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

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

With no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in South Sudan (as of March 26th), UN operations are continuing with preventive and precautionary measures across the country, in providing protection, humanitarian assistance and supporting peace building and development. As a protection measure, the Government of South Sudan (GoSS), through a dedicated high-level task force, has restricted all international travels and closed the borders, imposed night curfew and introduced public health measures. The UN in South Sudan is supporting the government’s response, for example by strengthening the national healthcare system and sharing information with relevant stakeholders and the general public about COVID-19 prevention.

In the current development context of South Sudan, information distribution to and dialogue with the public is challenging. For instance, the country has very low telephone and internet access penetration, especially in the rural areas, home to approximately 70 percent of the population. Rumors and disinformation are simultaneously being spread at an unprecedented pace, on social media as well as offline.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Work with CSOs and women groups to produce soaps and other sanitizer for distribution and use in markets, community centers, water points, health places where communities congregate especially in rural and poor communities.

Provide hygiene kits to rural women and especially those caring for the sick in communities.

Provide refresher course to community psychosocial volunteers to engage communities to deal with stress and trauma related to the effects of COVID-19.

Provide small scale targeted livelihoods to conflict prevalent communities especially the most vulnerable, women, minority groups and youth to ensure they bounce back.

Develop an ‘Information Dashboard’ that monitors feedback and information to inform communication and information strategies.

Strengthen and equip Government of South Sudan’s information systems to provide reliable and timely information.

Monitor impact of communication and behavioral change campaigns.

Design and implement a conflict sensitive and inclusive behavioral change campaign to engage, educate and tackle misinformation in hard to reach communities on the COVID-19.

Adapt and disseminate communication and education messages to local languages in different formats to inform and tackle misinformation. This includes reaching people with disabilities.

Engage media and community radios to inform, engage and fact-check on COVID-19 through local languages.

Directly engage and mobilize diverse groups of communities, including peace committees, public service providers and justice systems to inform, educate, fact-check, respond to panic and tackle misinformation about COVID-19.

OUTPUT

Target communities including vulnerable groups, women and youth are accurately informed, and awareness is built about COVID-19 in hard to reach areas

$550k

Target communities have resilient support systems during and after the COVID-19 crisis

$360k

Reliable information system established to tackle crisis and emergencies (i.e COVID-19)

$200k

Total

$1.11M

BUDGET

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
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<th>AVAILABLE</th>
<th>GAP</th>
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