

Controlled restart of construction works after Circuit Breaker

STAS-BCA engagement

12 May 2020

State of play since Circuit Breaker (CB)

- All construction works on site have stopped except:
 - Some critical infrastructure projects, those that support essential services or are necessary for public safety
 - Some projects subsequently stopped due to infection cases found
 - COVID-19 facilities – new dorms, test labs, Community Care/Recovery Facilities, etc
 - Essential works e.g. site security, vector control, etc, to upkeep non-operating sites
- Strict Safe-Distancing Measures (SDM) in place, where works can continue
- Support schemes have been rolled out to help industry cope with COVID-19 measures
 - Workforce support - Job Support Scheme, Foreign Worker Levy waiver and rebate
 - Relief measures for developers – Extension for (i) Project Completion Period, (ii) commencement/completion of resi. development, and (iii) sale of housing units

Our economy, like others, will have to restart progressively post-CB

“...But the rest of the economy will have to ***open up step by step, and not all at once.*** Some industries will open up earlier than others, and recover sooner...”

“Significant structural changes to our economy are likely. ***Some industries will be disrupted permanently. Companies will have to change their business models to survive...***”

*PM Lee Hsien Loong
May Day Message 2020*

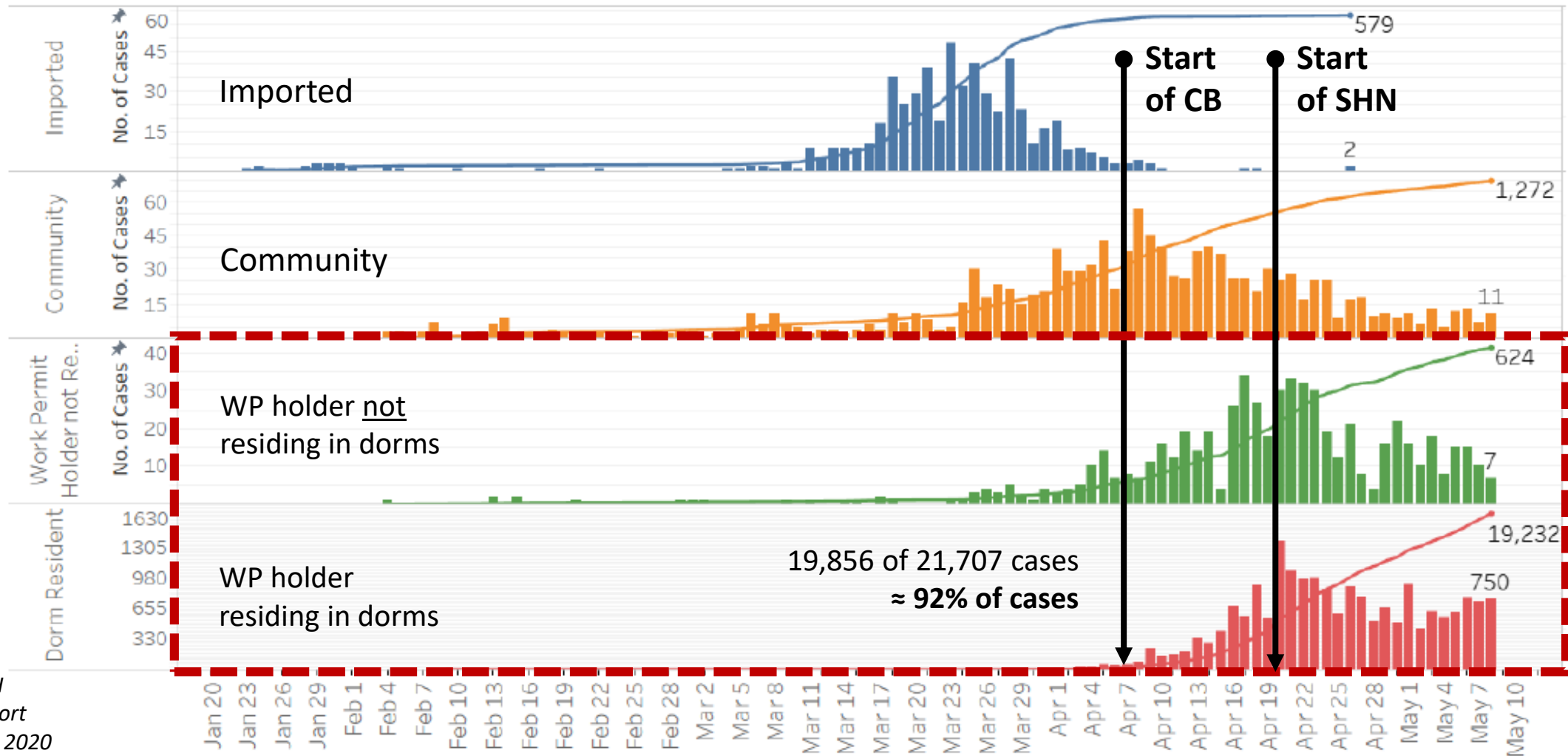
“***Easing on the measures prematurely and without proper safeguards can result in a second wave of transmission,*** and then force a second round of tightening...This has happened in other countries, and it reinforces the need for us to move cautiously.”

*Minister Lawrence Wong
Ministerial Statement, 4 May 2020*

In particular, the construction sector needs a careful and controlled restart, to avoid further outbreaks

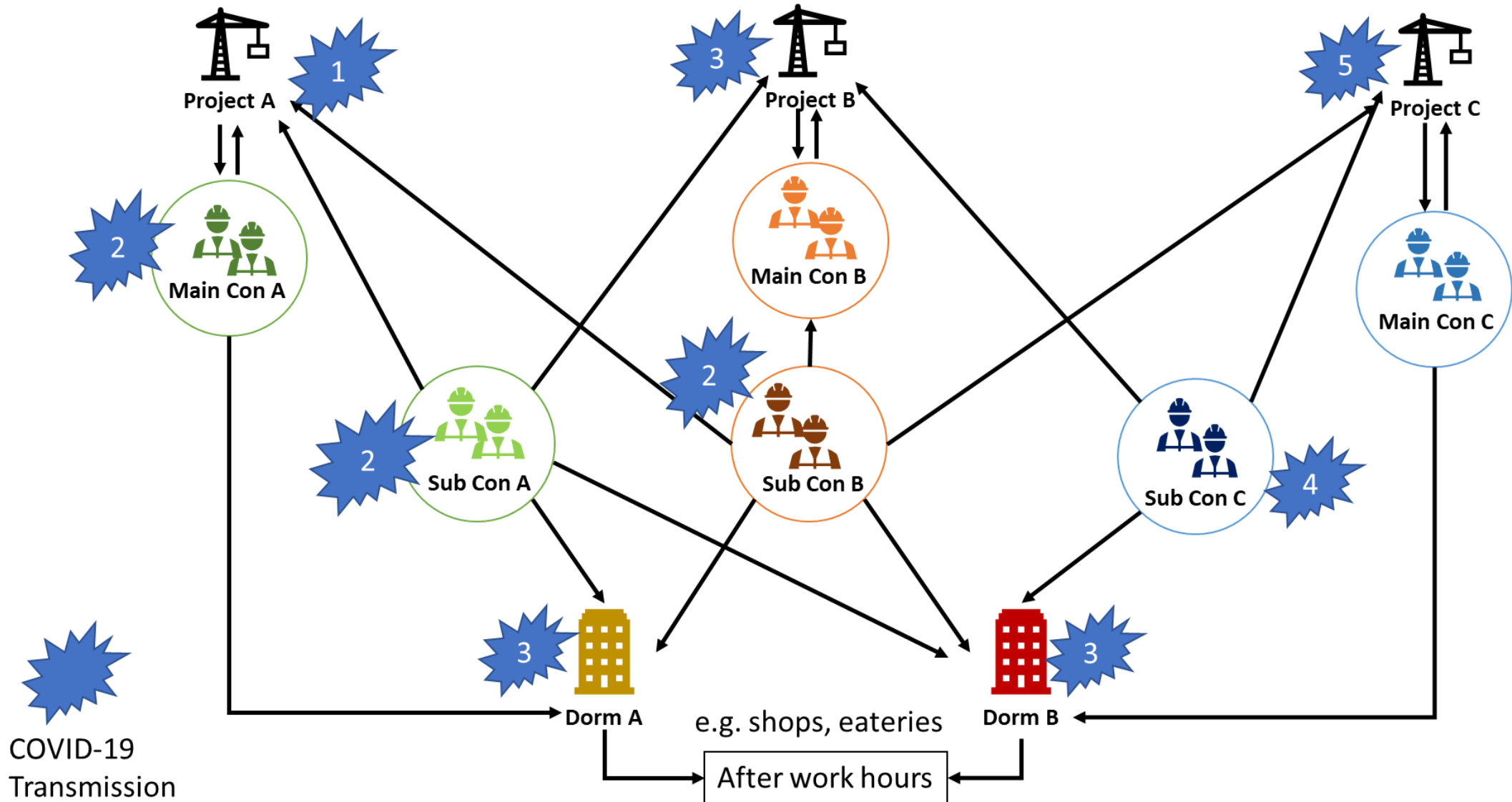
- ~92% of the COVID+ cases are FWs; ~83% of these are from construction

Epidemic Curve of the COVID-19 Outbreak by Press Release Date



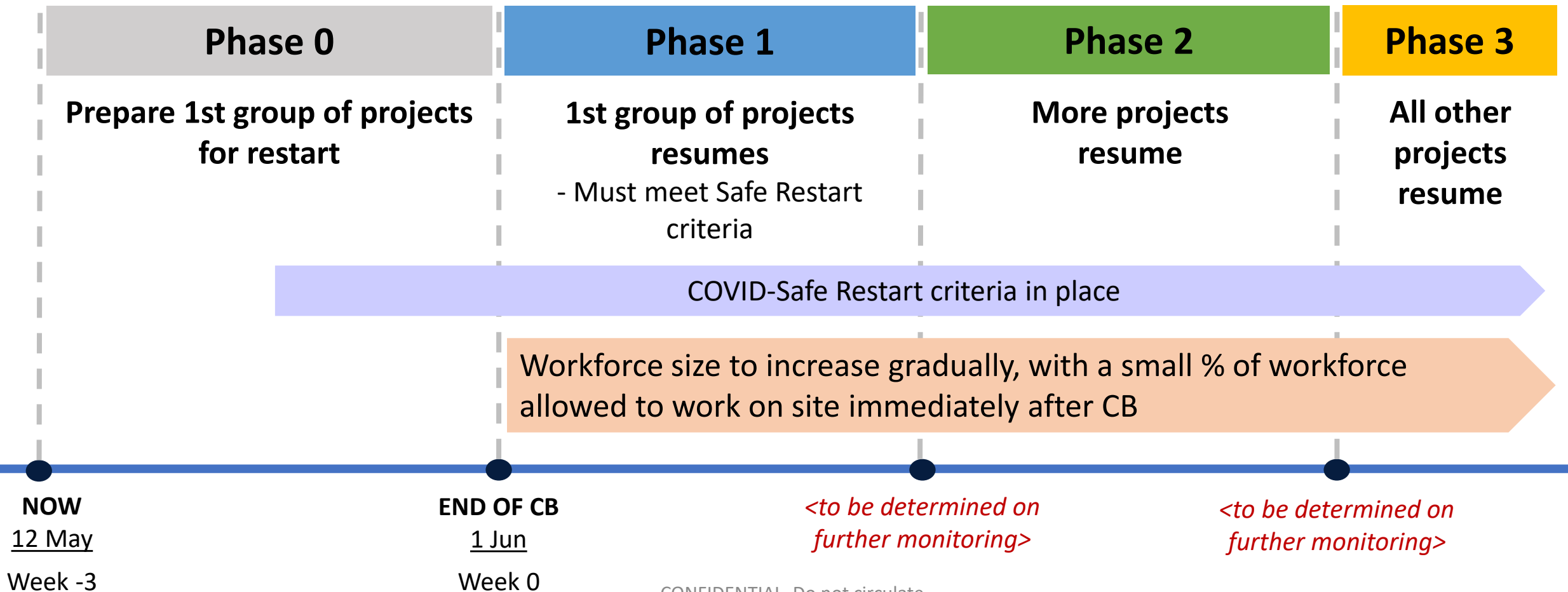
Source: MOH
situation report
dated 8 May 2020

Construction sector faces higher transmission risks due to inter-linkages of activities and high degree of mixing among workers



Phased approach in restarting construction works after CB ends

- Minimise risks of resurgence of infections/clusters on restart, to avoid work stoppage again
- COVID-Safe criteria to be in place and complied with for all projects



COVID-Safe Restart criteria

- Employers of construction workers need to comply with 3 rulesets
- Rules are premised on the principle of cohorting workers at project-level, to minimise cross-infections within and between sites

COVID-Safe Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require employer/contractor to have an established system to track the health status of workers• Regular swabbing requirements for monitoring health of the workforce• Possible restrictions on social activities
COVID-Safe Worksite	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require employer/contractor to enforce strict SDM to prevent outbreaks at construction sites and DfMA facilities
COVID-Safe Worker Accommodation/Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Require employer/contractor to enforce strict SDM in accommodation, reduce mixing of workers and ensure dedicated transport between site and accommodation

For discussion

1. Feedback on phased approach for construction restart
2. Challenges that may be faced during phased restart of construction activities
 - E.g. Availability of workers, cohorting of workers in CTQs, accommodation, material supply, etc
3. Request/s from members in addressing challenges faced
4. Any other feedback/suggestions on area/s for STAS-BCA collaboration