

The Impact of COVID-19 on Migrants, Migration and Development

Response from Indonesia

Title of policy/ action and main partners:

- a. Intensifying bilateral cooperation with destination/host countries in ensuring protection of Indonesian migrants abroad;
- b. Distribution of stimulus package for migrants directly and/or economically impacted by the virus;
- c. Safe return facilitation for stranded migrants, including seafarers;
- d. Developing a special feature covid-19 related information and all policies related to mobility restriction on existing mobile application “Safe Travel”; and
- e. Developing a special feature on existing peduliwni.kemlu.go.id to collect the data of affected migrants. The report compiled will be further conveyed to Indonesian missions abroad.

Main results:

The policies/actions a-c were intended to be a safety net for Indonesian migrants who were highly affected by the COVID-19 as the policies in destination country could change overnight. The implementation of mentioned policies could be more effective, if the data of Indonesian migrants were better recorded. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has developed peduliwni.kemlu.go.id, a portal designated to record the data of Indonesians who work or live abroad. However, the data is collected through voluntary self-reporting mechanism hence doesn't represent the actual numbers of Indonesians abroad. The need for reliable data were later displayed at the early stage of pandemic, when the data about migrants working on daily wage were critical to identify the required stimulus package. However due to the circumstances mentioned before, the data was not available. As the solution, Indonesian missions had to conduct data collection manually through the Indonesian communities. The MFA also added a special feature on peduliwni.kemlu.go.id intended to record numbers of migrants affected by covid-19. These challenges would be better addressed should the data was available right from the very start.

Title of policy/ action and main partners:

Regulation No. 21/2020

Main results:

The Government has issued Regulation No. 21/2020 on large-scale social distancing as an implementing regulation of the 2018 Health Quarantine Law to restrict the movement of people and goods within control zone. On the field of finance and people's welfare, The

Government also issued Gov Regulation in lieu of Law (Perppu) No. 1/2020 on State Financial Policy and Financial System to ensure economic stability of the nation (Sutrisno, 2020). The Government also prepare stimulus package for small and micro economic affected by Covid19.