

# COVID-19 Food & Beverage Impact: Monitoring Update

20 Mar 2020

As the coronavirus cases spreads globally, the industry is beginning to feel the early impacts in their supply chain, including business operations, logistic service, and retail to customers.

This weekly FIA report serves to examine the updates and impacts of COVID-19 towards the food supply chain in Asian countries. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this report is accurate at the time of distribution.

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Country	Issue	Period	Restrictions	Impact on Food Supply Chain
Brunei	Travel restrictions	16 March onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All citizens and residents are restricted from leaving the country, except in certain circumstances such as undergoing urgent medical care, attending court hearings or resuming study abroad.</li> </ul>	N.A.
	General Advisory for Workplace <sup>1</sup>	16 March onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All workplaces to observe the Workplace Safety and Health Order (WSHO) 2009 and take precautionary measures.</li> </ul>	N.A.
China	Lock down of cities in China since 23 January 2020	Started from 23 January 2020 (Vary from region to region)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The COVID-19 outbreak situation in China seems to be under control, with a decrease in the number of new cases reported and an increase in the number of cured cases. The Chinese Government had required for everyone to stay home and for all industries (with the exception of those managing the emergency situation) to cease operations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enterprises resuming work gradually, as the risk of outbreak rebounding still exist.</li> <li>Food production had been less hit by the lock down compared to other sectors. But dine-in restaurant businesses had been severely impacted.</li> <li>Government issued various supports to boost economy and ease businesses,</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Note to Industry.

Retrieved from: [http://www.shena.gov.bn/NoteToIndustry/2020/NTI%202020%2003%20-%20General%20Advisory%20for%20Workplace%20in%20Response%20to%20COVID-19%20%20\(Rv%201.3\).pdf](http://www.shena.gov.bn/NoteToIndustry/2020/NTI%202020%2003%20-%20General%20Advisory%20for%20Workplace%20in%20Response%20to%20COVID-19%20%20(Rv%201.3).pdf)

				including lowering interest rates, facilitating investment, and ensuring trade and international supply chain is unblocked.
Indonesia	Discussion with industry on steps to contain the spread of COVID-19	N.A.	<p>The discussion that took place on 19 March covered the following area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There remains no plans for a full lockdown</li> <li>• Indonesia will continue to focus on controlling COVID-19 through efforts that are implemented, e.g. social distancing, self-isolation and work from home, if necessary</li> <li>• The government will prepare to provide incentives for all sector to ensure the buying power and food security remain at a safe level</li> <li>• In view of the drop in dine in businesses and an increase in online orders, the government will be preparing the protocol for traceability and food safety to prepare for the change in purchase patterns</li> <li>• The government will also be providing discounts for online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N.A.</li> </ul>

			purchases to support food restaurants and SMEs	
Malaysia	Movement control order was issued on 16 March 2020	18- 31 March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Banning all mass gatherings, including religious activities, sports, social and cultural events</li> <li>• Banning all Malaysians from traveling abroad, including those who travel to Singapore on the daily basis</li> <li>• Restrictions on tourists and foreigners entering into the country</li> <li>• Shutting down all academic institutions, including, kindergartens &amp; nurseries, primary, secondary, pre-university schools, vocational schools, and educational institutions.</li> <li>• Shutting down all government and private premises, except those providing essential services. A full list of essential services was gazette under the Federal Government Gazette dated March 18 titled “Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For food services, restaurants/ready-to-eat eateries will be allowed to operate only for takeaways, drive through, as well as deliveries by the delivery service providers such as Grab Food, Food Panda, etc.</li> <li>• For food supply factory, it is noted that the government has agreed for the essential goods’ manufacturers (including food)<sup>3</sup> to be exempted from the movement control order, however, the exemption is not automatic and businesses are required to submit a list of employees (name and IC number) who will be working during this period through the online e-form to Ministry of International Trade and Industry. Moreover, a list of</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> Members' Advisory: Update 2: Covid-19 Movement Control Order (2020). Retrieved from: [https://www.fmm.org.my/FMM-@-Members' Advisory-; UPDATE 2-; COVID-19 Movement Control Order.aspx](https://www.fmm.org.my/FMM-@-Members'_Advisory-;_UPDATE_2-;_COVID-19_Movement_Control_Order.aspx)

			<p>(Measures within the infected local areas) Regulations 2020<sup>12</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The food-related products are as follows:</li> </ul> <p><u>Food and beverages including imported products</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rice</li> <li>Sugar</li> <li>Vegetable oil and animal fats</li> <li>Flour and grain</li> <li>Bread</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Dairy products – milk and infant formula</li> <li>Spices</li> <li>Dried goods</li> <li>Coffee and tea</li> <li>Canned food</li> <li>Meat</li> <li>Poultry</li> <li>Animal / livestock feed</li> <li>Processed fruit and vegetable</li> </ul> <p><u>Agricultural and fishery including import</u></p>	<p>compulsory conditions which advised by the National Security Council Media Statement need to be fulfilled while business is operated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 19 March, the Prime Minister's Office provided a list of FAQ to address the concerns for the various sectors [<a href="#">Movement Control Order: FAQ &amp; Info</a>]. Under the FAQ for the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), import and export activities are allowed to continue. Besides, instructions to obtain border clearance documentations, permits and licenses are also provided [<a href="#">FAQ Related to MITI</a>]. Under the FAQ for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MOA) and Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), operations that are related to agriculture, husbandry, fishery and</li> </ul>
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<sup>2</sup> More entitles added to essential services list (2020). Retrieved from: <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/19/more-entities-added-to-essential-services-list>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fish and seafood</li> <li>○ Fruits</li> <li>○ Vegetables</li> </ul>	<p>aquaculture are permitted to continue and required to comply to the given precautionary measures [<a href="#">FAQ related to MOA</a>] [<a href="#">FAQ Related to MPI</a>].</p>
Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restriction of mass gathering</li> <li>• Restriction of entry of foreign visitors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The restriction will be applied from 15 March until the end of April, however, the restriction might be extended if necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The restriction of mass gatherings and public events including the traditional Thingyan water festival was issued on 13 March 2020.</li> <li>• The restriction entry by foreign travellers who in the last 14 days visited the Hubei Province in China or the Daegu and Gyeongbuk regions in South Korea, was issued on 15 March 2020. For Myanmar nationals returning from those areas will be quarantined in public hospital for 14 days.</li> </ul>	<p>For Myanmar, as most of the food and beverages sector are operating at the domestic level, it has been less impacted as compared to the other sectors.</p>
Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The local lock-downs (home quarantine) was announced on 12 March 2020. It started for Metro Manila, and further</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The local lock-downs (home quarantine) will continue to 14 April.</li> <li>• Presidential Proclamation no. 929 puts the whole Philippines on a state</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibiting people movement from home except for getting basic necessities.</li> <li>• Shutting down all the domestic transportation services including land, air, and sea, where cargoes are exempted to ensure the supply of basic goods will not be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the shutting down of transportation services (suspensions of flights) and restrictions on personnel movement, the manufacturer face issues with regards to the plant operations and delivery of goods (raw</li> </ul>

	<p>widened to cover country's main island, the island of Luzon with an Enhanced Community Quarantine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presidential Proclamation no. 929 puts the whole Philippines on a state of calamity on 13 March 2020.</li> </ul>	<p>of calamity for a period of six months (6 months), which enable national and local governments to quickly access relief funds to curb the spread of the disease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shutting down all travel in and out of the lock-downs areas.</li> </ul>	<p>hampered during the quarantine. The decision will be subject to daily assessment too.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restrictions on tourists and foreigners entering into the country.</li> </ul>	<p>materials/finished goods) to the customers. . There are ongoing efforts undertaken at both national and local government levels to support industry, e.g. food lanes in highways and major thoroughfares are now opened so as not to hamper supply of food products. Despite the support from government, there are still challenges as checkpoints slow down or even block deliveries and workers from getting to their work sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Enhanced Community Quarantine imposed strict home quarantine for residents, suspensions of work and mass transportation and travel restrictions. Under the Memorandum, only private establishments providing basic necessities and such activities related to food and medicine production shall be open, i.e. public markets, supermarkets, groceries, convenience stores, hospitals, medical clinics, pharmacies and drug stores,</li> </ul>
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Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel advisory was issued and updated when there's necessary.</li> </ul>	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel advisory advised all Singaporean to defer all travel abroad with immediate effect (18 March 2020).</li> <li>Travellers entering Singapore and exhibiting fever and/or other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malaysia's announcement of movement control order has led to panic in neighbouring Singapore. Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has informed public that he was</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures were announced for inbound travellers.</li> </ul>		<p>symptoms of respiratory illness are required to undergo a COVID-19 swab test at the checkpoint, regardless of travel history (effective from 13 March 2020).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Short-term visitors with travel history in the last 14 days to the countries are disallowed to enter into/or transit through Singapore. (Effective from 15 March 2020).</li> <li>For all travellers (Singaporeans, Permanent Residents, Long Term Pass holders and short term visitors) entering Singapore will be issued a 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN). (Effective from 20 March 2020).</li> </ul>	<p>given an assurance by the Malaysian Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin that the flow of goods and cargo between Singapore and Malaysia, including food supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister of Trade and Industry Chan Chun Sing has also emphasized that Singapore has plans to manage disruption of supplies from the neighbouring country, Malaysia, through a combination of diversification of imported source, local production and stockpiling.</li> <li>Amidst Malaysia's Restriction of Movement Order, food supply from Malaysia to Singapore and prices of fresh groceries have not been affected.</li> </ul>
Thailand	Closure order for entertainment outlets and educational institutions	18 March onwards for entertainment outlet and 18 March to 1 April for education institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bars, entertainment venues, traditional massage parlours, gyms, theatres, cinemas as well as international schools and universities in Bangkok and surrounding provinces are closed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In general, the food supply chain has not faced major disruption and the government has not taken stringent measures. However, the local industry is facing a</li> </ul>

			<p>to prevent the further spread of the virus.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Songkran break from 13 to 15 April will also be postponed to prevent huge gatherings.</li> </ul>	<p>shortage of face mask with the increase in demand from various sectors. As one of the essentials in the food manufacturing facilities, the face mask shortage was raised to the Federation of Thai Industries to be highlighted to the Ministry of Commerce. Currently, the export of face mask is banned to ensure sufficient supply for local demand.</p>
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