**Covid-19 and Islands**

***St Lucia***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anita James  Retired Civil Servant  [anitavja@gmail.com](mailto:anitavja@gmail.com) | 23 March 2020 | * No entry of tourists or locals by cruise ships, yachts or planes. Social distancing on minibuses. * Country has declared a national emergency. Laws were passed in parliament on 24 March to extend curfew hours. Rationing of grocery items in supermarket. Partial shutdown of country. * Most people working from home. |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | * As of March 23, Saint Lucia closed all borders to non-nationals and nationals until April 5, 2020 * On Monday March 23, 2020 the Government of St. Lucia declared a State of Emergency in order to respond more quickly to the pandemic. |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * There has been a complete shutdown of ports to foreign arrivals, curfews and quarantine periods. Specialised treatment facilities have been made available, care packages provided to the most vulnerable and there are ongoing conversations, negotiations, etc. for unemployment support particularly for the large numbers who work in the tourism industry (employees, small business owners, etc). Online instruction as a means of continuing schooling (only at approximately 75% success rate as this initiative is challenged by the fact that many of the poor do not have the equipment and infrastructure to work online - some children are as a result left behind). |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | The actions are largely reflective of the WHO/PAHA guidelines and include 10 hour daily shutdowns from 7.00 pm to 5.00 am (initially, from late March, it was a 24 hour shutdown from two weeks). Essential services such as supermarkets, petrol stations etc. are allowed to be open with a gradual easing ten days ago that witnessed doctors offices, hardware and essential supply stores allowed to open; with the restrictions of social distancing, limited density of patrons/shoppers, mandatory facemasks etc. The borders (air and sea) are closed to all passenger traffic except where specifically allowed such as emergency flights to bring in stranded nationals or repatriate stranded visitors. |
| Chris Hackshaw  Hackshaw Boat Chaters  [sales@hackshaws.com](mailto:sales@hackshaws.com) | 27 May 2020 | We have done a great job of securing our borders and have had a total of 19 cases, no deaths and at present no recorded cases on Island. Our borders to certain areas are reopening on June 4th. |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | * Opening of 5 respiratory clinics across Saint Lucia: Vieux Fort and La Clery Wellness Centers, Gros Islet Poly Clinic, Dennery and Soufriere Districts Hospitals as of March 16, 2020 * Established 3 quarantine/isolation sites (at hotels) * Multi sectoral approach in the management of COVID-19 with police providing additional security at quarantine sites and also providing services away from quarantine sites * Saint Lucia Fire Service providing ambulance services to transport possible COVID-19 and other cases during the COVID-19 situation * Ministry of Tourism providing significant logistical support and in collaboration with other agencies to ensure availability of facilities, meals and all amenities * Ministry of Finance financing the operation of quarantine/isolation * Procurement of Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) machine for COVID-19 testing |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Hoping that the modest healthcare system will not be overwhelmed, quarantine facilities have been established, hospitalisation and medical care for critical cases, continued education campaign of the public about the virus and prevention measures along with regular updates regarding infections. Attention to the mental health of the population is also critical the county's ability to bounce back once the things are under control and the mainstay of the economy - tourism is in operation. |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | Persons who have contracted the virus have and will be isolated, treated and released once they have recovered and met the requirement of two negative tests 14 days after recovery |
| Chris Hackshaw  Hackshaw Boat Chaters  [sales@hackshaws.com](mailto:sales@hackshaws.com) | 27 May 2020 | We have several quarantine locations on island with full medical service. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anita James  Retired Civil Servant  [anitavja@gmail.com](mailto:anitavja@gmail.com) | 23 March 2020 | * Provision of essential items by local manufacturers. |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * The ports have remained open for exports and imports and persons in these industries and support services have been considered as essential workers. |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | Cargo is and has been allowed and goods are being imported through the normal supply chains as well as by individuals doing online shopping and using courier services |
| Chris Hackshaw  Hackshaw Boat Chaters  [sales@hackshaws.com](mailto:sales@hackshaws.com) | 27 May 2020 | We have had a seamless operation, everything was provided throughout. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anita James  Retired Civil Servant  [anitavja@gmail.com](mailto:anitavja@gmail.com) | 23 March 2020 | * Under consideration |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Utility companies, the Banking and other financial institutions have been working with Government to determine the best support packages to the different sectors of the society (delayed loan payments, waver of interests on loans for a determined period, facilitation of borrowing requirements, etc. |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | There has been a partial 'stimulus' package funded by the National Insurance Corporation for contributors who have lost their jobs/income and have applied and been verified as such by their erstwhile employers. About 18,000 persons out of a working population of approximately 75,000 have thus far applied. Some utility companies and commercial banks have also relaxed their bill/loan repayment obligations for 3-6 months |
| Chris Hackshaw  Hackshaw Boat Chaters  [sales@hackshaws.com](mailto:sales@hackshaws.com) | 27 May 2020 | So for pour National Insurance Scheme has aided most workers, and we are awaiting a stimulus package from Government. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Anita James  Retired Civil Servant  [anitavja@gmail.com](mailto:anitavja@gmail.com) | 23 March 2020 | * People are checking in on each other, out walking and getting exercise, keeping in touch with video/phone/social media. |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | * Training off 311 Integrated Contact Center staff on COVID-19 general information, guidelines and counselling * On March 23, 2020, the 311 trained staff of the Integrated Contact Center call system, was integrated into the COVID-19 response to provide general COVID-19 information to the public * Acquisition of 40 mobile phones from Digicel to provide clinical and psychological support through medical personnel and councillors * Training of councillors to provide psychological support in the wake of COVID-19 |
| Pasha Carruthers  University of the South Pacific/Consultant  [pashraro@gmail.com](mailto:pashraro@gmail.com) | 8 May 2020 | * Private Sector task force has been promoting a series of well being workshops (Survive and Thrive), not sure what uptake is like. The initial government support above has helped a lot, as has our covid19 free status |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | Apart from one interview with a local psychiatrist who has referenced the need for mental well-being, there has been no ostensible or official action in that respect. Nevertheless, a discernible increase in the number of persons jogging, walking and exercising outdoors, during the 5.00am to 7.00 pm opening hours, has been observed. |
| Chris Hackshaw  Hackshaw Boat Chaters  [sales@hackshaws.com](mailto:sales@hackshaws.com) | 27 May 2020 | This needs more attention, it is an area we are lacking. |

1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | As of 26 March:   * 1 confirmed case (2 others were repatriated) * 254 persons quarantined in public health facilities * On-island testing has begun. |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | St. Lucia has been fortunate in that like many other islands of the Caribbean we closed our boarders early and began to educate the population about the virus and how the government might be in a position to assist people especially the poor in facing the threat of not having their basic needs met. There is much suffering in ordinarily depressed communities especially those in and around the city and villages where subsistence farming is not possible. Persons in rural areas for the most part, are not in want for food even with job loss country to the cases in and near Castries and villages.  It is our hope that before long and especially with the stay upon loan payments for the last couple of months, people will be able to service their loans once they begin to work and decrease the chances of losing their housing which will exacerbate an already bad situation. |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | 18 positive cases (all now recovered;5 imported and 13 traced as community spread) have been reported to date on island with zero deaths. Estimates are that only about 550 persons (out of a population of 178,000) have thus far been tested. |

1. If applicable, how are lockdown measures being relaxed?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Lockdown relaxation is phased with a close eye upon the emergence of any new cases. |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | First the initial 24 hour complete daily shutdown, which resulted in long lines/dangerous social proximity at supermarkets and petrol stations just before its implementation was relaxed to a 10 hour daily curfew (with passes for essential workers etc.) and then a gradually opening of supermarkets and petrol stations only, then hardware/general supply stores, car dealerships, construction sites doctors offices and some government offices such as Transport licensing and Infrastructure. Of course, all with social distancing protocols and mandatory wearing of face masks in public enclosed spaces |
| Chris Hackshaw  Hackshaw Boat Chaters  [sales@hackshaws.com](mailto:sales@hackshaws.com) | 27 May 2020 | We are opening up to Phase one on June 4th. |

1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| See [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency Situation Report](https://www.cdema.org/FINAL_CDEMA_Situation_Report_3_-_COVID_19_Outbreak_26_March_2020.pdf) | 26 March 2020 | * The Saint Lucia Tourism Authority (SLTA) announced that its team members were virtually serving the public from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, effective Monday March 23, 2020 through Sunday April 5, 2020 via specific telephone numbers and email addresses |
| Priscillia Clement  Dominican Missionaries of Our Lady of Delivrande  [prisnute@gmail.com](mailto:prisnute@gmail.com) | 6 May 2020 | * Thank you for this opportunity as I look forward to the other two webinars. |
| Andrew McHale  Independent Consultant  [scmchale@gmail.com](mailto:scmchale@gmail.com) | 15 May 2020 | In my humble view, there is a real danger of simply reverting to a desperate 'business as usual' mode to plug the obvious economic/financial gaps. However, the ongoing Corona Virus/Covid-19 Pandemic has offered a number of key lessons, particularly for small, resource-poor island economies like Saint Lucia. Among those lessons are:  1) The importance of the nexus between Science (knowledge) & Policymaking;  2) The need for forward-thinking, proactive decision-making that places the welfare of people, the environment and the country’s overall interests above all else;  3) The benefit of modern digital platforms and modernization of business to business, Government to people and people to people interfaces in healthcare, education, communications etc.;  4) The need to build resilience to climate change and other unexpected crises and natural disasters through consistent planning and measures that give equal consideration to the “triple bottom line” principle of economic viability/prosperity, social equity & inclusion, and environmental sustainability;  5) The need to be relentless in ensuring the most efficient and optimal use of our scarce domestic resources (people, land, sea, technology, knowledge etc.);  6) The need for winning partnerships among Governments, political parties, agencies, people, civil society, trade unions etc that are focused on “positive arithmetic”, as nothing is built by dividing and nothing grows by subtracting.;  7) The need for a more relevant, more responsive global governance architecture to update replace the current UN and Bretton Woods institutions that are more focused on perpetuating the status quo rather than advancing to 'what should be...' |

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*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*