

Ministry of Education and Training
COVID-19 Contingency Plan
Progress Report 07
Reporting period: June- September 2020

Since the declaration of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) as a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 10th of March 2020 and the State of Emergency (SOE), the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) has been taking measures to ensure school children/students in Vanuatu are safe at all time. As we are entering the second term, the Minister of Education and Training has repealed the decision made in **order No 75** that is the declaration of the holiday for schools. On that note, the MoET with the help of NDMO communicate an instruction for the re-opening of schools to resume normal.

This progress report presents the significant and emerging developments/achievements for all Provinces that have been made from **June to September 2020**. During the stated period, some of the significant developments that were achieved includes, but not limited to:

- ✚ There are 16 Education cluster meeting all together since February and is still on going.
- ✚ 80% of schools from ECCE, Primary and Secondary has put in place their wash facilities. However, MFAT has supported the activity with 21 million Vatu for the WASH support facilities for the remaining schools and for upgrading. The fund will also support the printing of the Information Education Communication (IEC) for COVID 19 including other coordination for schools to keep maintaining the hygiene practise in school.
- ✚ MFAT still maintaining the support towards the psychosocial awareness towards the remaining two province, Malampa and Penama. In addition, a top up of 10 million Vatu, which the process of the MOA has been process to SLO before the formalisation of the MOA signing.
- ✚ A consultant was appointed by UNICEF to develop a general home school package for ECCE to Year 10. Her name is Marian Curtis and she will be working remotely with the assistance of a working group and three writers. The first meeting with Marian was done on Thursday 20th August 2020. A Technical Working Group was appointed by the DG on 14th September 2020 to work closely with the TA.

The composition of the Technical Working Group: Director ESD

- APEO ESD, APEO CDU, Senior CDU Officer
- ESD Program Coordinator , Manager ISU-VITE , PEO of Policy and Planning Unit
- PEO of the National Exam's Unit
- APEO Early Children Care and Education
- Senior Secondary school officer
- Primary school officer

The TA will be working remotely with a local support team:

. The timeframe for completing this task is 1st of October 2021.

- ✚ For the COVID 19 Prevention and control in schools guideline, the document is developed in partnership with UNICEF, water Department and MoH. All guidelines have been disseminate to all schools (ECCE, Primary and Secondary).
- ✚ All schools have resumed normally after the lock down and the restriction in social distancing.
- ✚ For the Stimulate package, the package includes only tuition fees for Government and non-government schools (years 11 to 14). The payments is separated into three transactions. The

first transaction has already paid to all registered schools including those who are not registered but have their data uploaded to OV. The tuition fee support is total up to **367,223,870vt.**

- ✚ Health Promoting School committee in Malampa and Shefa Province are already reactivate by Fund supported by WHO in collaboration with the department of Health. Currently, the team are working closely with Penama and Tafea to reactivate their committee. After the two province, on the 19th -28th of October, the team will be moving to Sanma and Torba Province to support them in reactivating their HPS committee.
- ✚ Awareness to key school personnel in hygiene, sanitation skills and counselling, the UNICEF is the major donor and is currently under taking the activity in Penama. Malampa and Shefa, the HPS committee are already activated. Therefore, the committee is task with the awareness to key school personnel in hygiene, sanitation skills and counselling. Since then, when all HPS committee for the other provinces are also activated, then they will also task with this activity.
- ✚ All Curriculum materials, reading books, prescription are being uploaded into OV in the public module and can access by anyone Schools have adequate land for farming. Most schools have school gardening, poultry, and cattle project.
- ✚ AUF administration at Isangel and Tafea college have agreed on supporting the school in online learning

Key Outputs delivered, main challenges/issues and way forward

Communication & Logistics Strategy	% Achieved	Progress	Main challenges/issues	Way forward
Central Activities				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education cluster meets at least once a week 	90%	There are 16 Education cluster meeting all together since February and it is still on going.	A directive from the NDMO to review the TOR for the chair. Currently the ESD director is the chair but according to the NDMO advice, DGs should take over the role. Therefore, a TOR is underway before the DG takes over as the chair of the cluster meeting.	This coming Thursday, there will be a presentation of the TOR to the cluster meeting for approval before handing over the chair by director ESD to the MoET DG
Health & Hygiene Strategy	% Achieved	Progress	Main challenges	Way forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All WASH in schools training must be conducted and implementation be strictly supervised 	80%	80% of schools from ECCE, Primary and Secondary have put in place their wash facilities. However, MFAT has supported the activity with 21 million Vatu for the WASH support facilities for the remaining schools and for upgrading. The fund will also support the printing Information Education Communication (IEC) COVID 19 including other coordination for schools to keep maintain the hygiene practise in school.	The delay of the MOA between MFAT and MoET in regards to the 21 million but it is about 90% complete. The delay is the process for which SLO has to go through the MOA before providing their feedback.	Awaiting SLO to provide their feedback before approval by DG

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychosocial support to be provided for staff if necessary 		<p>MFAT still maintaining the support towards the psychosocial awareness towards the remaining two province, Malampa and Penama. In addition, a top up of 10 million Vatu, which the process of the MOA has been process to SLO before the formalisation of the MOA signing.</p>	<p>MOA process between MFAT and MoET is still underway; the document is submitted to DGs office for review before submitting it to state. About 90% completed.</p>	<p>Depending on the DGs office for the submission to the SLO. Once, its being submitted, SLO will provide its final comments before the document is being signed off.</p>
<p>Home-schooling Strategy (Teaching & Learning)</p>	<p>% Achieved</p>	<p>Progress</p>	<p>Main challenges</p>	<p>Way forward</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of Home-School package 	<p>20%</p>	<p>A consultant was appointed by UNICEF to develop a general home school package for ECCE to Year 10. Her name is Marian Curtis and she will be working remotely with the assist of a working group and three writers. The first meeting with Marian was done on Thursday 20th August 2020. The appointment of the Technical Working Group by DG effective as of 14th September 2020.</p> <p><i>The composition of the Technical Working Group:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director ESD - APEO ESD, APEO CDU, Senior CDU Officer - ESD Program Coordinator , Manager ISU-VITE , PEO of Policy and Planning Unit - PEO of the National Exam's Unit 		<p>A working group will be appointed to advice the consultant, and three writers will be contracted to help Marian develop the package.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APEO Early Children Care and Education - Senior Secondary school officer - Primary school officer <p>The TA will be working remotely with a local support team: Acting PEO ESD or UNICEF (Fabiola Bibi) to confirm the names of MoET officers involved in the development of HSP. The plan timeframe, for the work to be completed is 1st of October 2021.</p>		
Cross cutting activities	% Achieved	Progress	Main challenges	Way forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID 19 Prevention and Control in Schools guideline 	100%	The document is develop in partnership with UNICEF, water Department and MoH. All guideline has been disseminate to all schools (ECCE, Primary and Secondary)	Awaiting the funding, which will support both the WASH facilities in schools and IEC to schools and communities on the COVID 19 Prevention and Control in Schools guideline. The funding process is about 90% complete.	The delay of the MOA process, which the DGs office has to review and send to SLO for their final feedbacks before being approve. Once approve then we can access the fund for the implementation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-open of schools 	100 %	All schools has resume	However, few have faced financial issue, but the instruction from the MoET is clear not to close their doors, since it will disturb the students learning. Therefore, for two weeks holiday, students are given only one-week holiday from 24 th – 28 th of August.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stimulation package (Tuition Fee) 	100%	Stimulate package includes only tuition fees for Government and non-	The main challenge face by the finance team is collection the	The plan is to include all private schools in the OV

		government schools (years II to I4). The payments is separated into three transactions. The first trans has already paid to all registered schools including those who are not registered but have their data uploaded to OV. The tuition fee support is total up to 367,223,870vt.	private school bank account and their enrolment data to Open VEMIS.	including their data entry and other school information.
Province Activity				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reactive Provincial HPS Committee 	50%	Health Promoting School committee in Malampa and Shefa Province are already reactivate by Fund supported by WHO in collaboration with the department of Health. Currently, the team are working closely with Penama and Tafea to reactivate their committee. After the two province, on the 19 th -28 th of October, the team will be moving to Sanma and Torba Province to support them in reactivating their HPS committee.	Challenges face for all provinces, is there are no continue support from WHO/MoET. Funding is always a challenge including close monitoring. In the past, the WHO who coordinate the programme in isolation from the MoET. Therefore, to implement HPS activities through Education, there are challenges face.	Currently the MoET is taking the lead with the support of the WHO and the department of Health.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness to key school personnel in hygiene, sanitation skills and counselling 	50%	UNICEF is the major donor and is currently under taking the activity in Penama. Malampa and Shefa, the HPS committee are already activated. Therefore, the committee is task with the awareness to key school personnel in hygiene, sanitation skills and counselling. Since then, when all HPS committee for the other provinces are also activated, then they will also task with this activity.	There are no HPS officer in central office and for all provinces since it has not included in the MoET structure.	Position of Gender vocal point in MoET will be amended and change to Health Promoting School Officer, since a new position is being created, that will cater for Inclusive Education, Gender and Child Protection. On that note, the officer will coordinate all activities to all provinces.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial staff to prioritise activities in response to COVID-19 (TAFEA PROVINCE) 	100%	Primary schools reviewed, developed, and stored Home School Package ready for dispatched. Secondary schools	Few schools yet to complete their HSP.	SIO, to monitor and report on the development progress of the HSP.

		created module platform ready to upload learning activities. ECCE HSP stored and ready to dispatch. Ash fall in White Sands area and North West Tanna drought two shipment of food/water, relief supply -100%	Learning devise, such as lap top, tablet, for students to use when accessing module.	MoET to assist with the learning devise.
School Activity				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum materials, reading books, prescription upload on internet asap for individual students- beginning with Santo/ Efate and offshore schools (TAFEA PROVINCE) 	50%	All Curriculum materials, reading books, prescription are being uploaded into OV in the public module and can access by anyone.	Few Tafea IT and Principals still have challenges to upload the materials.	Needing assistance from other advance IT from other schools, and need another training for uploading the materials.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximize use of school land for food security (TAFEA PROVINCE) 	70%	Schools have adequate land for farming. Most schools have school gardening, poultry, and cattle project.	A challenge for maintaining the school agricultural farms and projects.	Include in the SIP as a priority activity for the school to implement and maintain.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner universities liaise for online learning (TAFEA PROVINCE) 	30%	AUF administration at Isangel and Tafea college.	Network is a challenge for connectivity.	MoET to negotiate with OGCIO to install gov. intranet to schools.

I take responsible for this report and justify being correct and complete


 Director General
 Bermans Iati

