



The first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in Kenya on March 12th, 2020. Since then, the Government of Kenya has enacted measures to contain the spread of the virus including the establishment of a COVID-19 National Task Force and an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to contain the virus including the establishment of a COVID-19 Task Force. The Ministry of Health runs an Emergency Operations Centre. IOM is working with the Ministry of Health, the Department of Immigration as well as WHO and the UN Country Team to respond to the outbreak in line with IOM's technical expertise in Migration Health and Immigration and Border Management. This infosheet gives an overview of IOM's activities between 16 March and 16 April 2020.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES:



27 borderpoints provided with IPC supplies



30 Community Health Volunteers trained on COVID-19 for community engagement



81 migrants provided with COVID-19 information



35 health and support staff deployed to the MoH at the quarantine sites & EOC



7 Rapid Assessments at Points of Entry conducted



Coordination: IOM leads the Migrants Technical Working Group and is co-lead on Points of Entry.

INFECTION, PREVENTION AND CONTROL

- Provided immigration agents with one months worth of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) supplies at 27 Points of Entry (gloves, hand sanitizers and masks).
- IOM in partnership with AMREF runs a primary healthcare centre in Eastleigh: IOM conducted trainings for our health staff on COVID 19 specifically on Infection Prevention and Control. IOM also distributed PPE to our staff and disseminated IEC materials on COVID in both English, and Somali.
- Training: 34 health staff participated in three webinar trainings on COVID-19 facilitated by CDC on IPC, Case Management and Surveillance.



Staff ensuring hygienic practice as a preventative measure

COORDINATION

- Dispatched staff to support the Ministry of Health's Emergency Operations and Centre (Information Management staff and communications staff).
- IOM is the co-lead along with WHO on Points of Entry.
- Coordination: IOM now leads the Migrant Technical Working Group (a sub-division of the Community Engagement sub-committee), and continues to coordinate with other partners on issues related to migrants and vulnerable populations.

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

- Re-programming of Migrant Health Assessment Centre staff (which conducts health assessments). In light of travel restrictions and noting the massive need for health staff, IOM closed the Health Assessment Centre and redeployed medical staff to respond to COVID.
- Medical Staff Supporting the Ministry of Health: The 35 medical staff that IOM has deployed to the MoH continue to directly contribute to the efforts to COVID-19. These staff members are currently deployed at five quarantine sites in Nairobi as part of the Quarantine Site Response Team.



PoE Rapid Assessment at Malaba, on the border with Uganda

POINTS OF ENTRY

- Rapid Assessments of Points of Entry Report: IOM Kenya worked with the Department for Immigration and the Ministry of Health to carry out rapid assessments at seven 'Points of Entry' (Namanga, Busia, Wajir, Lunga Lungu, Malaba, Moyale and Isebania). The report has been finalized and they key findings are informing programming needs.

RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- IOM conducted a refresher course for 30 CHVs (Community Health Volunteers) covering basic topics on COVID-19 including clarification of rumours and myths, signs, symptoms and modes of transmission and the importance of hygiene and social distancing. The 30 CHVs will use this information to conduct community engagement activities Eastleigh Airbase and Eastleigh North which has a large number of urban migrants and vulnerable communities.
- All migrants travelling in the three months before international airtravel for passengers was restricted were provided with information regarding COVID-19 IPC measures as part of their cultural orientation and general health awareness. In early March, migrants travelling under IOM auspices to their resettlement destination were provided with pocket hand sanitizers and pocket tissues for use during travel.



IOM Medical staff are redeployed to support the COVID-19 response

PROTECTION

- Psychosocial Support: Remote counselling has been made available to the 35 deployed medical staff from IOM to the Ministry of Health currently working in quarantine sites. The regular communication and assistance aim to contribute to sustaining the mental well-being of the health workers on the frontline of COVID-19 response activities. Trained counsellors have been addressing some of the staff's concerns, providing psychological support and sharing some coping strategies.