

Annex

Temasek Foundation COVID-19 Initiatives

Since early last year, Temasek Foundation has been working with multiple partners to provide support in and outside Singapore in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first nationwide #BYOBclean in March 2020 was an initiative in Singapore to encourage hand hygiene, where Temasek Foundation partnered with People's Association, corporates, unions, universities, and community organisations to provide 500ml of free hand sanitiser to every household in Singapore. Residents brought their own bottles, and volunteers helped to mix and fill these #BYOBclean bottles. The second #BYOBclean nationwide initiative in April 2021 was the first in the world to use vending machines to mix and dispense hand sanitisers.

Temasek Foundation also contributed five rounds of free reusable masks in June/July 2020, September/October 2020, November/December 2020, March 2021 and August/September 2021. The use of reusable masks helps to lower infection spread, and reduce plastic waste from disposable masks.

With the emergence of more infectious COVID-19 variants, Temasek Foundation has also distributed over 75 million medical grade single-use masks in August/September 2021. These include over 50 million medical grade surgical masks which can be used as an added layer of protection on top of reusable masks or used on their own; and over 25 million N95 hospital grade masks for use in high exposure risk situations.

In July/August, Temasek Foundation also distributed over 1 million free oximeters to interested households in Singapore to empower residents to monitor their blood oxygen levels regularly. By knowing their normal oxygen levels, people can be alerted if their oxygen levels drop below normal, and avert dangerous "silent pneumonia" from COVID-19 infections.

Other community efforts in Singapore by Temasek Foundation included:

1. setting up web portal *MyMentalHealth* with specially-curated articles to encourage mindfulness and mental well-being during this stressful period;
2. funding more than 400,000 meals in partnership with various meal support programmes for the vulnerable;
3. providing *Back to School* care packs consisting of hand sanitisers and face shields to all pre-school and primary school students when they headed back to school last year;
4. distributing about 1 million face shields to frontline workers, including those in the F&B and hairdressing sector;
5. providing care packs including oximeters, sanitisers, and masks to various vulnerable community segments; and
6. distributing 100,000 bottles of Vitamin D₃ tablets to vulnerable communities, seniors, and expectant mothers.

Temasek Foundation has also facilitated over 200,000 swab tests plus care packs for priority groups such as migrant workers, essential and frontline staff, stallholders, retail assistants and town council staff in our residential precincts to ensure that our community stays prepared and keep safe.

More recently, we launched Youth Action for Pandemics, an initiative for people under 40 years old with innovative ideas to help address COVID-19 and prepare for the next pandemic.

Besides taking care of our local community, Temasek Foundation recognises the need to ensure that communities beyond Singapore are well-equipped against this pandemic. Initiatives include the donation of Personal Protection Equipment such as masks, gowns, and gloves; oxygen-related support equipment, from oxygen concentrators and ventilators, to ICU ventilators and ECMO lung machines; and diagnostics such as test kits to healthcare partners in some 40 countries beyond Singapore.

Together with the World Food Programme and Singapore Airlines, we have been supporting efforts to transport essential medical supplies and other health and humanitarian items to points of need across Asia and the Pacific. Singapore Airlines and Temasek Foundation co-sponsored the cost of flights to transport the life-saving supplies to different countries. The partnership has so far completed more than 40 flights, carrying over 5,200 cubic metres of COVID-related products such as oxygen equipment, face shields, goggles, gowns, and respirator masks.

For more information about other Stay Prepared initiatives, visit stayprepared.sg.

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