**UNDP Botswana**

**Support to the National Response to Contain the Impact of COVID-19**

**SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

To date there is reported cases in Botswana. However, the Government has taken commendable steps to prepare for the pandemic.

Some of the actions are: the establishment of the Multi-Disciplinary Presidential Coordination COVID-19 Task Team, (COVID-19 PCTT) under the leadership of H.E the President of the Republic of Botswana, to ensure coordination of the COVID-19 preparedness and response. The COVID-19 PCTT will oversee and direct the work of the National COVID-19 task team chaired by the designated National Coordinator, Dr. Masupu. These two teams will be supported by Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Committee and specially formed multi-disciplinary sub-committees as appropriate. A secretariat will be established to support these two high level teams.

The COVID-19 PCTT will oversee and provide direction, guidance, support and expert advice across the health service and the wider public service, for the overall national response to COVID-19, including national and regional and other outbreak control arrangements with a specific focus on the following three broad areas:

- The implementation an effective "preventative" programme;
- The strengthening of the health system across the country so that it can adequately cope with testing and treating cases;
- The effective running of the economy (including imports and exports) to ensure a positive growth rate.

To prevent the spread of the virus, given the outbreaks in neighbouring countries, the Government of Botswana has taken measures to restrict travel and cross-border movement, beyond goods, into the country. Mandatory quarantine is now in place for any returning citizens. COVID-19 prevention messages are disseminated through flyers, print, broadcast and social media from the Government, however tribal chiefs and youth networks are hitherto untapped communication resources.

**AREAS OF INTERVENTION**

**Building Resilient Health Systems**

- Safe management of COVID-19 health care waste
- Clear guidelines for healthcare professionals, correct work practices, and appropriate use of PPE
- Good hand hygiene

**Inclusive and Integrated Crisis Management and Multi-Sectoral Response**

- Support to the Joint Operations Centre
- Executable Business Communication Plan during the COVID-19 to enable business continuity in the event of limited physical access to offices
- Youth-focused COVID-19 prevention social media campaign
- Training for the Chiefs (Dikgosi) on COVID-19 prevention
- Assessment of Botswana Prisons for COVID-19 preparedness and response

**Socio-Economic Impact and Recovery**

- Relief plan for the private sector and an M&E framework for the plan
- Business Recovery Plan for the private sector and accompanying M&E Framework
- Socio-economic Impact Analysis of the COVID-19 on Selected Vulnerable Groups and Policy Options for Response
- Support the implementation of a select number of key actions in the Poverty Eradication Policy and Implementation Plan

**MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

Implementation modalities will build on existing operations of the UNDP Botswana programme, through which annual workplans are developed and validated with implementing partners. The Country Programme is currently divided into three portfolios as follows: Economic Development and Inclusive Growth – Key IPs: Office of the President, Ministry of Investment and Trade, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development; Access to Justice and promotion of Human Rights – Key IPs: Office of the President, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, Ministry of Local Governance and Rural Development, Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs; Environment and Climate Change – Key IPs: Ministry of Environment, Natural Resource Conservation and Tourism

**OUTPUT**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
<th>AVAILABLE</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening health systems (including health procurement, training etc.)</td>
<td>$128k</td>
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<tr>
<td>Promote inclusive and integrated crisis management and multi-sectoral responses</td>
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