but excluding those that not registered.
- A message has been send out by Digicel network, stating clearly the timing of which the communication team will be available in answering the calls ( toll free number) in regards to COVID 19 and TC Harold queries( *Day: Monday –Friday, Time: 8:00am-5:00pm*)

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### 2. Key Outputs delivered, main challenges/issues and way forward

Communication & Logistics Strategy	% Achieved	Progress	Main challenges/issues	Way forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education cluster meets at least once a week</li> </ul>	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next cluster meeting will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2020. Venue, AUF Conference room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenge face with education cluster meetings are mainly indication to financial caps in regards to the COVID 19 activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development partners must indicate to the sum of money, which to support and the cluster members must decide on which activity to be funded by which donor. The reason is to identify the funding caps.</li> </ul>
<p>Reactivate provincial Health Promoting School (HPS) committee for <b>Tafea Province</b></p>	40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee is no longer exist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>discussion with health to elect and appoint new committee members</li> </ul>
Health & Hygiene Strategy	% Achieved	Progress	Main challenges	Way forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All staff (including teachers) to have sanitizers face mask and other materials to mitigate risk of infection and spreading.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WHO has advice that, all efforts should be directed towards the setting up of hand washing station and proper respiratory etiquettes, as these are</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hygiene resources, few schools have the capacity to purchase the required resources while others are unfortunate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support from the MoET, in regards to purchase required hygiene resources including monitoring and reporting from schools.</li> </ul>

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		<p>the cheapest and safest way to keep us safe from the virus and help us stop spreading it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Zealand government has donated a 21 million Vatu for hygiene kits for all schools in Vanuatu.</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social gatherings are to be reduced</li> </ul>	90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Majority of the schools have implemented the strategy of alternative classes (part of the class have lesson in a scheduled period while other part continue with HSP, and the next period the class swap so every class members have a turn to be taught by their teacher). There were also a number of schools that continue with HSP and teachers developed their own strategy to monitor students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To monitor all schools if they are practising social distancing according to their plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools must submit a COVID 19 control plan for teachers and children</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Psychosocial support to be provided for staff if necessary</li> </ul>	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The psychosocial team will be departing on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020 to the affected province to run training to teachers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The challenge is that, are the affected population ready to be part of the training? They are affected and their priority is their needs.</li> </ul>	<p>Advance communication to schools, on what to expect.</p>

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Home-schooling Strategy (Teaching & Learning)	% Achieved	Progress	Main challenges	Way forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers must prepare home-schooling packages for students.</li> </ul>	95%	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Development</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Tafea Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>61 ECCE centers provided report.</li> <li>53 Primary schools provided report.</li> <li>10 Secondary schools provided report.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Tafea Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage the alternative class period.</li> <li>Monitor HSP learning.</li> <li>Improving WASH facilities.</li> </ul>	
	43%	<p><b><i>Shefa Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>55 schools have completed developed HSP.</li> <li>19655 HSP developed for students.</li> <li>575 Teachers present.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Shefa Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>65 schools no report.</li> <li>16 Teachers over 50yrs old self isolated.</li> <li>6 teachers absented.</li> <li>980 students not received HSP.</li> </ul>	

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	95%	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Distribution</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Tafea Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54 ECCE centre completed HSP distribution.</li> <li>• 18 primary schools completed HSP distribution.</li> <li>• 3 secondary schools completed HSP distribution</li> </ul>		
	70%	<p><b><i>Shefa Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 51 schools have distributed HSP.</li> <li>• 15,213 students received HSP</li> </ul>		
	95%	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Monitor Plan</u></b></p> <p><b><i>Tafea Province</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 94 schools have a monitor plan (teachers making time available to support and assess learning)</li> </ul>		
<b>Cross cutting activities</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Main challenges</b>	<b>Way forward</b>

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	Achieved			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A COVID -19 guideline to be developed</li> </ul>	70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A COVID -19 guideline for resumption of schools, has been developed by WHO &amp; UNICEF and being adopted by Fiji. Therefore, from the Fiji guideline, we also take on board the guideline into our context and is already in draft. The team is slowly working on that will complete soon and communicate to schools to be use.</li> </ul>	<p>Ministry have to add its input to the guideline on the ratio to each wash station and social distancing measures in all schools.</p>	<p>communication of the guideline must be disseminated to all schools and the ministry should monitor and report on the progress.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tuition fee to paid to schools</li> </ul>	90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools are currently updating their enrolment data in OV, the due date is 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2020. The payment from the Department of finance and treasury should start of next month June.</li> </ul>	<p>Uploading enrolment data to OV, since TC Harold has affected service from the provinces.</p>	<p>Depending on the OV officers and schools principals. Once all data are uploaded to OV, then tuition fee can be release</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-open of schools</li> </ul>	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All schools are resume for Shefa and Tafea Province. However, for the four other provinces, there is a request letter with list</li> </ul>	<p>The issue is that, the SOE is still exist, therefore, to re-open the schools; a decision must be made to revoke the SOE, which depend much upon the NDC.</p>	<p>The request has been send, but we have to rely upon NDC decision.</p>


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		of schools from the MoET to NDMO to re - open not affected schools. Dated on the 27th April 2020 and still waiting for the respond.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stimulation package</li> </ul>	60%	Currently the TMU are working closely with all province's to collect school support staff (ancillary staff and those that are not in payroll) information's from ECCE to PSET. All education author are included excluding those that are not registered.	Communication to schools is not clear and very slow, those that already submit, still have missing information. Therefore, a follow up has to be made. For Private schools, the information is recently communicated to them.	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2020, is the cut-off date for collecting information. During that date, the TMU will submit whatever they have. PEOs have to communicate the information quickly to the remaining schools and back to MoET in order to include all schools.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch a MoET toll free number</li> </ul>	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A message has been send out by Digicel network stating clearly the timing of which the communication team will be available in answering the call in regards to COVID 19 and TC Harold queries. <i>Day : Monday – Friday</i> <i>Time: 8:00am-5:00pm</i></li> </ul>		



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I take responsibility for this report and certify that it is true, correct and complete.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director General

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

14/05/20

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## Annexes

Annex 1: A letter of request by MoET to NDMO requesting to re-open schools that are not affected by TC Harold

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27th April 2020

Mrs. Esline Garaebiti  
Chairlady  
National Disaster Committee  
Port Vila

R. S. K. J. K.

Dear Mrs. Garaebiti

**Re: Request to Re-Open Not affected Schools in TORBA, SANMA, PENAMA & MALAMPA Provinces**

This is to inform you that the Provincial Education Officers (PEOs) in the four provinces of TORBA, SANMA, PENAMA and MALAMPA have confirmed that a number of schools within their provinces have not been severely damaged by TC Harold and they have requested the Ministry to seek re-opening of their operation from Monday 27th April 2020.

Similarly, the precautionary measures instructed by the Ministry and that were undertaken by the provinces of SHEFA & TAFEA, prior to re-opening the schools, will apply to the other four provinces. Beginning Monday 27th April 2020, all school councils, principals, teaching staff, administration or ancillary staff must prepare their schools to re-open their doors to start classes on Monday 4th May 2020, to ensure that a student's learning must continue and health and hygiene practices are considered. As such, the following measures must be carried out:

1. All schools must develop a plan on how they will manage health & hygiene and physical distancing, between students, staff and other members of the school community, once schools re-open.
2. As the country is still addressing the COVID-19 situation, the plan must include:
  - a. The disinfection of the school buildings;
  - b. Facilities where students, staff and any member of the school community can wash their hands, for example, hand basins, teepee tap, and so forth;
  - c. A soap must be provided for each person to be able to wash their hands;
  - d. Arrangement to have alternative class, in the case of a class with high enrolment, to manage the physical distance between the students and parents;

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Annex 2: a COVID -19 guideline developed for prevention and control in schools.



## FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

The outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has been declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and the virus has now spread to many countries around the world.

### What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. 'CO' stands for corona, 'VI' for virus, and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as '2019 novel coronavirus' or '2019-nCoV.' The COVID-19 virus is a new virus linked to the same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and some types of common cold.

### What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia or breathing difficulties. More rarely, the disease can be fatal. These symptoms are similar to the flu (influenza) or the common cold, which are a lot more common than COVID-19. This is why testing is required to confirm if someone has COVID-19.

### How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from and touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their face (e.g., eyes, nose, mouth). The COVID-19 virus may survive on surfaces for several hours, but simple disinfectants can kill it.

### Who is most at risk?

We are learning more about how COVID-19 affects people every day. Older people, and people with chronic medical conditions, such as diabetes and heart disease, appear to be more at risk of developing severe symptoms. As this is a new virus, we are still learning about how it affects children. We know it is possible for people of any age to be infected with the virus, but so far there are relatively few cases of COVID-19 reported among children. This is a new virus and we need to learn more about how it affects children. The virus can be fatal in rare cases, so far mainly among older people with pre-existing medical conditions.



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## Annex 3: Psychosocial training schedule and plan

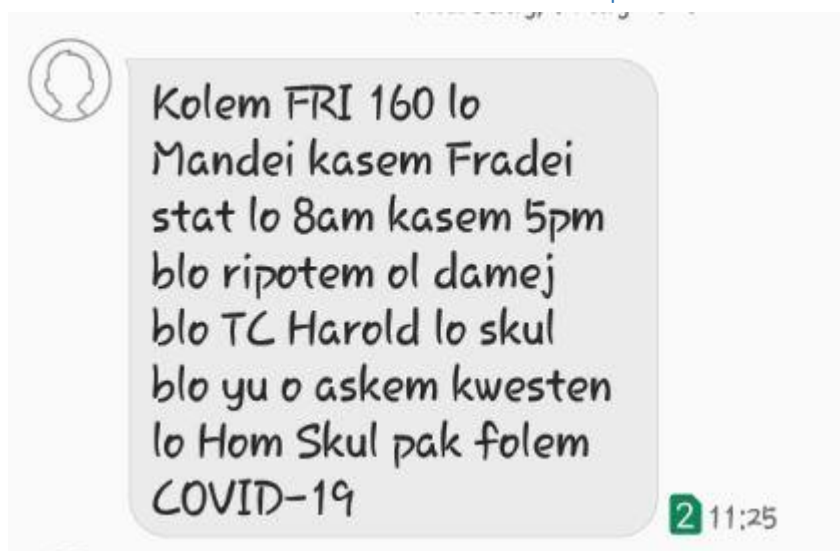
### PSSMH SUMMARY FOR 3 PROVINCES

PROVINCE	ISLAND COVERED	# OF ZONES COVERED	# OF TRAINING SITES	# OF ECCE	# OF PRIMARY	# OF SECONDARY	# OF PSET	# OF TEACHERS TARGETED	TRAINERS
SANMA	Santo Aore Malo	4	37	91	51	7		699	
PENAMA	Pentecost	2	20	43	26	3		233	
MALAMPA	Malekula Ambrym	3	14	47	39	7		284	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>71</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>1,216</b>	

### PSSMH FACILITATORS

PSSMH FACILITATORS	PSS CO-FACILITATORS SANMA	PSS CO-FACILITATORS PENAMA	PSS CO-FACILITATORS MALAMPA
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SUSSIE HOMU</li> <li>DAVID COULON</li> <li>WILLIAM NASAK</li> <li>LEMUEL MOLI</li> <li>LESLINE RICHARD</li> <li>MARIE JONAH</li> <li>FLEXON TANGA</li> <li>SYLVIA BOESON</li> <li>AGNES DAVID</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JEAN DOMINIGUE RAUPEPE</li> <li>WILLY MICHEAL</li> <li>MARCEL BOMWEL</li> <li>SUSAN BALES</li> <li>SOCOPOI MELE</li> <li>JENNIFER ANDREW</li> <li>PROVINCIAL TRAINER</li> <li>PROVINCIAL TRAINER</li> <li>HARKUK VOCOR</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CHRISTINE GAROLEO</li> <li>ANDREW VUTI</li> <li>HUDSON KOLO</li> <li>HENDRICKS</li> <li>QWENDOLYN MATAN</li> <li>NICOLAS TADAU</li> <li>PRICILLA OLUL LULU</li> <li>PROVINCIAL TRAINER</li> <li>PROVINCIAL TRAINER</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ANTONIO MALSIMRAE</li> <li>LULU MAWO</li> <li>ANSEN VEREMAITO</li> <li>SUTHY LUNABEK</li> <li>GEORGE NIEL</li> <li>JONES MAGETOR</li> <li>PETER JACOB</li> <li>PROVINCIAL TRAINER</li> <li>MERION HOPLAND</li> </ol>

## Annex 4: MoET toll free line schedules of operation



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Annex 5: A monitoring Sitrep for schools in Efate especially to monitor, handwashing facilities and physical distancing.



## WASH IN SCHOOLS – SITUATION REPORT

By David-Henri Coulon WinS Coordinator MoET

**Date:** 1/05/2020

**Location:** Efate

**Aim:** Help develop School Resumption Guidelines

Survey conducted by: David-Henri Coulon, Sussie Homu, Fiona Maraki, Tambe Sope, Doreen Lessy

### A – CONTEXT

As per the direction from the office of the Director General, schools from Non-TC Harold affected provinces, namely Shefa and Tafea, schools were asked to resume. The conditions for schools to reopen was that schools submit to the Ministry of Education & Training, school resumption plans addressing the "Covid19" safety protocol:

- Handwashing
- Physical Distancing.

Plans were sent in by schools. With a wide variety of approaches adopted by the schools, the Ministry of education, conducted a rapid random survey to look at what schools are currently doing and draft guidelines for schools to comply with.

The survey was conducted randomly. Private schools, government assisted schools, government schools, ECCE, primary schools, Secondary schools and PSET were part of the survey.

The survey was conducted through KII, Phone, OVI and observation.

Name of school	Enrolment
Eton Primary School	294
Seaside Presbyterian	355
Ecole Centreville	766
Ste Jeanne d'ARC	893
Childcare Centre	
Vila North School	1183
Central School	1200
Kawenu School	
OPC	
OPTC	53
Matarisu	98
Pikinini Playtime	768
Ulei Junior Secondary School	220
Mele Millenium Bilingual School	
Lycee LAB	989
Lycee de Montmartre	716
Olwie SDA primary	308

Annex 6: MFAT assist schools in the country with a 21 million Vatu for hygiene kits.

← Vila Times. Vanuatu, Port Vila



7 May at 15:55

## Vt21 million from New Zealand for hygiene kits to schools around the country

New Zealand will provide VT21 million to Vanuatu's COVID response education cluster to supply hygiene kits to schools around the country.

This assistance will help promote safe handwashing practices in schools during the COVID-19 epidemic and beyond.

Vanuatu remains free of COVID-19 and New Zealand is committed to helping the Pacific respond to the health and economic impacts of the COVID pandemic.

The New Zealand High Commissioner, Jonathan Schwass met with the Director General of the Ministry of Education and Training, Mr Bergmans Iati yesterday morning to hand-over a letter outlining New Zealand's support. Source: NZHC