

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 FACTSHEET

Background:

On 7th January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a novel (new) Corona Virus disease later named COVID-19. There are currently a few cases of COVID-19 recorded in Uganda. We strongly urge you to follow the advice of health experts and protect yourself from getting sick.

COVID-19 Symptoms – fever, cough, shortness of breath and at later stages difficulty breathing, persistent pain in the chest, confusion and bluish lips or face.

Preventative Measures

- Avoid going to public areas and gatherings.
- Ensure personal hygiene is maintained.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap for over 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell and avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Do not have communal meals or share eaten food with others.
- Maintain social distancing at water collection points, health centers, food collection points and reception centers.

How does Uganda's restriction due to COVID-19 affect refugees?

- All schools, child friendly spaces and training facilities in the refugee settlements have been closed until 20 April 2020.
- The government has suspended movement of refugees in between settlements and public transport has also been suspended for the next 14 days. This includes boda-boda, taxis, minibuses, buses and passenger trains.
- Uganda has announced a temporary ban on the entry and exit of foreign nationals (including refugees and asylum seekers) through land and ports and the airport has also been closed.
- Refugees who are at the transit and reception centers will be screened for COVID-19. Registration of asylum seekers will continue in adherence to the protocols of the Ministry of Health.
- All open markets and public gatherings will be closed. Grocery shops will remain open.
- Health facilities in the settlements will remain open.

Mass Gatherings (gatherings of more than 40 individuals)

There is evidence that mass gatherings can increase the risk of transmission of infectious diseases such as Coronavirus (COVID 19).

Examples of Mass Gatherings – includes sporting events (like football games), religious events (like attending church services and prayers at the mosque), social and cultural events (like funerals and weddings) and political rallies. **Mass gatherings should be AVOIDED at this time. Prayers should be held at home. Weddings and funerals can only be attended by close family members.**

If you develop signs and symptoms of COVID-19 please go to your **nearest health** center or call **Mr. Atek Kagirita (0782909153/0703592552), Bernard Lubwama (0782783499), Dr. Allan Muruta (0772460297) or the Ministry of Health toll free lines (0800100066/0800203033).**

ACTION WILL BE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE TO THE LAWS OF UGANDA IF THERE IS ANY BREACH OF QUARANTINE OR MASS GATHERING RESTRICTIONS.