

# A. SPREAD OF COVID-19 AND DIRECT HEALTH EFFECTS

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**A m** , **i** **C ID-19**  
 vaccines have been developed but the pandemic will not be over  
 anywhere—as a public health crisis or as a drag on the global  
 distribution of effective vaccines is both a moral responsibility  
 other developing countries as well as high-income countries.

most urgent priority is to stop the pandemic. It is a moral responsibility of the global community to go beyond na-

<sup>3</sup>The cutoff date for the data analysis in this section is 25 March 2021. All data is from the WHO database on COVID-19, unless otherwise stated. The database



In Haiti, the only LDCs in the Americas, a total of over a thousand cases per 1 million people have been reported with 251 deaths or about 22 deaths per 1 million people.



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across much of the country reopened with a phased approach  
only in early November.

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spond to the pandemic, as the public health response relied  
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on early November and on 9 November quarantine with partic-  
ular attention given to Timorese returning from overseas and  
reinforced security and surveillance at the borders. All cas-  
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capacity of hospital services, raises concerns in terms of a  
potential second wave of the virus that could affect the coun-  
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The continuing COVID-19 pandemic and its multifaceted

assistance to Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Mauritius and Seychelles.<sup>13</sup> The soaring level of infections has led the Indian government to increase vaccine production, triggering setbacks for vaccination drives in several African countries. In March and April, vaccine production in India would face delays because of "increased demand for Covid-19 vaccines in India."

The African Union (AU) is discussing with the Africa Union and partners about the equitable access of COVID-19 vaccines, especially in view of the potential, in a few years, for regular, additional vaccination or boosting. Senegal is among the African Union member states.

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## B. THE CONSEQUENCES OF COVID-19 ON WELLBEING

tion in everyday life, with wider socio-economic implications globally. This section will focus on the following aspects to assess the consequences of COVID-19 on wellbeing in LDCs, access to education, given the limited digital and Internet connectivity. For an assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on other well-being measures such as health and food security, see sections A and C. of this report, respectively.

### B.1.1 ACCESS TO EDUCATION IN LDCs

LDCs have generally lagged behind on SDG 1 (poverty eradication) with the LDCs rising from 340 million in 2010 to 349 million in 2018 (Akiwumi and Valensisi, 2020). Due to the challenges arising from conducting household surveys, there is often a lag of a few years in poverty estimates. World Bank pre-COVID data shows that the population living below US\$1.90 per day was about 35.1 percent in 2018 (see Figure B.1). While this is a significant improvement since 2010, SDG 1 of eradicating poverty