Update on the Dengue situation in the Western Pacific Region

Northern Hemisphere

Cambodia
As of epidemiological week 27, 2021, a total of 862 dengue cases, including one death, have been reported in Cambodia for 2021. This cumulative number of cases represents approximately a five-fold decrease as compared to the number of cases reported during the same period in 2020 (n=3,103). The number of cases reported weekly remains lower than the normal range of cases reported from 2015 to 2020 (Figure 1). The reported number of dengue cases is lower in all provinces compared to trends observed in 2020.

China
In June 2021, eight dengue cases and no deaths were reported in China. The trend in 2021 follows an expected seasonal trend (Figure 2).
Lao People’s Democratic Republic
During epidemiological week 28 of 2021, 32 dengue cases and no deaths were reported in Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Figure 3). The cumulative number of cases reported as of epidemiological week 28 2021 is 520; this is nearly five times lower compared to the same period in 2020 when 2,585 cases were reported. The trend is within seasonally expected levels.

Malaysia
During epidemiological week 29, 2021, a total of 476 dengue cases and no deaths were reported. As of 24 July 2021, the cumulative number of reported cases is 15,072. This is a significant decrease compared to 45,015 cases reported during the same period in 2020. As of epidemiological week 29, a total of nine deaths due to dengue have been reported in 2021, compared to 99 deaths during the same period in 2020.

Philippines
In epidemiological week 26, from 27 June to 03 Jul 2021, there was a total of one hundred eighty-six (186) dengue cases with one (1) reported mortality. This is 83% lower compared to the same period in 2020.
From 1 January to 03 July 2021, there has been a total of 32,555 dengue cases with 119 deaths (CFR 0.4%) reported, this is 43% lower compared to the 57,388 cases reported in the same period in 2020.

Singapore

In epidemiological week 28 of 2021, 78 dengue cases were reported in Singapore and a total of 3,568 cases have been reported since epidemiological week 1 of 2021 (Figure 6). Weekly trends are within expected seasonal levels.
Viet Nam (no update)
During week 26 of 2021, there were 1,660 cases and no deaths reported from 42 out of 63 provinces. The number of cases decreased by 16.6% compared to the previous week (1,990 cases including two deaths). As of 4 July 2021, a total of 37,420 cases of dengue, including nine deaths, have been reported in Viet Nam. Compared to the same period in 2020 (38,167 cases including five deaths), the cumulative number of cases decreased by 2%, with four more deaths reported.

Southern Hemisphere

Australia (no update)
As of 14 July 2021, one cumulative case of dengue has been reported in Australia to-date (Figure 8). In contrast, there were 220 dengue cases reported in Australia in January to June 2020 indicating a marked reduction in the number of cases. The significant drop in dengue cases for 2021 in Australia as compared to previous years during the same time period may be attributed to COVID-19 related travel restrictions. Prior to COVID-19, Australia had seen increasing notifications in overseas-acquired cases from returning travellers to dengue endemic areas.

Figure 7: Dengue cases and deaths reported weekly from 2020-2021 in Viet Nam
Source: General Department of Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health, Viet Nam

Figure 8: Laboratory-confirmed dengue cases reported monthly from 2015-2021 in Australia
Source: Department of Health, Australia
Pacific Islands Countries

Cook Islands
Between 1 January and 11 July 2021, a total of 217 dengue cases with no deaths were reported in the Cook Islands where a dengue type-2 (DENV-2) outbreak has been ongoing since February 2021 (Figure 9). Among the reported cases, there are 170 probable cases positive by NS1 antigen (NS1 Ag+) and 47 cases confirmed to have DENV-2 infection based on PCR testing.

![Dengue cases reported by epidemiological week and month from 2021 in Cook Islands](source: Ministry of Health, Cook Islands)

French Polynesia
During epidemiological weeks 25 and 26 of 2021, of 15 suspected dengue cases tested for dengue-specific IgM (Figure 10), one sample tested positive. In 2021, the proportion of dengue-like illness (DLI) cases among consultations at sentinel sites has remained at 2% or below.

![Samples and confirmed cases of dengue reported weekly from 2020-2021 in French Polynesia](source: Centre for Occupational Health and Public Safety, French Polynesia)
New Caledonia
During epidemiological weeks 1 to 30 of 2021, a total of 115 dengue cases were reported in New Caledonia, including 92 confirmed cases, 22 probable cases, and one suspected case (Figure 11). This is an increase compared to the same period in 2020 when a total of 50 total dengue cases were reported. DENV-2 was detected in 85 out of the 92 confirmed cases as of 28 July 2021.

![Figure 11: Dengue cases reported by week from 2021 in New Caledonia](source: Network of sentinel physicians, New Caledonia)

Wallis and Futuna
During epidemiological weeks 28 to 29 of 2021, three confirmed cases of dengue were reported in Wallis and Futuna (Figure 12). As of epidemiological week 29, 2021, there have been 66 cases reported. Among them, 62 cases were reported in Futuna and four cases reported in Wallis. In 2020, there were a cumulative of 124 cases confirmed.

![Figure 12: Dengue cases reported by week from 2021 in Wallis and Futuna](source: Health Agency, Wallis and Futuna)
Pacific Island Countries and Areas (PICs) – Dengue-like illness (DLI) Surveillance

In the Pacific Island Countries and Areas, during epidemiological week 28 of 2021, there was a slight increase in DLI cases reported in Kiribati. Meanwhile, the number of DLI cases reported in the Solomon Islands, Wallis and Futuna, and Vanuatu have decreased. Other Pacific Island Countries and Areas with available surveillance data are reporting no or very low numbers of DLI cases.

* Caution should be taken in interpreting these data as there may be changes in the number of sentinel sites reporting to the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System.

Figure 13. Reported cases of dengue-like illness in Pacific Islands Countries and Areas

Source: PacNet Bulletin