Highlights

Situation

- As of 23 August, Chile has 405,972 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 15,418 deaths.
- It is considered that the COVID-19 peak in Chile was reached in mid-June.
- According to WHO COVID-19 Dashboard on 31 August, Chile is at 4th place in the world for confirmed cases per million people, compared to its 5th place in July, and reports the highest rate in the region (21,446.42), followed by Panama (21,168.47). It also remains in 2nd place in the region for deaths per million people (588.19), after Peru (867.62).
- As of 31 August, out of 345 comunas of the country, 49 comunas are in step-1 (lockdown), 35 in step-2 (transition), 206 in step-3 (preparation), and 55 in step-4 (initial opening). The majority of lockdown comunas are in Greater Santiago. In comunas in step-1&2, lockdown of weekends and holidays continues. Nightly curfews continue nationwide.
- The majority of schools remain closed.
- Sharp increase of cases is suspected in September during the National Day celebrations (18 September).

UNICEF Response

- The “Quarantine 31” series of popular Chilean puppet show 31 Minutes is broadcasted throughout Latin America by Cartoon Network and Boomerang, reaching 48 million and 32 million homes, respectively.
- The public channel TV Educa provides psychosocial support for children during the COVID-19 pandemic, with video clips provided by UNICEF.
- UNICEF is assisting the development of protocols for reopening schools with the Municipality of Renca in greater Santiago, in close coordination with UNESCO.
- UNICEF contributed to allow family visit for separated children and adolescents living in residential care centres of SENAME and juvenile detention centres after 5 months of lockdown.
- UNICEF facilitated the donation of 960 LEGO mini-toy block sets for children at the “sanitary residences” where infected parents observe mandatory isolation period.
- PFP reached the fundraising goal of the COVID-19 response campaign with US$92,000 from 4,000+ one-off donations from pledge donors.
Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF Chile’s COVID-19 Response Plan is fully funded at the time of writing, thanks to ever-challenging but thriving in-country fundraising efforts by the PFP team, as well as EMOPS contribution.

PFP fundraising activities and funding during COVID-19

UNICEF Chile continued responding with a fundraising, awareness and retention plan during COVID-19 pandemic. The fundraising goal of the COVID-19 response campaign (started in May) was reached in August, raising US$92,000 from 4,000+ one-off donations from pledge donors. During the campaign, 3,000+ pledge donors requested UNICEF’s materials for COVID-19 response for their personal use. The DRTV campaign on the main Chilean television channels contributed to its success.

UNICEF outreached to communicate with pledge donors during August. 47,000 in-country individual donors received communication through SNS with the themes: “Parents Guide during COVID-19;” “No to Violence;“ “31 Minutes;“ and thank you messages to support UNICEF’s work to deinstitutionalize children from residential care centres of SENAME. UNICEF reached 32,000 pledge donors with Parents’ Guide through their news feed on SNS, generating 270 reactions (shares, comments and likes), and 15,000 with the guide “No to Violence."

UNICEF launched two customer fundraising campaigns with LEGO and Mercado Libre Chile to support COVID-19 response in the country and the world with.

LEGO, through Elite Brands International (LEGO’s exclusive distributor in Chile), donated 2.5% of its net sales to UNICEF to celebrate National Children’s Day during 1-23 August, through online store www.tiendago.cl and open LEGO official stores in the country. With an online shopping platform Mercado Libre, the campaign contains seven 20-minute concerts of popular Latin American singers, which are broadcasted through Chilevision (a national open TV channel) and Warner (a cable TV channel) to pay homage to health workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and with a call to action to donate to UNICEF.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

UNICEF supports municipalities for the preparation of school reopening

UNICEF is providing technical assistance to the Municipality of Renca in greater Santiago, in the development of protocols for reopening schools, in close coordination with UNESCO.

The first of 4 webinars kicked off on 27 August, co-organized by UNICEF and the Municipality, with an aim to open spaces for the municipalities to discuss and share knowledge and experiences in preparing the school reopening, while there is no specific date. For the first webinar, which both UNICEF and UNECO presented, UNICEF also invited the municipality of Rapa Nui (Easter Island) to share their experience of school reopening in July.

Based on this pilot experience, UNICEF Chile plans to build a model which can be shared and replicated by other municipalities, taking full advantage of existing frameworks and guidelines that UNICEF and partners provide globally.

To date, schools are reopen only in remote pacific islands of COVID-19 free Easter Island (974 children) and Juan Fernandez archipelago (178 children) in July. Schools in 55 comunas in step-4 (initial opening) can reopen schools, however, due to lack of clear instructions and guidelines, combined with political and/or emotional discussions, the majority of the schools remain closed.

Children receive LEGO blocks at “sanitary residences” during parents’ mandatory isolation

LEGO Elite Brands Chile donated 960 mini-toy block sets to UNICEF, which were distributed at the Ministry of Health’s “sanitary residences” where infected parents, with no physical space at home, can observe mandatory isolation period.
It is estimated that around 380 children under 10 years old spend time in confinement in these residences with their parents each month.

The sanitary residences are hotels that are closed for business for COVID-19 pandemic, identified by Ministry of Health and Municipalities, and were conditioned to provide food and health monitoring during 14 days of mandatory isolation. While they were not originally planned to receive children, its door was open for families, thanks to UNICEF’s active participation in the Government’s Advisors’ Group for Homeless People in COVID-19 pandemic, which positively influenced the Ministry of Health to make sanitary residences family-friendly.

Donations of LEGO provided children psychosocial support through playing in sanitary residences to better cope with the stress during the confinement. UNICEF will soon deliver guides and printed materials with parenting recommendations during COVID-19, together with colouring booklets for children with contents related to confinement.

This was achieved through the coordination among all the teams of the office: Programme, Communication, PFP, and Operations.

Institutionalized children and adolescents receive visits of families and loved ones after 5 months COVID-19 pandemic affected overall well-being of children and adolescents under prolonged lockdown and confinement. One of the most vulnerable groups of children separated from their families were not allowed to receive their family visits for 5 months due to the lockdown: children living in residential care centres of SENAME and adolescents in conflict with law living in juvenile detention centers.

An official guide was published in mid August specifying the new measures for children and adolescents during the transition from confinement to reopening. Thanks to UNICEF’s constant advocacy and communication with the Undersecretary for Children and SENAME, the document reflects UNICEF’s recommendations to develop special measures for children and allow them to play outside, respecting necessary prevention measures.

The guide also applies to institutionalized children in residential care centres of SENAME and adolescents in juvenile detention centres. After 5 months of lockdown, children and adolescents in residential care centres and juvenile detention centres can also receive visits from their families and loved ones. Also, children living in residential care centres can go outside with permission from the centre’s Director.

Since early stages of the pandemic, UNICEF advocated with the Government to promote children’s well-being which is directly affected by not being able to play outdoors, and with a strong focus on the most vulnerable children who are separated from their families, and not allowed to meet them due to measures taken to prevent the spread of the virus since March.

Support for migrant children and their families

During the school closure throughout the country, not all children have access to online platforms to continue their education, and not all families have access to materials and information to parenting in the context of COVID-19. Immigrant children and families living in precarious conditions, such as temporary residences and camps, near the border with Peru and Bolivia, are among the most affected.

In partnership with a local NGO partner the Jesuit Migrant Service, UNICEF donated 50 tablets with internet access for migrant children in the cities of Arica and Antofagasta to promote their access to online education activities. The donated tablets are specifically configured for children’s use for learning, and include a set of education and information materials and guides for their caregivers.

Communicating with families

UNICEF made available a number of publications to support families in parenting during COVID-19, such as “Active Parenting Guide in COVID-19” and “Speaking about COVID-19 with young children” (also available in indigenous languages of Aymara, Mapuzungun, and Rapanui). They are available on the UNICEF Chile’s SNS and on Chile Crece Contigo’s Facebook page, which has 231,479 followers.
A visual poster was developed containing practical advice for health personnel and families to facilitate the communication with hospitalized children, who are without family visits due to possible COVID-19 infections.

**Child Rights in Business**
UNICEF and the Ministry of Energy jointly produced a publication with the good practices of energy generation, transmission and distribution companies during COVID-19.

An online survey was started to collect good business practices in work-life balance and family during the pandemic, as inputs to develop a guide together with the Network of United Companies for Children (UPPI) of the Chile Crece Contigo system. The guide will be launched through a webinar and distributed to private companies in October.

**Human Interest Stories and External Media**

**31 Minutes to reach 48 million homes through Cartoon Network**
UNICEF reached more children in Chile through the series “Quarantine 31,” a joint production with “31 Minutos,” (31 Minutes in Spanish), a very popular Chilean puppet show for children and adolescents, through different TV channels. The series “Quarantine 31” includes 4 video clips to talk about children’s emotions and fear during the COVID-19 pandemic through “Studying at Home,” “Pandemic,” “Birthday,” and “Fear,” and a song “Spring,” and has had great success on the UNICEF and 31 Minutes social networks.

The “Quarantine 31” series is now broadcasted throughout Latin America by Cartoon Network and Boomerang, reaching 48 million homes and 32 million homes, respectively.

The super journalist Bodoque, a red rabbit, shares his emotions, such as fear, desperation, confusion, boredom, which are based on the results of different surveys with children. Meet Bodoque through the following links:

- Chapter 1 – Studying Home: [https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=273731507251397](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=273731507251397)
- Chapter 2 – Pandemics: [https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=761745961318885](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=761745961318885)
- Chapter 3 – Birthday: [https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=892019581289232](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=892019581289232)
- Chapter 4 – Fear: [https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=4694958440529902](https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=4694958440529902)

**Psychosocial support through a public TV channel throughout Chile**
UNICEF collaborated with TV Educa to provide psychosocial support for children, adolescents and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic, where a great majority of children still live under strict quarantine during the past 5 months. TV Educa was created to support children’s education during COVID-19 pandemic, and brings together the efforts of all open television channels in Chile, as well as paid cable and satellite TV channels. The EV Educa has an average weekly rating of 555,000 people, with more than 80,000 children per day, and TV Educa is viewed by 1 out of every 3 children who watches TV.

UNICEF made available to TV Educa video clips developed with different partners, such as “Quarantine 31,” “My Home, My Field” series (13 video clips), “Stories at Home,” with more than 100 videos produced by children of the Project “From my Window.”

**Next SitRep: September 30, 2020**
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