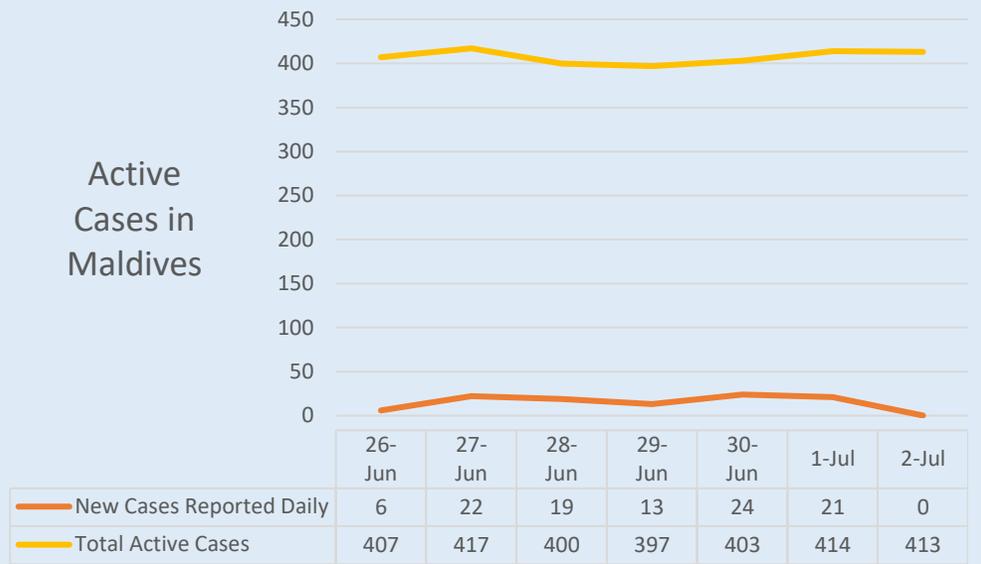


- A **total of 2382 people** have tested positive in Maldives with 413 active cases, and 1954 recoveries, and 10 reported deaths as of 2 July. The highest daily peak this week was 24.
- Since the first case of community spread was reported on 15 April 2020 in Greater Male' area, authorities have so far identified over 18,000 contacts through contact tracing but have not yet identified initial source of contraction, with the patient having not travelled or interacted with a positive case.
- Alert levels were raised to red (level IV) and a temporary lock down has been implemented effective 1530 on 15 April 2020 with further eases to lockdown implemented from 1 July.

	Confirmed Cases	2382
	Recoveries	1954
	Isolation Facilities	269
	Quarantine Facilities	134
	Active Cases in Maldives	413



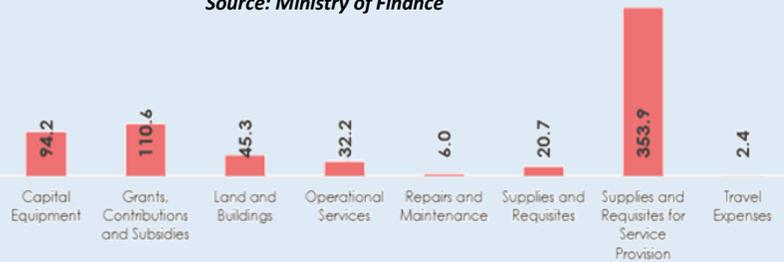
Public Health Risk Alert Levels	
Greater Male' Area	Red
National	Yellow
WHO Risk Assessment	
Global level	Very high
Global status	Pandemic

Updates from [Covid19 Dashboard](#) as of 13:00, 2 July 2020

Economic Sector

- The Ministry of Finance published the eighth [Spending Report](#) on 29 June 2020:
- MVR 975.7 million (US\$ 63.2 million) has been spent on health response (25 June), a **1.3%** increase from last week with the frontline authorities including National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Health and Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital continuing to account for most of the spending for COVID-19 operations.
- MVR 360.1 million (US\$ 23.3 million)** has been spent on the **socioeconomic response** (25 June), consisting of payments disbursed as financial support and relief to individuals, households and businesses affected by the pandemic.

By type of spending (in millions MVR)
Source: Ministry of Finance



- National Health Insurance Scheme 'Aasandha' has **spent MVR 516 million (US\$ 33.4 million)** to fund free medical services by July 2020, which is an increase of **MVR 110 million (US\$ 7.1 million)** compared to 2019.
- UNCTAD reported that COVID-19 could cost global tourism and related sectors between **US\$ 1.2 to 3.3 trillion** in [lost revenue](#)

Political Sector

- Two additional charges have been raised by the Prosecutor General's Office against jailed former president Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom including money laundering and bribery.
- The Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Sri Lanka and the Maldives issued a statement on 29 June reassuring that Maldives was not placed on a blacklist despite being excluded from the list permitted to travel to the EU due to measures to mitigate COVID-19 transmission.
- Parliament accepted an amendment requiring [parliamentary approval](#) to declare a state of health emergency.
- Maldives Police Service revealed that [searches are ongoing in 4 buildings](#) in greater Male' area in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Presidential Commission on Corruption & Asst Recovery as part of the ongoing investigations into the **MVR 1.3 billion (US\$ 84.1 million)** corruption scandal of the Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation (MMPRC).
- The Judicial Service Commission (JSC) has stated that the court proceedings of active cases are [delayed](#) due to the policies followed in collecting witness statements.

Health & Social Sector

- The United States of America [donated](#) a consignment of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to support the Maldives COVID-19 response.
- The Health Protection Agency (HPA) announced two COVID-19 related deaths of a 43-year old [Philippines citizen](#) and a 92-year-old [Maldivian](#) this week, bringing the total number of COVID-19 deaths to 10.
- Schools, universities and educational institutions across the country has [opened](#) for children 12 years and above after being closed for over months due to the pandemic.
- The Executive Committee of the Bar Council [criticized](#) the Parliament's inquiry into the case of sexual assault of an expatriate worker in a Safari in Hulhumale'. The case has reactivated community discontent on the perceived weaknesses of the legal system to achieve justice for victims of sexual violence.
- Multiple additional cases of sexual abuse have [surfaced](#) in the past few weeks creating outrage amongst the public towards the relevant authorities in the social protection system, leading to protests which were eventually dispersed by the Police.
- Local NGOs Family Legal Clinic, Transparency Maldives and Hope for Women released [a joint statement](#) on 1 July calling on the Government to increase social cohesion, address polarization and abolish hate speech.



Health & Social Sector

- President Solih announced the new phase of easement of lockdown restrictions in the fight against COVID-19 on 23 June. The Health Protection Agency (HPA) has publicized [full details of Phase III of lockdown eases](#) being implemented since 1 July.
- The Government of Maldives extended the State of Public Health Emergency until 14 July.
- President Solih stated that the Government will [prioritize the needs of the public](#) as it implements the new normal guidelines at a cabinet meeting held on 30 June focusing on the necessary changes to the National Budget for 2020 due to the pandemic.
- A special medical flight of the national airline was arranged on 30 June to carry patients requiring critical treatment unavailable in Maldives to India. 91 Maldivians stranded in India due to travel restrictions were [repatriated](#) back on the return flight.
- The Ministry of Islamic Affairs has given the go ahead to [resume congregational prayers](#) in the greater Male' area from 1 July.
- The Government [authorized travel](#) between the atolls and the capital Male' from 1 July.
- According to HPA, [51,576 individuals](#) have been tested since the first case of the virus was found in Male' area 116 days ago.
- The Ministry of Gender, Family & Social Services stated that a nationwide campaign will be launched soon to combat violence against women at a press conference held on 1 July.

Political Sector

- The President [ratified](#) two key international treaties including the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.
- 200 Bangladeshi workers residing in the Maldives have been repatriated via Maldivian Airlines.
- Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdulla Shahid declared that Maldives will continue advocating against the dangers of climate change while speaking at the Berlin Climate and Security Conference (BCSC) 2020. At the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter, he called on all member states to strengthen multilateral cooperation to address global challenges.
- The Parliamentary Committee on Environment and Climate Change passed a decision to establish the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as an independent institution.

Economic Sector

- The Ministry of Tourism published the '[Guideline for Returning Tourism](#)' as Maldives prepares to reopen borders for international arrivals on 15 July.
- The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is to [invest up to US\\$ 50 million](#) in Bank of Maldives (BML) to support the tourism sector of Maldives amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has [approved](#) a total of **US\$ 50 million** to support Maldives in the fight against Covid19, out of which **US\$ 25 million** is a concessional loan and **US\$ 25 million** is a grant.
- The Government's loan facility issued **MVR 51 million (US\$ 3.3 million)** to eight fish exporting companies as a measure to stabilize cash flow.
- The Ministry of Finance has [deferred lease payments](#) for resorts and land for a period of one year.
- The Ministry of Economic Development has brought [changes to the timing](#) businesses can operate in Male'.
- Etihad Airways will [resume operations](#) to the Maldives on July 16 with two weekly flights. Sri Lankan Airlines and Emirates has also revealed resuming of flights to the country upon opening of borders.



	WHO	UNICEF	UNODC
Immediate Health Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported expansion of testing capacity for COVID-19 with handing over of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5000 GeneXpert cartridges in partnership with UNDP Additional 5000 E Gene Kits Handed over Infection prevention and control materials including disinfectant & PPEs for reopening of schools Supported development of training videos for support staff on surface cleaning and disinfection for school premises Provided technical support to NEOC and TAG Team to finalize the Phase 3 of the lockdown easement plan, and translating the new HPA guidelines Supported development of success stories on Surveillance & Contact Tracing and migrant health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of PPE & critical supplies Continued advocacy and guidance of specific health programmes to prepare for new normal Collaboration with Centre for Mental Health & Maldivian Red Crescent & CSOs to strengthen the Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Services during the pandemic and beyond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered online training on prevention and containment of viruses in places of detention, with the Home Ministry & Maldives Correctional Service, with support of the EU for over 40 prison officers and medical officers

	Health First: Protecting Health Services & Systems	Protecting People: Social Protection & Basic Services	Social Cohesion & Community Resilience
Socioeconomic Response	<p>WHO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitated country participation in virtual regional meetings on Hepatitis, Leprosy and Health Care Waste Management. Facilitated virtual training on clinical management of Dengue & Chikungunya in 11 Atolls with over 500 participants Supported Maldives Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (MTAGI) on reporting the impact of COVID-19 on the National Immunization Supported preparation and finalization of National Validation Committee Report for the 5th Meeting of the WHO South-East Asia Regional Verification Commission (SEA-RVC) for Measles and Rubella Elimination. Reviewed the reported cases of Maldives Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) & supported for correct case classification and notification closure. Updated guidance on International guideline for certification & classification coding of COVID19. <p>UNICEF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with national partners on developing and disseminating key messages on the importance of Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices especially during the pandemic. Continuing the #First1000Days of life SBCC social media message development in partnership with NGO ARC Engaged a public health officer to strengthen child health services. 	<p>UNICEF:</p> <p>Supporting the Ministry of Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to School Campaign to familiarize students, parents and teachers of new normal, & designing the campaign based on the Education ERP To obtain the Global Partnership For Education (GPE) Accelerated Funds for COVID-19 (US\$ 750,000) to support the implementation of the Maldives Education Response Plan Mobilized additional funds (US\$ 150,000) to implement WASH in Schools interventions that are immediately required to be implemented across the country Collaborated with Ministry of Gender, Family & Social Services to continue technical support for supervision of social workers to improve quality of services Collaborate with the Martin James Foundation to deliver training to child protection social workers Continuing to raise public awareness on prevention of violence against children including online exploitation, domestic and gender- based violence with NGO ARC <p>WHO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing technical support to National Drug Agency (NDA), and provision of mobile phones to expand hotline services 	<p>Joint Agency Efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Maldives, OHCHR & UN Standing Police Capacity organized workshops from 28 June to 2 July for officers of Maldives Police Service on human rights & law enforcement in the context of public health emergency measures in response to COVID-19. WHO & UNICEF provided ongoing support to the Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) pillar under the newly established Health Emergency Operations Centre (HEOC)

