



SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

As of 15 April 2020, Guinea-Bissau has forty-three confirmed cases of COVID-19 and no fatalities so far and all neighboring countries have reported several cases including fatalities. The pandemic, which accentuates the fragility of the public service provision to the citizens is intertwined with a political crisis following contested results of the Presidential elections.

The state of emergency declared due to the pandemic might be an impediment to a nascent rule of law and the socio-economic consequences may be devastating for a country dealing with multifaceted crises.

The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to quickly overwhelm the inadequate national health and law enforcement institutions that lack basic infrastructure, personnel, supplies and operational capacities.

In the short time, there could be a higher rate of COVID-19 related fatality but the pandemic risks to further strain the already fragile Bissau-Guinean social fabric and with direct to social cohesion and the weak social contract between the state and its citizens.

Being highly dependent on a single crop (cashew) export and importing the most basic commodities, restrictions measures in Guinea Bissau such as on border closures, quarantines, and market, supply chains would have devastating consequences on people's livelihoods.

UNDP is a partner for the implementation of the National Contingency Plan, assisting in equipping the health centers across the country, while making procurement capabilities available and equipping the UN clinic to meet the needs of UN personnel for medical services, supporting an inclusive and integrated crisis management system, leading the socio-economic impact analysis and collaborating with other agencies to the national communication response plan.

The CO has therefore developed a response to mitigate the negative effects of COVID-19 that considers strategic local action and a focus on the furthest left behind, while keeping in mind national development goals and long-term recovery scenarios. Importantly, UNDP is working hand in hand with the UNCT under the leadership of the WHO to: a) ensure the implementation of the COVID-19 national contingency plan and b) the implementation of the UN contingency plan. To this effect, UNDP partners in the National Contingency Plan, assisting in equipping the minimally systematized health centers across the country, apart from offering procurement capabilities and equipping the UN clinic to meet the needs of UN personnel for medical services, supporting an inclusive and integrated crisis management system, leading the socio-economic impact analysis and collaborating with other UN agencies for the recovery action plan and the national communication response plan.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Strengthening Health Systems



Strengthen capacity of the National Disaster Management Centre to **coordinate national response to the virus outbreak**

Procure and deliver COVID-19 **medical supplies** for i) enhanced infection control, ii) testing, and iii) treatment in isolation centers

Strengthen existing Regional (DRS), district (RAS) and community health (ASC) systems to **maintain access to health in rural communities**

Improve UN clinic's **responsiveness and preparedness**

Provision of solar panels for health centers

Inclusive and Integrated Crisis Management and Multi-Sectoral Response



Community engagement for prevention, response and social cohesion through the creation of **influencer networks in communities and between communities** with a focus on human-rights protection, gender and inclusion of the most vulnerable, while working against stigma; **Improve points of entry for participatory management and ensure community resilience** in Cacheu and Gabu through community empowerment and community surveillance mechanisms; **Ensure business continuity of technical government counterparts and communities** to support public health responses; Supporting the coordination mechanism for **national and regional response management and early warning system**; Supporting the **national communication plan** for COVID-19 building on UN agencies channels and partnerships in order to yield on socio-behavioral change; **Fact-check app for COVID-19 related news** with long-term focus on strengthening democratic and civic culture. Establish **community support platforms** to mitigate and tackle the negative effects of the pandemic. Prevent and **address social stigma** associated with COVID-19.

Socio-Economic Impact and Recovery



Conducting a **socio-economic assessment and action plan**, considering the intertwined crises, including the analysis of food security

Implementation of the **action plan** deriving from the assessment, including through **innovative approaches**

Establish a **civil society-led observatory for the illicit economy**

Implement **Accelerator Lab anchored activities** related to economic responses in Blue Economy

Implement an action plan to ensure **social protection**

Support **strengthening institutions**, upholding the rule of law and human rights, addressing exacerbated, gender inequalities, and build resilience

BUDGET

Following a programme criticality exercise, UNDP Guinea-Bissau re-prioritized and reprogrammed its regular resources and other resources from existing funds by US\$700K. UNDP is mobilizing an additional \$265K bringing the total UNDP contribution to the National COVID-19 pandemic to \$967.5K. The UNDP COVID-19 programme, funded mainly through 2019 TRAC 1 funds, will be implemented in the next 9 months, conditioned to unforeseen evolutions of the pandemic and the ongoing political crisis.

OUTPUT	BUDGET	AVAILABLE	GAP
Strengthening health systems (including health procurement, training etc.)	\$1.35M	\$320k	\$1.03M
Promote inclusive and integrated crisis management and multi-sectoral responses	\$620k	\$310k	\$310k
Support to address socio-economic impact and recovery	\$2.63M	\$337k	\$2.3M
Total	\$4.6M	\$967k	\$3.64M