COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DURING

COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT



INFORMATION AND ACTION GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS & INFLUENCERS











CONTRIBUTORS OF THE PUBLICATION

- Dr. B.K.R. Batuwanthudawe Director (Actg) / Health Promotion Bureau
- Dr. Palitha Karunapema Former Director / Health Promotion Bureau
- Dr. Supun Wijesinghe Consultant Community Physician / Health Promotion Bureau
- Dr. Amanthi Bandusena Consultant Community Physician / Health Promotion Bureau
- Dr. Sherine Balasingham Consultant Community Physician / Health Promotion Bureau
- Dr. Sanjeewani Karunaratne Medical Officer / Health Promotion Bureau
- Dr. Chandima Vithana Medical Officer / Health Promotion Bureau
- Mrs. Kumari Illuppitiya Health Education Officer / Health Promotion Bureau
- Mr. N. Ketheeswaran District Health Education Officer / Vavuniya
- Dr. Vinya Ariyaratne President / Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement
- · UNICEF Sri Lanka



Contents

Intro	duction	03
SECT	TION 1 - Vaccination for Diseases	04
SECT	TION 2 - COVID-19 Vaccination	05
	TION 3 - COVID-19 Preventive aviours	09
SECT	TION 4 - Community Role During ID-19 Vaccine Rollout	
	Nominate or Appoint a Coordination Committee	
_	Capacity Building of the Committee Members	13
—	Ongoing Communication among the Committee Members	13
	Community - Led Activities to Improve Village Environment Adherence to COVID-19 Preventive Behaviours	14
	Community - Led Communication Activities to Promote COVID-19 Vaccine Roll Out and COVID-19 Preventive Behaviours	15
—	Identify & Counter False Information Regarding COVID-19 and Vaccine	16
	Support Public Health Staff to Roll Out COVID-19 Vaccination Sessions	16
_	Monitor the impact of Community Engagement Interventions	17
APPE Ques	NDIX 1 – Frequently Asked stions About COVID-19 Vaccine	18
APPE Coor	NDIX 2 – Monitor Progress of the rdination Committee	21
	NDIX 3 – Self Reporting Survey	26
REFEI	RENCES	28



INTRODUCTION

8

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected millions of people across the world and has resulted in loss of many lives. To protect people from COVID-19, vaccines are being developed. Vaccination is a critical intervention to protect populations from COVID-19, especially in combination with COVID-19 preventive behaviours. Safe and effective vaccines will be a gamechanger: but for the foreseeable future we must continue wearing masks, physical distancing, frequently washing hands with soap, avoiding crowds and other COVID-19 preventive behaviours. Being vaccinated does not mean that we can throw caution to the wind and put ourselves and others at risk.

Community Engagement increases the likelihood that communities lead on the issues that affect them, use services, and build resilience. During the COVID-19 vaccine roll out, Community Engagement should be at the center. As Community Leaders and Influencers, the role you play is crucial and significant for Sri Lanka to recover better from COVID-19.

This information and action guide mainly covers four sections; Vaccination for Diseases, COVID-19 Vaccination, COVID-19 preventive behaviours and Community Engagement during COVID-19 vaccine roll out. Guide provides overall recommendations for the community role under the fourth section, and it is expected from Community Leaders and Influencers to use those recommendations as a guide and modify according to the ground realities.

Note: Certain information in this guide could change based on the upcoming new evidence and government policy decisions.





SECTION 1 – VACCINATION FOR DISEASES



What is vaccination?

- Vaccination is a simple, safe, and effective way of protecting people against harmful diseases.
- Vaccines trigger the body to produce immunity to a specific disease by making our immune system stronger and prepared.
- Vaccines save 5 lives in every minute

History of Vaccination in Sri Lanka

- Sri Lanka's immunization programme is widely recognized as one of the strongest performers in the region and in the whole world.
- In Sri Lanka, we have a strong public demand for high-quality, safely delivered vaccines and the country has been declared as free from maternal and neonatal tetanus and poliomyelitis.
- 99.1% of children in Sri Lanka receive their vaccinations on time.

How are vaccines developed?

- As with all medicines, every vaccine must undergo extensive and rigorous testing to ensure it is safe before introducing into a country's vaccination programme.
- New vaccines are first tested on animals in a pre-clinical phase and then in human clinical trials in three phases.

 This is to evaluate their safety and potential to prevent disease.





SECTION 2 - COVID-19 VACCINATION



Note: Certain information in this chapter could change based on the upcoming new evidence and government policy decisions.

COVID -19 preventive behaviours are extremely important, but disease control with behaviour alone has been difficult to achieve. A vaccine together with preventive behaviours may be the only possible exit from pandemic.



Why is it important to get COVID -19 vaccine?

1



COVID -19 is highly infectious and spreads quickly. It can cause serious illness, hospitalization, long term complications and even death.

2



Being in good health does not reduce your risk of catching COVID-19 and spreading it.

3



If you are infected with COVID-19, you can infect your loved ones and those around you even if you have very mild symptoms or no symptoms at all.

4



Getting your vaccine will protect you and will help protect your family and those around you.



Benefits of COVID -19 vaccine?



Lowers chance of infection with COVID-19



Less severe disease, less complications if you do get infected with COVID-19



Lowers chance of death



Lowers transmission





Is COVID-19 Vaccine safe?



- Vaccine safety is the most important factor in the process of vaccine development.
- The same steps that are used for other vaccines are used for COVID-19 vaccine development as well. No short cuts have been taken.
- With COVID-19 becoming a global health emergency, scientists around the world were working very hard to get vaccines out as soon as possible.
- Traditional vaccine development follows each step-in sequence; for COVID-19 vaccines, steps were carried out in parallel (simultaneously) to accelerate the process when it was safe to do so.
- Since the COVID-19 vaccine received unprecedented attention and funding, research groups did not have to pause for months between clinical phases to secure funding. Evaluations of different vaccines were done very fast.
- All vaccines brought to Sri Lanka will undergo an assessment by experts and receive clearance from the National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA).
- Although COVID-19 vaccines are being developed quickly, all essential steps are followed, and the usual safety and efficacy monitoring mechanisms remain in place.



Are there side effects from COVID-19 vaccines?

- Like any medicine or vaccine, COVID-19 vaccines can cause mild side effects such as fever, headache, tiredness, muscle pain, chills, and/or pain or redness at the injection site.
- If side effects occur, they are likely to start 10-12 hours after receiving the vaccine and reduce in 1-2 days. This can be expected and is a natural part of the immune response.
- Severe or long-lasting side effects are extremely rare, for which medical attention must be sought.
- To ensure your safety and wellbeing, you will be observed for 20 minutes after vaccination.



Vaccines are continuously monitored for safety, to detect rare adverse events. Therefore, it is important that vaccine recipients inform designated health authorities of any experienced side effects or adverse events.

If the vaccine you took has two doses, is it important to take both doses?

- · It is important to take both doses.
- The first dose presents the new antigen to the immune system and the second dose gives the boost to immune system.





Who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccine?



- In general, anyone who is 18 years or older is eligible for vaccine. In Sri Lanka, initially people above the age of 30 will receive the vaccine according to the priority plan.
- Globally, the current vaccine supply does not meet the demand. Therefore, vaccines will come to Sri Lanka in batches. Although we may be eligible for the vaccine, it is important to understand the phased approach followed by the government during the vaccination roll out process where certain populations will be prioritized based on risk (high case reporting areas, older people, etc.).
- Therefore, it is our responsibility to wait for our turn.



Who is not eligible for COVID-19 vaccine?

- Those allergic to any component of the vaccine
- Those with severe allergy to a previous dose of the same vaccine
- Those with previous severe allergic reaction/anaphylaxis to any vaccine requiring hospitalization





Get advice from health care personnel before vaccination if

 You had an allergic reaction previously to any drug, food or vaccine



REMEMBER!



- COVID-19 vaccines cannot cause infertility!
- COVID-19 vaccines cannot change the DNA!
- COVID-19 vaccines that are currently available do NOT contain materials from cows or pigs!
- All the components that are included in the COVID-19 vaccines are heavily tested to ensure safety!



Get more information on COVID-19 vaccines through:

- · Your healthcare worker
- The websites and social media platforms of trustworthy sources like Epidemiology Unit-SL, Health Promotion Bureau, WHO and UNICEF
- 1999 "Suwaseriya" hot line

For more information on COVID-19 Vaccine refer Appendix 1.



SECTION 3 – COVID-19 PREVENTIVE BEHAVIOURS

Does the development of COVID-19 vaccine mean the pandemic is over?

- Vaccines are important tools, but they will not end the pandemic by themselves.
- It's very important that everyone including the ones who get the vaccine continue to practice COVID-19 preventive behaviours to protect everyone in the community.

Why do you need to follow COVID-19 preventive behaviours?

- Since vaccines will be arriving in batches, vaccination will occur over a long period of time. As mentioned earlier, several groups would not be considered for the vaccination at this stage.
- Vaccines appear to be efficacious against developing the disease. Vaccination reduces, but does not completely stop disease transmission.
- All vaccines are very effective and greatly helpful to prevent infection, but there still remains a possibility of infection even after vaccination. A small percentage of people, due to their genetic and/or biological characteristics, will not develop protection as expected after receiving the COVID-19 vaccination. Also, several factors such as a person's age, underlying health conditions, or previous exposure to COVID-19 infection may impact to what extent they will be protected from COVID-19.
- It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination.
 It is possible that a person has already been infected a short period of time
 before vaccination or gets infected just after the vaccination. This is because
 the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection, not because the
 vaccine was ineffective.

Further information on both COVID-19 and vaccines for COVID-19 will be available with time and, these would further help infection prevention and improvement of health.





What are the COVID-19 preventive behaviours that we should follow?



1



Wash hands at least for 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub

Cover cough and sneeze with elbow or a tissue. Dispose tissue to a dustbin with lid



2

3



Maintain at least one-meter distance from others

Always wear a clean mask properly



4

5



Routinely clean surfaces using proper disinfectants

Avoid crowded places



6

7



Avoid close-contact settings

Avoid closed and confined spaces



8



CALL 1999

Stay at home if you don't feel well. Call 1999 if you have symptoms (fever, cough, cold, sore throat, difficulty in breathing, diarrhea or feel unwell)





SECTION 4 – COMMUNITY ROLE DURING COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT



Community Engagement plays a critical role in any successful disease control and elimination process. National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP) for COVID-19 vaccines in Sri Lanka emphasizes the role of Community Engagement to ensure public participation and cooperation for the national strategy. This is achieved through educated, empowered, and enabled individuals, families and communities. This is the moment country needs all of your support as Community Influencers and Leaders to recover better from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Community Influencers and Leaders, your active engagement is required to:

- 1. Sustain environment in the villages to maintain COVID-19 preventive behaviours and to actively promote them among communities
- 2. Increase community confidence and uptake for COVID-19 vaccine through disseminating correct & timely information and also by providing understanding on the phased approach
- 3. Support Public Health Staff through coordination and logistics to successfully carry out COVID-19 vaccination sessions



Nominate or Appoint a Coordination Committee

- A new committee or an existing committee in the village can be adapted for this purpose.
- Below are some of the village leaders that can be considered to include for the committee in the capacity of members or advisors. It is suggested to limit the number of committee members to below 15 individuals.
 - Religious and Faith Leaders
 - Grama Niladhari
 - Public Health Staff (Public Health Inspector, Public Health Midwife)
 - Community Police Officer





- Relevant government officers (Economic Development Officer, Samurdhi Development Officer, Agriculture Officer, Child Right Promotion Officer)
- School Principal
- Pre School Teacher
- Leaders of Community Based Organizations (e.g. Happy Village Groups, etc.)
- Leaders of Children Societies
- Leaders of Youth Societies
- Leaders of Women Societies (e.g. Mother Support Groups, etc.)
- Leaders of Elders' Societies
- Representatives from Civil Society Organizations
- Other selected community leaders and influencers
- While considering the members for the committees, it is important to consider the engagement of all religious and ethnic groups, people with disabilities, women, other marginalized populations and hard to reach communities according to the context in your village.
- After deciding the key responsibilities of the committee (e.g. who is leading the committee, who is taking notes, etc.), meetings can be taken bi-weekly or monthly.
- Ensure all the COVID-19 preventive behaviours are followed throughout the committee meetings and interventions, and committee members need to be active promoters of these behaviours in the village.
- Committee can lead and coordinate below suggested activities, and also include any other relevant activities to support COVID-19 vaccine rollout.
- Use Appendix-2 as a progress monitoring report of the committee interventions. Leader of the Coordination committee or a designated member can complete the report during each meeting with the support of Civil Society Organization representative.



Capacity Building of the committee members

- It is essential to develop the capacity of the coordination committee and any other relevant community members as soon as the committee is formed.
- A training can be arranged and Public Health Staff (Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Inspector, Public Health Midwife) can conduct the training. Civil Society Organization representatives can support to coordinate and facilitate this as needed.
- Subject areas that can be considered for the training: COVID-19 vaccine and roll out, phased approach followed during vaccination to select target groups, importance of COVID-19 preventive behaviours and support expected for Public Health Staff prior, during and after vaccination.
- Conduct a similar training for the Women's Society and Children & Youth Societies of the village.
- Committee members are expected to share the knowledge received through this initial training to other community members through formal and informal channels.
- Committee members should be keen to update their knowledge regularly, especially considering the dynamic situation with the pandemic.



Ongoing communication among the committee members

 Create a mobile messaging group (WhatsApp/Viber/Imo group) among committee members to improve their understanding and to facilitate regular communication.

 Assign members (preferably Child/Youth members) to share COVID-19 related content published in below organizations' and trusted CSOs' (e.g. Sarvodaya) websites and social media platforms on daily basis, through this messaging group.



Epidemiology Unit: www.epid.gov.lk/web/

• Health Promotion Bureau: www.hpb.health.gov.lk/en/covid-19

Facebook: www.facebook.com/hpbsrilanka/

Twitter: www.twitter.com/hpbsrilanka

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UC6XsnLgVVzNkjTCpRVJ6u3w

WHO Sri Lanka: www.who.int/srilanka/covid-19
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/WHOSriLanka
 Twitter: www.twitter.com/WHOSriLanka

UNICEF Sri Lanka: www.unicef.org/srilanka/covid-19
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNICEFSriLanka

Twitter: www.twitter.com/UNICEF_SriLanka

Instagram: www.instagram.com/unicef_srilanka/

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCASQLdv57T7k2iC4g0-kleg

- Members assigned to manage this group should take the responsibility to update committee regularly with up to date information received from trusted sources only. This messaging group would be critical to clear any false information disseminated related to vaccination process.
- Committee members are encouraged to share the content received through this messaging group among the wider village community.
- If any of the committee members is not included in mobile messaging group (e.g. due to unavailability of access to internet or messaging apps, etc.), other communication channels should be used to keep them updated regularly.



Community-led activities to improve village environment adherence to COVID-19 preventive behaviours

- Understand the gaps in village environment that hinder adherence to COVID-19 preventive behaviours mentioned under section 3.
- Discuss among the committee members and identify a list of activities that can be conducted in your village (e.g. hand washing stations at common premises, signages on floor to ensure physical distancing at common premises, etc.).
- Prioritize some activities that need to be done and work together to implement them. You can refer relevant section in Appendix 2 to get an idea of a template that you can use to plan.
 - For additional support, implementation, sustainability & maintenance of these activities, connect with the wider village community, other village-based societies and Civil Society Organizations.





Community-led communication activities to promote COVID-19 vaccine roll out and COVID-19 preventive behaviours

- Your support is essential to communicate these key messages among wider village community specially for the villagers who are hard to reach through mass media and social media.
- Key Messages that you can focus during communication activities
 COVID-19 preventive behaviours preventive behaviours that everyone needs to follow, importance of following these behaviours
 - **COVID-19 Vaccine rollout** Importance of vaccination, Safety of the vaccine and its development process, phased approach followed during vaccination to select target groups
- Also remember that COVID-19 virus doesn't discriminate any of us. So, in your community you have a role to address if there is any stigma and discrimination towards any member or a group. Consider this also during planning your communication activities.
- Discuss among the committee members and identify a list of communication activities that can be conducted in your village (e.g. Loudspeaker announcements using available audio messages, Displaying posters at common premises).

Prioritize some communication activities that need to be done
and work together to implement them. You can refer relevant
section in Appendix 2 to get an idea of a template that you can
use to plan.

 Already developed communication materials can be obtained through trusted information sources including the Epidemiology Unit, Health Promotion Bureau, WHO Sri Lanka, UNICEF Sri Lanka and trusted Civil Society Organizations (e.g. Sarvodaya).

 Connect with the wider village community, other village-based societies and Civil Society Organizations for additional support, implementation and to increase the reach. Also consider how you can monitor the uptake of messages.





Identify & Counter false information regarding COVID-19 and Vaccine

- Misinformation is false information that's shared by people who don't realize it
 is false and don't mean any harm. Disinformation is deliberately engineered
 and disseminated false information with malicious intent or to serve agendas.
- Currently, we see large amount of misinformation and disinformation related to COVID-19 and vaccine. Role of the Community Influencers and Leaders is critical to identify these and disseminate counter correct narratives.
- Nominate members (preferably youth) to identify false information related to COVID-19 and vaccine that are spread through online and offline channels.
 Encourage them to frequently reach out to Public Health Staff and update them about this false information.
- Encourage nominated member to find counter correct narratives for this false information through the trusted sources and to share the correct information with coordinating committee during the meetings and through mobile messaging group.
- Encourage them to widely share the counter correct narratives through online and offline channels among the wider village community.



Support Public Health Staff to roll out COVID-19 vaccination sessions

In coordination with the Public Health Staff:

- Support to communicate the details related to vaccination session (i.e. date, time, location) among the eligible village members.
- Arrange required refreshments and logistics for the vaccination sessions (e.g. tents, chairs, hand washing stations, drinking water etc.) and support for crowd management when required.
- Support community members with disabilities and walking difficulties through transportation arrangements to arrive and return back from vaccine sessions.



- Reach out for the most marginalized groups, hard to reach populations and vaccine hesitant groups and encourage them to take vaccine.
- Support Public Health Staff appropriately during the events of adverse effects (if there are any).
- Identify dropouts of the first dose of vaccine and encourage them to take the vaccine.
- Encourage community members to take the second dose of vaccine within the recommended time interval if vaccine has two doses.
- Encourage village members to follow COVID-19 preventive behaviours before, during and after the vaccination.



Monitor the impact of Community Engagement Interventions

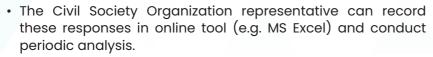
Observation Based

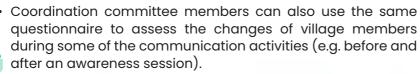
- Encourage coordination committee members to be on alert about how COVID-19 preventive behaviours are followed by the village members during their day to day life.
- Allocate sufficient time during the coordination committee meetings to discuss about these observations.
- Identify the key pockets in the community where less priority is given to these behaviours, and consciously focus on community-led activities and communication activities more for these pockets.



Self-Reporting Survey Based

- It is important to monitor the changes in public intentions to get COVID-19 vaccine along with the Community Engagement interventions.
- It is suggested for the Coordination Committee to complete questionnaire in Appendix 3 at the beginning (i.e. when forming/adapting the committee) and after regular intervals (i.e. after the initial training, after every three months since then) to monitor the changes of intentions. Anonymously completed questionnaires can be given back to the Civil Society Organization representative.











APPENDIX 1 – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINE



Note: Certain information in this chapter could change based on the upcoming new evidence and government policy decisions.



What is in the COVID -19 vaccine?

- Vaccines introduce a foreign body (a substance not found in the body) that is very similar to the disease-causing germ into your system; this is called an antigen.
- In COVID -19 vaccine the antigen is a killed form of the virus.
- This trains our bodies to recognize and fight against COVID -19 if we encounter it in future.





How are COVID-19 vaccines administered?



- Vaccines are given intramuscularly via injection to the upper arm.
- Most of the currently available vaccines recommend two doses. Interval between the doses could be varied according to the vaccine.
- If there are two doses, full effectiveness of the vaccine will be achieved with completion of both doses.



Can a person get COVID-19 through vaccination?

- No. None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines or any of the COVID-19 vaccines currently in development contain the live virus that causes COVID-19.
- This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot cause the disease.



If a person already had COVID-19 and recovered, do they still need to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

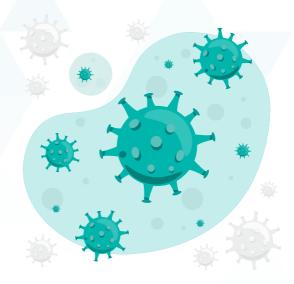


- Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that reinfection with COVID-19 is possible, vaccines should be offered regardless of whether the individual has already had COVID-19.
- After two weeks following the complete recovery from COVID-19, an individual can get the vaccine. If two doses are available in the vaccine, both doses should be taken.
- The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called natural Immunity, varies from person to person.

(3)

Do COVID-19 vaccines protect against the various strains of COVID-19?

- This virus, like other viruses, constantly changes over time.
- What we presently know is that the vaccines currently available and in development should provide protection against the various strains of SARS-CoV-2 reported so far.
- Health experts continuously monitor these changes and their effect on diagnostics, treatment, and vaccines.





How will people know when and where to get the vaccine?



- The Medical Officer of Health (MOH) office will identify areas and centers and assign vaccination times for each area according to a plan.
- It is the responsibility of local health, administrative, political and community representatives to keep public informed (for both permanent and temporary residents) in advance of when and where to come for vaccination without leaving anyone behind.
- People should wait for the vaccination program in their area to be announced.



What should a person mention to health care provider before getting COVID-19 Vaccine?

Tell the healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:



If you have ever had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) after taking any drug, any vaccine or any ingredients of a vaccine



If you have fever





If you have a bleeding disorder



If you are immune compromised or are on a medicine that affects your immune system



If you are pregnant



If you have received another COVID-19 vaccine

It is important to securely keep your vaccination card received at the vaccination session.

Remember to bring the vaccination card when receiving the second dose of vaccine (if vaccine has two doses).





Appendix 2 – Monitor progress of the Coordination Committee



Progress Monitoring Report: COVID-19 Coordination Committee

*To be completed by the Leader of the Coordination committee or designated member with the support of Civil Society Organization representative

District: Divisional Secretariat Division: Grama Niladhari Division:

Committee Structure

Complete below table with the details of committee members. Also include the details of the Civil Society Organization representative into the table

	Name	Role in the committee (if any)	Role in the village (if any)	Age	Gender	Ethnicity	Contact Number
01							
02							
03							
04							
05							
06							
07							
08							
09							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							

Complete below table with the details of advisors (if there are any).

		Name	Role in the committee (if any)	Role in the village (if any)	Age	Gender	Ethnicity	Contact Number
C)1							
C)2							
C	03							
C)4							
C)5							

Soon after forming the committee, complete the short survey in Appendix 3. Provide the completed papers to Civil Society Organization representative.

All the members completed the short survey: Yes | No

Initial Training for the Coordination Committee Members

- Conducted Date:
- · Conducted By:
- · Number of participants attended for the training:
- · Areas covered during the training:

Soon after the training, complete the short survey in Appendix 3. Provide the completed papers to Civil Society Organization representative.

All the members attended for training completed the short survey: Yes | No

Details of the training conducted for Women's Society

- Conducted Date:
- · Conducted By:
- Number of participants attended for the training:
- · Areas covered during the training:

Details of the training conducted for Child & Youth Society

- · Conducted Date:
- · Conducted By:
- Number of participants attended for the training:
- · Areas covered during the training:

Details of the Coordination Committee Meetings

During each meeting complete the below table. Mention the meeting date at the top and put tick marks only to the completed/successful items.

	Meeting Dates											
Meeting conducted adhering to the COVID-19 preventive behaviours												
Discussed about possible activities that committee can lead to improve village environment to be safe from COVID-19												
Discussed about possible communication activities that committee can lead												

Assigned member(s) shared COVID-19 and vaccine related information in the messaging group during past weeks								
Assigned member(s) shared COVID-19 and vaccine related false information identified during past weeks and the counter information								
Committee members shared the observations they had during past weeks on how villagers followed COVID-19 preventive behaviours								
Committee members shared chall- enges they encountered, questions they have and discussed how to proceed								

Mobile Messaging Group among Committee Members

- Group Type (WhatsApp, Viber, Imo):
- Created Date:
- Names of the assigned member(s) to share COVID-19 and vaccine related information in the messaging group (Preferably Child/Youth members):
- Members not included to this group since they are not using the application:

Community-led activities to improve village environment adherence to COVID-19 preventive behaviours

Only include completed activities to the table.

(Example activities: Hand washing stations at common premises, signages on floor to ensure physical distancing at common premises)

	Completed Activity	Member(s) who led	Number of beneficiaries (approx.)	Completed Date	How sustainability/ maintenance is planned
L					

Community-led communication activities to promote COVID-19 vaccine rollout and COVID-19 preventive behaviours

Only include completed activities to the table.

(Example activities: Loudspeaker announcements using available audio messages, Displaying posters at common premises)

Completed Activity	Member(s) who led	Target Audience and Reach (approx.)	Completed Date	Key Messages shared

Identify & Counter False Information on COVID-19 and Vaccine

Names of the assigned member(s) to identify false information and to update with correct information (Preferably Youth members):

Update the table during each meeting with the information shared by the assigned members.

False Information	Sources of Receipt (e.g. through Facebook, through friend etc.)	Date of Receipt	Counter correct information received from trusted source	How the correct information is passed to the person(s) who shared the false information

Support provided to the Public Health Staff to facilitate COVID-19 vaccination sessions

List down how coordination committee along with other villagers supported to conduct vaccination sessions.

Monitor the impact of Community Engagement Interventions

After every three months since the initial training, coordination committee members can complete the short survey in Appendix 3. Provide the completed papers to Civil Society Organization representative.

All members completed the survey after three months of the initial training: Yes | No All members completed the survey after six months of the initial training: Yes | No All members completed the survey after nine months of the initial training: Yes | No

Any other information

Coordination committee member who recorded the details - Name:

Signature:

Civil Society Organization representative - Name:

Signature:



APPENDIX 3 – SELF REPORTING SURVEY



District: Divisional Secretariat Division:

Grama Niladhari Division: Date:
Gender: Male | Female | Other Age:

Ethnicity: Sinhala | Tamil | Muslim | Malay | Burgher | Other

Note: If you have already got the vaccine, only answer Question 8 and 9.

- As you feel, how easy is it to get vaccination services for yourself? Select one answer.
 - a. Not at all easy
 - b. A little easy
 - c. Moderately easy
 - d. Very easy
- 2. As you feel, what makes it hard for you to get the vaccine? Check all that apply.
 - a. Nothing. It's not hard
 - b. I can't go on my own (I have a physical limitation)
 - c. The vaccination site is too far away
 - d. The operating times are inconvenient
 - e. People are turned away without vaccination
 - f. The waiting time is too long
 - g. It is too crowded at vaccination clinic/hospital
 - h. Something else, please specify: _____
- 3. How much would you trust the new COVID-19 vaccine if it was available for you now? Select one answer.
 - a. Not at all
 - b. A little
 - c. Moderately
 - d. Very much
- 4. How important do you think getting a COVID-19 vaccine will be for your health? Select one answer.
 - a. Not at all important
 - b. A little important
 - c. Moderately important
 - d. Very important



- 5. Do you think most of your close family and friends would want you to get a COVID-19 vaccine? Select one answer.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not sure
- 6. If a COVID-19 vaccine is available to you, will you get it? Select one answer.
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Not sure
- 7. If you are not willing or not sure to get the vaccine, what are your main concerns related to vaccine? Check all that apply.
 - a. It will increase chances of getting COVID-19
 - b. It is not effective
 - c. Vaccine is not tested or trialed properly
 - d. Side effects are there
 - e. It is not proven that it will cure COVID-19
 - f. Not safe to take
 - g. I'm not eligible for the vaccine
 - h. I'm not sure whether I'm eligible for the vaccine
 - i. Something else, please specify: _____
- 8. From a scale of 0 to 10, how many village members do you think daily follow COVID-19 preventive behaviours (such as wearing a mask correctly, physical distancing, frequent hand washing etc.) in your village? Select one number.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No one follows										Everyone follows

- 9. How important is it to follow COVID-19 preventive behaviours (such as wearing a mask correctly, physical distancing, frequent hand washing etc.) after getting the vaccine? Select one answer.
 - a. Not at all important
 - b. A little important
 - c. Moderately important
 - d. Very important



- Atkinson, JA., Vallely, A., Fitzgerald, L. et al. The architecture and effect of participation: a systematic review of community participation for communicable disease control and elimination. Implications for malaria elimination. Malar J 10, 225 (2011). https://doi.org/10.1186/1475-2875-10-225
- Health Promotion Bureau. (n.d.). COVID-19: What you need to know. [online]
 Available at: https://www.hpb.health.gov.lk/en/covid-19 [Accessed 24 Mar. 2021].
- Lewandowsky, S., Cook, J., Schmid, P., Holford, D. L., Finn, A., Leask, J., Thomson, A., Lombardi, D., Al-Rawi, A. K., Amazeen, M. A., Anderson, E. C., Armaos, K. D., Betsch, C., Bruns, H. H. B., Ecker, U. K. H., Gavaruzzi, T., Hahn, U., Herzog, S., Juanchich, M., Kendeou, P., Newman, E. J., Pennycook, G., Rapp, D. N., Sah, S., Sinatra, G. M., Tapper, K., Vraga, E. K (2021). The COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Handbook. A practical guide for improving vaccine communication and fighting misinformation. Available at: https://sks.to/c19vax
- National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP) for COVID-19 Vaccines. (2021). Ministry of Health.
- Sarvodaya (n.d.). සර්වෝදය සුවෝදය සේවය: කොවිඩ් නිවාරණය සඳහා පුජාව සූදානම් කිරීමේ මාර්ගෝපදේශන සංගුහය [Sarvodaya Suvodaya Service: Community Preparation Guidelines for COVID Prevention]. 1st ed.
- Sri Lanka Medical Association Colombo (2017). SLMA GUIDELINES & INFORMATION
 ON VACCINES. 6th ed. [online] Available at:
 <u>www.slma.lk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/GSK-SLMA-Guidelines-Information-on-Vaccines.pdf</u> [Accessed 19 Mar. 2021].
- UNICEF and WHO (2021). Data for action: achieving high uptake of COVID-19 vaccines: Interim Guidance. [online] Available at: www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccination-demand-planning-2021.1 [Accessed 2 Mar. 2021].
- UNICEF Middle East and North Africa. (n.d.). Vaccine misinformation management field guide. [online] Available at: https://www.unicef.org/mena/reports/vaccine-misinformation-management-field-guide [Accessed 21 Mar. 2021]

- UNICEF South Asia. (2019). Sustaining Vaccination Coverage. [online] Available at: https://www.unicef.org/rosa/reports/sustaining-vaccination-coverage [Accessed 15 Mar. 2021].
- UNICEF Sri Lanka. (n.d.). Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). [online] Available at. https://www.unicef.org/srilanka/COVID-19 [Accessed 24 Mar. 2021].
- UNICEF, WHO, 2021. Conducting community engagement for COVID-19 vaccines
 Interim Guidance 31 January 2021. [online] Available at. https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/339451 [Accessed 20 March 2021].
- WHO Sri Lanka. (n.d.). COVID-19. [online] Available at. https://www.who.int/srilanka/COVID-19 Accessed 22 Mar. 2021]
- WHO Sri Lanka, Ministry of Health and Rotary (2021). A CALL FOR ACTION: To people's representatives, religious and community leaders: Ensuring a successful public vaccination program against COVID-19. 1st ed.









