SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

To date, Tanzania has confirmed 12 cases with no death reported (https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019). The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania has taken key measures to control the outbreak in the country; these include; a mandatory self-quarantine for all visitors and citizens returning from high-risk areas at their own cost, a ban on outbound travel by Government officials to high-risk countries, discouraging non-essential travels by citizens to countries at risk, closure of schools and universities, and local government authorities directed to implement appropriate measures in response to the outbreak including public awareness, and the establishment of the National Committee led by the Prime Minister. The impact of COVID-19 crisis can be measured at both micro and macro levels, short terms and long term. At the micro-level the crisis will have immediate impacts on the government functioning due to the restriction of travels, and this can potentially affect service delivery and implementation of government’s plans at different levels. The outbreak will also have impacts on the most vulnerable populations, particularly the poor in both urban and rural areas, as they may have less access to healthcare and lower savings hence less able to purchase essential items. And due to the restrictions in gatherings and movements, the impacts on performance of SMEs in terms of access to good and decreased sales are expected. With the closure of almost all hotels in Zanzibar, the impacts on employments will result in noticeable livelihood instability in the Isles where the tourism is the major economic activity. With the closure of schools and universities abrupt budgets’ disruptions especially for private schools and universities are foreseen, with the impacts trickling down to other businesses that depend on schools and universities’ operations including transport, stationeries, foods and housing.

At a macro level, the crisis could have negative impacts on Tanzania’s economy in the long-term. The statement from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the UN trade agency, warned of a slowdown of global growth to under 2% this year as a result of the COVID-19, effectively wiping $1 trillion off the value of the world economy (WEF, 2020). With the disruption in global economy, Tanzania is automatically posed to lose like many other countries as a result of decreased supply and demand. Sectors that are at higher risk include trade, hospitality, airline industry, finance and education due to inter alia less supply of intermediate goods from China, a reduction in the number of tourists, and the closure of schools and universities.

PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

**Government functioning:**
This support will focus on setting up an effective framework to ensure continuity in government functioning. Support will be provided in facilitating the procurement and installation of the ICT system for virtual/online meetings. A quick assessment will be conducted in collaboration with the relevant ministries to assess the situation, gaps and needs, and based on this assessment, the prioritization will be done based on the resources.

**Multi-sectoral socio-economic impact assessment:**
This study will be conducted in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF. The study will also look into the degree of vulnerability of Tanzania’s key economic sectors to these kinds of disasters for future preparedness plans. Using experiences gained in developing HDRs, PDNAs and DRFs, the UNDP CO stands to contribute significantly to this assessment. The result of the study will inform the designing and implementation of follow up programmes to address the identified challenges.

**Procurement:**
This support will build on our existing discussions with the Medical Store Department on medical equipment procurement support. The focus will be on strengthening the local supply chains (i.e., local manufacturers and distributors in the intermediate term) and issues related to tax regimes, emergency procurement procedures and corporate procurement systems. Funding will be determined by demand.

**Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA):**
Tanzania has been affected by major floods since last year, which resulted to unprecedented socio-economic impacts and major disruption of livelihood in many regions of the country. With emergency of CORONA-19, the level and extent of impacts are foreseen to escalate. UNDP plans to conduct a nation-wide PDNA (using innovative technologies such as drones) to inform the development and implementation of the Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF).

**Food security and market systems:**
The anticipated impacts on agriculture due to COVID-19 pandemic may affect food security especially in rural areas. UNDP has been supporting the government in building the capacity in the horticulture business targeting youth and women. Assessment will be made looking at the gaps and needs as a result of the outbreak. Follow up interventions will be developed accordingly.

**BUDGET**

Following a programme criticality exercise taking into account the upcoming general elections, UNDP Tanzania has reprogrammed its unspent and uncommitted resources from existing projects and set aside US$0.60M against the total budget of $7.1M required to support the proposed interventions in response to the National COVID-19 pandemic. The UNDP COVID-19 programme will be implemented for a duration of 12 to 18 months pending unforeseen evolutions in the pandemic.

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*Resource available from reprogrammed programmes and projects.*