COVID-19 Resilience and Response Project
COVID-19 Resilience and Response Project, which is funded by the Government of Japan is part of UNDP’s rapidly developed integrated response to COVID-19 health, humanitarian, and developmental crisis at global, regional and national levels and complementary with the efforts of the Government of Turkey and other development partners and also it is fully aligned with the country-specific needs. These efforts on response to COVID-19 crisis will help all partners and decision makers to look beyond recovery, towards 2030, in four main areas: governance, social protection, green economy, and digital disruption.

The project tackles with the impacts of COVID-19 crisis through phases of preparedness, response and recovery with the activities that fall under the outputs of health systems strengthening, inclusive and integrated crisis management and response, addressing the human rights and socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.
Key Achievements:

» 14 real-time PCR equipment and 66,000 kits used for vaccination studies were provided to Laboratory of General Directorate of Public Health to conduct tests. With Accelerator Lab Turkey, health waste management activities such as waste equipment support to municipalities for public spaces and to hospitals were started to be implemented.

» Containers for sharps were delivered within the scope of medical waste management. The procurement process of the waste containers and medical waste plastic bags were completed, and they will be delivered to relevant hospitals and municipalities by the Ministry of Health. The first draft of the technical guideline for medical waste segregation was completed. Moreover, medical waste management sector report was prepared in cooperation with the Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development (IICPSD). Training materials on the segregation and management processes of medical wastes are also about to be completed.

» Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Ministry of Industry and Technology and UNDP Turkey to develop capacity of Development Agencies on risk mitigation and post-disaster recovery policies and processes while strengthening digital capacity of SMEs to respond to impacts of crisis. Based on this cooperation Ministry and Development Agencies are implementing RFF (Digital Way) Project.

» 25 Region-based Fragile Sector Analysis Reports and Guidelines on textile, logistics, food, machinery, and automotive sectors were completed. New Market Analysis and Product Space Analysis Reports which aims to support these sectors’ business continuity and prevent supply chain disruptions in the crises were also completed. All these reports were launched with the participation of the Minister of Industry and Technology. Moreover, 6 webinars on impacts of COVID-19 on logistics, machinery, textile, food, automotive sectors and new market analysis were conducted.

» Training programmes for 1,000 SMEs in the fragile sectors, one-on-one business consultancy services for 30 SMEs were conducted. 81 online trainings were held for SMEs, in which 2,000 people attended.

» 8 modules of resilience alignment, risk management and preparedness trainings that includes fundamentals terms of disaster risk management were provided to the 150 experts in the Development Agencies and DGDA. A Tool Kit on Life Security, Business Continuity and Economic Recovery which is first of its kind prepared.

» 10 PPE producer SMEs received advisory services in export & trade, marketing & business development and finance, also together with the one-on-one consultancy, 3 webinars were organized in related areas. A guideline will be developed including lessons learnt from advisory services and fundamentals in PPE production.

» 5 online trainings were developed to support digitalization phase of Syrian-owned enterprises and now available online and the topics covered are Digital Marketing Practices, Digital Communication Tools, Managing Social Media Tools for Business, Digital Sales Channel Development, Government Response & Support to SMEs during COVID-19 Outbreak in Turkey.

» 171 Syrian enterprises have benefitted from digital infrastructure grants (unlimited internet access, e-mailing and cloud-based business management tools grant for at least 6 months). Syrian-owned SMEs were also provided mini recovery grants (50 female entrepreneurs benefited).

» 11 female-led companies and cooperatives attended to Demo Day.
Dükkan platform was announced on World Refugee Day.

To digital works. Registered to the platform for the test run. The Dükkan platform was announced on World Refugee Day.

Under UNDP-ILO Framework of Action, 2 online workshops and 5 Instagram livestream on impacts of COVID-19 on NEET youth were organized. Also “Hope for Youth Forum” was conducted, and Declaration on Hope for Youth was announced.

3,074 NEET youth participated to training courses on e-commerce, foreign trade and social media marketing that are designed in line with fragile sectors' needs. 166 NEET youth who achieved greater performance in the 1st phase, accepted to the 2nd phase of training with the focus on digital programs that are widely used in the fragile sectors.

Technical meetings held with Japan Bank for International Cooperation to discuss possible cooperation areas, dialogue/consultation with SDG Holistic Innovation Platform (SHIP)-a global platform jointly run by UNDP and Japan Innovation Network. Communication and cooperation with JICA are on-going.

In cooperation with IICPSD (Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development) and USHAS, a guideline for PPE production namely: “Lessons Learned and Strategies for Local Manufacturing of PPE for Covid-19 Response Based on Literature Review, Experience, and Case Study from Turkey: USHAS”, which also includes information on international standards and global market analyzes guide has been prepared.

Turkey is chosen as one of the four Global COVID-19 Private Sector Facility Pilot Country and under the project activities this partnership will be utilized.

A policy paper on low-carbon, inclusive and rights-based economy in line with SDGs prepared by an international economist and the paper was presented at launch event.
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