**WEEKLY FACTSHEET #16**

**COVID-19: WEEK 3 - 9 AUGUST 2020**

### REGIONAL INDICATORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Recovered</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>538,184</td>
<td>387,316</td>
<td>9,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>9,309</td>
<td>8,048</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>7,164</td>
<td>5,786</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>16,447</td>
<td>12,484</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DID YOU KNOW?

The longer children stay out of school, the less likely they are to return. These risks are particularly acute for girls and young women, learners with disabilities, ethnic minorities, migrant learners and other vulnerable groups. When schools don’t reopen, at stake is the fundamental human right to education and futures of hundreds of millions of learners. When schools reopen, it is important that every child is included and learns; every child has access to school-based health, hygiene and nutrition services; and every child is connected to the internet. Without this there is a risk undermining the learning and potential of an entire generation of children.

Source: UNICEF

### YOUTH VOICES

This pandemic is affecting all of us and it helps to reach out and share ideas, stories and concerns with one another about all things COVID-19. Please keep sharing your questions with us weekly, and we’ll do our best to find you the most accurate and relevant answers.

### EDER MPA (BIKORO) - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**QUESTION:** “Can the corpses of people who have died from coronavirus infect the living?”

**RESPONSE:** COVID-19 is an acute respiratory illness caused by the COVID-19 virus that mainly affects the lungs. Based on current evidence, the COVID-19 virus is transmitted between people through droplets, and close contact, with possible spread through fomites - but it is not airborne. As this is a new virus whose disease progression is not yet entirely clear, precautions may be used until further information becomes available. Dead bodies are generally not infectious. To date there is no evidence of persons having come infected from exposure to the bodies of persons who died from COVID-19.

Source: World Health Organization

### HLONPHILE NDABA (ALEX FM) - SOUTH AFRICA

**QUESTION:** “I really think that online classes aren’t the best way for me to learn because I can be in the online class, but not pay attention and do my own thing. But when I’m at school I have no choice but to listen to the teacher.”

**RESPONSE:** Staying self-motivated with distance learning is a challenge that many learners face. We’ve gone from classrooms that are designed to support learning, to bedrooms and kitchen tables where there are many distractions and expert support isn’t always available. Here are some tips to help learners that are struggling:

- Create clear, measurable goals -
- Reward yourself for your weekly achievements; maybe take some extra time to listen to music or take a break or speak to a friend when you reach your goal

Source: 3p Learning program

### CARELLE KOFFY (RADIO AMITIE YOPOUGON) - IVORY COAST

**QUESTION:** “Shouldn’t we name people who are infected with COVID-19 so we know to stay away from them?”

**RESPONSE:** Calling out or naming people with COVID-19 can cause harm to those individuals, as it increases the chances of stigma towards them. Beware of making COVID-19 someone else’s problem, as it is everyone’s problem. If community members see who people who are infected are stigmatised, they may become afraid to seek help if ever they get infected. Instead of referring to “COVID-19 cases” or “victims”, say “people who have COVID-19”. Stay away from saying “people transmitting COVID-19” or “infesting others”. Behind all the numbers are human beings. Encourage your community to speak about COVID-19, including with people who have recovered and given their consent - this could lead to awareness and uplift people who are on their way to recovering, while reducing stigma and discrimination.

Source: International Labour Organization

### MICHELLE SELEMELA (ALEX FM) - SOUTH AFRICA

**QUESTION:** “There is a long queue for people who are sick and who are going for check-ups at the clinics. But they are mostly attending to the people who are infected with COVID-19. And it’s a whole process to enter and get to the service needed.”

**RESPONSE:** In an article published on July 13, 2020, SA Health Minister Zweli Mkhize states: “It is important to ensure citizens who suffer from comorbidities continue accessing treatment and a tough balancing act is needed to ensure that this happens. The country has about 8 million HIV-positive people and 4 million TB patients. There have been concerns about such diseases being neglected because of the health system’s focus on the coronavirus pandemic. He said in many hospitals systems have been set up to ensure the division of patients and the continued treatment of critical illnesses.” An important publication from Medical Economics also tells us that: “When you have a wave of severe illness, leading to rapid deterioration, and lots of people going from sort-of sick to critically ill on respiratory ventilators, and a lot of people dying all at once, no one’s been trained to deal with that. So many healthcare workers such as nurses and doctors, have felt a distress they’ve never felt before, and may end up focusing on just tending to the seeming crisis.”

Source: IOL NEWS

### FABRICE KANGA (RADIO AMITIE YOPOUGON) - IVORY COAST

**QUESTION:** “Do you actually know anyone infected by COVID-19? Because the people in my community don’t believe in COVID. In their own words, “I don’t know anyone who knows anyone who has the Corona.”

**RESPONSE:** We are aware of several people who have been infected with the COVID-19 virus, some of whom have died. Each country has an obligation to track and trace cases in their region, and then share the data with official health organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO). In other cases, it helps to hear from people who have been infected, or have recovered from COVID-19, such as the person in the following story: “Being Diagnosed With COVID-19.”

Source: Children’s Radio Foundation