



Growing concerns for stateless people in Asia and the Pacific during the COVID-19 global pandemic

The Stateless Network Asia Pacific (SNAP) and our members are deeply concerned about the implications of the COVID-19 global pandemic on stateless persons in the region.

COVID-19 places everyone at risk, but when denied fundamental rights, such as the right to health and freedom of movement, stateless people are some of the most vulnerable.

Both prevention and treatment are critical to addressing the risks faced by COVID-19. However, in many contexts, stateless people are denied both.

Stateless people in densely populated camps and detention centres, as well as those in situations of homelessness and poverty, are at high risk of infection due to the inability to be protected through social distancing and preventative hygiene measures. Many stateless people are denied access to critical health services and information on prevention and treatment. Many are also at-risk of being detained if they do seek such assistance.

SNAP is working to support the work of colleagues internationally and in the region, in responding to the unique risks faced by stateless people in the region.

We are working alongside various stakeholders during this crisis, and we are pleased to share some of their work below. Please let us know if you have further resources to share.

- WHO, OHCHR, IOM and UNHCR's joint statement - link [here](#)
- UN Network on Migration's statement - link [here](#)
- International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC)'s key messages on reducing the risk of infection - link [here](#)
- Minority Rights Group's call for case studies - link [here](#)
- Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) statement - link [here](#)
- International Detention Coalition (IDC) will hold consultations on the risks to people affected by or at risk of immigration detention in the region due to COVID-19 - contact [here](#)
- Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion's (ISI) statement - link [here](#) - and what COVID-19 means for stateless persons - link [here](#)
- ISI is also collating information on the implications of COVID-19 on stateless persons and the work of actors in this space - contact [here](#)