Fiji’s Perspective: COVID-19 Response

WHO Information Session: COVID-19

23rd April 2020

Hon Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete
Minister for Health and Medical Service
Republic of Fiji
Context: Responding to Multiple Threats

Measles

Outbreak declared 19/11/2019
28 cases, 0 deaths
95% vaccination coverage

COVID-19

Outbreak declared 19/03/2020
18 cases, 0 deaths

TC TINO

Feb 13 – 14
0 deaths
$10M damage

TC SARAI

Jan 15 – 18
2 deaths

TC HAROLD

April 7 - 8
1 death
$50M damage
Current Status

Active Cases – COVID-19

- Confirmed Cases = 18
- Recovered Cases = 8
- Active = 10
- Contact Tracing = 6000
- Completed Quarantine = 360
- Fever Clinic Screening = 325,227
Response

• Whole of Govt – integrated multiagency approach

- Community Awareness
- Comprehensive Comms plan
- Contact tracing
- Fever Clinics
- Massive Fever Screening Campaign
- School closure
- Target community Lockdown
- Limited Curfew Hours
- Closure of night clubs, gyms, pools
- Partner and Donor coordination

- Border Restriction
- Flight and Cruise Ship Ban
- Border Screening
- Govt Quarantine Service

- Hospital isolation facility
- 30-bed surge planning

- Supplementary Budget
- Purchase of equipment and supplies
- Community Isolation facilities
## Fiji COVID-19 Positive Cases & Interventions

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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### Key Interventions
- **Steering Committee Formed**
- **Introducing Supplimentary Arrival Cards**
- **Fiji CDC Starts Testing COVID-19 Locally**
- **Every Person entering Fiji to Self-Quarantine for 14 days**
- **Ban on Cruise Liners**
- **Introducing Digital Contact Tracing Tool**
- **Inter-Island Travel Ceased**
- **National Curfew Introduced from 10 pm to 5 am**
- **Toll Free Call Centre Established for COVID-19**
- **Mobile Fever Clinics Established**
- **Quarantine Period extended to 28 days**
- **TC Harold strikes Fiji**
- **Index Case Recovery**
- **First Patient Released from Hospital**

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Key Results

4 of 6 Clusters; 10 out of 18 Cases are active
44% (8 Cases) recovered as at 23rd April 2020
Key Results

• Testing rate = 1 per 1000 population

• Recovery rate of cases = 44%

• Amendment of Public Health Act

• Declaration of COVID-19 as a Natural Disaster

• Multiagency engagement and buy-in
Way Forward

• Workplace Guide – “working under the COVID-19 threat” – the **new normal**!

• Call on WHO and Partners to support Fiji and PSIDS in combating climate change

• Call on WHO for support in battling LTDD – the climate sensitive diseases in Fiji and PSIDS

• Call for WHO to facilitate the fair distribution of technical support & assistance for COVID-19 response for Fiji and PSIDS
THANK YOU