



1. Situational analysis

Mauritania has officially declared two confirmed cases of imported COVID-19. The first confirmed case (a 40-year-old man) on 13 March 2020; and the second on 18 March 2020 (a 41-year-old woman). Both patients are still under treatment and their condition is stable. To date, 12 other suspected cases have been identified and all tested negative. 520 people from countries with local transmission have been quarantined in 11 hotels. The Government has taken a number of public health measures: activation of the interdepartmental emergency management committee; introduction of a curfew; closure of schools, universities and madrasahs; suspension of commercial flights and closure of land and sea borders; prohibition of consolidation and market closure; development of a contingency response plan; development and dissemination of technical guidelines; awareness and sensitisation activities, as well as management of COVID-19 and infection prevention and control measures.

2. Areas of intervention: In close consultation with the Government, and in coordination with the United Nations system in Mauritania, UNDP country office intends to deploy a two-pronged response:

PILLAR 1: SUPPORT FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Focus: assess socio-economic impact and deploy rapid-impact interventions aimed at strengthening the resilience of the populations most at risks.

Short-term interventions:

1. Conducting an anticipatory study of the socio-economic impact of the unprecedented health crisis that the world is going through.
2. Identify the potential shortfall in the economic sectors that are driving growth, including the informal sector and the impact on households.
3. Identification of possible courses of action to be taken to strengthen the sectors most at risk, as well as a proposal for a response project addressing the points of vulnerability of the populations most at risk.
4. Provision of inputs for market gardening, intensive farming and pastoral processing, as well as the supervision of the populations for this purpose.
5. UNDP will work with FAO and WFP to consider the intensive production chains that need to be strengthened in order to promote the exploitation of the potential of local agriculture, particularly in the southern region of the country, which could be a real food reserve.
6. In this perspective, agro-pastoral enterprises will be particularly encouraged with inputs and socio-professional supervision involving rural communities

PILLAR 2: SUPPORT THE HEALTH SYSTEM, INSTITUTIONS AND STRENGTHENING OF THE CRISIS PREVENTION AND RESPONSE MECHANISM

Focus: UNDP will take advantage of its ongoing partnerships with the Global Fund in the context of health sector governance and support for civil protection to support the national public systems.

Short-term interventions

1. Acquire protection and case-detection equipment.
2. Strengthen coordination in the response.
3. Strengthen the biomedical and pharmaceutical supply chain management system and the system for managing medical waste.

Medium and long-term interventions

1. Ensure that the essential HIV, tuberculosis and malaria supply chain continues to function by strengthening the national net distribution system and the early detection system
2. Support the institutional analysis of the national procurement institution for medical equipment and medicines (CAMEC) and the organization of a modern national mechanism for managing pharmaceutical distribution
3. Support the consolidation of the social fabric through the strengthening of communication channels and awareness-raising on positive behavioural change, aimed at getting the population to adopt attitudes that save and prevent the spread of epidemics.
4. Promote the peaceful coexistence of communities.

UNDP Mauritania

3. Budget

Following a review exercise, UNDP Mauritania has re-prioritized and will re-programme USD 700,000 regular resources from existing projects. In addition, \$2 million USD from Global Fund and other sources will also be reprogrammed, all to support the Government's ask in COVID programmes. These funds are contributing to a global budget under consideration which the UN system in Mauritania is targeting for its response to the National COVID19-Pandemic. The UNDP COVID-19 interventions will be implemented for a duration of several months considering unforeseen evolution in the pandemic.

Pillar	Re-programmed Core funding (Trac 1, trac 2 or others)	Re-programmed third-party funding so far (Global Fund or others)	Funding gap
To support countries to build resilient health system	0.3 (TRAC 2)	2.00	1.1
To promote inclusive and integrated crisis management and multi-sectoral responses	0.2 (50% TRAC 2. 50% TRAC1)	0	0.5
To support countries to address the Socio-Economic impact of COVID-19	0.2 (50%TRAC 2 ; 50% TRAC1)	0	0.8
Total	0.7 M	2.00 M	2.40 M