

## Emerging Stronger after COVID-19:

Science, Technology, and Innovation for Sustainable Development

#### **Panelist**

### Philip Yi-Chun Lo

Deputy Director-General, Centers for Disease Control, Ministry of Health and Welfare, R.O.C. (Taiwan)













# The strategy on rapid containment: How Taiwan maintained routine daily life during universal lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic

Philip Yi-Chun Lo, MD
Deputy Director-General, Taiwan CDC
Ministry of Health and Welfare
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#### **Current Life in Taiwan — Masks, Distancing, or Partitions**



452 COVID-19 cases & 7 deaths as of today

- No locally-acquired case over past 9 weeks
- Border open to citizens or essential travel
- Lockdown has not happened domestically
- Large social gathering allowed after June 7



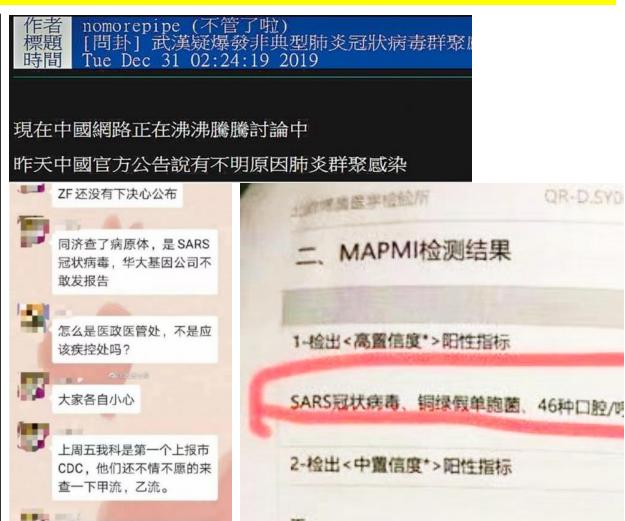


## New Year's Eve Alert through Careful Listening — Never Ignore Whistleblowers & Soft intelligence

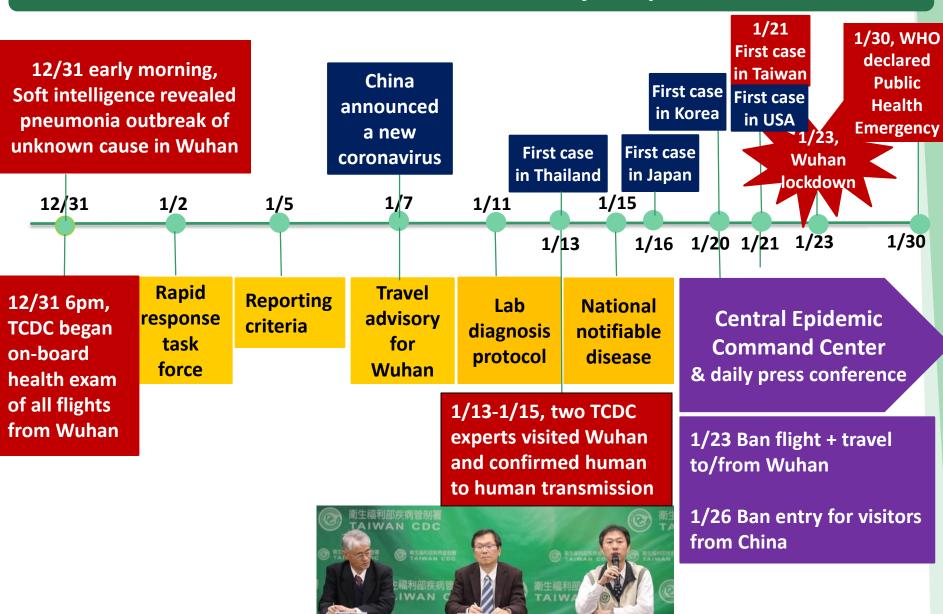
Dec 31, 2019, 2:24 am: Taiwan's largest web chat forum "PTT"

我们说不是流感, 病原不明





#### From "Unknown" to COVID-19 — Early Response in Taiwan



#### Face Mask Crisis — Innovative Solutions to Improve Accessibility







#### Face mask fairly distributed by government

- ID-based, 2 to 4 pieces/person/week
- Cost per piece = USD\$ 0.17
- Feb & Mar -- pharmacies only
- Since April -- pay online, store pickup
- Free-of-charge to healthcare facilities

#### **Smart Solutions for 14-Day Quarantine Management**

#### On arrival



#### **Civil/Health Services**



## Client-based Smartphone App (for fever/symptom reporting)



## Police-linked Digital Tracking ("digital fence")



#### Public Communication — Daily Press Conference (live) at 2pm









**95%** satisfied with government's efforts to control the virus

~American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei COVID-19 Flash Survey, April 2020~

#### Looking ahead — How to reopen the border safely?

- Current practices -- 14-day quarantine for all border entry
  - Exception: Shorter quarantine (5-day or 7-day if PCR negative)
     followed by STI-assisted managed visits for business travelers
     from lower-risk countries/territories\*

\*19 lower-risk countries/territories (as of July 16, 2020): Australia, Brunei, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Palau, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam

- So far, no COVID-19 among 45 visitors after shorter quarantine
- What's next?
  - Continue risk-based, lab & STI-guided quarantine strategy before an effective vaccine is ready