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MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ETHIOPIA  
የዜጎች ጤና ለሃገር ብልጽግና  
HEALTHIER CITIZENS FOR PROSPEROUS NATION



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ETHIOPIAN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

# COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS DAILY SITUATION REPORT ETHIOPIA

(Data reported as at 16:30hrs EAT (GMT+3), 12 March 2020)

12 March 2020

ISSUE  
NO

49

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Turkey, Cote d'Ivoire, Honduras and French Polynesia reported their first COVID-19 case
- Number of new COVID-19 cases are increasing in France, Spain, Germany, USA and Italy, while declining in China and South Korea as of today
- 899 travelers are under follow-up; 115 travelers are newly enrolled
- Seven rumors/alerts were received and four of them satisfy the suspected case definition and test result is pending
- 194 travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries screened
- Orientation provided for religious institution leaders and for airport task force members
- Consultative workshop on COVID-19 containment strategy

536,016

PASSENGERS SCREENED  
ALL POEs Starting from 24 January 2020

7,403

PASSENGERS SCREENED  
FROM COVID-19 REPORTING COUNTRIES

899

TRAVELERS  
UNDER PHONE FOLLOW UP

146

RUMORS/alerts  
RECEIVED and INVESTIGATED

62

SUSPECTED CASES  
DETECTED

58

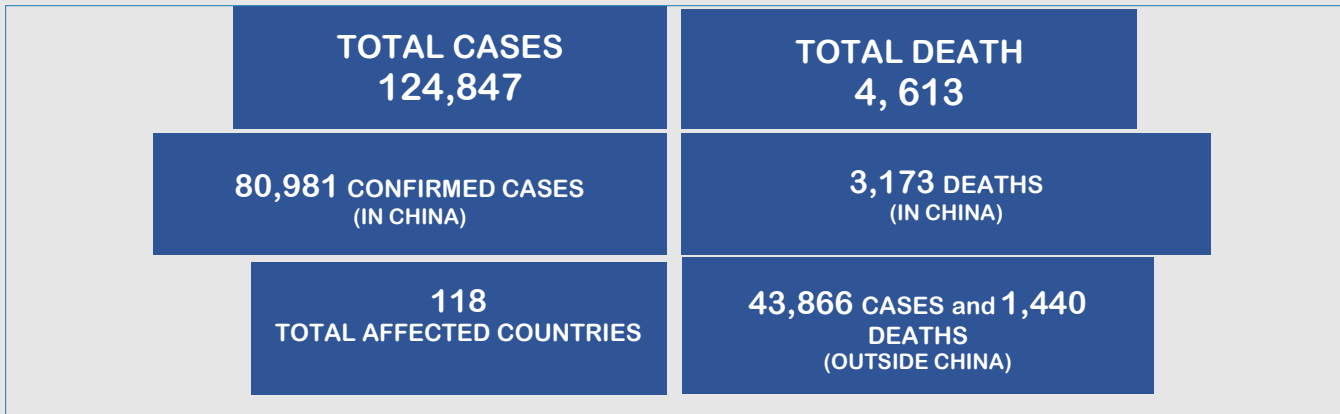
SUSPECTED CASES  
TESTED -ve

0

TOTAL CASES  
CONFIRMED

SUSPECTED CASES IN THE  
ISOLATION UNIT

# COVID-19 GLOBAL UPDATE



Access link for WHO COVID-19 monitoring dashboard:

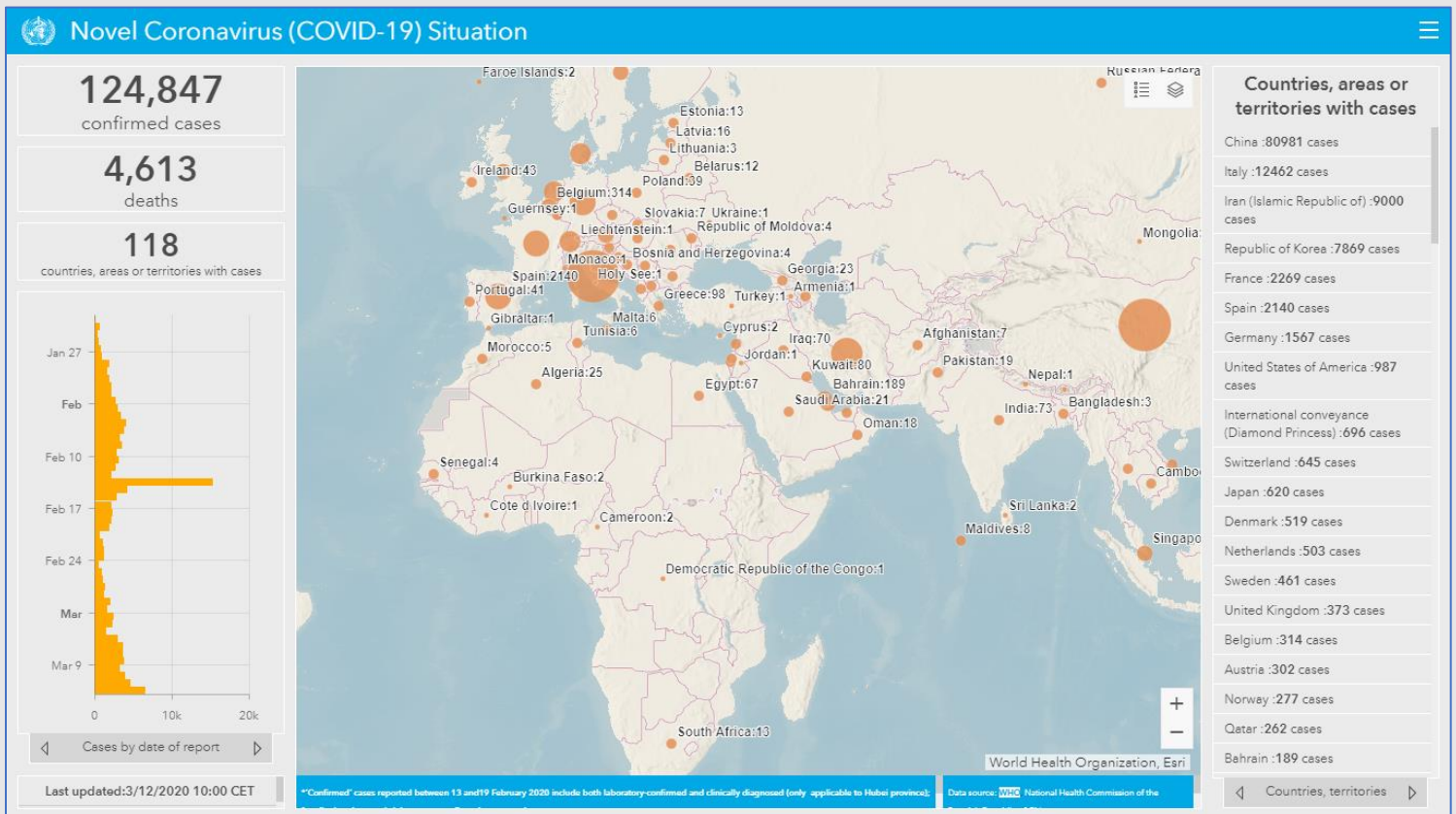
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeee1b9125cd>

## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

CHINA  
**VERY HIGH**

REGIONAL LEVEL  
**VERY HIGH**

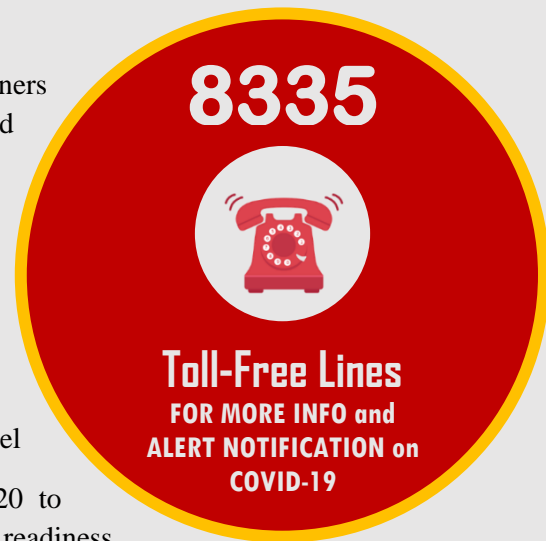
GLOBAL LEVEL  
**VERY HIGH**



# MAJOR COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS IN ETHIOPIA

## BACKGROUND

- Ethiopia activated its IMS under the national PHEOC. WHO and its partners are currently supporting in scaling up preparedness efforts and implementation of related recommendations suggested by the IHR Emergency Committee. The following is a summary of the major public health actions conducted in ETHIOPIA up until now, as part of the COVID-19 preparedness and readiness efforts.
  - Alerting stakeholders and regular and national and global situation updating
  - Revitalizing coordination platform at national and subnational level
  - The National PHEOC IMS was activated on 27 January 2020 to optimize the national level coordination of the preparedness and readiness efforts,
  - Since its activation, the national PHEOC is collaboratively working with stakeholders: government agencies, partner organizations, UN agencies, embassies, hospitality sector, Industrial parks and others.
  - Regular media briefing sessions are being conducted, twice a week, by the Director General of EPHI and as needed by State Minister of MoH and jointly.
  - 24/7 Toll-free lines (8335) was established to provide information to and receive alert from; the public
  - Country preparedness assessment was conducted and emergency preparedness and response plan were developed
  - Designated isolation and quarantine centers are identified and equipping is ongoing
  - Protocols/guidelines are customized and developed
  - 24/7 rapid response team established
  - Trainings and orientations are ongoing
  - Strict PoE screening and vigilant follow-up procedures being implemented on incoming travelers at International Airports, Ethio-Djibouti Railway and land-crossing entries.
  - Key partners and stakeholders are identified and engaged in the preparedness efforts
  - Joint visit of Prime Minister Office, Africa CDC, WHO Country Office, Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau, Ministry of Health and EPHI was conducted to strengthen PoE preparedness and isolation and case management
  - MoH officials led by the State Minister, Dr Lia Tadesse, visited the operations of the national PHEOC and provided guidance on 04 February 2020.
  - With support from WHO; Ethiopia now has a capacity of processing confirmatory testing for COVID-19 at its strengthened National Influenza Laboratory based in EPHI (starting from 08 February 2020).
  - Minister Social Affairs standing committee of the House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) visited the National PHEOC on 17 FEB 2020; and received briefing on center's activities achieved and being conducted to prevent COVID-19 delivered by EPHI's Director General, Dr. Ebba Abate.
  - Health partners and donors' groups and China Embassy visited the Public Health Emergency Operation Center and briefed on the activities to prevent the COVID-19



- Discussion and briefing provided by the EPHI DG to the Medical Corps Representatives
- Strong communication network established and receiving updates from other countries through National IHR-FPs.
- Discussion was held with Resolve to Save Lives team, led by the Vice President of the project, and HOPE Project Coordinator on how to support COVID-19 preparedness efforts
- H. E. Deputy Prime Minister, State Minister of Ministry Peace and MOH State Minister visited the Public Health Emergency Operation Center at EPHI, Eka Kotobe Isolation Center and Bole International Airport screening activities and briefed on the COVID-19 preparedness activities on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020

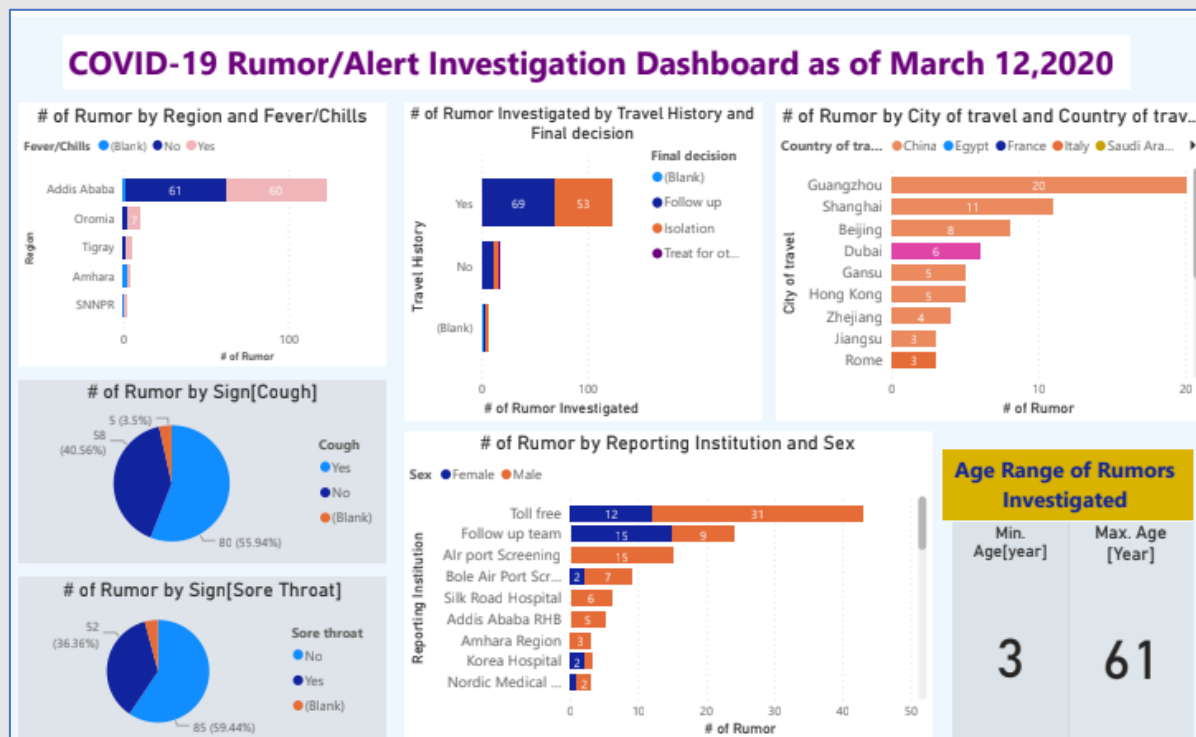
## COORDINATION and COLLABORATION

- Daily follow-up meeting led jointly by the MOH and EPHI leaderships being conducted on daily basis
- IMS core staffs daily briefing ongoing regularly in the morning and afternoon
- Joint Steering Committee briefed on the COVID-19 preparedness activities and discussed on how to strengthen the preparedness efforts at national and sub-national level

## EPIDEMIOLOGY and LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

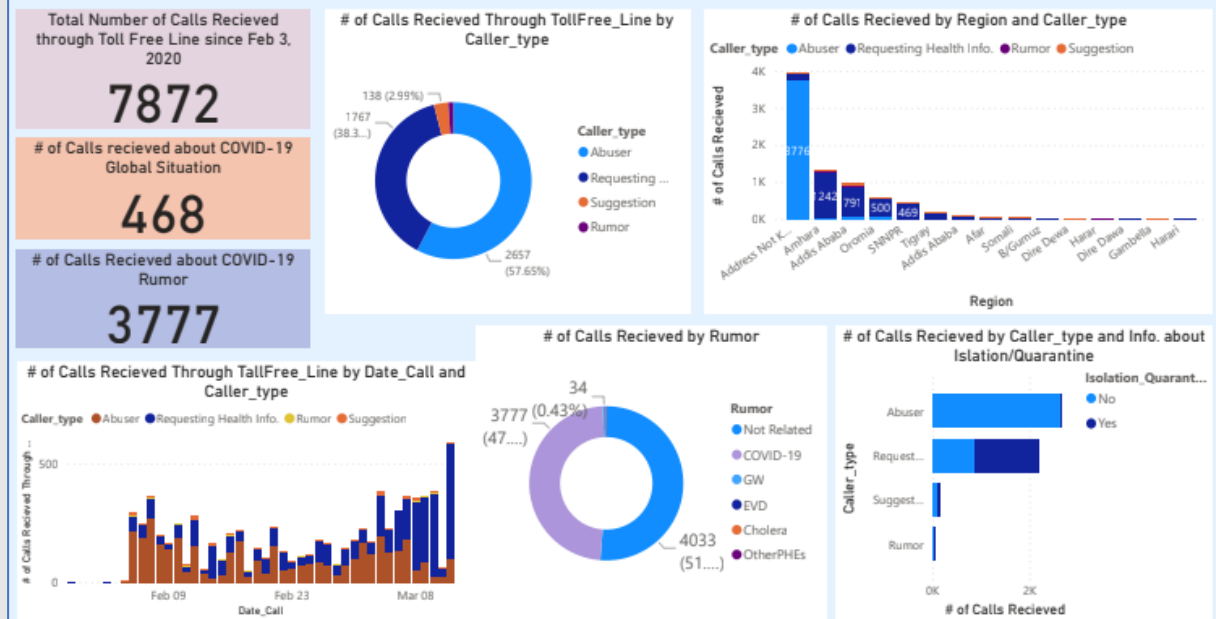
### Rumors collection and verification (through 8335 toll-free number and other sources)

- As of 12 March 2020, a total of 146 alerts have been received and investigated. Of these, 62 have fulfilled the suspected case definition and 58 tested negative.
- On 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, seven rumors/alerts were reported. Of these, four were fulfilled the suspected case definition and isolated. Of these two tested negative, while the rest two result is pending.
- A test result of four samples (two from today's and two from yesterday's, reported by Amhara, suspected cases) are pending.



- On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, a total of 662 calls received through toll-free line. Of these, 528 (79.8%) were COVID-19 related calls.

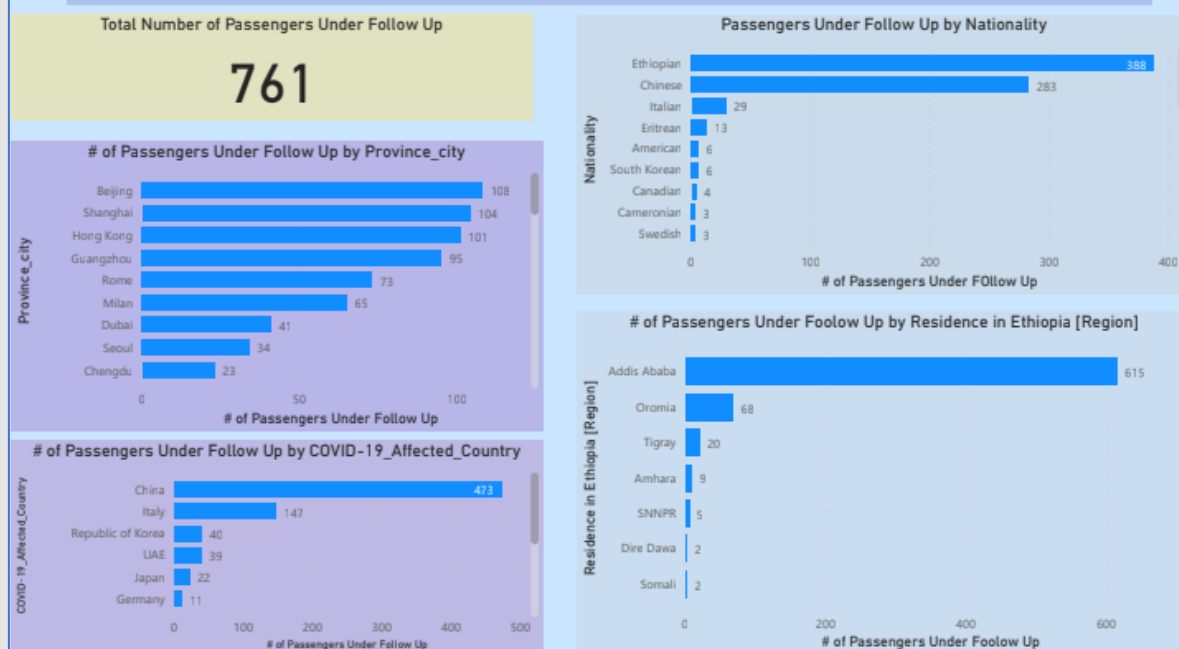
## TollFree Line Summary Information as of March 12,2020

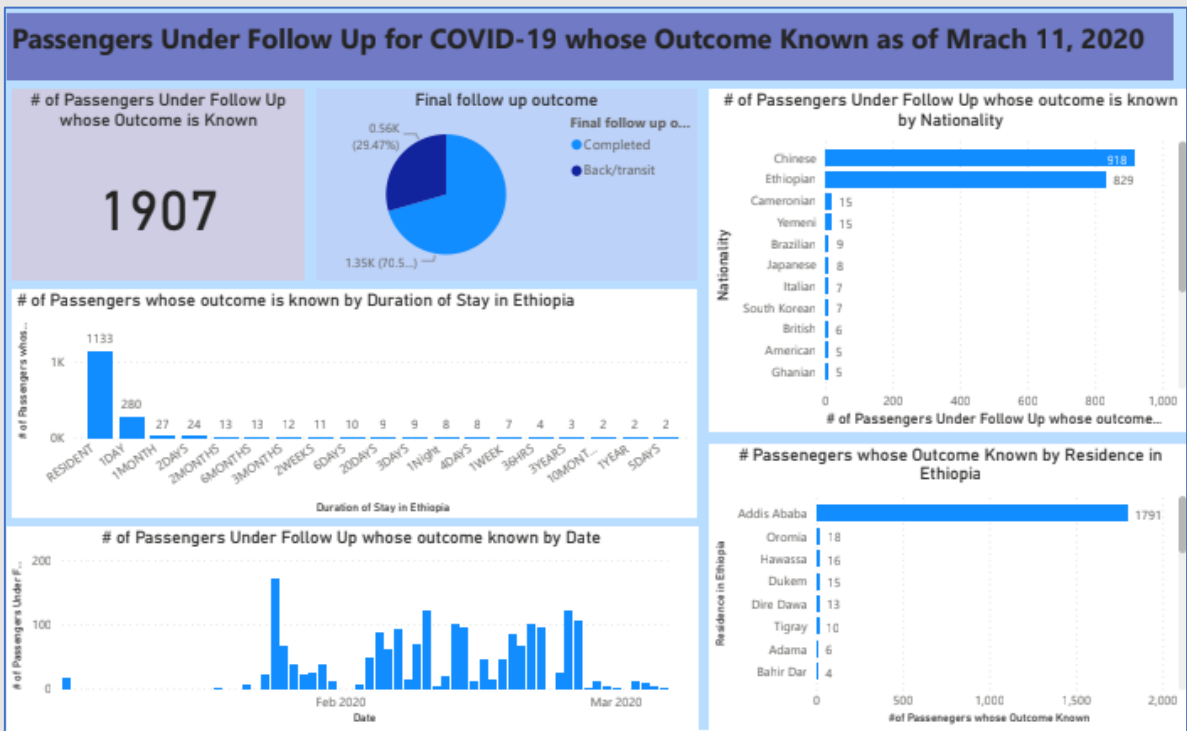


## Phone Follow-Up of Travelers from Affected Countries

- As of 12 March 2020:
  - 899 travelers are under follow-up; 115 travelers are newly enrolled
  - 563 travelers (9 new) that were under follow-up departed back.
  - 1,183 travelers have completed 14 days of follow-up and graduated from follow-up. Of these, 49 travelers graduated on today.

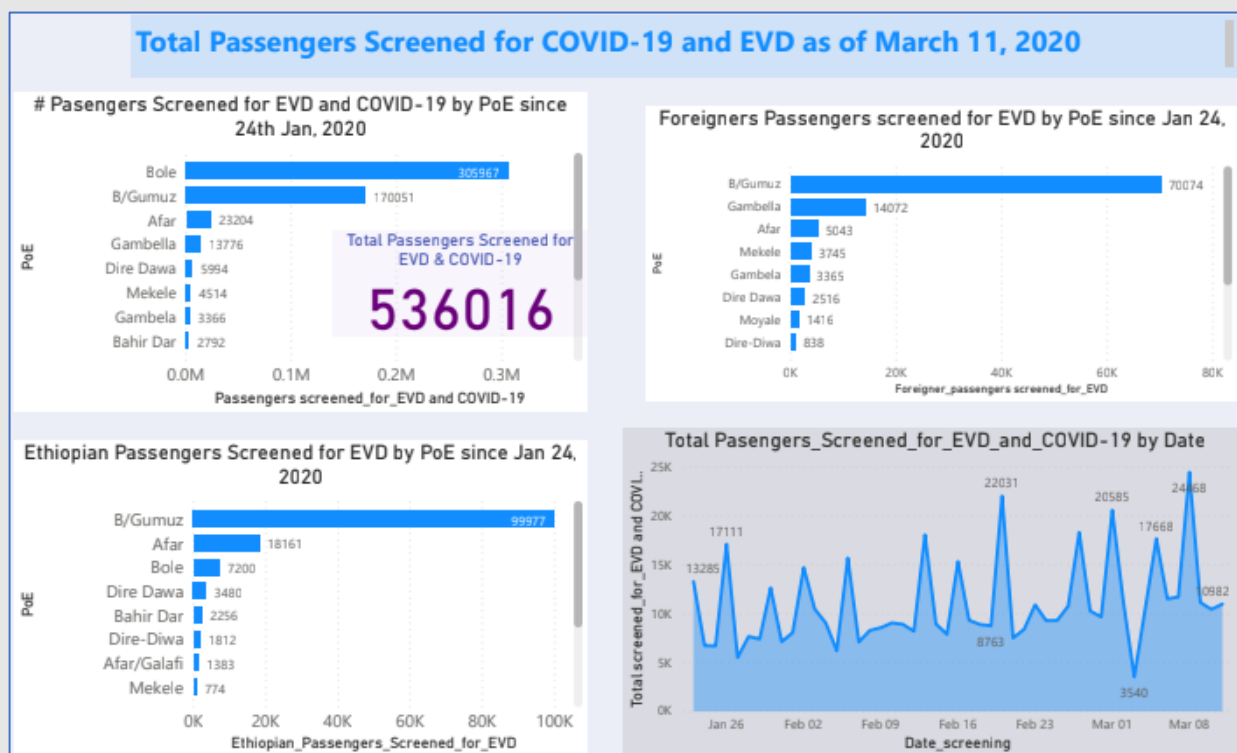
## Passengers Under Follow Up for COVID-19 as of March 11, 2020





## PASSENGERS SCREENING<sup>1</sup>

- As of 11 March 2020, a total of 7,403 passengers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries screened at Bole International Airport. There have been no passengers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries identified at screening sites other than BIA.
- On the 11th of March 2020; 194 travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries screened.



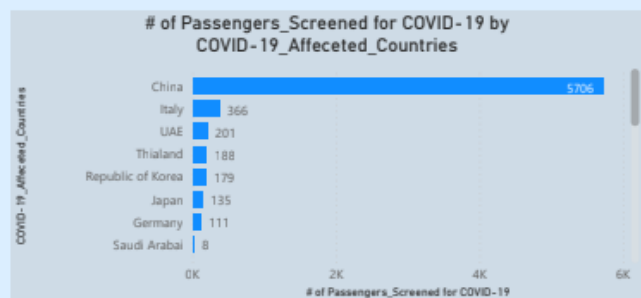
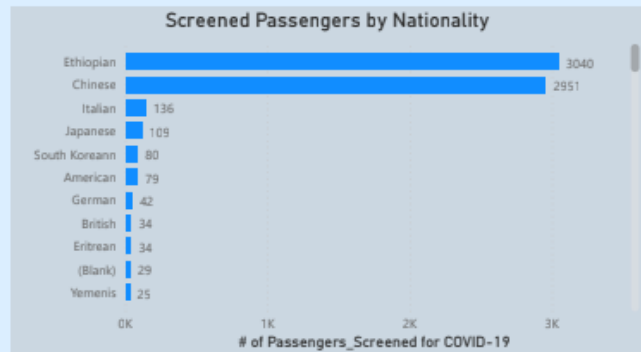
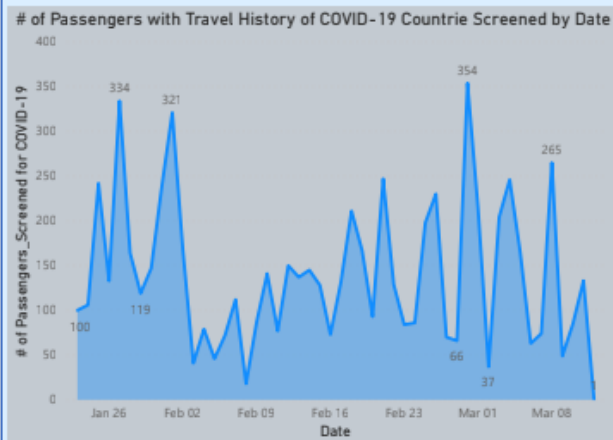
<sup>1</sup> The date is lagging one day back as most of the international flights are at night and the reports are compiled and count on the following date.



## Passengers Screened with Travel History of COVID-19 Affected Countries as of March 11, 2020

Total Passengers Screened for COVID-19 since Jan 24, 2020

7403



## OTHER POEs RELATED ACTIVITIES

- FETP residents assigned at Lebu Train Station with necessary materials and passenger screening initiated

## CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):

- Consultative workshop on COVID-19 containment strategy in which different stakeholders conducted.
- Identification and mapping conducted for additional isolation centers.
- Medical support being provided for the suspected cases in the isolation centers

## LOGISTICS, ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- Supply chain management technical working group activated and convened
- Addis Ababa city administration health bureau RRT combined with the national RRT after in person discussion between PHEOC and the city admin team
- Additional ambulance and other vehicles needed for the added RRTs requested and needs to be mobilized urgently

## RISK COMMUNICATION:

- Discussion conducted with the about 30 religions institution leaders and orient on how to support risk communication and community engagement efforts
- Press conference note prepared
- Media visits and expert interview on COVID-19 preparedness conducted
- Government organizations social media managers

## TRAINING AND ORIENTATION RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Orientation provided for the Addis Ababa Fire and Emergency Prevention and Rescue Agency staffs
- Arrangement finalized to provide PoE screening training for the screening sites staffs in the Dire Dawa city administration & Somali regional states
- Orientation provided for the BIA taskforce members on COVID-19
- Orientation provided for the containment strategies consultative workshop participants on COVID-19
- COVID-19 Key messages customized and sent to Hawasa Industry Park
- Various companies and organizations have requested for the COVID-19 orientation and most of these requests have been linked with regional risk communication experts

## REGIONAL PREPAREDNESS:

- zero report of COVID-19 related rumor received.

## MEDIA / WEB SCANNING:

- On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, WHO Director-General urged all countries to take a comprehensive approach tailored to their circumstances – with containment as the central pillar. WHO calling on countries to take a four-pronged strategy: First, prepare and be ready; second, detect, prevent and treat; third, reduce and suppress and fourth, innovate and improve: <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-mission-briefing-on-covid-19---12-march-2020>
- How will country-based mitigation measures influence the course of the COVID-19 epidemic? [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)30567-5/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30567-5/fulltext)
- Seasonality of SARS-CoV-2: Will COVID-19 go away on its own in warmer weather? <https://ccdd.hsph.harvard.edu/will-covid-19-go-away-on-its-own-in-warmer-weather/>
- New study on COVID-19 estimates 5.1 days for incubation period: Median time from exposure to symptoms affirms earlier estimates and supports CDC's current 14-day quarantine period: [www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200310164744.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/03/200310164744.htm)
- Coronavirus: Trump suspends travel from Europe to US: US President Donald Trump has announced sweeping travel restrictions on 26 European countries in a bid to combat the spread of the coronavirus. The ban applies to travellers from countries which are members of the Schengen border-free travel area: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-51846923>



**8335**



**Toll-Free Lines**  
**FOR MORE INFO and**  
**ALERT NOTIFICATION on**  
**COVID-19**



The above presented Quick Reader (QR) code takes you to a portal that you can access updates and all COVID-19 related information available  
(<https://www.ephi.gov.et/index.php/public-health-emergency/novel-corona-virus-update>)

**DISCLAIMER**

Figures presented in this situation report are pulled from official releases of the World Health Organization, other sources from the web, as well as report compiled by the National Incidence Response Team

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