



SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

COVID-19 in the Congo is ramping up with 74 cases confirmed as of 14 April 2020, that are likely to go up with ongoing tests on suspected cases.

The Government has set up a high-level Task Force under the lead of the Prime Minister and is closely working with the UN system and its partners to put in place a solid response plan to minimize the impacts of the pandemic.

Congo's economic situation is dire since the 2014 oil shock and the country signed a three years Enhanced Credit Facility Programme with the IMF in July 2019. This is aiming to address structural and governance challenges and diversify the economy always dependent on the oil sector.

The national COVID-19 plan as it is now places more emphasis

on short-term health related aspects and UNDP is advocating and supporting that efforts be given to addressing livelihoods challenges and minimizing SDG regression, shorten the recovery time and enable Government to better assess immediate socio-economic impacts of the pandemic on the most vulnerable (women and youth) and have a sound recovery plan.

UNDP has been specifically called by the Government to help on socio-economic assessment of COVID-19 immediate effects and mid-longer-term impacts to anticipate social and economic recovery efforts for most vulnerable groups (women and youth). CO will use its current resources to do the assessment. UN agencies, the World Bank and IMF have all shown interest in working with UNDP on the assessment of COVID-19 immediate effects and impacts and be able to support Government to devise a realistic recovery plans to minimize SDG regression.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION

Strengthening Health Systems



Coordination, communication and training strategy in line with the COVID-19 Country Response plan

Development of a **digital application for sensitization COVID-19 with the Accelerator Lab**

Inclusive and Integrated Crisis Management and Multi-Sectoral Response



Livelihood activities supported for the most vulnerable families and at-risk populations (women and youth) in the informal sector as grants for small businesses

Enhance public, private and CSOs' capabilities to reach out to the most affected communities and leverage interventions on existing structures and partners in the field

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Socio-Economic Impact and Recovery



Conduct an **economic and social impact assessment**

Support **recovery planning and medium and longer-term response**

Promote inclusive partnerships between state and non-state actors to enhance basic social service delivery and support livelihood initiatives for the most vulnerable and small enterprises in communities most affected by the crisis.

BUDGET

Based on review of CO portfolio and criticality of ongoing programmes and projects, CO re-prioritized its support and reprogrammed existing resources likely not to be spent under current circumstances, resources needs have been identified. SDG localization work planned for 2020 with TRAC2 has been repurposed on youth engagement and innovative digital solutions to support community sensitization and communication on COVID-19 and to raise awareness on pandemic and required preventive measures. The programme will be implemented in 12-18 months and context and context will be reassessed and redirections made as COVID-19 situation evolves.

OUTPUT	BUDGET	AVAILABLE	GAP
Strengthening health systems (including health procurement, training etc.)	\$150k	\$150k	\$20,000
Promote inclusive and integrated crisis management and multi-sectoral responses	\$550k	-	\$550k
Support to address socio-economic impact and recovery	\$750k	\$120k	\$630k
Total	\$1.45M	\$250k	\$1.2M