



**National Society Monthly Report-COVID-19 Outbreak  
“Stop the Spread” Coca Cola**

<b>National Society</b>	Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross Society
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<b>Reporting period</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022
<b>Date submitted</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2022

**1. Objectives and Activities for the Month**

In this section of the report

- (1) list the main objectives,
- (2) highlight major activities that have been completed for the month;
- (3) provide some narrative on how the completed activities were relevant in fulfilling the particular objective.

**NOTE ON INDICATORS** Using the indicators’ tables in the sections below, input data ONLY for those that would be relevant to the activities conducted by the National Society.

Outcome	ADVOCATE for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines		
	<b>Equity in vaccine access at the national level</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Outputs	# of frontline health and social care personnel reached with vaccines		
	# of people at highest risk vaccinated (elderly, migrants, refugees, institutionalized)		
	# of elderly		
	# of migrants		
	# of refugees		
	# of institutionalized		
	<b>Protecting volunteers and staff of local and national organizations</b>		
	# of NS volunteers and staff provided with PPEs		
	<b>Ensuring that other critical immunization needs are met now and in the future</b>		
	# of children under 24 months of age supported by NS to receive routine vaccination		
Outcome	TRUST: Build communities trust and acceptance of COVID-19 and help manage people’s expectations		
	<b>Scaled up risk communication, community engagement and accountability approaches must be integrated</b>		
		<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Outputs	# people reached with RCCE for vaccine hesitancy		
	# of people reached through traditional media	45000	55000
	# of people reached through social media communication channels		
	# of health care and other frontline workers reached with knowledge about vaccination		
	# children under five (5) years who were supported by NS to receive vaccines through campaigns		

	<b>Promoting effective coordination of risk communication and community engagement</b>		
	# people reached through surveys on vaccination hesitancy (for NSs conducting surveys)	1243	2911
Outcome	<b>HEALTH: Support the distribution and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines in health facilities during outreach activities</b>		
	<b>Support the distribution and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines in health facilities during outreach activities</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Outputs	# volunteers and staff support activities <sup>1</sup> at vaccination sites		
	# of people NS supported to get vaccinated against COVID-19		
	# of people transported to/from vaccination sites		
	# of people reached by National Society with ambulance services to obtain COVID-19 vaccine		
	# people registered by volunteers/ staff at vaccination sites		
	# of persons supported with IPC, WASH or other interventions to improve COVID prevention, detection, treatment	6145	9161
	# of people in communities reached with PPEs (masks, sanitizers, gloves)	720	1280
	# people administered vaccines by NS volunteers/staff		
	<b>Solidifying National Societies' role in supporting immunization and public health more generally</b>		
	# volunteers/staff support national vaccination plans		
	<b>REACH: reach underserved communities</b>		
		<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Outputs	# people from underserved <sup>2</sup> communities reached with COVID-19 vaccines		

The Coca-Cola Foundation - Stop the Spread Initiative supported the TTRCS to achieve four main goals:

1. Improving vaccination facilities (Primary Schools) to offer routine vaccinations to children.
2. Increase the protection of children to resist the virus through the provision of education and training, PPEs and sanitizers
3. Strengthening the water and sanitation systems of a community to improve access to water and reduce spread of the virus.
4. Identification of COVID19 perceptions around vaccinations for children to develop and enhance risk communication messaging to increase vaccine knowledge, awareness and promote good practices.

<sup>1</sup> Activities- mobilizing people to vaccine sites, supporting planning, pre-registration of residents in communities, providing operational support during campaigns, administer vaccines (at fixed centres or mobile health facilities)

<sup>2</sup> Underserved communities- communities affected by disaster and crisis, violence, geographically or socially isolated; areas not controlled by government.

## **PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

### **Public Education Campaign**

Building on the success of our Stronger Together campaign, the TTRCS created four additional radio PSAs to continue to educate the public about the importance of remaining safe during this phase of the pandemic. Since most of the public restrictions were removed, many people were eager to get back to their lifestyles enjoyed before, especially to take part in large fetes where mass gatherings were allowed and the enforcement of social distancing and mask wearing was no longer enforced. We highlighted these events as potential super-spreader locations and we wanted to ensure the public who patronizes these events would take the necessary precautions. Four PSAs targeting this population was created and aired on radio stations targeting the 18 – 49 age groups who would be the most at risk while participating in these events. ([Link to PSAs](#))

### **School Education Campaign**

As schools reopened fully in April 2022, the main concern was the ability to keep children safe after two years of online-schooling. While teachers understood the importance of enforcing the protocols, children often do what they want when unsupervised and it would be nearly impossible to ensure children, namely Primary School children, maintain physical distancing and constant mask wearing especially when they begin to socialize and play. The TTRCS saw it necessary to create an education campaign targeting both teachers and Primary School students to ensure when the school term re-opened in September 2022, there was practical and reasonable protocols in place to ensure all personnel within the school setting remained safe. Our education programme for children was done through video which were used by schools to ensure their population understood the importance of following the protocols and it focused on the following areas:

1. Screening and sanitization on entry to the school
2. When to wear masks
3. Checking yourself – staying healthy, knowing if you feel ill and how to report it.
4. When you should stay home

Teachers were sensitized through our Red Cross Patrons who manage our Youth Links in primary schools. ([Link to Videos](#))

### **Improving Community Water and Sanitation Facilities to reduce spread**

The community of Cotton Hill, Bonne Aventure, Trinidad had seen water issues for decades as the community lies just beyond the official water connection. The community has improvised rain-water collection for decades, however during the dry-season they are not able to meet their water needs and spend large sums on having water delivered via truck and many households have to purchase bottled water for their younger ones to drink as they get frequent illness from drinking impure water. With support from the Coca-Cola Foundation, Stop the Spread project, the TTRCS was able to assist the community of 55 households (180 persons, 56 Males, 56 Females, 38 Boys, 30 Girls) to improve their situation by providing water storage drums, drum-proofing materials, hygiene kits and water purification tablets. By improving their ability to safely collect rain-water and treat it for drinking and sanitation, the community will be better able to reduce incidences of illness, including COVID19.

([Link to Photos from Community Distribution](#)) ([Link to Signature Sheet](#))



Figure 1: The TTRCS team in Cotton Hill, Bonne Aventure, Trinidad conducting a distribution of water storage drums, hygiene kits, and water purification tablets to the community of approximately 55 homes that rely on rain water as their main water-supply as part of the Coca-Cola Foundation, Stop the Spread project. Improved access to water and hygiene supplies were a critical element in ensuring proper sanitization was achieved to help combat the spread of COVID19. Credit TTRCS, August 2022



Figure 2: TTRCS Community Liaison Officer, Julio Pereira, teaches a Cotton Hill resident the proper technique of “drum-proofing” using mosquito netting and elastic cords to create a filter to prevent mosquitos from breeding in their drums, as well as keep foreign debris out, while still being able to collect the rain water from the guttering of the home. Credit, TTRCS August 2022.

**Equipping Schools to be better able to screen students on entry and students having access to PPE and sanitizers.**

As schools re-open the need to protect students has been crucial as they have been a population of concern, as children do not effectively follow the guidelines especially during their breaks when direct supervision of school staff is reduced. The TTRCS supported 30 primary schools with temperature and sanitizer devices to ensure effective screening and sanitizing on entry to the school as well as 2000 student protection pouches which include masks, sanitizers and disinfectant wipes to be distributed to vulnerable students who cannot afford to purchase these on their own. Primary Schools were also selected as they would also be used as vaccination points for routine and COVID19 vaccinations in September when school reopened. ([Link to Signature Sheet](#))



*Figure 3: Distribution of Temperature and Sanitizer Device and Student Protection Pouches to Valencia RC Primary School. Credit, TTRCS July 2022*

## Perception Survey on COVID19 vaccinations for children 5-11 years.

The TTRCS launched a Perception Survey on vaccinations for children targeting parents of children 5 – 11 years to determine gaps in information and communications strategies to meet these gaps. As the country made vaccines available to children in this age group, with the hesitancy adults were facing with vaccines for themselves, the TTRCS thought it prudent to get parents’ perception about their concerns on this vaccine. The survey had an overwhelming response with 4154 respondents to the online survey and the TTRCS also conducted four focus groups, 3 in Trinidad and 1 in Tobago. The ultimate goal is to understand the gaps in information and real reasons why parents may be hesitant to have their children vaccinated and provide solutions to these in the form of communications or sensitization.

## 2. Learning and Knowledge Sharing

This section will highlight the following:

- National and regional meetings attended, knowledge/ information exchange and sharing fora in which representatives of the National Society participated over the course of the month;
- Project /progress reports shared.

Our key partner in the development of the school-based components for this project was the Ministry of Education. Through our youth arm and directly through our Youth Director who represents the Ministry of Education, we were able to determine what gaps exist within the school system and what interventions were needed that the TTRCS could provide to make the most impact.

## 3. Challenges

Description	How resolved
Not at this time.	

## 4. Upcoming events (Planned activities for the following month)

Not applicable

## 5. Photographs, Links to Videos etc

Insert additional links to photographs, videos etc.