



### SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY

Since December 2019, when Coronavirus (COVID-19) first emerged in China, over 40 countries in Africa are now affected with over 1,180 confirmed cases and counting.

Nigeria is beginning to see a steady increase in confirmed cases with 343 as at 14 April 2020, and ten reported deaths. Given the relentless exponential growth rate witnessed in other countries, the spread of the virus in the country is inevitable. The Nigerian Centre of Disease Control (NCDC) indicated that the country has five labs with testing capacity for the virus - in Abuja, Lagos (2), Edo and Osun States, with particularly weak, if any, capacities and the lowest development indicators in the northern part of the country which is also the epicentre of violent extremism. Only 5 hospital beds are available for every 10,000 persons in Nigeria. If the cases are anything like that of Italy's - one of the hardest hit countries - the expected strain on the country's already fragile health care infrastructure will be devastating and its ability to respond bleak.

Furthermore, the conflict-stricken regions, such as North-East and Middle-Belt, are extremely vulnerable due to overcrowded settlements and urban township with huge displaced populations. In view of only partial restrictions on movement and limited adoption of social distancing there is elevated risk of community infections should a case be present. Further this can create social tensions in the face of limited socio-economic safeguards in case of a total lockdown.

The economic fallout for Nigeria is potentially monumental, with visible pressure on the federal budget already showing. What started as a health crisis - with grave impact on populations, has also within few weeks turned into an economic crisis, and will soon turn into a massive fiscal challenge. With over 90% reliance on the oil sector for government export revenue, oil prices have already declined by 55% since the advent of the COVID-19 and 48% monthly decline are expected if the pandemic persists. This would affect the government's ability to implement all development interventions and impact the ability to respond to the crisis. The health crisis could also trigger knock-on emergencies related to education and food security, disrupt the large-scale humanitarian response to the conflict in the North-eastern part of the country, and set back already stressed broader human development efforts.

Given the multi-dimensional impact of the disease, congestion especially in urban areas, rapid informalization of the economy, it is imperative that UNDP supports Government to re-imagine innovative approaches to respond to COVID-19 while ensuring sustainable recovery of national and state economies, livelihoods and well-being of citizens after the crisis.

### AREAS OF INTERVENTION



#### Strengthening National Coordination Capacity:

Based on UN Joint COVID-19 Response Plan and leveraging its convening role, UNDP will enhance national emergency preparedness and response capacity by working with national and subnational command and coordination structures established to spearhead the fight against COVID-19. More specifically, UNDP will support resource mobilization and independent management of the envisaged Nigeria COVID-19 Response Basket Fund and the operationalization of Incident Management Structures and enhancing capacities of Emergency Operations Centre to support frontline service delivery at federal and sub-national level.

#### Community Mobilization and Outreach:

UNDP in collaboration with national partners and UN Agencies will ensure that people and their communities are at the center of the response. This includes raising awareness among large segments of the population to take precautionary measure to reduce the spread of the disease, fight stigma, reintegrate survivors and support their families. UNDP with partners, building on ongoing initiatives, will initiate community cohesion and peacebuilding processes including providing psycho-social and healing support services to affected populations. UNDP will undertake innovating mass-messaging initiative to disseminate information through pop-culture celebrities, keke (tricycle) cars, radio programmes, and youth associations.

#### Socio-Economic Recovery and Resilience Building:

In restoring livelihoods and building community resilience, UNDP will work with relevant national, state and local government authorities and development partners for analysis informed post-COVID-19 planning for socio-economic recovery including creating emergency employment opportunities; restoring trade flows and ensuring the smooth functioning of markets and restoring food security in the most-affected communities. UNDP will also initiate and support community peacebuilding and healing, democratic governance and rule of law activities, and integrity initiatives as part of integrated socio-economic recovery. In the North-East, rehabilitation of basic service infrastructure, provision of social-safety net grants, cash for work, livelihood support and strengthening community small business systems for identified vulnerable members from the IDPs and host communities will be prioritized. Efforts will be deployed to use virtual platforms to further business, trade, communications including with focus on vulnerable youth and women.

#### Socio-economic impact analysis for the UN System and Government:

In the short term, UNDP will undertake a series of rapid socio-economic impact assessments and analyses to build the knowledge base for evidence-informed responses to COVID-19. This will range from the socio-economic cost analysis and implications to development in Nigeria. Beyond the pandemic, UNDP will undertake assessments on frontier development issues ranging from budgeting, development spending, governance, conflict and peace, environment, livelihoods and the provision of essential services. The long-term strategy is to enhance national capacities for R&D and Data Innovations for risk-informed planning and delivery of services at Federal and State levels.

### BUDGET

UNDP estimates that its interventions will require US\$15.5 million. The Federal Government of Nigeria has established a presidential task force to coordinate the overall response to the pandemic, including budgetary support. The UN, WB, GF, Gates Foundation, EU have also shown interest in supporting the national COVID-19 response by allowing reprogramming of their existing funds and/or providing fresh resources. This creates a window of opportunity for UNDP to mobilize additional resources through engaging its development partners.

OUTPUT	BUDGET	AVAILABLE	GAP
Coordination and National Coordination Capacity	\$1.5M	-	\$1.5M
Community mobilization and outreach promoted	\$2.5M	\$500k	\$2.5M
Community livelihoods restored and resilience built	\$10M	\$500k	\$9.5M
Socio-economic impact analyses undertaken	\$1.5M	-	\$1.5M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15.5M</b>	<b>\$1M</b>	<b>\$14.5M</b>