

## Situation Summary

### Highlights of Current Situation Report

- A total of **547** COVID-19 cases including **41** deaths were reported in the **last 7 days**. Of the 547 cases, 9.8% (54/547) were imported and 90.1% (493/547) were locally acquired;
- As of 08 November 2021, 10 am ICT, **119,160** confirmed cases of COVID-19, including **2,835** deaths have been reported from Cambodia, of which 115,519 have recovered. A total of 19,695 (16.5%) cases were acquired overseas;
- Since January 2020, a total of 1,726,803 individuals have been tested using real-time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), with a positivity rate of 5.2%. As of 07 November 2021, a total of 2,344,108 tests have been performed using RT-PCR.
- On 01 November, The Ad-Hoc Committee for Rolling out COVID-19 Vaccine throughout the country (ACC-19) announced to the public that ACC-19 will provide the Covid-19 vaccination of 1st and 2nd doses using Sinovac vaccine for children aged 5 years old in 25 cities and provinces from which the vaccination campaign will be launched from 01 November 2021 with the interval period of 28 days between 1st and 2nd dose.

## Upcoming Events and Priorities

### Surveillance

- MOH with WHO support is conducting regular analyses to understand the effectiveness of interventions using multisource surveillance at the subnational level.
- WHO is supporting MOH to develop subnational guidance on monitoring implementation of and compliance to NPIs as part of calibrating subnational NPIs.
- WHO is providing support on monitoring ICU bed capacity (bed occupancy) at the subnational level and strengthening surveillance systems to monitor the severity of cases.
- WHO is technically supporting MOH to update the COVID-19 surveillance strategy in preparation for an endemic COVID-19 scenario.
- MOH with technical guidance and support from partners is conducting death investigations in Phnom Penh to strengthen understanding of causes of death, access to care, and investigate underlying transmission in the community.
- MOH and WHO are now working in five border provinces to strengthen Incident Management System (IMS), RRT capacity for investigations and use multisource surveillance to assess the epidemiological situation and implement targeted response, and strengthen safe quarantine.

### Laboratory

- WHO, Institute Pasteur in Cambodia (IPC), and partners are providing technical and coordination support to NIPH, CCDC, and COVID-19 laboratories to ensure expanded and sustained testing capacity.
- Laboratory expansion plan continues with 18 active laboratories and a further three planned in November.
- NIPH has been working with IPC, WHO and partners to develop and support the implementation of the SARS-CoV-2 External Quality Assurance (EQA) program to ensure quality testing at all COVID-19 laboratories.
- WHO is providing technical support and facilitating NIPH to undertake an online EQA training course on establishing a national SARS-CoV-2 EQA program.

- WHO is supporting NIPH to strengthen Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) to detect mutations and monitor Variants of Concern (VoC)/Variants of interest (VoI) by procuring laboratory commodities, with support from WPRO.
- WHO is providing technical advice and guidance to MoH on sampling strategies for SARS-CoV-2 genomic surveillance.

### Healthcare delivery and pathways

- Oxygen therapy training with cover all provinces by end of December 2021. In each province, staff from ICU and emergency units of provincial hospitals and selected district hospitals to receive onsite coaching from the national core team. By 5 November 2021, 17 provinces received onsite coaching on oxygen therapy. The national core team continues the training in two more provinces (Kratie and Stung Treng Province) next week.
- By 5 November, mentorship strengthen the sub-national level on clinical management, patient pathway, ICU bed capacity and efficiency, and infection prevention control with a special focus on border provinces has been conducted in 16 provinces. This activity will continue in 2 provinces next week (Kampong Cham province and Prey Veng Province).
- The sub-committee for technical and treatment of COVID-19 continues to monitor server cases and ICU bed capacity (bed occupancy) continues through the network at the provincial level.
- The regular virtual meeting between the national level and all provincial hospitals is continuing to get updates on the situation from provinces, share experience among provincial, understand challenges at the implementation level and get support and advice from the national level.
- As part of the effort to build clinical knowledge of frontline providers at the sub-level on clinical management of COVID-19 cases, the sub-committee on Technical and Treatment of COVID-19 has initiated clinical discussion among clinicians who are frontline providers to discuss selected COVID-19 as case study and experience sharing.

### Risk Communication and community engagement

- WHO is closely working with MOH in strengthening risk communication and community engagement, engaging local influencers, VHSGs, health care workers, and local authorities to improve and strengthen PHSM compliance as new normal in Cambodia.
- WHO is supporting the monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for monitoring and reaching the unreached applying evidence-based RCCE interventions.
- WHO in collaboration with MOH has developed a social media tile to counter misinformation and rumors.
- WHO has developed the guidance for vaccination of women with breastfeeding infants, women who are pregnant or planning to get pregnant, and menstruating women, and about vaccines and fertility (Please see [LINK](#) for informative video and [LINK](#) for social media tiles and infographics). The material is being translated into the Khmer language.
- The World Health Organization in the Western Pacific has launched the first WHO Western Pacific Innovation Challenge: Innovation for the Future of Public Health. The Innovation Challenge is calling for innovators to submit their solutions to better the health and well-being of people in the Western Pacific Region. Applications from Cambodia are highly encouraged and can be submitted at <https://wproinnov.awardsplatform.com/>.

## Transmission Assessment

The current multi-source surveillance assessment indicates Phnom Penh, Preah Sihanouk, Kampong Speu, Kandal, Takeo, Kampot, Banteay Meanchey, Battambang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Prey Veng, Preah Vihear, Svay Rieng, Tbong Khmum, Stung Treng, Kampong Thom, Siem Reap, and Oddar Meanchey are in stage 2 transmission (localized community transmission), the other 7 provinces (Koh Kong, Kep, Kratie, Pailin, Pursat, Mondul Kiri, and Ratanak Kiri) are in Stage 1 transmission.

### Epi Update COVID-19

#### Tests

**57,147**

NAT Tests past 7 days

**2,344,108**

Cumulative NAT Tests

#### Cases

**547**

New cases past 7 days

(0.5% 7-day)

**119,160**

Cumulative Cases

#### Deaths

**41**

Deaths past 7 days

(1.5 % 7-day)

**2,835**

Cumulative Deaths

**478**

Imported cases in the past 28 days

**54**

Imported cases past 7 days

### Health Service Provision COVID-19

**225**

Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients

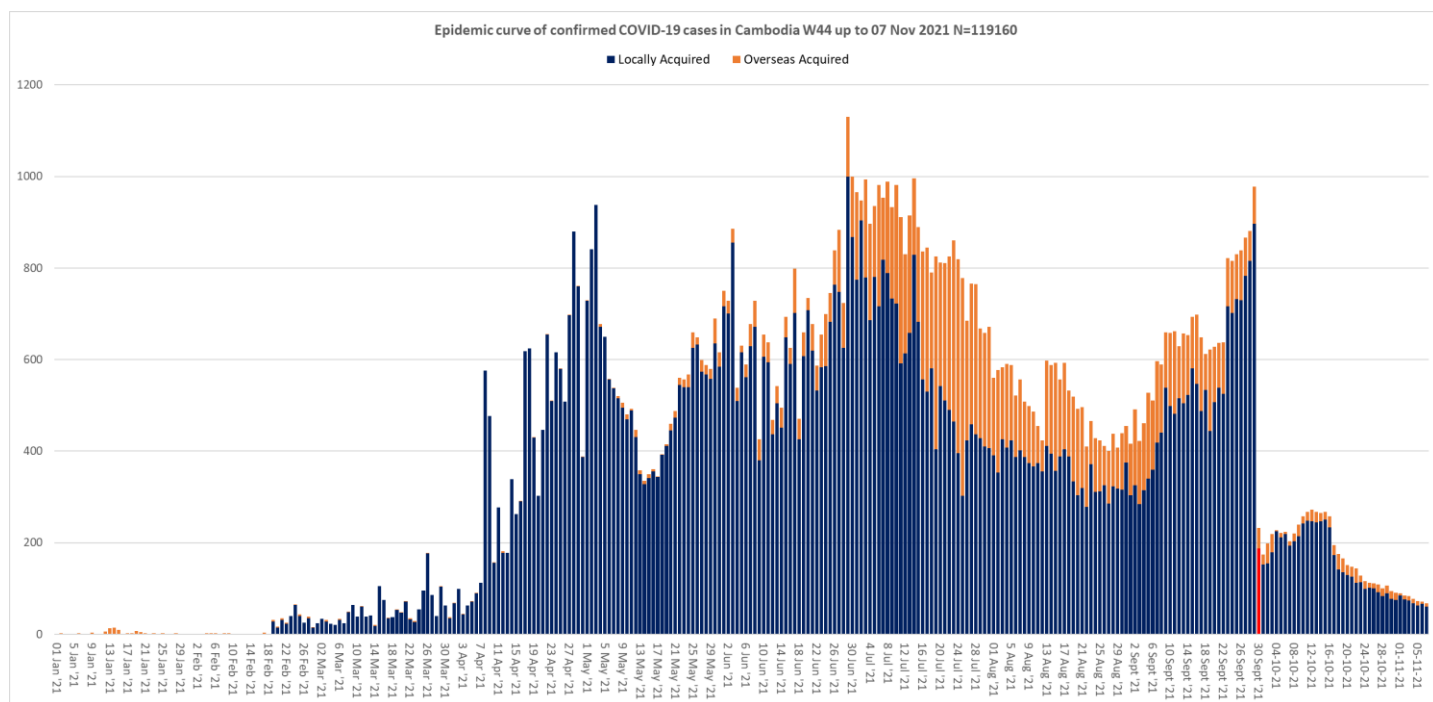
**13,782**

Total public hospital beds

**116**

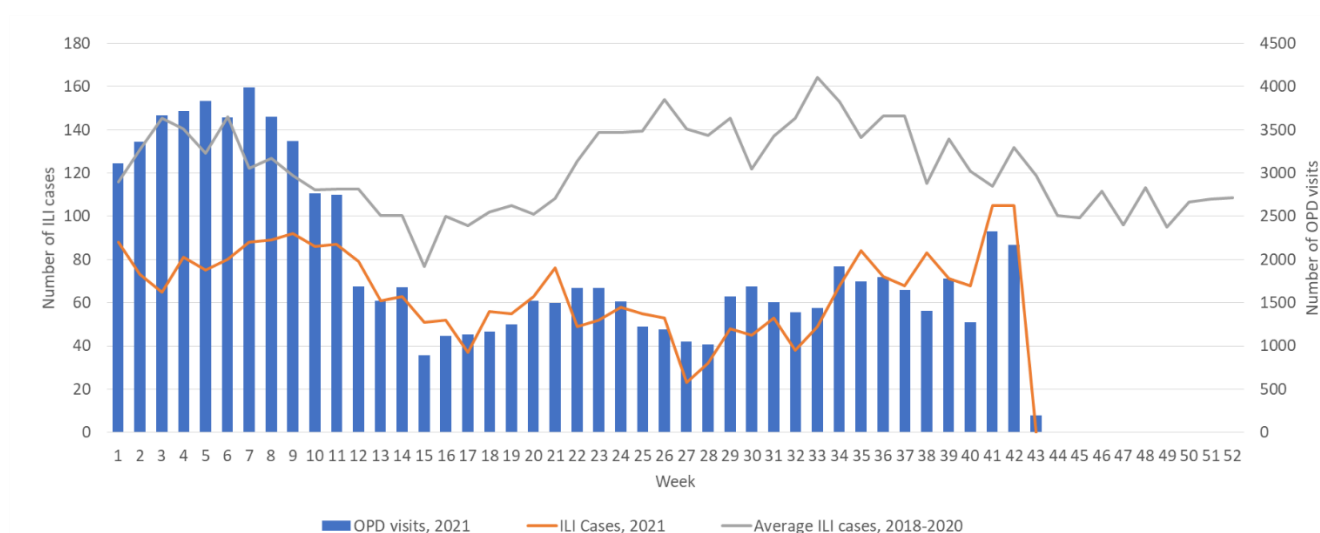
Number of hospitals with experience in COVID-19 case management (including 9 in PP, 27 provincial hospitals and 80 District Hospitals)

## Epidemiology



**Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed COVID-19 cases by date of report, 2021\***

\*as of 30 Sep 2021 only RT-PCR test results are being reported in the case numbers



**Figure 2. Number of ILI cases from ILI sentinel sites by week, 2021 and 2018-2020**

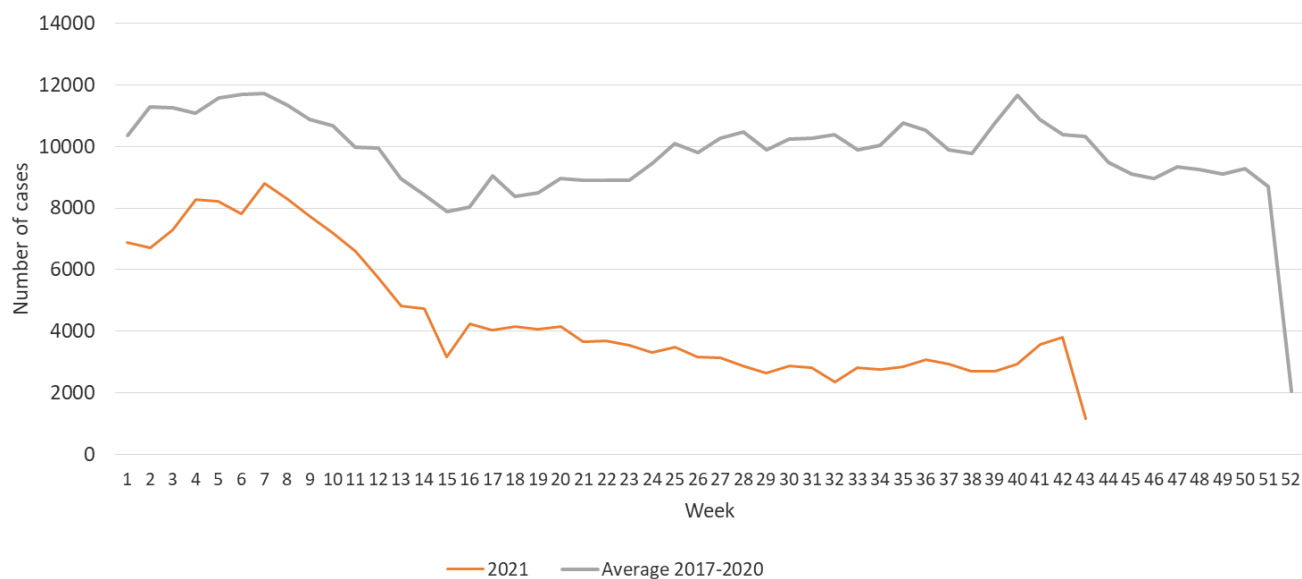


Figure 3. Number of patients with severe respiratory illness by week, 2021 and 2017-2020<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Week 43 data are not complete

## Strategic Approach

### National and Provincial Public Health Response

#### Incident Management Systems

- National Cambodian COVID-19 Committee (CCC), chaired by Samdech Prime Minister
- Standing committee of CCC, Chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance
  - ❖ Municipal-Provincial COVID-19 committees, chaired by Municipal-Provincial Governors
  - ❖ Ad Hoc committee on national COVID-19 vaccination
  - ❖ Ad-Hoc committee in charge of COVID-19 vaccine procurement
- Inter-Ministerial Committee, chaired by the Minister of Health, with Secretaries of State
- Sub-committee for Evaluation, Planning, and Strategy, chaired by Secretary of State of the Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Management at Points of Entry and Quarantine, chaired by Director-General of the General Department of Intelligence, Ministry of National Defense
- Sub-Committee for Rapid Response and Investigation into Persons with COVID-19, chaired by Deputy National Police Commissioner, Ministry of Interior
- Technical and Treatment Sub-Committee, chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Laboratory Services, chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Education, Training and Public Affairs, chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee for Supplies and Finance chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Health
- Sub-Committee on Technology and Data chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications
- Sub-Committee for Construction and Repair chaired by Deputy Commissioner of National Police, Ministry of Interior
- Sub-Committee for Management and Handling of Bodies of Persons with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 chaired by Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior
- Committee on Economic and Financial Policy (CEFP)/ Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) of four Working Groups to address the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.

#### System and Policy Development

- On 5 March 2021, the draft law “Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and other Dangerous Infectious Diseases” was approved by the National Assembly.
- State of Emergency legislation was promulgated into law on 29 April 2020; has not been enacted.
- Go.Data Platform used as a surveillance database including laboratory and contact tracing information.
- NIPH and CDC databases have been adjusted to allow for a multisource dataset on testing and surveillance.

#### Key Priorities

- National programs are developing specific COVID-19 preparedness and response plans.

- Strengthening local preparedness to prepare for potential localized outbreak and other public health emergencies in the future and minimizing disruptions to the delivery of essential health services.

### Strategic Approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection, and Control

- *Testing strategy and contact tracing system in place*  
A broad testing strategy is being implemented nationwide, including testing all suspect cases meeting case definition, pneumonia cases in hospitals, testing at POEs at day 1 and day 6 or 13 depending on vaccination status, and testing ILI and SARI samples from sentinel sites for COVID-19. Targeted testing of high-risk populations is also being implemented as necessary.
- *Risk communication and community engagement*  
A strategy for surveillance using community engagement has been developed and will be piloted for case detection at the health center level and in the community.
- *NPIs (recorded in table at end of report)*

## Best Practices / Lessons Learned

### Factors Contributing to Strong Response

- **Strong leadership and coordination**
  - ❖ Whole-of-government, whole-of-society response led by the Prime Minister, with public health actions led by Minister of Health.
  - ❖ National Master Plan for COVID-19 developed with a budget of \$62 million for the first year.
  - ❖ On 01 July 2021, Samdech Prime Minister introduced six COVID-19 response strategies that are aimed at preventing the importation of new variants, reducing cases, providing effective and standard treatment, strengthening contact tracing and management, handling of bodies and vaccination.
- **Past investments have built a functional public health system**
  - ❖ Multisource surveillance for COVID-19, including event-based surveillance (with 115 hotline) and expanded ILI/SARI surveillance.
  - ❖ Almost 3,000 RRT members across the country conduct case investigation and contact tracing.
- **Risk communication and community engagement**
  - ❖ Timely messages disseminated through TV, radio, and social media, regular press releases, press conferences, and media briefings.
  - ❖ Risk-based approach for the development of targeted communication materials for at-risk groups, including migrants and garment factory workers, markets, prisons, restaurants/pubs, etc.

- ❖ Community engagement strategy being rolled out to encompass all aspects of surveillance and response for COVID-19, particularly in the event of community transmission.
- ❖ Close coordination and collaboration with other UN agencies, INGOs, and other stakeholders on RCCE implementation, monitoring, adapting, and reinforcing.
- **International solidarity and cooperation**
  - ❖ Open and transparent health system response in the country.
  - ❖ Close technical and operational cooperation between UN agencies and other development partners.
  - ❖ High-level participation in international meetings, including regular coordination between National International Health Regulations (IHR) Focal Point.

## COVID-19 Vaccinations

**As of 9 November 2021:**

### ▪ COVID-19 vaccine updated

The Royal Government of Cambodia received **37,731,440** doses of COVID-19 vaccines

- ❖ 28,500,000 (75%) doses of Sinovac and Sinopharm vaccine procured by the Royal Government of Cambodia from the People's Republic of China
- ❖ 6,715,040 (18%) doses of donated: the People's Republic of China (6,300,000 doses of Sinovac and Sinopharm vaccine) and the United Kingdom (415,040 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine)
- ❖ 2,516,400 (7%) doses of AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, and Sinovac vaccine through COVAX (including dose sharing from Japan and the United States of America)
- ❖ The current balance is 6,310,772 doses of COVID-19 vaccine at the national stock of Central Medical Store (CMS)

### ▪ COVID-19 vaccination Roll Out

#### ▪ COVID-19 vaccination coverage of Healthcare worker

- ❖ 43,646 (100%) of health care workers were vaccinated with the first dose and second dose of COVID-19 vaccine

#### ▪ COVID-19 vaccination coverage of elderly aged 60 years old and over:

- ❖ 1,378,842 (100%) of elderly aged ≥ 60 years old were vaccinated with the first dose and
- ❖ 1,344,919 (98%) with second dose of COVID-19 vaccine

#### ▪ COVID-19 Vaccination rolls out for adults aged 18 years old and over:

- ❖ 10,042,988 (100.4%) of people aged ≥ 18 years old were vaccinated with the first dose and 9,666,752 (96.7%) with the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ The proportion of females receiving the first dose is 50.5% and the second dose is 50.3% among total doses vaccinated.

#### ▪ COVID-19 Vaccination rolls out for children aged 12 to under 18 years old :

- ❖ 1,796,980 (98.3%) of children aged from 12 to under 18 years old were vaccinated with the first dose and 1,705,943 (93.4%) with the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ The proportion of females receiving the first and second dose is 49.4 % and the second dose is 49.6% among total doses vaccinated.

#### ▪ COVID-19 Vaccination rolls out for children aged 6 to under 12 years old:

- ❖ 1,958,423 (103.2%) of children aged from 6 to under 12 years old were vaccinated with the first dose and 1,797,474 (94.7%) with the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
- ❖ The proportion of females receiving the first and second dose is 49.2% and the second dose is 49.4% among total doses vaccinated.

- **COVID-19 Vaccination rolls out for children aged 5 years old:**
  - ❖ 201,350 (66.2%) of children 5 years old were vaccinated with the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
  - ❖ The proportion of females receiving the first dose is 50% among total doses vaccinated.
- **Third dose of COVID-19 Vaccination coverage:**
  - ❖ 1,997,373 (20.1%) people aged  $\geq 18$  years old included health care workers, the frontline of Government officials, people aged 60 years old and older, and immunocompromised persons, were vaccinated with a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine.
  - ❖ The proportion of females receiving the booster dose is 46.5% among total doses vaccinated.
- **Vaccine Safety:**
  - 206 AEFI cases were reported from 25 provinces and AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses = 0.71
    - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for Sinovac vaccine = (95 cases) 0.51
    - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for Sinopharm vaccine = (78 cases) = 1.10
    - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for AZ vaccine = (29 cases) = 1.64
    - ❖ AEFI reporting rate per 100,000 doses for J&J vaccine = (3 cases) = 0.38
- Conducted a meeting with Deputy Director Provincial Health Department and EPI Manager of Preah Sihanouk province to discuss on Reaching the unreached strategy and Local authority was started listing of unvaccinated target population and health started mobilizing vaccination team to communities by close collaboration with the village chief and local authorities.
- Conducted field monitoring and supervision of COVID-19 vaccination roll out on vaccination sites at Preah Sihanouk, Stueng Hav, and Prey Noub districts. The sites provided vaccination from 5 years old and above. Observations: 3 lactating women came in for the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, the reason for the delay was fear. Visited Preah Sihanouk Hospital and none of the 2 women in labor interviewed received COVID-19 vaccination. Moreover, the obstetrician of the said hospital also confirmed mothers who came to deliver in the hospital did not receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Conducted Rapid Convenience Assessment (RCA) at villages of Preah Sihanouk to ensure all target populations are not left behind especially elderly populations, vulnerable populations. All 37 eligible populations interviewed including 3 elderly were vaccinated.
- Continue analysis of vaccination and AEFI data, prepare report, and share to stakeholders and within WHO.
- Continue to provide technical support to the national immunization program MOH on the COVID-19 vaccination Roll Out.

## Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)

On 8 November, Phnom Penh City Hall allowed a maximum of 200 participants to attend the wedding and other traditional ceremonies from 8 November 2021 onwards.

On 8 November, the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts in collaboration with the Ministry of Health introduced standard operating procedures (SOP) for weddings and other traditional

ceremonies in Cambodia. The SOP requires the organizer to make a declaration of compliance attached to the request for a permit and all the organizers, relatives, and service providers and encourages participants to do the rapid test before the event. It limits the number of participants to 200 and requires participants to present evidence of vaccination and comply with hygiene, mask-wearing, temperature taking, and physical distancing measures, among others.

On 3 November, the Ministry of Tourism announced the nationwide reopening of beer gardens subject to compliance with tourism safety measures and minimum standard operating procedures.

**Table 2. NPI implementation and lifting dates**

| NPI                                                     | Monitoring status      |                    |                                         |                         |                      |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                                                         | Date first implemented | Date last modified | Implementation                          |                         | Partial lift         | Lifted               |
|                                                         |                        |                    | Geographical (national or sub-national) | Recommended or Required | Lifted for some area | Lifted for all areas |
| Wearing Face Masks, Hand Hygiene, Respiratory Etiquette | None                   | 16 August 2021     | National                                | Required                |                      | No                   |
| School Closure                                          | 16 March 2020          | 01 November 2021   | National                                | Recommended             | Yes                  | Yes                  |
| Workplace Closure                                       | None                   | None               |                                         |                         |                      |                      |
| Mass Gatherings                                         | 3 April 2020           | 19 June 2021       | National                                | Required                | No                   | No                   |
| Stay at Home                                            | None                   | None               |                                         |                         |                      |                      |
| Restrictions on Internal Movement (within country)      | 9 April 2020           | 29 July 2021       | National                                | Recommended             | Yes                  | Yes                  |
| Restrictions on International Travel                    | 27 March 2020          | 23 October 2021    | National                                | Required                | Yes                  | Yes                  |
| Others; specify in narrative                            | None                   | None               | -                                       | -                       | -                    | -                    |