



OVERVIEW

The pandemic is not only a global health crisis but also a social and economic crisis that affects the most vulnerable, including migrants and their families. IOM Viet Nam monitors border movements and provides assistance to migrants and the Government of Viet Nam. The mission continues to update information about COVID-19 response in the area of migration.

POINT OF ENTRY (POE)

In partnership with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Border Guards, 360 frontline border guards, immigration, and customs at POEs, who directly deal with passengers on a daily basis, have been trained on how to utilize donated PPE and relevant equipment, how to handle and refer suspected/confirmed COVID-19 cases, and implement public health measures at POEs.

IOM Viet Nam utilized reliable sources of information on COVID-19 issued by WHO and the Vietnamese Ministry of Health (MOH) to develop contents for Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials. These materials were also translated into English, Laotian and Khmer as necessary to reach non-Vietnamese passengers.

IOM Viet Nam in collaboration with local Border Guard partners distributed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), disinfection products and relevant equipment at selected POEs, including:



- 150,000** face masks
- 110,000** pairs of medical gloves
- 1,600** sets of 7-item gown
- 51** infrared thermal and an infrared thermal imaging cameras



- 650,000ml** alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- 650,000ml** antibacterial hand wash liquid for handwashing stations
- 850kg** chloramine B powder for disinfectant sprayers
- 25** temporary handwashing stations
- 11** disinfectant sprayers



- 31** water sterilizer filters for BG mobile patrol teams
- 10** tanks for clean water storage
- 1** temporary shelter for passengers



- 3** TVs for video screening at terminals
- 5** sets of mobile loudspeakers for communication purpose



MIGRANTS WASHING HANDS AT AN IOM-SUPPORTED WASHING STATION AT A POINT OF ENTRY IN HA TINH, VIET NAM.
 © HA TINH BORDER GUARD

COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIP

IOM Viet Nam facilitates national and regional inter-sectoral coordination through support to the MOH, Viet Nam and other government partners involved in population mobility and health.

On 7th May 2021, the Vietnamese Minister of Health has approved the establishment of the Migrant Health Working Group, joined by members from IOM, MOH, key UN and government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. The Group will facilitate interagency cooperation to monitor and develop plans related to migrant health, including those related to COVID-19.

IOM's Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking (CREST) program continues to offer ongoing advice for the business community and partner companies on how to address migrant worker protection during COVID-19.

RISK COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

IOM Viet Nam is disseminating public health messages, country-specific measures and regulations from migrant destination countries relating to COVID-19 for Vietnamese migrants, their families, and their employers through social media platforms and programmes.

In December 2020, the MOH, in collaboration with IOM, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Labour Invalids and Social Affairs held a talk show titled "Migrants' voices during the COVID-19 pandemic." The Talk show raised awareness of the plight of migrants in the pandemic for the public, from communities to officials, and provided valuable insights for important actors.

In June 2021, IOM Viet Nam published an informative video on TB and COVID-19 as part of a year-long Joint social media campaign on the 'New Normal' by multiple UN agencies and NGOs.



PROTECTION

IOM Viet Nam is currently undertaking a study on access to accurate information and healthcare services among overseas Vietnamese migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study aims to better understand migrants' challenges in accessing health and immigration related information and healthcare services during public health emergencies. The findings of this study will contribute to development of interventions for promoting access to information and healthcare services for Vietnamese labour migrants in the context of public health emergencies.