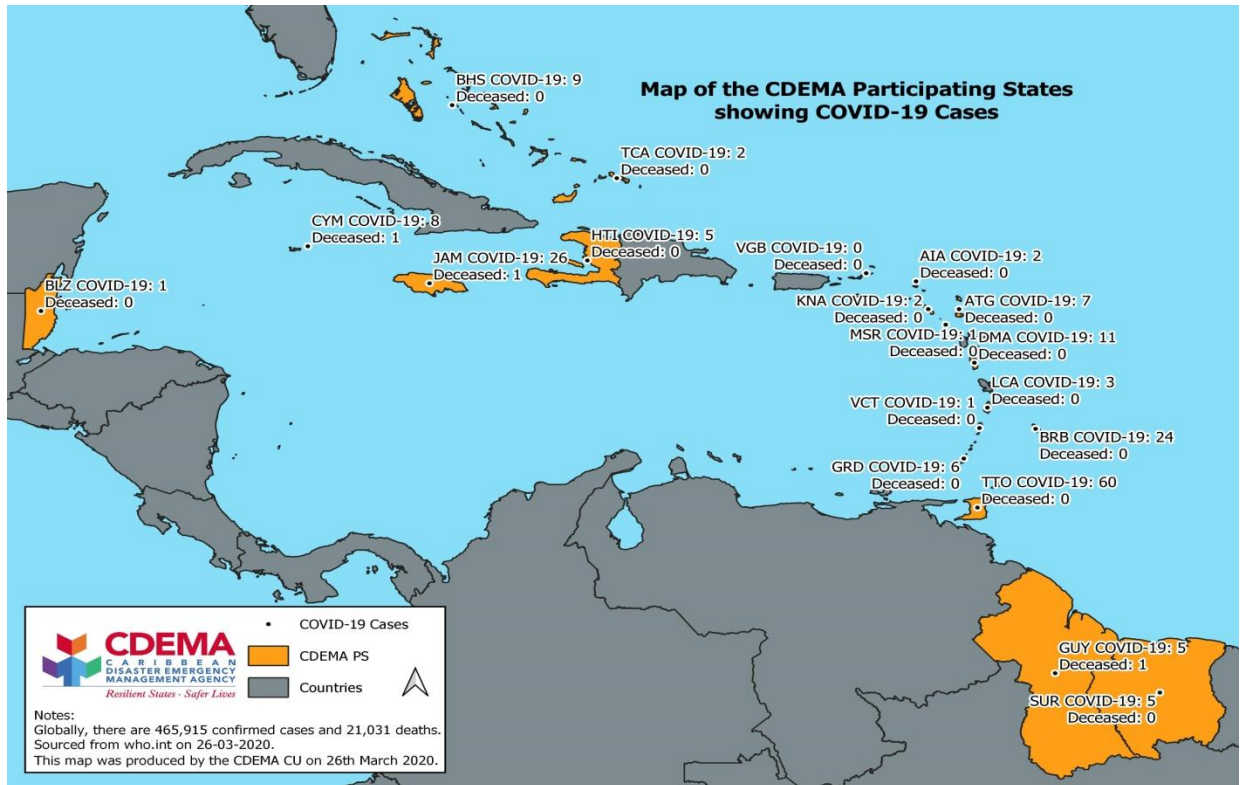


COVID-19 OUTBREAK IN CDEMA PARTICIPATING STATES

SITUATION REPORT No. 3

AS OF 8:00 PM ON MARCH 26, 2020

Seventeen (17) CDEMA Participating States record confirmed cases of the COVID-19 Disease



SITUATION

According to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Situation Report No. 27 (issued on March 25, 2020), up to 29 countries in the Caribbean region have reported the importation of at least one confirmed case of COVID-19. The risk of further importation of cases to the Caribbean Region remains **Very High**. The aim for all countries now, is to stop transmission and prevent the spread of the virus. Based on the Draft CARPHA Health Sector Response Guidelines for COVID-19 circulated to Member States, most countries are encouraged to implement actions in keeping with the Initial or Targeted Action in the Response Phase.

To date, there are 761 cases in 29 countries/territories (including 20 CARPHA Member States), in the Caribbean Region. The Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Health Security (RCM-HS), is actively working with Heads of Government and regional partners on a collective approach to the COVID-19 response. A virtual meeting of the RCM-HS was convened on 24 March 2020. Countries are strongly urged to strengthen their health sector response and move to a state of readiness and rapid response.

As of 25 March 2020, WHO reported 465,915 cases of patients with COVID-19 with the total number deaths soaring to 21,031 globally.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



ANGUILLA – Department of Disaster Management (DDM)

- Two (2) confirmed cases as at today, March 26, 2020
- 60 people are on quarantine orders. Of these, 56 are on self-quarantine.
- Identified 5 quarantine sites and reconfigured a wing of the hospital for persons who need to be isolated
- By the first week in April the hospital should be able to house / isolate 10 persons
- Anguilla will soon have the capability to test for COVID- 19 on island. Given the newness of this virus and the equipment in-country, these results will need to be verified by CARPHA
- Anyone suspected of having contracted COVID-19 will go to the dedicated isolation unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital. The additional temporary isolation capacity is now ready to receive patients, should the need arise.
- Air and sea ports closed to passenger movements for 14 days from 11.59pm on Friday 20 March. There will be no exceptions other than declared medical emergencies.
- The movement of cargo into Anguilla remains unrestricted.
- Regulations will shortly come into force fixing the maximum price for a number of key commodities. Shops and merchants charging more than these prices will face legal penalty.
- The Government of Anguilla is very much concerned about the economic consequences of this pandemic which includes the layoffs and reduction of hourly wages for workers. They will outline their programme of support in the coming days.
- Ministry of Health hotline on COVID- 19: 1-264-476-7627 or 476 SOAP or visit <http://www.beatcovid19.ai/>.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA – National Office of Disaster Services (NODS)

- Seven (7) confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Thirty-five (35) persons in quarantine
- Hotline established, manned by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Hotline number is 46COVID (462-6849)
- Government announced closure of schools from March 16 – 29 (updated date), 2020
- Government reduced number of persons for gathering to 25
- As of Sunday 22 March all churches conducted services remotely
- Airport closed for 14 days
- Testing equipment is now on island and quarantine space had been inspected
- Cuban doctors and nurses arrived to provide medical surge based on request of government
- Emergency Cabinet meeting held remotely 22 March and the Government established a contact tracing brigade
- Bank will provide relief- loans with a 6 month window. Government will also provide support

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



THE BAHAMAS – National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

- Nine (9) confirmed cases in The Bahamas as at March 26, 2020
- Three (3) persons currently in quarantine; thirty-nine (39) persons were released from quarantine
- Six hundred (600) contacts being tracked

EMERGENCY POWERS (COVID 19)(NO.2) ORDER, 2020 comes into force at 9:00 a.m. on the 24th day of March, 2020 and shall expire at 9:00 a.m. on the 31st day of March, 2020. The Order now includes the following:

- A curfew is imposed every day for twenty-four hours except for those with approval from the Commissioner of Police
- All businesses and offices may only continue their business operations by allowing their employees to work remotely from home unless those workers are designated as essential workers. If a business is unable to have employees work remotely from home, that business is required to cease its operations
- All persons employed within the public service, unless specifically designated as essential workers, shall work remotely from home
- Every non-essential establishment, or business shall remain closed except for those specified within The Order
- Physical distancing protocols for all business establishments were enforced to ensure that social distancing is observed at all times by giving business owners twenty-four (24) hours to place markers six feet (6 ft.) apart to indicate where each customer should stand in line both on the inside and outside of an establishment
- All religious and educational places of instruction or worship shall remain closed
- Restrictions are now in place for social activities including funerals and weddings
- Restrictions have been placed on international and domestic travel with exceptions in place for extenuating circumstances
- Restrictions have been placed on road traffic, Public transportation and visitation of quarantine and isolation stations, hospitals and residential care facilities and correctional facilities

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



BARBADOS – Department of Emergency Management (DEM)

- Twenty-four (24) confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Schools remain closed
- Churches started virtual services since Sunday 22 March
- Borders remain open
- Reduction in commercial flights as of 25 March with the last flight for British Airways scheduled for 27 March and Air Canada's last direct flight to and from Toronto scheduled for 31 March; ongoing scaling back of services for LIAT and other airlines
- All persons arriving from US and the UK from 22 March must self-quarantine for 14 days
- Enforced ban of non-authorized disembarkation from cruise ships
- Twenty-two (22) Trinidad and Tobago nationals self-quarantined until they can depart the island
- Travel restrictions imposed for mini buses and route taxis
- Work on an approved plan on quarantine was ongoing
- Ongoing preparation of major facility for quarantine
- Department of Emergency Management continues to support the Health EOC as well as other agencies
- Salaries for government workers paid earlier - civil servants, pensioners, among others.
- Hon Prime Minister outlined a stimulus package which was inclusive of a moratorium
- 8 PM – 6 AM curfew in effect from Saturday 28 March 2020 until Tuesday 14 April 2020

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



CAYMAN ISLANDS – Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HMCI)

- Eight (8) confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Residents and returning students in self-isolation; students in isolation at a hotel
- Curfew order is enforced, full lockdown in effect from 25 March to 28 March 2020
- All schools are closed
- Airports closed since Sunday night, March 22, 2020
- COVID-19 hotline and NEOC hotline functional
- NEOC activated 2 weeks prior to confirmation of first case
- Two (2) web pages launched to provide reputable information and to counteract the challenges with fake news
- Daily press conferences are held at 2 PM with the CMO, Ministry of Health, and the Premier
- All businesses closed and civil servants are working from home

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



GRENADA – National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA)

- Seven (7) cases of COVID-19 confirmed as at March 26, 2020
- Grenada declared a limited state of emergency for 21 days effective 6pm Thursday March 25, 2020
- The Government of Grenada announced that effective 11:59 p.m. on Monday, March 23rd, 2020, and until further notice, airports will be closed to ALL commercial passenger traffic, with the exception of a pre-approved British Airways flight, scheduled to arrive in Grenada on Wednesday, March 25th
- Aircraft carrying cargo and pre-approved medical personnel will be allowed to land, as necessary. This advisory is subject to change.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



GUYANA – Civil Defense Commission (CDC)

- Five (5) confirmed cases of COVID-19
- Four (4) persons in institutional isolation
- Nine (9) persons in institutional quarantine, with 130 persons home quarantined
- One (1) death as a result of COVID-19
- Schools closed until Easter Holiday; examinations are postponed however, online resources being provided for those preparing for exams.
- The Health EOC remains activated
- Cabinet convened and ordered the establishment of the Guyana COVID-19 Task Force. The Task Force would address three issues- 1) Ministerial focus on sectoral issues , 2) State agencies that focus on the EOC that will address key issues such as resource mobilisation, and finance and 3) Health Ministry- to coordinate the COVID-19 response
- The Civil Defence Commission has embedded staff in the Task Force to address key matters on a daily basis
- Three (3) established quarantine facilities in addition to the isolation unit at Georgetown Public Hospital
- The Civil Defence Commission is examining legislative instruments; the draft National Response Plan is being worked on.
- Public education is being addressed with messages being translated into local dialect
- Multi partner coordination is underway including with UNICEF, PAHO, and Rotary
- Childcare matters were being discussed, especially for those persons who work in the essential services

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



HAITI – The Civil Protection Directorate

- 7 confirmed cases as at 24 March 2020
- 115 persons in quarantine as at 24 March 2020
- 55 persons in isolation as at 24 March 2020
- Commercial flights for passengers have been cancelled and the border with the neighbouring Dominican Republic has been closed (except for limited commercial exchanges)
- The National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) has been partially activated
- Starting Friday 20th March a curfew is established [from 8:00 PM to 5:00 AM](#)
- The Civil Protection Directorate Staff in the ten (10) Geographical regions of the country is supporting the ongoing public awareness campaign launched by the Ministry of Public Health and effectively supporting the afore mentioned ministry in coordination efforts

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



JAMAICA – Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)

- Twenty-six (26) confirmed cases of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as at March 26, 2020
- One (1) reported death as a result of COVID-19
- Fifty-one (51) persons in isolation as at March 26, 2020
- Seventeen (17) currently quarantined at a Government facility as at March 26, 2020
- Two hundred and fifty-four persons (254) quarantined at home as at March 26, 2020
- Every educational institution, as defined in the Education Act, shall remain closed until the 19th day of April, 2020
- Town halls and press Conferences are now being held remotely (digital) by Government
- Persons 75 years and older are encouraged to stay home
- Public sector workers/contractors encouraged to work from home
- Public gatherings now reduced to 10 persons with some exceptions such as supermarkets and public offices

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



MONTSERRAT – Disaster Management Coordination Agency (DMCA)

- The Ministry of Health and Social Services confirmed its second case of the coronavirus disease, COVID-19 in Montserrat as at March 24, 2020
- On Monday March 23, a total of eight (8) samples were sent to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Reference Laboratory for testing. One of these samples returned positive, with the other seven (7) testing negative
- Residents experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19 are urged to contact the St. Peter's Clinic on 491-5436 or 496-9724 for medical attention.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



ST. KITTS & NEVIS – National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

- The Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis confirmed its first two cases of the COVID-19 disease (novel coronavirus) as at March 25, 2020
- Three (3) persons in Government quarantine
- 209 persons in home quarantine
- Twenty seven (27) samples sent for testing (brings the total tested to 39)
- Plans are being put in place to fully execute the National Pandemic Virus Plan that has been approved in response of COVID-19
- Closure of all non-essential services
- Schools closed as of 26 March 2020
- Airport closed as of 25 March 2020 with access only open to cargo planes and vessels
- Nationals and non-nationals are not permitted to exit St. Kitts & Nevis
- All Ports/borders closed as of 11:59 pm 25 March 2020 except for sea ports which remain open to receive cargo
- Reduction of numbers of persons gathering inclusive of restrictions on visits to the elderly and to hospitals
- Health EOC has been activated
- A national task force is in place to address COVID-19
- Contact tracing has begun on St Kitts
- US\$120 million stimulus package announced by the Hon Prime Minister taking job losses into consideration

Nevis

- One (1) person in isolation
- Eighty one (81) persons in quarantine
- Twelve (12) persons tested and 8 pending
- Operations have been ramped up looking at COVID-19 sector by sector for Nevis
- Agriculture sector discussing plans to boost the food supply and security
- Additional facilities for quarantine being investigated along with the extension of guidelines
- Soap dispensers in and around Nevis have been increased especially in Charlestown

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



SAINT LUCIA – National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)

- As of March 26, 2020, there is 1 confirmed case of COVID-19 as 2 of 3 confirmed cases were repatriated
- As of March 26, 2020, 254 persons quarantined in the three (3) Public Health Facilities
- Opening of 5 respiratory clinics across Saint Lucia: Vieux Fort and La Clery Wellness Centers, Gros Islet Poly Clinic, Dennery and Soufriere Districts Hospitals as of March 16, 2020
- Established 3 quarantine/isolation sites (at hotels)
- Multi sectoral approach in the management of COVID-19 with police providing additional security at quarantine sites and also providing services away from quarantine sites
- Saint Lucia Fire Service providing ambulance services to transport possible COVID-19 and other cases during the COVID-19 situation
- Ministry of Tourism providing significant logistical support and in collaboration with other agencies to ensure availability of facilities, meals and all amenities
- Ministry of Finance financing the operation of quarantine/isolation
- Procurement of Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) machine for COVID-19 testing
- COVID-19 testing to commence in Saint Lucia
- raining off 311 Integrated Contact Center staff on COVID-19 general information, guidelines and counseling
- On March 23, 2020, the 311 trained staff of the Integrated Contact Center call system, was integrated into the COVID-19 response to provide general COVID-19 information to the public
- Acquisition of 40 mobile phones from Digicel to provide clinical and psychological support through medical personnel and councilors
- Training of councilors to provide psychological support in the wake of COVID-19
- As of March 23, 2020 Saint Lucia closed all borders to non-nationals and nationals until April 5, 2020,
- On Monday March 23, 2020 the Government of St. Lucia declared a State of Emergency in order to respond more quickly to the pandemic
- The Saint Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA) announced that its team members were virtually serving the public from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, effective Monday March 23, 2020 through Sunday April 5, 2020 via specific telephone numbers and email addresses which can be found at <http://www.govt.lc/news/saint-lucia-tourism-authority-virtually-serving-the-public>

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES – National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO)

- One (1) confirmed case of COVID-19
- Awaiting results of 30 samples
- 110 in quarantine inclusive of returning students and their families
- All travelers from the following countries will be quarantined for 14 days: 1. China 2. Iran 3. South Korea 4. United States of America including the USVI and Puerto Rico 5. United Kingdom 6. European Union including Italy and the Overseas Departments of France (Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Martin, French Guiana) 7. Canada.
- American Airlines has announced that its last service operating between Miami (MIA) and St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVD) will be on Wednesday April 1, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment (MOHWE), cautioned the general public that the use of the antimalarial drugs Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine, to treat or prevent COVID-19 had not yet been approved
- All Schools are closed
- Borders remain opened including in the Grenadine Islands
- NEMO is embedded in the Health sector EOC and stands ready to support the Ministry of Health
- NEMO providing support to the Ministry of Agriculture to address the concern of food security within existing collaborative structures noting the current drought situation
- NEMO examining potential issues which might arise with the use of shelters during in the hurricane season and COVID-19
- All hotels were currently closed or would be closed by Friday 27 March 2020, while some hotels are to be used as quarantine sites
- Public education campaigns and public awareness continue on social distancing

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



TRINIDAD & TOBAGO – Office of Disaster Preparedness & Management (ODPM)

- Sixty-five (65) confirmed cases of COVID 19 as of 26 March 2020
- The Ministry of Health reported 415 samples submitted to CARPHA for testing
- Forty four (44) of these positive cases came from the group of nationals who recently returned from a cruise
- One (1) elderly male with a pre-existing medical condition who tested positive for COVID-19 died on March 25, 2020
- Borders remain closed except to receive cargo; individuals are not permitted to enter the country
- COVID-19 hotline operational
- If necessary the State will enforce certain aspects of the quarantine act to address challenges with those not obeying self-isolation orders. Procedures are in place with the police service to ensure that those per list remain in self-isolation
- The public has been asked to remain calm and vigilant and those returning to obey self-isolation
- Some packages are available for those displaced or disenfranchised

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS – Department of Disaster Management & Emergencies (DDME)

- Two (2) confirmed cases of COVID-19 as at March 26, 2020
- 297 persons currently quarantined/isolated at home; one person quarantined at a facility while 46 persons have been released from quarantine/isolation
- 12 COVID-19 test results pending of as at 26 March 2020
- Curfew in effect from 8 PM – 5 AM from Thursday 26 March 2020
- 24-hour curfew will be effect from 5 AM Saturday 28 March 2020 until mid night on Tuesday 14 April 2020
- Non-essential services closed during 24 hr curfew. Police will have more power to arrest non-compliant persons
- Ban on social gatherings
- Closure of public beaches
- Ban on residents returning to TCI
- Airports are closed
- Inter-island travel restricted unless to access essential services
- All hotels are closed
- Additional Orders to the new “TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS EMERGENCY POWERS COVID-19 REGULATIONS 2020” made on 26 March 2020

Updates from CDEMA Participating States



VIRGIN ISLANDS (UK) – Department of Disaster Management (DDM)

- The Ministry of Health and Social Development confirmed the first two imported cases of the coronavirus disease COVID-19 in the British Virgin Islands on 25 March 2020
- The BVI Airports and Seaports in the territory will be closed to incoming traffic effective March 22, 2020 at 11:59 pm. The closure to incoming traffic will be for a period of 14 days in the first instance and will allow passengers to depart the territory between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm until April 6, 2020. Cargo and medical evacuation flights will be allowed to operate during this period.

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Actions

REGIONAL LEVEL ENGAGEMENTS & COORDINATION

1. The CDEMA CU continues to liaise with the CARICOM regional institutions towards supporting the strengthening and continuity planning as well as regional level coordination.
2. The Regional Protocol designed to support CARICOM States in their response to COVID-19 is being updated further to a discussion on regional institutions on March 19th 2020. Matters being addressed includes emergency communications platforms, food security, education among other issues.
3. The CDEMA CU also continues to work closely with the CARPHA and PAHO towards strengthening of the Health sector level coordination and readiness
4. In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), CDEMA is working towards strengthening the regional logistics arrangements and the supply chain in the region
5. CDEMA continues to lead the multi sectoral coordination in support of the technical lead for health
6. The National Disaster Offices are either on high alert or have activated their National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOCS) where there are confirmed cases. In this regard, the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) continues to be on alert should the need arise for support from any Participating State
7. The latest updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in the region can be accessed from the CARPHA's website www.carpha.org
8. CDEMA and the Regional Response Mechanism partners will continue to monitor the situation and will provide updates as appropriate.