UNDP Uganda
Support to the National Response to Contain the Impact of COVID-19

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS
Uganda registered a total of 33 COVID-19 cases as of 29 March 2020. The Minister of Finance’s speech to Parliament is already showing that the economy is volatile, most GDP targets would not be met, and many businesses are already folding up, particularly, small to medium size private sector enterprises and sectors such as tourism have been hardly hit. Over 2.5 million people would already slip into poverty in 2020 and inequalities would exacerbate.

COVID-19 is already adversely impacting business continuity in the public and private sector with many workers having to stay away from work. Uganda is likely to follow other Governments in Africa that have opted to telecommute or work from home as total lockdowns become the main option to contain COVID-19. In South Africa, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda government departments are now working from home.

Growing public anxiety and demand for information from public call centre. The public is anxious to understand the challenges at hand as well as preventive and treatment measures in the face of COVID-19 pandemic.

UNDP’s offer is aligned with the National Response Plan for COVID-19 and the UN Response plan.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Inclusive and Integrated Crisis Management and Multi-Sectoral Response
Activate the National Emergency Coordination Centre (NECOC) to provide a robust whole-of-government platform to anchor Government’s preparedness and response plan and to promote inclusive and integrated crisis management and multi-sectoral responses.

Support whole of government business continuity and e-governance through use of digital platforms to support collaboration, meetings and training in the public sector.

Experiment and scale-up innovative and digital solutions for virtual training of frontline healthcare givers.

Electrify existing or temporary health facilities and other social sectors in Uganda through renewable energy solutions.

Engage cultural, religious and other key influencers to expand public outreach for last mile risk communication and social cohesion.

Socio-Economic Impact and Recovery

Socio-economic impact assessments, economic modeling and policy advice for national economic recovery for the most vulnerable and MSMEs.

Co-create with private sector a facility to promote private sector solutions for accelerated recovery.

Launch innovative grants for MSMEs and young entrepreneurs to mobilize financing to support supply chains in agriculture, trade and services sectors.

Leverage Accelerator Lab to deploy digital solutions to boost production and activate supply chains in agriculture, trade, transport, tourism, and other services sectors (e-commerce and e-trading).

Deploy telemedicine/telehealth (e-health) to boost response to COVID-19.

BUDGET
The total UNDP Uganda response plan budget requirement is US$12 million. Following programme criticality assessment, UNDP reprogrammed US$2 million from existing resources for immediate response, leaving a gap of US$10 million for new resource mobilization.

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<tr>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
<th>AVAILABLE</th>
<th>GAP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promote inclusive and integrated crisis management and multi-sectoral responses</td>
<td>$6.7M</td>
<td>$700k</td>
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<td>Support to address socio-economic impact and recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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