



A Systems Level Approach to COVID-19 Outbreak in Singapore

YY Teo Professor, Dean Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health

Turning Discovery into Healthier Communities

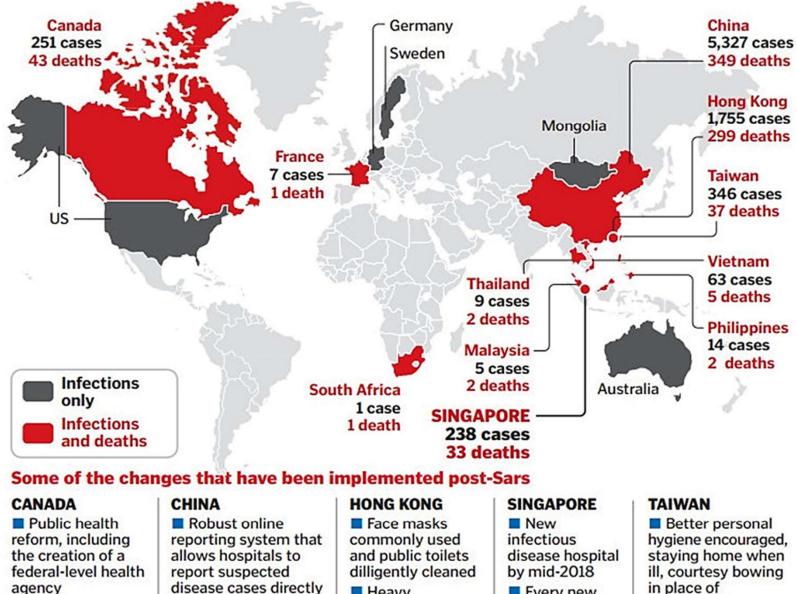
Disclaimer

This is a view of Singapore's response from a public health academic perspective, and in no way do I represent the Singapore Ministry of Health or the overall Singapore government.

Also not meant to provide a review of all Singapore measures.

SARS 2003: DEADLY VIRUS

774 deaths and 8,096 infections reported from November 2002 to July 2003



agency

Three national disease-related surveillance networks to monitor emerging infectious diseases to the authorities

Laws amended

or added to allow

central leaders to act

swiftly to deal with

outbreaks

Heavy investments to redesign hospital wards to minimise infection.

Every new school-going child gets an oral digital thermometer in place of handshakes

Constant cleaning and sterilisation of public transport during pandemics

Source: WHO

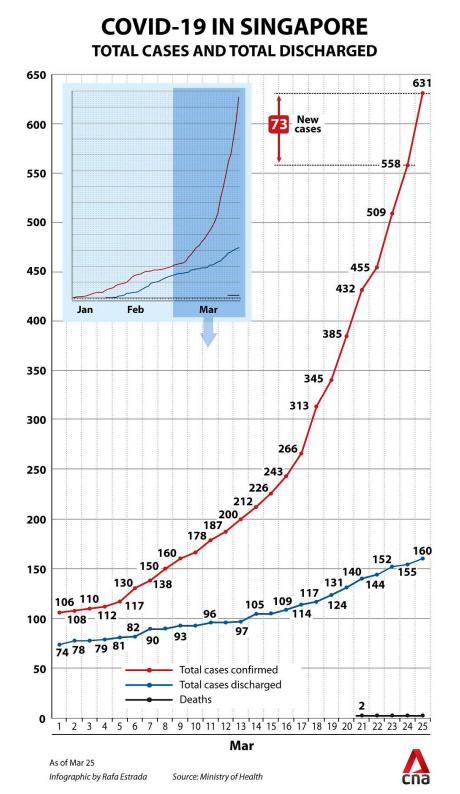


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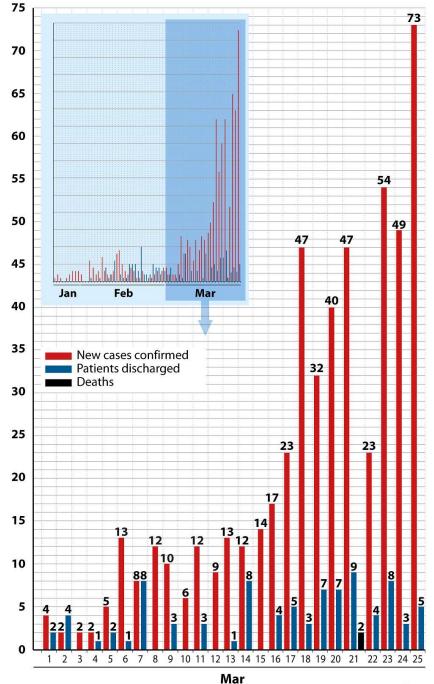
What is the COVID situation in Singapore?

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NEW CORONAVIRUS CASES AND NEWLY DISCHARGED



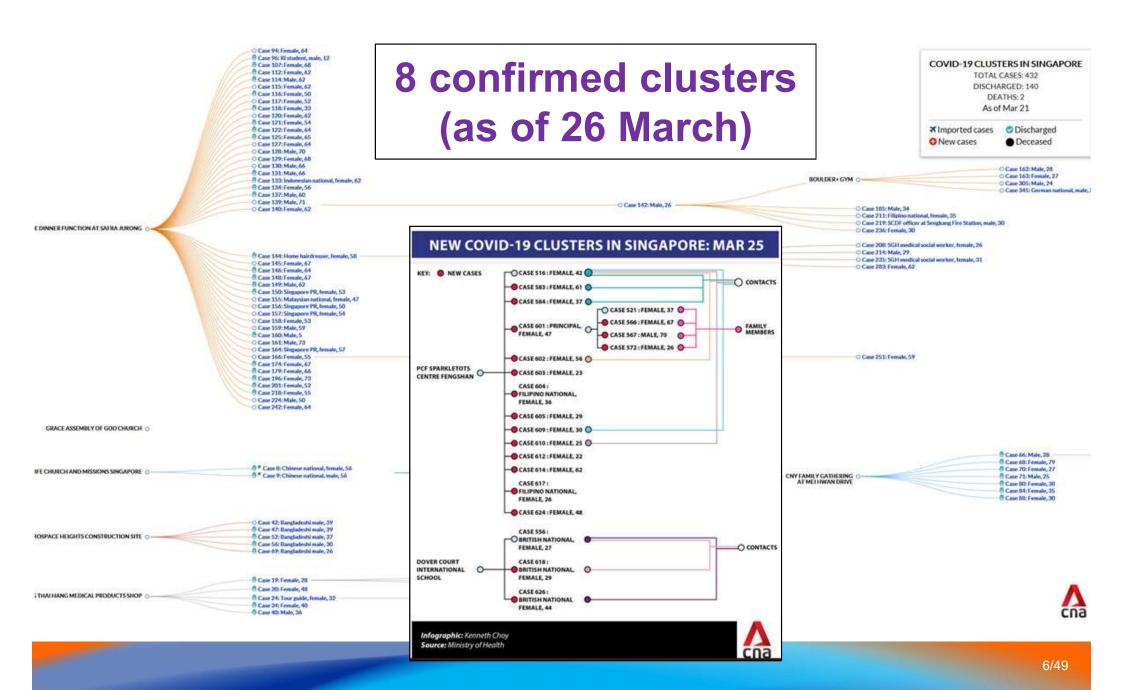
As of Mar 25



Case Linkages



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Imported cases (as of 8 March)



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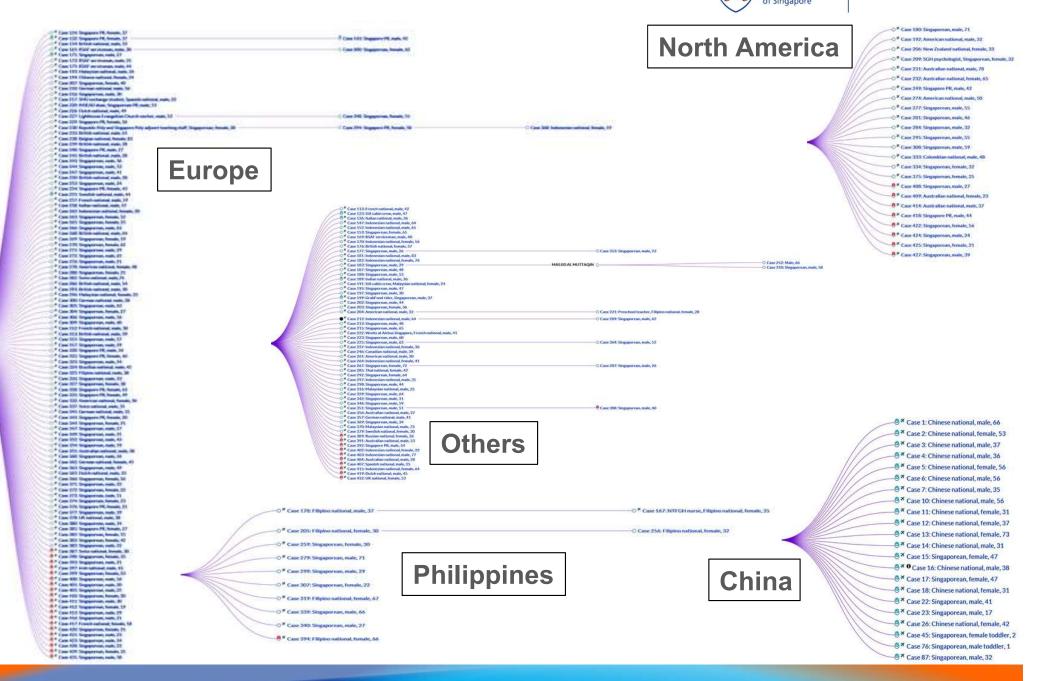
Case 1: Chinese national, male, 66 Case 2: Chinese national, female, 53 Case 3: Chinese national, male, 37 Case 4: Chinese national, male, 36 Case 5: Chinese national, female, 56 Case 6: Chinese national, male, 56 Case 7: Chinese national, male, 35 Case 10: Chinese national, male, 56 Case 11: Chinese national, female, 31 Case 12: Chinese national, female, 37 Case 13: Chinese national, female, 73 Case 14: Chinese national, male, 31 Case 15: Singaporean, female, 47 **X ()** Case 16: Chinese national, male, 38

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X	Case 17: Singaporean, female, 47
X	Case 18: Chinese national, female, 31
X	Case 22: Singaporean, male, 41
X	Case 23: Singaporean, male, 17
X	Case 26: Chinese national, female, 42
X	Case 45: Singaporean, female toddler, 2 Evacuated from Wuhan (30 Jan)
X	Case 76: Singaporean, male toddler, 1
×	Evacuated from Wuhan (9 Feb) Case 87: Singaporean, male, 32 Evacuated from Wuhan (9 Feb)
X	Evacuated from Wuhan (9 Feb) Case 113: French national, male, 42 Turkish Airlines (3/3); travel to France, Portugal, UK 8/2 – 3/3
×	Turkish Airlines (3/3); travel to France, Portugal, UK 8/2 – 3/3 Case 123: SIA cabin crew, male, 47
X	South Africa (14/2 – 17/2), France (22/2 – 24/2) Case 124: Singapore PR, female, 37
X	Germany (27/2 – 5/3) Case 132: Singapore PR, female, 37 —
×	London (23/2 – 27/2) Case 136: Italian national, male, 36
×	US $(7/2 - 22/2)$, Italy $(23/2 - 29/2)$ Case 147: Indonesian national, male, 64
18 D21	Indonesia, arrived on 7/3

No importations since 6 Feb (travel advisories 22 Jan) until 4 March Latest importations outside key travel advisory countries

Imported cases (as of 21 March) NUS

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How did Singapore respond?

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Whole-of-Government Response NUS

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- Multi-Ministry task force to overseas national response, signaling impact beyond health (post-SARS)
- Established 22 January (c.f. 1st case on 23 Jan)
- 10 members, including Manpower, Environment & Water Resources, Social & Family Welfare, Transport



Multi Ministry Task Force Press Conference 27 Jan 2020

Border Control Measures





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Limitation of Entry (Visitors)

- 23 Jan: Direct flights from Wuhan
- **29 Jan**: ≤14days in Hubei Province, all passports issued in Hubei
- 1 Feb: ≤14days in whole China, no visa issuance or visa-free transit for PRC passports
- 26 Feb: ≤14days in Cheongdo and Daegu, South Korea
- 4 Mar: ≤14days in Iran, North Italy, whole South Korea
- **16 Mar**: Visitor ban for Italy, France, Spain, Germany
- **17 Mar**: 14D SHN for locals returning from ASEAN, Japan, Switzerland, UK
- **21 Mar**: 14D SHN for all returning locals
- 24 Mar: Border closures to all short-term visitors

* Not applicable to citizens, PRs and longterm pass holders

Temperature Screening

- **2 Jan**: Flights from Wuhan
- 20 Jan: All flights from China
- 24 Jan: All land and sea checkpoints
- 29 Jan: All flights into Singapore



Why this is necessary



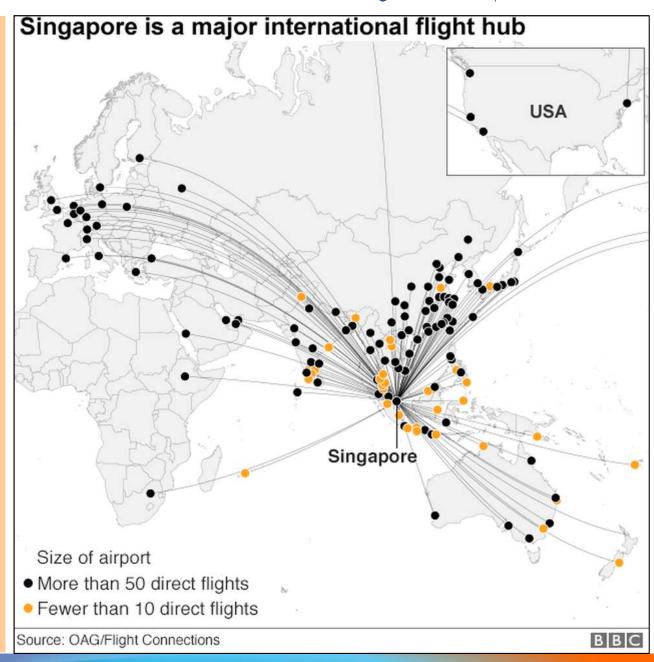
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Visitors from China

- ~3.6M China tourists in 2019,
 ~1M in Jan-Mar 2019
- Chinese New Year period on 25-26 Jan (1 wk before, 2 wks after)
- >400 flights from China to Singapore every week

Visitors from World

- ~17.4M tourists in 2019,
 ~7.8M in Jan-May 2019
- >100 airlines, 380 cities,
 >100 countries and territories
- ~7,400 flights into Singapore per week



DORSCON Levels



Comply

Maintain Look out

Practise social

	responsible: if you're sick, stay home	good personal hygiene	for health advisories	with control measures	distancing: avoid crowded areas
GREEN Minimal disruption	~	~	~		
YELLOW Minimal disruption	~	~	~		
ORANGE Moderate disruption (eg. quarantine, temperature screening)	~	~	~	~	
RED Major disruption (eg. school closures, work from home orders)	~	~	~	~	~

Disease Outbreak Response System Condition (DORSCON) form part of Singapore's pandemic preparedness plan



Disease is mild. Or it is severe but does not spread easily.

Disease is severe and spreads easily, but is occurring outside Singapore <u>OR</u> Disease is spreading in Singapore but is typically mild or being contained.

Disease is severe and spreads easily but it has not spread widely in Singapore and is being contained.

Disease is severe and is spreading widely.

Be socially

Mandatory Social Distancing

INTRODUCED ON 27 JANUARY

2

3

LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA) A precautionary measure.

Those serving LOA can leave their homes to get meals and necessities, **but must return to their homes as soon as possible.**

STAY HOME NOTICE(SHN)

One will have to **remain in their place of residence at** all times for 14 days.

Stricter than the LOA, **but one can stay with their** family members.

Issued to an individual who is, or is suspected to be, a

One has to be **isolated** from other people in the home, or

INTRODUCED ON 18 FEBRUARY

INTRODUCED ON 28 JANUARY

Those who flout the SHN or the QO may face penalties and can be prosecuted under Section 21A of the Infectious Diseases Act.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA)

A precautionary measure.

Those serving LOA can leave their homes to get meals and necessities, **but must return to their homes as soon as possible.**

STAY HOME NOTICE(SHN)

One will have to **remain in their place of residence at** all times for 14 days.

Stricter than the LOA, **but one can stay with their** family members.

QUARANTINE ORDER (QO)

Issued to an individual who is, or is suspected to be, a carrier or contact of an infectious disease.

One has to be **isolated** from other people in the home, or in a suitable government facility.

Those who flout the SHN or the QO may face penalties and can be prosecuted under Section 21A of the Infectious Diseases Act.







	:



National University of Singapore



carrier or contact of an infectious disease.

in a suitable government facility.



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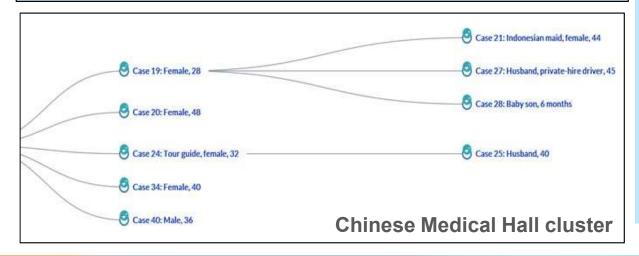
Contact Tracing – Sheer Efforts



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Assistant directors from the Health Ministry's Communicable Diseases Division Olivia Oh and Pream Raj (standing) with officers carrying out contact tracing on confirmed coronavirus patients. TNP PHOTO: KELVIN CHNG



- Teams of 10, 2 shifts, 7 days
- Review activities and contacts for past 14 days before symptoms onset till isolation
- Flight manifests, interviews of case and NOK, CCTV footages, telephone calls
- Activity maps to crossreference locations between cases
- Partnership with Criminal Investigation Department

Contact Tracing – Technology

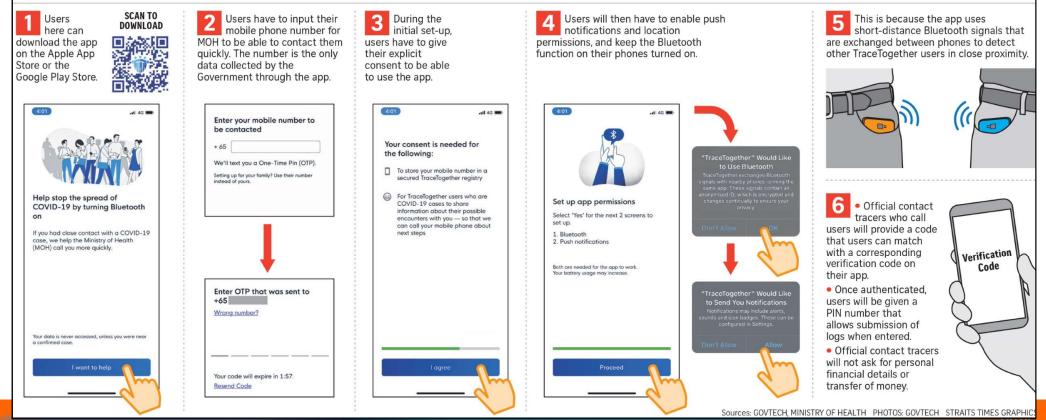


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What is TraceTogether and how does it work?

TraceTogether is a contact-tracing smartphone app that enables the Ministry of Health (MOH) to quickly track people who have been exposed to confirmed coronavirus cases.

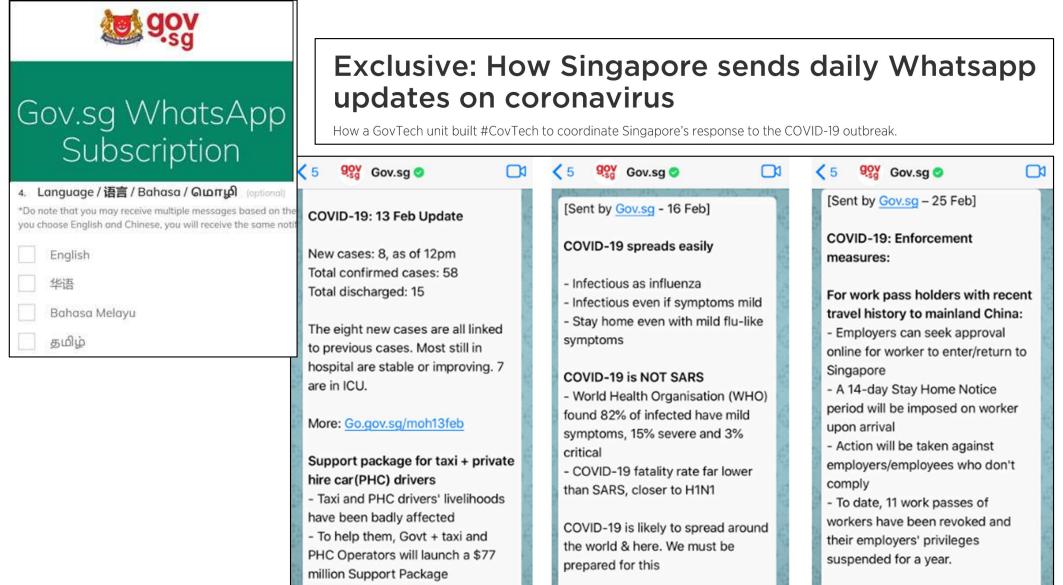


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Communication Strategies: Central Source of Information



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Statement: go.gov.sg/

More: Go.gov.sg/drivers-support

More: Go.gov.sg/24feb-MOM

Clinical Readiness & Responses

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- 1. Purpose-built national centre for clinical response during outbreaks since Aug 2018
- All tertiary hospitals undergo specific drills to cope with such outbreaks (EX SPARROWHAWK), with gradual increase in isolation capacity to receive cases
- 3. Enhanced measures to protect healthcare workers
- 4. Primary Care strengthening (PHPCs), and sentinel surveillance

Public Health Preparedness Clinics GP clinics that provide subsidised treatment for patients with respiratory symptoms, to better detect and manage COVID-19 FIND A PHPC CLINIC Visit phpc.gov.sg to find the nearest one FROM **18 FEB RECEIVE CONSULTATION AND TREATMENT** If you have mild **AT A SUBSIDISED RATE** flu symptoms: • \$10 for Singapore Citizens and PRs • \$5 for Pioneer Generation and Merdeka Generation seniors COUGH FEVER RECEIVE A 5 DAY MC IF YOU HAVE PNEUMONIA, OR AND STAY AT HOME YOU WILL BE REFERRED OR THE DURATION O HOSPITALS SORE RUNNY AFTER 5 DAYS, IF YOU ARE STILL UNWELL THROAT NOSE **RETURN TO THE SAME CLINIC. YOU WILL BE REFERRED FOR FURTHER MEDICAL ASSESSMENT** NATIONAL CENTRE FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES MINISTRY OF HEALTH

(Coronovirus Disease 2019)

Healthcare Financing

NUS National University of Singapore

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THE STRAITS TIMES



Coronavirus: Singapore Government to foot bills of infected patients at public hospitals, except outpatient expenses

- Assurance of financial coverage for all, including migrant workers
- Singapore insurance associations issue joint statement to provide coverage for medical expenses related to COVID-19



Financial Assistance to those on Mandatory Social Distancing



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ARANTIM

ORDED

Wuhan virus: \$100 a day for those quarantined; severe penalties for people who flout quarantine orders

(S) PUBLISHED JAN 28, 2020, 7:47 PM SGT | UPDATED FEB 3, 2020, 3:44 PM

Salma Khalik Senior Health Correspondent

Income Protection

For delivery-partners who are hospitalised, quarantined or on LOA.



ONE-OFF INCOME ASSISTANCE

Get between \$100 to \$200 in income support to help you through this period.



LOA (Leave

Hospitalisation/



MAINTAIN YOUR TIER LEVEL

Your Emerald Circle tier from the previous month will be maintained for the affected month.



*LOA (Leave of Absence) valid for delivery-partners who have declared and presented an air ticket/boarding pass and passport showing that they have travelled to Mainland China and returned to Singapore on/after 20th Jan. Not applicable to delivery-partners who departed on/after 28 Jan.

CARE PACKAGE FOR DRIVERS QUARANTINED DUE TO THE WUHAN CORONAVIRUS SITUATION

If you are under a Quarantine Order and have to stop working for 14 days, here's how the National Taxi Association (NTA), the National Private Hire Vehicles Association (NPHVA), Land Transport Authority, and taxi and private hire car operators will help you:

NTA AND NPHVA MEMBER

NON-MEMBER



Supported by: ComfortDelGro Taxi, HDT Taxi, Gojek, Grab, Land Transport Authority, Ryde, Premier Taxis, Prime Taxis, SMRT Taxis, TADA and Trans-Cab

Multi-Sectoral Cooperation



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Detectives for case linkage

Coronavirus: CID roped in to help find links between cases, trace contacts



f 2 Officers coordinating the police's contact tracing operations from the Criminal Investigation Department Command Centre at the Police Cantonment Complex

Singapore



06 Mar 2020 10:14AM (Updated: 06 Mar 2020 10:40PM)

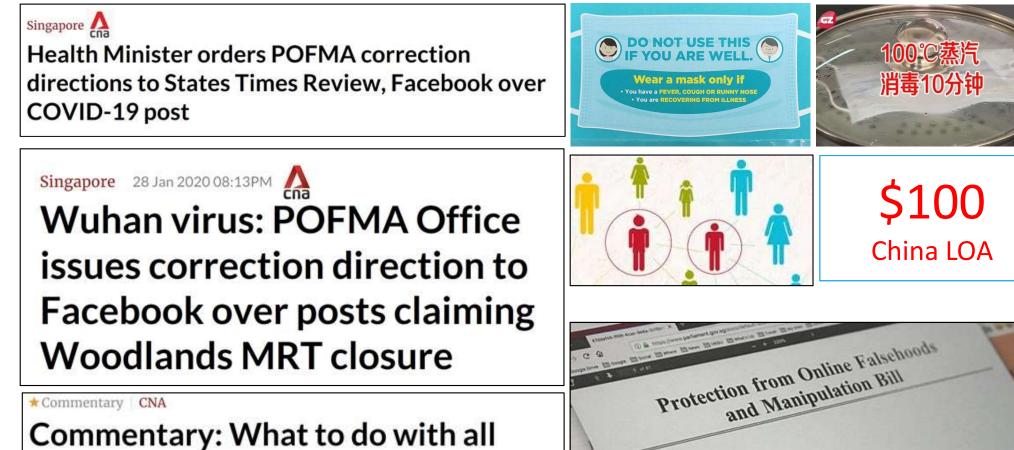
SG Clean Taskforce Ministry for Environment and Water Resources

Task force formed to raise public hygiene standards beyond COVID-19 outbreak

Countering Fake News



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these health rumours and forwarded messages in the time of COVID-19?

As developments over the coronavirus outbreak unfold, all of us will have to exercise patience and care in fighting falsehoods, says an observer.



Legal Enforcement





89 Work Passes Revoked for Breach of Entry Approval and Stay-Home Notice Requirements

21 March 2020

Employment practices

Foreign manpower

Work passes and permits



Community Restrictions



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Singapore 04 Feb 2020 06:00PM · (Updated: 05 Feb 2020 02:58PM)

Coronavirus outbreak: Schools, eldercare facilities to suspend large gatherings after first local transmission

SINGAPORE

CCs, RCs suspend classes attended by confirmed coronavirus cases

S PUBLISHED MAR 8, 2020, 5:00 AM SGT





Community Restrictions



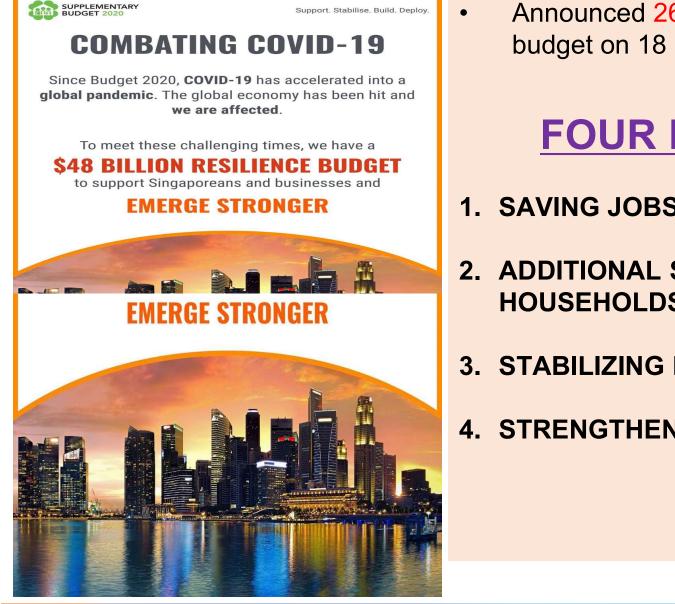
- Applies to all gatherings outside of work and school
- With effect from 11:59pm, March 26
- Measures expected to stay in place until April 30, but may be extended if situation does not improve

BARS AND ENTERTAINMENT VENUES, INCLUDING NIGHT CLUBS, DISCOS, CINEMAS, THEATRES AND KARAOKE OUTLETS	• Closed	ALL EVENTS AND MASS GATHERINGS, E.G. CONFERENCES, EXHIBITIONS, FESTIVALS, CONCERTS, SPORTING EVENTS AND TRADE FAIRS	Must be deferred or cancelled	
	 Reduce operating capacity to no more than one person per 16 sqm of usable space Groups must not exceed 10 people Shows within attractions, museum group tours and open 	PRIVATE CELEBRATIONS, E.G. BIRTHDAYS, WEDDINGS	 Avoid holding and participating in such gatherings involving more than 10 people at any time 	
MALLS, MUSEUMS AND ATTRACTIONS	 atrium sales will be suspended Malls and attractions unable to adhere to requirements must be closed Existing measures for F&B venues still apply 	FUNERALS AND WAKES	• Limit attendance as far as possible to family members only, and gatherings of 10 or fewer people at any point	
TUITION AND ENRICHMENT CENTRES	ND ENRICHMENT CENTRES • All centre-based classes suspended		• Existing measures apply	
RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND CONGREGATIONS	 Suspended Places of worship (e.g. temples, mosques and churches) may stay open for private worship and essential rites, subject to group sizes of 10 people or fewer at any time 	Infographic: Kenneth Choy Source: Ministry of Health	A	

Fiscal Measures to Buffer Economy



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Announced 26 March 2020, after the annual budget on 18 February 2020

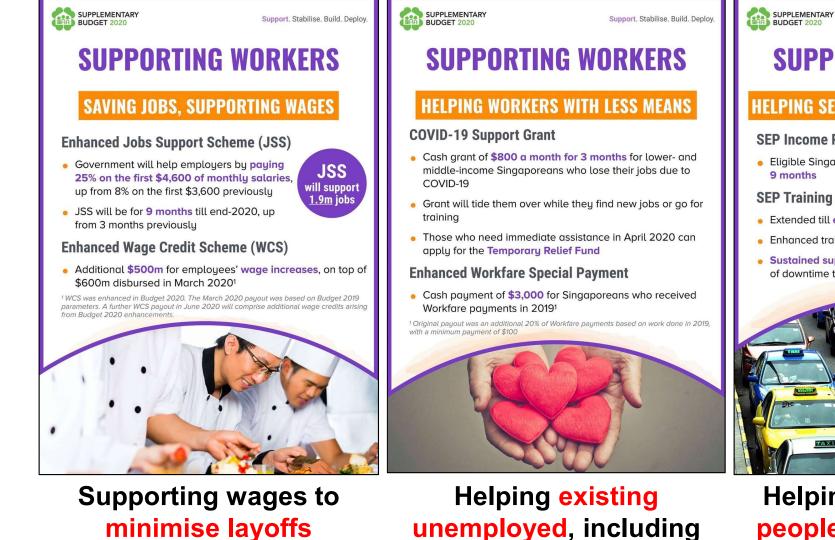
FOUR KEY THRUSTS

- 1. SAVING JOBS, SUPPORTING WAGES
- 2. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR HOUSEHOLDS
- 3. STABILIZING BUSINESSES
- **4. STRENGTHENING SUPPORT NETWORKS**

Saving Jobs, Supporting Wages

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Support. Stabilise. Build. Deploy.



SUPPORTING WORKERS

HELPING SELF-EMPLOYED PERSONS (SEPs)

SEP Income Relief Scheme (SIRS)

• Eligible Singaporean SEPs will receive \$1,000 a month for 9 months

SEP Training Support Scheme

- Extended till end-2020 and set aside \$48m for the scheme
- Enhanced training allowance rate of \$10 per hour
- Sustained support for 200,000 eligible SEPs to make use of downtime to train and upskill



Helping self-employed people, unconventional workforce

unemployed, including supporting training

Stabilising Businesses



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Defraying key fixed costs

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET 2020

Support. Stabilise. Build. Deploy.

STABILISING BUSINESSES

HELPING WITH CASH FLOW & COSTS

Deferment of Income Tax Payments

- Automatically defer income tax payments for 3 months, for companies and self-employed persons (SEPs)
- Companies: deferment of payments due in April to June 2020
- SEPs: deferment for payments due in May to July 2020

Freeze All Government Fees & Charges

• Freeze all government fees and charges for 1 year, from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021



Minimising variable costs outlays

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET 2020

Support. Stabilise. Build. Deploy.

STABILISING BUSINESSES

HELPING WITH CREDIT

Enterprise Financing Scheme (EFS)

- Maximum loan quantum of EFS-Trade Loan increased from \$5m to \$10m Government's risk-share raised to 80%
- Maximum loan quantum of EFS-SME Working Capital Loan increased from \$0.6m to \$1m

Loan Insurance Scheme

• Subsidy for loan insurance premium raised to 80%

Temporary Bridging Loan Programme

• Expanded to cover all sectors and maximum supported loan raised from \$1m to \$5m



Enhancing credit schemes to ensure liquidity

Support for Households



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ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR HOUSEHOLDS

HELPING FAMILIES WITH DAILY EXPENSES

Care & Support – Cash & PAssion Card Top-up

- Enhanced cash payout for all Singaporeans aged 21 and above in 2020 of \$300, \$600, or \$9001
- Additional cash payout for each Singaporean parent with at least 1 Singaporean child aged 20 and below in 2020 tripled from \$100 to \$300
- All Singaporeans aged 50 and above in 2020 will receive their \$100 PAssion Card Top-up in cash

¹Original cash payout announced was \$100, \$200, or \$300.



Means-guided cash payout to help families



Support. Stabilise. Build. Deploy.

STRENGTHENING SUPPORT NETWORKS

MORE FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY

More Community Help for Vulnerable Households

- Self-Help Groups to receive grants of \$20m over two years to enhance support for the community
- Community Development Councils to receive \$75m to provide meals to vulnerable households

NTUC Care Fund (COVID-19)

- **\$25m** in joint funding from NTUC, Unions, and the Government to help workers and SEPs
- One-off relief of up to \$300 to low- to middle-income union members



Supporting the community to lend aid



Support. Stabilise. Build. Deploy.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR HOUSEHOLDS

HELPING NEEDY SINGAPOREANS

Enhanced Workfare Special Payment

 Cash payment of \$3,000 for Singaporeans who received Workfare payments in 2019¹

¹ Original payout was an additional 20% of Workfare payments based on work done in 2019, with a minimum payment of \$100

Enhanced Grocery Vouchers

- Triple current voucher in 2020 to \$300 for Singaporeans aged 21 and above living in 1- or 2-room HDB flats
- \$100 Grocery Voucher for 2021
- Total of \$400 in 2020 and 2021



Protecting the least fortunate in society



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Harnessing academia and research to mount a scientific evidence-guided national response

Epidemiological Modelling



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Academic-Government cocreation of models for COVID-19 policy



Alex Cook

Simple compartmental model

Quick enough can run on

Individual based model

Needs hours on HPC

Important caveat

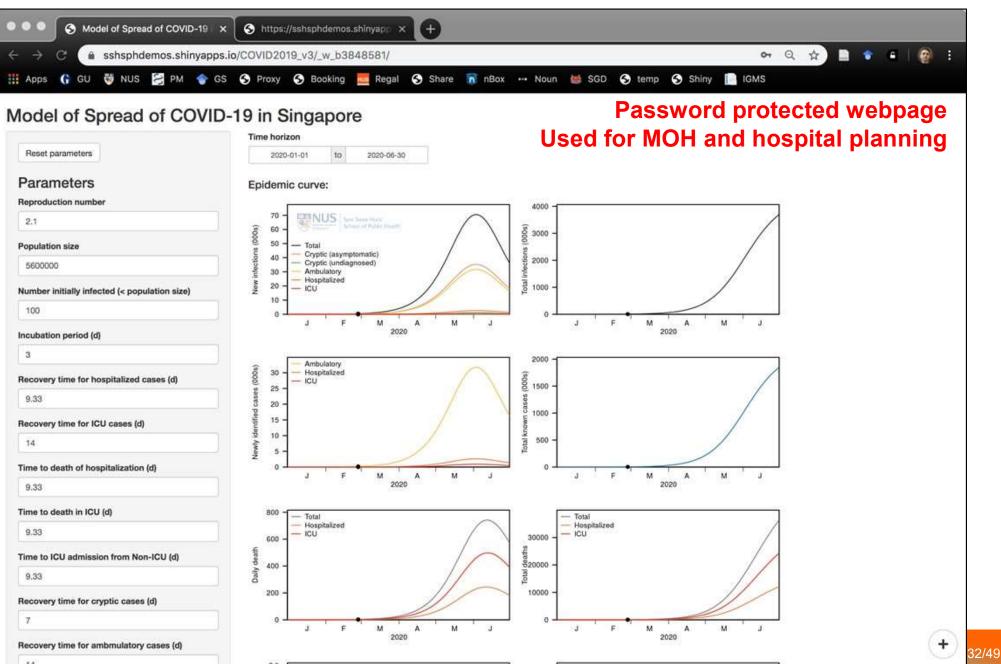
These models are for mitigation phase: built using from China Also working on SG outbreak analytics from containment (using the actual line listings, not the media reports)

Hannah Clapham, Alex Cook, Bo Dickens, Han Yiting, Joel Koo, Lim Jue Tao, Otomaru Hirono, Minah Park, Sharon Quaye, Sun Haoyang, Sun Xiaohe, Yue Mu

Epidemiological Modelling: Simple Compartmental Model



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Epidemiological Modelling: Individual-Based Model



Standard school holidays March Holiday Extension Major Closure Feb - Aug Closure at approx. peak 10 10 10 10 New infections, per day (000s) 8 8 8 8 6 6 6 6 4 4 4 4 2 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 MAMJJA MAMJJA MAMJJ MAMJ F S F F F S S A S J Α 600 600 600 600 (s) 500 (s) 500 Cumulative infections (0 000 000 000 000 000 0 0 0 + 0 A м JJAS AMJJAS AMJJAS AM м F F F F М М M

I contact transmission in both communities and schools at different times and for

Rapid Evidence Synthesis



- Commissioned by Chief Health Scientist to Public Health Translational Unit in School of Public Health
- Weekly synthesis of latest scientific and media reports on key topics

 <u>http://sph.nus.edu.sg/covid-19/</u> 				Journal of Clinical Medicine Review	MDPI	
-	-		Saw Swee Hock	School of Public Health	Therapeutics for 2	iagnostics, Vaccine and 019 Novel Coronavirus
Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health	NUS Saw Swee Mock	Saw Swee Hock			Ruth Frances Lewis ¹ , Jacinta I-Pe Pearleen Ee Yong Chua ¹² , Qian ¹ Yik Ying Teo ¹ , Chorh Chuan Tar COVID-19	rstematic Review ng ¹² , Ian Yi Han Ang ¹ , Sharon Hui Xuan Tan ¹ , ei Chen ¹ , Ramona A Gutierrez ³ , Sylvia Xiao Wei Gwee ¹² , Yang ¹ , Xian Yi Ng ¹ , Rowena KS Yap ¹ , Hao Yi Tan ¹ , n ⁴ , Alex R. Cook ¹ , Jason Chin-Huat Yap ¹ and Li Yang Hsu ¹
	COVID-19 Science Report: Clinical Characteristics NUS Sur Swee Hock School of Public Health as of 1100ers, 28 Feb 2020	COVID-19 Science Report: Diagnostics NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health as of 1700hrs, 27 Feb 2020	COVID-19 Science Report : Vaccines NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health as of 1700hrs. 27 Feb 2020	COVID-19 Science Report: Therapeutics NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health as of 0900hrs, 28 February 2020	Science Report: Containment Measures NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health as of 1700hrs. 27 Feb 2020	
					<u></u>	Jason Yap Director Public Health Translational Unit



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Community, enterprise and social actions

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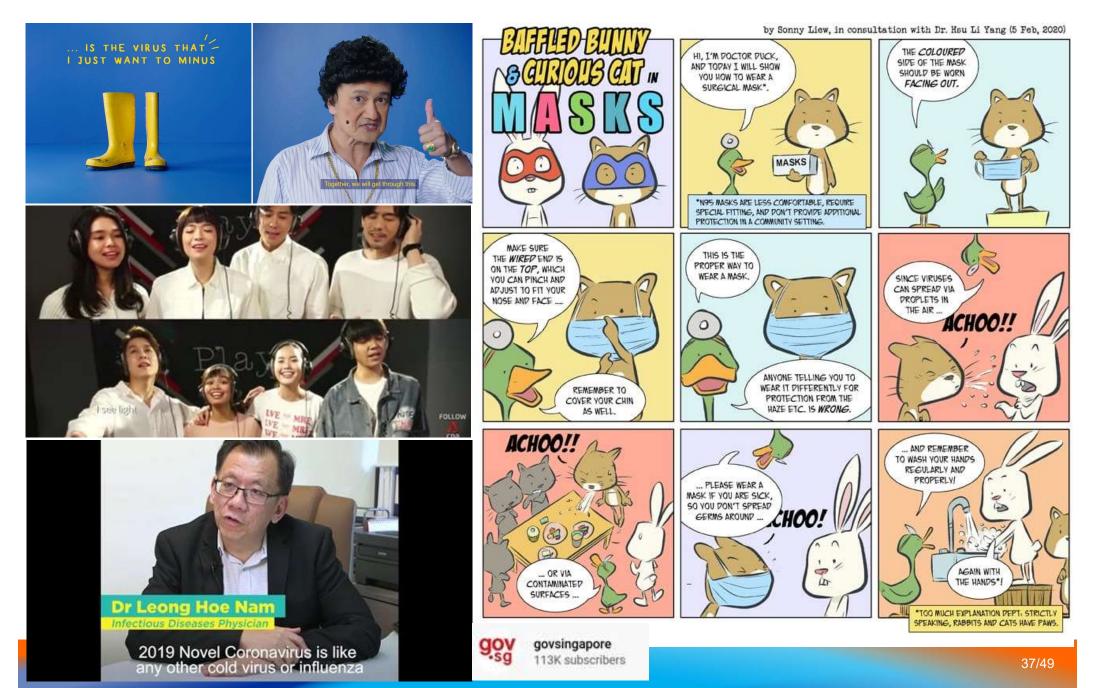
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Increase Personal and Social Responsibility National Campaign on COVID-19



Updated: 8 Feb 2020

Increase Personal and Social Responsibility Traditional and Social Media



Business Continuity Plans



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Planning and Execution

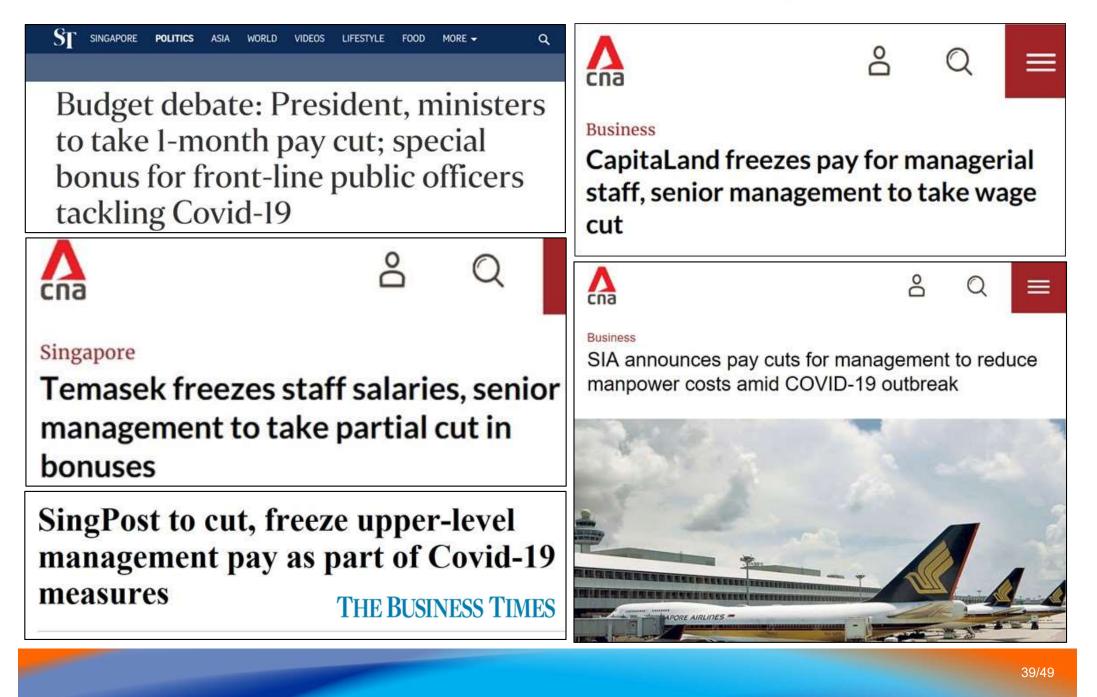
- BCP protocols established as routine business and governmental SOPs
- Specific COVID-19 implementation plans
- Split teams on work schedules or work sites for key frontline staff
- Work-from-home (WFH) arrangements for non-essential backend staff
- Teleconferencing and e-learning for meetings and lessons in tertiary institutions
- Temperature screening of staff, visitors, customers



Social and Corporate Solidarity



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Health of Migrant Workers



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Somothership News COVID-19 Budget 2020 Lifestyle Videos Abroad Weekend + Mor

S'porean doc who sees migrant workers: If we don't look after the weakest link, we all pay the price

Stories of Us: A volunteer doctor explains why migrant workers are often 'left in the lurch' in a public health crisis, and why he steps up to help.

Ane Zhang 1 @ March 2, 11:30 an



Jeremy Lim Co-Director Leadership Institute for Global Health Transformation (LIGHT) School of Public Health, NUS

"Frankly, if they are at higher risk, then all of us become at higher risk also, because in managing outbreaks and epidemics, the chain is only as strong as the weakest link."

"I would not see this as a zero sum game, that if we help Singaporeans, we cannot help migrant workers. Surely, as a country, as a society, we are big enough, we are generous enough, to do what we can for every group."

HealthServe's Geylang clinic. Photo via Facebook / HealthServe



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What factors allowed these measures to work?

Turning Discovery into Healthier Communities

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1. Size of the Country



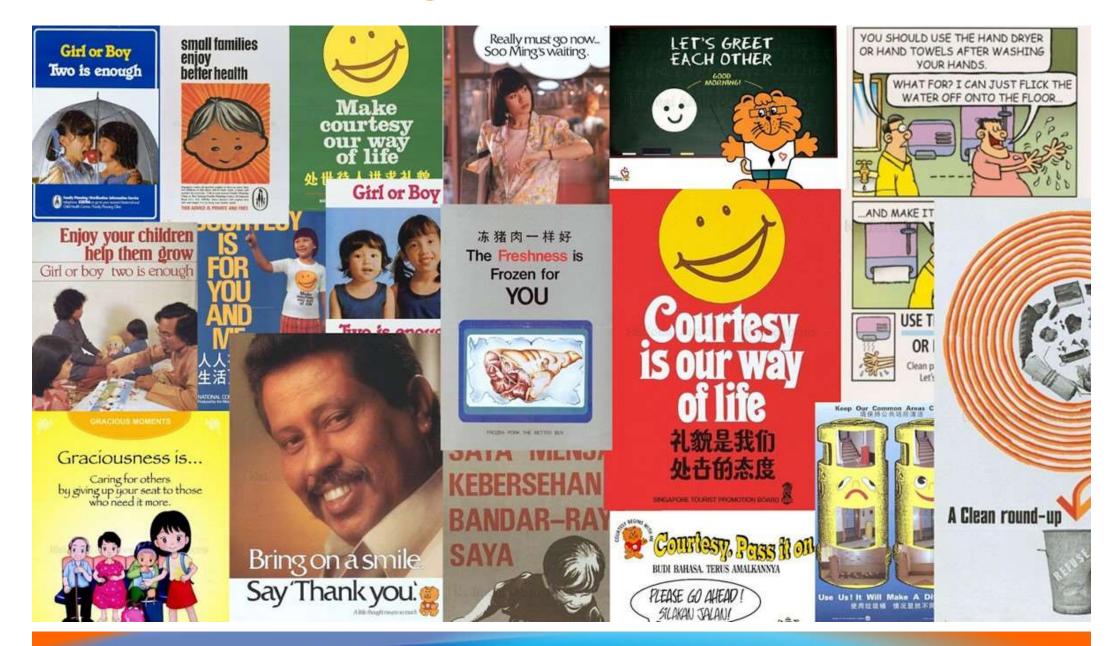
Aids control and implementation, agile and finite entry points



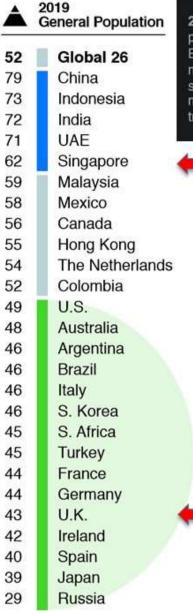
2. Populace socialized to national campaigns



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3. Trust between people and government



2019 Edelman Trust Barometer. The Trust Index is the average percent trust in NGOs, business, government and media. TRU_INS. Below is a list of institutions. For each one, please indicate how much you trust that institution to do what is right using a nine-point scale where one means that you "do not trust them at all" and nine means that you "trust them a great deal." 9-point scale; top 4 box, trust. General population, 26-market global average.

Trust (60-100)
Neutral (50-59)
Distrust (1-49)

"I believe that trust between the people and the Government is absolutely essential. And the best way to win your trust is to first trust you with the truth - no matter how hard or unpopular."

Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat 15 June 2019

How the 4G generation can build trust with my generation of youth

The relationship must be based on interdependence and respect for each other's roles from conversation to action. Ng Chia Wee It was significant that the panel co-chair, Ms Sim, said the For The Straits Times Government's goals were aligned with those of young people in many areas, such as building an In 2019 Singapore, two processes of inclusive society. coming of age are taking place As a member of Access Singapore, a ground-up The first of these is the political organisation tackling educational coming of age of the so-called inequality, I found this extremely heartening. fourth-generation or 4G political leadership, a transition in progress between the 4G leaders and youth is key to a strong 4G mandate. After which recently reached a significant milestone - the appointment of Mr Heng Swee Keat as Deputy Prime all, the 4G can take the country into

Minister (DPM). The second is the demographic coming of age of my generation the youth

same view.

More broadly, a good relationship the future only if the actual future generation stands with them. Alignments in an

youth today. For instance, in a recent interview, DPM Heng highlighted the flaws of multi-party democracy, arguing that greater opposition does not mean better outcomes. He was responding to a question on younger Singaporeans wanting more political opposition. It is debatable if many young Singaporeans subscribe to that The recent 19+ Worldview survey conducted by The Straits Times and

the Singapore University of Social Sciences also points to other gaps. A poignant example: 91 per cent of respondents who were not already pursuing a degree wanted one to improve their salary prospects, which may not align with the Government's 40 per cent cohort target. Education Minister Ong Ye Kung,

like his predecessors, has maintained the importance of

My fear is that as both political leaders and youth come of age, gaps in expectations may widen, exacerbated by the forces of disruption.

A consensus that binds

The solution, therefore, must be that the glue which binds the 4G and the youth must go beyond broad goal alignments or even individual policy alignments, which could end up being rather transactional in the face of disruption. What is needed is a strong consensus to underpin these alignments and to minimise the impact of the inevitable misalignments. In an increasingly diverse Singapore, disagreements on policy options, even on core principles, are a given. A climate of trust and mutual respect is crucial to maintaining a cobesive bond.

when they disagree. Indeed this is what the 4G leaders will set out to do in the coming months. As DPM Heng said in an interview: "Our biggest challenge that we need to address is to build a sense of unity amid these tremendous changes that are going on around us. In the age of disruption, however,

this consensus will not come easy. Furthermore, the 4G leaders must also ensure that this is not a transactional consensus that breaks when tough times come, but a consensus that binds in the face of disruption

Thus, I would like to suggest two guiding principles on which to build consensus. First, the principle of

interdependence, Leaders and people, including the young, must understand that they are in a symbiotic relationship. Leaders This consensus has to be based cannot take Singapore into the

equals". Scaled up, this power relationship can be applicable in government-people relations, an answer to the question of what a new social compact might look like In contrast to a more hierarchical relationship, I hope to see the Government and citizens engage with each other as more equal partners, though the Government retains "veto power" On the Government's part, this entails a greater readiness to compromise after considering the depth of public opinion. More importantly, citizens, especially the youth, must be ready to compromise too. After all, how

can we expect the Government to compromise when we are not willing to do so? "First among equals" also means that we must be more willing to accept the Government's judgments even when misalignments occur, trusting the path that the

4. Ability to offer robust fiscal response

BUDGET Support. Transform. Care. Secure.

HELPING SECTORS HIT BY COVID-19

STABILISATION & SUPPORT PACKAGE

Enterprises in Tourism Sector

- Temporary Bridging Loan Programme for cash flow support
- Up to 30% Property Tax Rebate for 2020

Aviation Sector

- **Rebates** on aircraft landing and parking charges, assistance to ground handlers
- Rental rebates for shops and cargo agents at Changi Airport



SINGAPORE BUDGET 2020

S\$4B STABILISATION AND SUPPORT PACKAGE

- Jobs Support Scheme offsets 8% of wages for 3 months, subject to a cap
- Wage Credit Scheme enhanced; qualifying monthly wage ceiling raised to S\$5,000 so more can benefit.

Government co-funding levels for 2019 and 2020 raised to 20% and 15% respectively

 5 sectors to get additional support amid COVID-19 situation: Tourism, aviation, retail, F&B and point-to-point transport services

Infographic: Kenneth Choy Source: Ministry of Finance



Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health

What factors allowed these measures to work?

Measures really are context-dependent depending on individual country's enabling factors

Summary



- Ability or *inability* to respond during a public health crisis is a function of decisions taken in the country in the past
- Singapore still keeping up with containment strategies, but at the same time preparing for mitigation
- Measures taken are context-dependent, so is success of implementation
- Tentative control of situation = 3-4 weeks of delay but important not to squander, and prepare for next waves

Checklist of Preparations



https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/20200307-responding-to-covid-19-communitytransmission-final.pdf

- Procuring and ascertainment supply of PPE and essential medical equipment (ventilators, respirators, treatment drugs)
- 2. Training of HCWs on PPE usage and intensive care management
- 3. Protocols to decongest ICU and isolation wards
- 4. Establish primary care and hospital infection control protocols, including for suspected and confirmed cases
- 5. Develop primary care strategy for large-scale triage and treatment
- 6. Prep/train for contact tracing

- 7. Execution plans for social distancing and quarantine
- 8. Community protocols when confirmed case is reported (comms, decontamination, BCP)
- 9. Establish WOG response team
- 10. Prepare economic package to support affected business sectors, sustain employment and manage trade chain liquidity
- 11. Establish trusted comms platform with public, community & industry leaders
- 12. Form academic partnerships for training and guiding response

Turning Discovery into Healthier Communities



Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health

Questions

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Turning Discovery into Healthier Communities



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zMbYnwk vOw



Coronavirus: Cleaning stepped up in areas frequented by public



Thank This Couple For Helping Your Ah Ma, Ah Gong Understand Coronavirus

06 February 2



'The kampung spirit is still alive': Punggol residents step up amid coronavirus outbreak



S'porean man & Vietnamese wife give out 17,000 free masks outside Punggol MRT

7,000 masks given out in one day.

Nyi Nyi Thet | ③ February 5, 12:07 am



NUS & NTU students deliver food to students on leave of absence 3 times a day, every day

E-gaming students at NUS have even organised a gaming marathon to keep those on Leave of Absence occupied.

Melanie Lim | ③ February 3, 06:05 pm



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