On 11th of March 2020, World Health Organization(WHO) declared COVID-19 as pandemic. As of 12th April 2020, the global death is 105952 (6262 new deaths) with 1696588 (85679 new cases) being infected and more than 300,000 recovered from COVID-19 pandemic. The United States of America has overtaken the maximum number of deaths and infected cases which was previously reported in Italy.

As a drastic measure to contain COVID-19 infection in Nepal, the Government enforced a nationwide lockdown starting from 24 March until 31 March 2020.

The lock down has been extended until 15 April 2020. In addition to the national-wide lock down the Government has suspended all domestic and international flights from 22 March and sealed all borders with India and China.

The Ministry of Health and Populations is leading the response with Nepal Red Cross Society(NRCS) supporting national and local authorities. NRCS emergency operation Centre (EOC) was activated and 50 SITREPS released with the activities held in 77 District chapters of Red Cross. Nepal Red Cross Society has been coordinating with the Ministry of Health, Health Emergency Operation Centers and other organization such as UNICEF and WHO. Ministry of Home Affairs called cluster meeting on 15 March and requested all cluster leads to prepare COVID-19 response plan.

Red Cross is supporting with volunteer mobilization and logistic support at quarantine, support to quarantine process in border entry points, deploying Red Cross Emergency Clinic (RCEC) volunteers in Sukraraj Tropical Hospital in Teku to manage help desk, awareness activities doing door to door visit, micing events, COVID 19 focused radio programmes, free hotline service, Psychological First Aid(PFA) and Restoring Family Link services.

### Nepal (Source): sitrep#64
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ywjtCjpl0trnkJYTvK5pdlbXjTm46UEPU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total sample tested: 5691 (New- 519)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tested negative:</td>
<td>5677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tested positive:</td>
<td>14 ( New-2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result yet to come</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovered</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total no. of people in quarantine</td>
<td>7166(Doesn't include the reports of Kathmandu valley hospitals)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total no of people in isolation</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Nepal Red Cross Society Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>New (4/13/2020)</th>
<th>Cumulative achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td># of people reached through COVID-19 awareness sessions (Community orientation, school orientation, door to door visit, help desk, micng)</td>
<td>7143</td>
<td>149199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td># of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials produced and distributed (pamphlets, flex, stickers, flyers, brochures, banners, etc.)</td>
<td>10614</td>
<td>534203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td># of personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, hazmat suit) distributed</td>
<td>7675</td>
<td>109002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td># RC volunteer supporting health desks</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td># of community members receiving PFA</td>
<td></td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td># of hygiene kits distributed</td>
<td></td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td># of people reached with hygiene promotion activities (hand washing demonstration and practical sessions)</td>
<td>2831</td>
<td>4853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td># of responded calls in NRCS hotline (1130)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td># of COVID-19 specific episodes of radio programs</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table shows the directly reached people, indirectly reached is more.
Key Government decisions of the week

Following the three positive cases in a day, the Government held a meeting of the Council of Ministers on 4 April 2020 and took additional key precautionary decisions to contain the spread of COVID-19. The decisions included:

1. Restriction of movement to make lock down more effective
2. Mass scale tests in Kailali, Kanchanpur and Baglung where more than one positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified,

Recent tools developed and implemented

**COVID-19 response guideline:** NRCS COVID-19 response guideline is developed in Nepali language. The guideline has been endorsed by the NRCS senior management in March 2020 and has been shared with district chapters. The guideline will guide the COVID-19 response at Province, district chapter and National Headquarters (NHQ). Mainly this document specifies the roles and responsibilities of NRCS staff and volunteers at different levels (NHQ, province chapter, district chapter and sub-chapter) who are supporting the local government to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Infection, prevention and control (IPC) guideline:** NRCS has developed IPC guideline in April 2020, which describes about minimum precaution measures for ambulance drivers while carrying the cases of COVID-19. It is in Nepali and endorsed. It has been shared at different levels (province chapter, district chapter and sub-chapter). NRCS is orienting this guideline to the Red Cross ambulance drivers via Skype or on phone. As of 12th April 2020, 133 drivers have been oriented.

**Rapid Guidance for providing Restoring Family Link Service (RFL) during the COVID-19:**

The Family Links Network, comprised of Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies, International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) offers services to authorities to ensure family links are maintained and restored. This is a brief document to guide on providing RFL Services during the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic to ensure connections between families is maintained as Family News Service is a key part of the response of NRCS Province and District Chapters. RFL service programme supported with 260 dead body bag to Nepal police, Nepal Army and Dhulikhel Hospital, is supporting in family reunioin in quarantine.
Social Media Reach and Volunteering

NRCS has been active in Twitter and Facebook throughout the COVID-19 response posting awareness materials, tracking and addressing rumours, and encouraging people in healthy behavior. In the past seven days, NRCS has reached on Facebook 265,422 different people and gotten 25,529 likes, comments, shares, and clicks on its posts.

In addition to that, NRCS launched a new innovative way for people to join the fight against COVID-19, Social Media Volunteering, which can be utilized easily during the times of lockdown and social distancing. In two days, more than 480 people have joined the new Facebook group called “NRCS Social Media Volunteers on COVID-19” dedicated for the social media volunteer coordination. Join the group here, https://www.facebook.com/groups/nrcsvolunteers/

Psychological First Aid (PFA Service)

Due to the increasing cases of COVID 19 and lockdown people may become panic at this time. It is natural for people with the sign and symptoms of psychological problems at this period and it can be treated on time with the support of Psychological First Aid. Nepal Red Cross Society has started the Psychological First Aid through the phone calls and online. As of 12th April 2020 81 people have been benefited with the service. Detail here, https://scontent-ams4-1.xx.fbcdn.net/v/t1.0-9/s960x960/90903776_10158623334613287_2413722782278877184_o.png?_nc_cat=103&_nc_sid=8024bb&_nc_ohc=GQ6XBvijQaRYAX8lNpFw&_nc_ht=scontent-ams4-1.xx&oh=baadd40f8dc05596a4598c6a2e8b4a&oe=5EB804C0
NRCS COVID 19 Response, District Update (4/13/2020)

**Myagdi**
- District Chapter supply 100/200 mask to every sub-chapter targeting to marginalized / vulnerable and economical backward people in concerned sub-chapter.
- 3000 mask distributed by district chapter to sub chapter and
- Volunteers of sub-chapter oriented on proper and safer use of wearing mask to local people. Subchapters purchasing mask by themselves and distributing at community.
- Sub-chapters volunteers playing message of prevention COVID - 19 in loud speaker and visit their sub-chapter frequently.
- **Community livelihood promotion project supported** with 1800 pieces mask, 800 soap pieces, 2 pieces sanitizer to Dagnam ward no 4 and Chimkhola ward no 7. Sanitizer were handover to local post in both wards. Soap was distributed to each household and mask was distributed 2-3 pieces per house depending upon the number of members going outside for farming and other purpose. Soap and mask were distributed to the health workers also. Social Mobilizers and Sub-chapter volunteers demonstrated hand washing and proper use of mask. In total 2831 individuals from 650 households, 14 health workers, and 2 security person of health facility were benefited.

![Hand washing demonstration at community](image)

**Dang**
- Radio Massage Broadcast From Gadawa FM Regular, Radio Madepashim and radio hapure for 1 Month.
- IEC Materials Distribution Rapti Tulsipur Sub metropolitan, 500 PC with coordination Palika

![Mask distribution at household](image)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support to Bangalachuli RM following Materials</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budget Line Description/Activity details</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of COVID-19 related Flex sheets in different public places</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand washing supplies for health facilities/health desks and public places</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand washing soap</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stickers</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PPE for health workers</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE Set</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand sanitizer (110 ml)</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical gloves</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical Mask</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safety materials to incoming migrants from health desks and health posts</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masks (Cotton clothes)</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand washing soap</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PPE for field staff members</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand sanitizer (110 ml)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgical gloves</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton mask</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volunteers distributed Eggs to pregnant women at Tulsipur Sub metropolitan (ward no,10,11,13,4,7)

Fig: Ghorahi Sub metropolitan supported with 1 Emergency Response Health Kit

Kavrepalanchowk

- Airing the radio awareness message on COVID 19 from 7 local FMs
- IIEC materials distribution at Banepa and Mandandeupur municipality
- Supported with 1 Saudi tent for Health desk, 25 blankets and 10 buckets at Mahabharat Gaupalika Quarantine
- Supported with 1 Saudi tent for quarantine at Batahanchowk gaupalika
- Hand washing stations at 29 sub chapters, District chapter supported with 29 buckets and 145 soaps.
- Supported with 22 blankets, 10 buckets, 10 soaps and 10 nets at Dhulikhel Sanjivani Higher Secondary School quarantine
- Schir Memorial Hospital supported with 1 ambulance and 1 bed, 4 beds by Disability Hospital and 5 beds by Spinal Injury Hospital for quarantine at Nepal Red Cross Society Training Centre Banepa.
Kaski

- District chapter is in lead role for coordinating, managing and mobilizing all ambulance service of Gandaki Province as well as at Kaski District during the Pandemic period.
- Kaski District chapter is regularly attending the DC level Corona Risk reduction coordination committee meeting every day at 4.00 PM in CDO office.
- DC attended Province HEOC Emergency meeting on 9th April.
- Red Cross Kaski has conducted emergency mobile blood donation program from Door to Door visit at 5 places. 269 unit blood has been collected in this lockdown time and 2000 COVID-19 IEC distributed in the same time.
- 3 subchapters (Subchapters ward number 10, 12 & 32) distributed relief food items to daily wages people with close coordination of ward office in April.
- IEC materials distribution-10,000
- Orientation on COVID 19 -312
- Hand washing station at District chapter office and Blood bank office
- Orientation on COVID 19 to elderly people, People with Disability, Dalit-4 times, 201 have been oriented
- Orientation to ambulance driver on PPE-34
- District chapter is regularly conducting awareness activity, supporting local authority in contract tracing and distribution of relief items
- 10 People with Disability supported with relief items.
- District chapter supported with 8 tarpaulins and 50 blankets at local level quarantine.

Fig: Distributed food item to most at risk vulnerable people (PWDs) due to lockdown at Pokhara

Udayapur

- District Chapter (DC) supported with 77 pieces of soaps, 21 buckets and 8 Corona awareness message banners for hand washing stations at district based government office premises.
- DC supported 5 buckets and 100 pieces of soaps to Katari Hospital, 2 buckets and 10 soaps to District Badminton Union, 1 bucket and 5 soaps to Civil Hospital Gaighat.
- 32 banners at different public places for awareness raising.
- Supported with 1 tent for help desk at Triyuga municipality
- D supported with 20 tarpaulins, 195 blankets, 199 buckets, 592 soaps185 mosquito net, 2 tents and 40 banners at different quarantine at districts.
Sindhuli

- Nepal Red Cross Society Sindhuli District Chapter handed Cash support, Rs. 2730) for 98 household on 4th April 2020
- Cash was supported by Plan International Nepal Sindhuli.
- Beneficiaries name list approved by Kamalamai municipality.

Nawalpur

- District chapter is doing awareness activities mobilizing the volunteers.
- Subchapter distributed 800 mask in coordination with municipality
- With the support of Chaudhary Udyog, Red Cross distributed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to 15 ambulance drivers at districts.
- 11 subchapters conducted hand washing demonstration at community and about 2500 people are benefited directly.
- Volunteer mobilization through subchapter for awareness activities.

Darchula

- Information dissemination from 4 local F.Ms going on.
- Volunteers are mobilized in quarantine area.
- Participation in District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) meeting on regular basis.
- Total 400 beds in the quarantine of district.
- 390 people staying in quarantine among which 83 are females and 317 are males.
- Swab test done of 460 people at districts
- 80 pieces mask distributed to health and police office
- Regular coordination with local level

Mugu

- District Chapter is doing awareness activities mainly with micing at community. The message is on regular hand washing and asking people following up the lockdown strictly.
- Door to door visit is also done the Red Cross volunteers.
- DC supported 18 Health desk at district with PPE set
Rasuwa

- Radio message for corona awareness is regularly broadcasted through Radio Rasuwa 102.3 MHz and Langtang FM 90.3 MHz.
- 10 buckets and 50 blankets provided to DDMC Rasuwa for quarantine support in Dhunche.
- Miking in Thulogaun (PREPARE Project area) in coordination with health post and ward office regarding lockdown message and corona prevention awareness.

Reference Resources

- Nepal Government Sitrep: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ywjrCjpl0tnkYTvk5pdibXjTm46UEPU](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ywjrCjpl0tnkYTvk5pdibXjTm46UEPU)

NRCS lead Contact

Lead: Mr. Bipul Neupane - Director/NRCS, Health Service Department
Contact: 9851012617, E-mail: bipul.neupane@nrcs.org