



COVID-19 Response Strategy

Our Purpose and inspiration

*We work with people and communities to improve the lives and futures of Papua New Guineans. We do this by: assisting remote and rural communities with access to elementary and primary **education**; improving access to quality and accessible **healthcare**; improving **livelihoods** and access to sustainable income-generation opportunities, especially for women; and by fostering the next generation of **leaders**.*

Our inspiration is to keep the story of Kokoda alive.

Our Strategy & Priorities

during COVID-19

- To protect the lives and wellbeing of our staff, partners and the communities in which we work.
- To provide our frontline health-workers with personal protective equipment, education and access to water, sanitation and hygiene solutions for their health facilities.
- To provide evidence-based awareness to staff, partners and communities via education programs, the provision of awareness posters, and the utilisation of technology to reach rural and remote communities.
- To support PNG Government efforts to control the spread of COVID-19, at national, provincial and local levels, including by working in partnership with Provincial Health Authorities and Provincial Education Departments.
- To continue the delivery of our suite of programs in education, health, livelihoods and leadership where it is safe and possible to do so under COVID-19 social distancing, health and hygiene operating requirements.

Our Principles

our response is driven by these core principles

- Agility - we will remain agile with the ability to pivot all development projects in response to COVID-19, to move quickly and efficiently and to remain relevant.
- Communications - we will keep all stakeholders regularly updated, including KTF Board, staff, partners, donors, beneficiaries, communities and the general public.
- Best practice - we will implement evidence-based, best practice responses in all activities that we carry out throughout the COVID-19 crisis.
- Shared learning - we will facilitate, participate in and contribute to shared learning activities throughout the COVID-19 crisis, including participation in PNG and Australian Government meetings, working closely with our peak body (ACFID), engaging regularly with partners and increasing engagement and support to our team.
- Innovation - under these challenging problems, we will further develop within our team and partners a culture of innovation, creativity, resilience and commitment.



Our Focus

our response is mindful of these cross-cutting issues

- During humanitarian crises, the most vulnerable people in communities are at higher risk of discrimination, abuse and the perpetuation of poverty, violence and inequality. These people include women, children, older people, people with a disability, people from a minority racial, religious or cultural group, people living with HIV/AIDS, the LGBTIQ community, and people from a low socioeconomic background or people living in poverty. Gender based violence and sexual violence is common in humanitarian settings and may become more acute as a result of disaster, conflict or other crises and emergencies.
- KTF is cognisant of these cross-cutting pressures in our response to the COVID-19 crisis. We recognise that COVID-19 and the resulting health and economic pressures will affect vulnerable groups more acutely. We will target our response to support these vulnerable groups with strategies to ensure universal access to education and awareness, access to health services, access to improved water, sanitation and hygiene resources, and ongoing support for vulnerable people affected by ongoing implications of the crisis as they unfold.
- We will work to ensure that COVID-19 does not deter access by marginalised peoples to fundamental human rights and does not further oppress marginalised and vulnerable groups.

Our COVID-19 related activities to date we have achieved (in chronological order)

- Delivered an initial supply of WASH packs, awareness posters and PPE to our frontline health-workers across Oro and Central Provinces, KTF College staff in Kokoda, Balimo, Western Province and Hanuabada in NCD and KTF supported schools across Oro and Central Provinces.
- Delivered an additional quarterly supply of drugs and medical resources to all of our aid posts and health centres across the Oro and Central Provinces.
- Delivered daily bursts of messaging via text message, email and radio to all beneficiaries of KTF's work to date including health workers, teachers, community leaders, women's groups, provincial teacher trainers and key contacts right across PNG.
- Pivoted KTF's existing network of women's groups to focus on face mask production. Designed a set of instructions for women's groups to use in the design and production of their masks based on international guidelines endorsed by the WHO.
- Procured 80kgs of materials to aid in the making of suitable face masks and shipped to PNG.
- Temporarily closed all KTF-operated colleges and schools in adherence to PNG Government Policy under state of emergency.
- Delivered COVID-19 and hygiene awareness sessions to communities surrounding KTF's colleges and aid posts/health centres.
- Uploaded 465 tablets with additional COVID-19 awareness information to be distributed to students across KTF's three colleges.
- Re-opened KTF colleges with newly designed and implemented strict social distancing and WASH measures.
- Delivered daily bursts of messaging via text message and radio to education contacts covering information of the re-opening of schools referencing the National Department of Education's circular outlining requirements that schools must have in place.
- Commenced Project Airborne - a major WASH, PPE and awareness supply project for all of KTF's Aid Posts, Health Centres, Schools and Colleges.

As COVID-19 sweeps across the world causing one of the greatest health and economic crises of our time, I acknowledge the anxiety and pain that so many are feeling at this time. At KTF, we are playing our role by pivoting our entire suite of development activities towards a COVID-19 response.

No individual organisation, Government, business or initiative has the ability to address the challenges created by this crisis alone. Our strength is in our partnerships and we will overcome this by working together in a *Spirit of Mateship* that has underpinned our organisation since its establishment.

We are all in this together, and we will get through this together.

Dr Genevieve Nelson, CEO, KTF