

UNM ASKING UND 19 FUNDS EXPENDITURES

Special Report November, 2020







UNMASKING COVID-19 FUNDS EXPENDITURES





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SURVEY ON STATE AND NON STATE SUPPORTED COVID-19 INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS IN MOMBASA COUNTY, 2020

HURIA SURVEY REPORT,

NO.1 OF 2020



FORWARD

n 11th March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that the current outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), a respiratory illness caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), as a world pandemic. In response to this global health crisis, our country took a broad range of measures to contain and mitigate the spread of the virus, including banning of social gatherings, advocating for social distancing , other temporary containment , many of which lead to temporary unemployment of thousands of Kenyans. These measures of economic "lockdown" resulted, in the immediate term, in a significant slowdown of economic activity and an increase in social instability, which disproportionately affected the poor, leading to an inability in paying the monthly rent, unavailability of basic provisions and public services.

With more Kenyans becoming negatively impacted with the pandemic, and the health systems continuing to be strained along with financial and social systems, the government initiated programs to cushion the effects of the pandemic and the emerging challenges brought by the virus.

Our National and County governments, bilateral and multilateral donors, development banks, philanthropic organizations, and the private sector had to come in to play a role in contributing money, equipment, expertise, and much more to the communities to help assist in cushioning the impact of the pandemic. Despite the good will by the government in cushioning the effects of the pandemic by initiating programs many Kenyans have raised the red flag and have continued to complain of a lack of transparency on the use of funds as well as, in some cases, corruption in the programs and initiatives.

The allegation of corruption and misuse of COVID-19 funds and mismanagement of the programs and initiatives continue to disrupt the confidence majority of Kenyans had in the fight against corruption. The National and County governments need to come clean about where and how they have spent this the COVID-19 funds so that the taxpayers and including the international community will have more confidence that our government has spent judiciously the money that has been made available for the fight against Covid-19.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACC	Assistant County Commissioner
ARA	Asset Recovery Agency
CIC	County Implementation Committees
DCC	Deputy County Commissioner
EACC	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
FGDs	Focused Group Discussions
HURIA	Human Rights Agenda
KEMSA	Kenya Medical Supplies Authority
KII	Key Informants Interviews
NGAAF Fund	National Government Affirmative Action
PPMC Commission	The Permanent Presidential Music
PWDs	Persons Living with Disabilities
SPAIS	Strengthening Public
	Accountability and Integrity Systems
UNCAC Corruption	Accountability and Integrity Systems United Nations Convention Against





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

he reported level of corruption and bureaucratic interference continue to negatively affect performance of county and national government institutions and departments mandate with key functions. The blatant corruption and abuse of office by duty bearers and public officers continues unabated. For instance, investigation from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) say preliminary findings have shown that several laws on public procurement were flouted during the awarding of the COVID-19 tenders . In early May, four senior County officials in Kilifi County were arrested for tenders regarding the contract to build a COVID-19 center and for the maintenance of hospital equipment. In a report to a joint Senate Committee on Health and Covid-19 the EACC indicated that Investigations had established criminal culpability on the part of public officials in the purchase and supply of Covid-19 emergency commodities at Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (KEMSA) that led to irregular expenditure of public funds . The corruption scandals have continued to hit the country even as doctors and nurses complained about lack of PPEs as the country battled the coronavirus outbreak. The lack of transparency and accountability in the expenditure of the COVID-19 funds, has laid credence to the accusations that most of the money continue to be misappropriated.

The government initiatives and programs on COVID-19 have also raised eyebrows. The misappropriation of funds and expenditure meant to support the programs is the main reason behind this survey. It is unbelievable that corruption thrives even in this time of the pandemic. As such, it was imperative that we analyze the COVID-19 initiatives and audit expenditure of funds including the management of the initiatives in Mombasa County. Through an online and offline survey conducted by HURIA and through this report we sought to interrogate the transparency and integrity of the initiatives so as to ascertain and minimize the level of corruption and abuse of office.



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ackling corruption and unethical conduct requires continuous flow of information to guide initiatives aimed at combating and preventing their occurrences. This report provides information on COVID-19 related corruption allegation and unethical practices in programs and initiatives meant to cushion the impact of the corona virus pandemic in Mombasa County. This report also calls for concerted stakeholder collaboration, individuals, public and private sector to addressing the problem of corruption and unethical conduct resulting from the funds and initiatives temporarily designed to address effects of the pandemic.

The overall objective of this survey was to provide data and information to inform anti-corruption strategies in the country and specifically within Mombasa County. Through our implementation of the SPAIS program supported by UNDP, our main objective is to address corruption related allegations particularly on the COVID-19 funds and expenditure, which goes a long way into strengthening public accountability and integrity systems.

This survey was comprehensively conducted in all the six sub-counties of Mombasa County. It involved a one on interview of more than 200 respondents, including key informants and duty bearers and more than 400 respondents and beneficiaries being engaged on the online platforms, through the online administered questionnaire.

a) Impact of COVID-19 pandemic to communities

The study intended to gauge the extent of the impact of the pandemic on the lives of the respondents, their family members and their economic ventures, including uncertainties and the how their lives have been affected. This was deemed important to determine to what level the pandemic has changed the lives of the respondents.

- 90% of the respondents indicated that they have neither been tested, nor infected with the coronavirus infection nor placed under quarantine.
- 92% of the respondents feel that the pandemic and government restrictions have greatly impacted their lives negatively and has totally changed their way of life
- 43% have lost their employment as a result of the pandemic and are currently rendered jobless

- 41% of the respondents have developed stress and depression as a result of the pandemic and the unexpected negative effects.
- 47% cited the cessation of movement as having the greatest negative impact to their routine way of life and tempered with their means of livelihood.

b) Awareness on COVID-19 initiatives

The study intended to gather information on the level of awareness on members of the public on the existing COVID-19 initiatives, as well as, understand the extent of involvement of the beneficiaries to the programs and initiatives. Awareness of the initiatives by members of the public is very critical and goes a long way in helping to hold duty bearers accountable on accountability.

- 51% of the respondents are not aware of the COVID-19 initiatives and programs meant to cushion the impact of the pandemic. They are unaware of the initiatives and programs supported by both national and county government of Mombasa.
- 65% have no clue on the existence of any funding or donations to the county or national government to support COVID-19.
- Social media and office of the area Chiefs were sighted as the key sources of information to the programs and initiatives on COVID-19
- Only 55% were aware of the initiatives and programs by non-state/private actors to cushion the effects of COVID-19.
- Only 44% indicated that they have directly benefitted from the County and National Government programs and initiatives

c) Impact of County COVID-19 programs and initiatives

It was deemed important to understand how the COVID-19 programs and initiatives have impacted the lives of communities in Mombasa County. It was also critical to know the level of satisfaction by communities on the programs they were meant to benefit from.

- 60% indicated that they have never benefitted directly from COVID-19 programs and initiatives
- 52% of the respondents indicated that the selection and recruitment process for the beneficiaries of the initiatives was biased and informal.
- 55% reported being unsatisfied with the County Government response and programs on COVID-19

d) Concerns on the National Government COVID-19 programs and initiatives

HURIA purposed to examine and audit the accountability and integrity of the anti-COVID-19 initiatives at the National and the County level. HURIA focused on the following key National Government initiatives; The National Hygiene Program (Kazi mtaani), Cash transfer program, Sports Fund to artists, actors and musicians, National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) to fight Covid-19.

Summary of the concerns is as follows;

- Poor vetting and recruitment of beneficiaries, including the exclusion of some vulnerable communities and individuals from becoming beneficiaries of the initiatives (both in the selection and identification of benefiting wards, areas, villages).
- Exclusion of PWDs in the National Hygiene Program.
- Delayed and non- payment to some of the recruited beneficiaries involved in the Kazi Mtaani program.
- Insufficient provision of protective gears and essential working tools in the National Hygiene Program.
- Non adherence to the formal selection and recruitment procedure and criteria in enrolling and recruiting beneficiaries in to the programs.
- Allegations of rising ethnicity between beneficiaries, supervisors and duty bearers tasked with the management of the initiatives and programs
- Poor responsiveness of officials and duty-bearers managing the inititives on complaints addressed to them concerning both the National and CountyCOVID-19 programs and initiatives.
- Poor communication between beneficiaries and duty bearers charged with the management of the initiatives.

e) Concerns on the County Government Initiatives and Programs on COVID-19

In auditing the initiatives and programs supported by the County Government of Mombasa, HURIA relied on information from the following initiatives; Food distribution program, Distribution of masks and sanitizers, Installation of water tanks and sanitization booths/stations

Summary of the concerns is as follows:

• Poor communication from duty bearers and lack of openness in the food distribution approaches within the Sub-Counties.

- Poor identification and selection criteria of beneficiaries of the food distribution program.
- Lack of proper arrangement in submission and assessment of the beneficiaries.
- Favoritism and preferentialism in the distribution of food
- Lack of complementary mechanism for distribution of food to PWDs.
- Missing names and non-inclusion of individuals from deserving communities in the lists of beneficiaries
- f) Outcome and Consequences from the concerns, complaints and allegations of corruption
 - Threatening and intimidation of supervisors by fellow beneficiaries due to non-payment.
 - Youth protests against non-payment/delayed payments
 - Arrests, harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders championing for the audit and transparency against the COVID-19 funds and initiatives.
 - Involuntary resigning of volunteers and village elders and youth from the programs and COVID-19 initiatives.

g) General Recommendations

- Enhance channels for reporting corruption and unethical conduct specifically for COVID-19 funds and initiatives
- Enhance public education and sensitization on National and County programs on COVID-19.
- Open clear communication and outreach channels to raise awareness and understanding of Beneficiaries
- Enhance comprehensive Auditing, Oversight, Accountability and Reporting Mechanisms to Monitor the disbursement of funds and donations and verification of appropriate initiatives
- Enhance public education and individual roles in auditing COVID-19 funds and initiatives and in the fight against corruption and unethical conduct.
- Improve provision of access to information on the utilisation of the COVID-19 funds

- EACC should investigate the COVID-19 corruption allegations on expenditure and utilization of resources meant to cushion the impact of the pandemic
- Enhance channels of communication between beneficiaries of the initiatives and duty bearers
- Review, Audit and freshly assess the level of vulnerability and inclusion of rightful beneficiaries of the programs and initiatives
- Building capacity in COVID-19 monitoring, project design, and advocacy.
- Use information and analysis gathered to build dialogue between government and civil society, and thereby help the move toward data- and evidence-driven policy.
- Enhance psychosocial support resources to strengthen physical and mental well-being in the post corona period.

BACKGROUND

Introduction

This is a special report that presents a summary of findings and recommendations of a research exercise undertaken by HURIA to map out the anti-COVID-19 initiatives in Mombasa County. The research was undertaken under the auspices of a pilot project dubbed – Strengthening Public Accountability and Integrity Systems (SPAIS) supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The exercise was conducted between 21st - 24th August 2020 in Mombasa County, within all its six (6) subcounties namely Mvita, Likoni, Changamwe, Jomvu, Kisauni and Nyali.

The exercise targeted respondents and beneficiaries of both the County and National COVID-19 programs and initiatives, as well as, key informants and duty bearers trusted with the responsibility of managing the initiatives. HURIA interviewed more than 200 beneficiaries and key informants, as well as, duty bearers through KIIs and Focus Group Discussions. Key targets in the survey included youth, women and PWDs both as direct and indirect beneficiaries. Through online surveys, HURIA reached out to more than 400 respondents, who took part in filling and submitting the online survey and questionnaire. While the primary focus of the exercise was Mombasa county, the exercise reached out to other 2 coastal counties for comparative purposes using the online surveys and desk top research.

CHAPTER 1

Contextual Analysis

he COVID-19 pandemic and the precautionary measures put in place to contain effects of the disease, have negatively affected the economy of the country. It is in this regard, that both the County Government of Mombasa and the National Government came up with initiatives to cushion vulnerable individuals and communities affected by the pandemic. The National Government initiated programs targeting critical areas and groups of individuals as beneficiaries. For instance, the National Government initiatives such as the Artist Relief Fund was launched by the Kenya's Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage in support of creatives for production of works geared towards sensitizing Kenyans on the safety and health precautions to stop the spread of COVID-19. The stimulus package of a 100 million Kenyan shilling (\$940 000) targeted Kenyan artists, actors and musicians as part of its three-month "Together at Home" campaign . The campaign was expected to directly engage about 20, 000 musicians, actors and visual artists in Kenya's 47 counties, with 30% of the overall content constituting the vulnerable groups and persons living with disabilities. The state agencies mandated to disperse the funds were; The Permanent Presidential Music Commission (PPMC), Kenya Film Commission, the Kenya Cultural Centre and National Museums of Kenya.

The National Hygiene programme also dabbed as "Kazi Mtaani" is an initiative supported through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The national programme whose budget is worth Kshs.10 billion targeted more than 270,000 individuals . The aim was to cushion workers who had been disrupted by the containment policies put in place to limit the spread of COVID-19. The programme rollout is overseen by the County Implementation Committees (CICs) led by the respective County Commissioners, with County Secretaries as deputy chairs and County Directors of Housing serving as secretaries to the CICs.

Cash Transfers supported by the government aimed at providing 1,000 weekly stipends to more than 300,000 vulnerable households affected by the economic knocks of COVID-19. Furthermore, the Government of Kenya, through the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), released Kshs. 331,406,000 to cushion



http://sportsheritage.go.ke/100-million-for-artist-actors-and-musicians-stimulus-package/ https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2020/07/thousands-of-youth-to-benefit-from-kazi-mtaani-project/ http://ncpwd.go.ke/index.php/cash-transfer-for-pwds

36,405 persons with disabilities against the negative effects of the Covid-19 pandemic . This intervention was fully funded by the Government of Kenya through the release of Ksh. 500million by the Government of Kenya to cushion the vulnerable persons against the negative effects of COVID-19 pandemic as directed by His excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta. The funds were to benefit 3,072 persons with severe disabilities in the Inua Jamii Programme who are eligible for missed payments. 33,333 poor and vulnerable persons with disabilities not benefiting from any government cash transfer programme, were to receive a one-off cash transfer of Kshs 6,000.

Apart from the initiatives by the National Government, the County Government of Mombasa also designed initiatives to Cushion Mombasa Residents from the effect of the pandemic. Mombasa County initiated the emergency household relief & nutrition support project. The Ksh.200 Million Programme was implemented in phases. Phase 1 of the Programme rolled out in April 2020 and 55,000 households benefited & Phase 2 Targeted over 50,000 households including children homes.

Despite the efforts by the County and National Government in cushioning the effects of COVID-19 pandemic, HURIA has continued to receive complaints through its free hotline numbers that were launched purposefully to report complaints and mismanagement of the COVID-19 initiatives as well as corruption. Through the Free Anticorruption Advisory Call Platform (FACAP), more than 56 cases on mismanagement of the COVID-19 initiatives and unethical conducts of individuals tasked with the management of the programs have been reported . In order to understand the complaints and level of corruption and mismanagement of the funds meant to cushion the effects of the pandemic reported by communities, HURIA initiated a community survey, targeting residents with Mombasa County and especially beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the programs and initiatives on COVID-19 supported by the National and County Government.

This report presents findings from the survey conducted by HURIA on the expenditure of funds and the management of the initiatives and programs. The report highlights key specific findings and recommends solutions to the problems and short comings identified in the expenditures of the COVID-19 funds and suggest recommendations to key stakeholders in the region.

Objective and Purpose of the Survey

The objective of the research exercise was to assess citizen's knowledge, involvement and benefits of the both the National and County COVID-19 initiatives and programs aimed at cushioning vulnerable individuals and families against the impact of COVID-19. The exercise also purposed to measure the impact of COVID -19 to the beneficiaries, as well as, audit and check on pilferages of funds embezzlement. More importantly, the exercise was purposed to assess the level of accountability and integrity in the implementation of the COVID-19 initiatives.

The purpose of the study was to also assess the impact of COVID -19 on various communities in the county. The study also looked at understanding of citizens' knowledge of the various initiatives undertaken by the County and National government that are to benefit vulnerable and marginalized communities within the six sub-counties of Mombasa. Further, the study sought to check on possibilities of double and counter-part funding, as well as, ghost projects in the county. The survey was meant to guide HURIA in development of anti-corruption campaigns, create awareness on the COVID-19 government initiatives, as well as, improve accountability and service delivery by both state and non-state institutions mandated to implement and monitor these initiatives.

1.2

Scope and Methodology

This section outlines the scope and methodology adopted in achieving the objectives of the survey. The research is based on over 200 in-person interviews conducted by HURIA between 21st -24th August 2020 with beneficiaries, duty bearers and key informants and other individuals with knowledge of National and County COVID-19 initiatives and programs. More specifically the study used purposive sampling procedures, where a group of 35-60 beneficiaries and key informants from every sub-county were purposively identified and engaged in KIIs and FGDs.

The survey has also drawn some of its findings from two online administered surveys conducted through the Monkey Survey tool. The report also relies on information from documents within the public domain, other documentary evidence, reputable human rights networks and organization reports and news outlets. The report further drew its analysis and conclusion from online reliable sources and information related to COVID-19.

1.2.1 Data Collection and Research Design

This section outlines the methodology adopted in achieving the objectives of the assessment. In order to contribute to the reliability of our results in the study, HURIA used both quantitative and qualitative models in assessment exercise, as well as, both primary and secondary data.

Quantitative Analysis

Through quantitative model, HURIA conducted 2 online surveys conducted through the Monkey Survey. The online surveys reached out to more than 400 respondents and focused on two main areas;

- Assessment of the Management and Impact of the Kazi Mtaani Program in the Coast Region
- Unmasking Corruption In The Management Of Covid-19 Resources At The Coast Region Of Kenya

Information was also collected by reviewing online sources and data on national initiatives and programs undertaken within Mombasa County. The online survey data also included research and collection of information from reports within the public domain, other documentary evidence, organization reports and news outlets related to COVID-19. The online survey was conducted as a cross-sectional study, with the questionnaires comprising of a mixture of closed-ended and open-ended questions. The questionnaires were developed by HURIA and shared through HURIA's social media platforms and links also shared directly to target respondents.

Qualitative Analysis

The qualitative data collection model reached out to 221 respondents. Target group included; Specific National and County COVID-19 initiatives and programs, beneficiaries of the programs, duty bearers and key informants with knowledge of National and County Government COVID-19 initiatives. More specifically, the study used purposive sampling procedures, where a group of 35 beneficiaries and key informants from every sub-county were purposively identified and engaged in KIIs and FGDs. Questionnaires were structured to answer key information regarding the initiatives and in line with the objectives of the research. The questionnaires gathered information from the targeted stakeholders and investigated various variables such as;

- Impact of COVID-19 on intended Beneficiaries
- Knowledge and Awareness on COVID-19 Initiatives
- County resources and programs on COVID-19
- Impact of County COVID-19 programs and initiatives
- National resources and programs on COVID-19

Study Limitation

The current context of the COVID-19 pandemic, limited the number of people we administered the survey to because of the guidelines and containment measures put in place to curb the disease. This was however managed by administering the survey through online platforms to widen the target of the respondents. The online survey had its own unique challenges where by it limited the number of people responding to the survey, because of issues on access to internet and online fatigue. These underlined barriers may have led to key respondents not giving their inputs through the online survey tool.

Furthermore, due to the fact that the survey was aimed at analyzing the state of COVID 19 initiatives, the respondents more so the beneficiaries were afraid of airing out their views because of fear of intimidation and being deregistered from the projects. However, to resolve the issue, all participants signed consent forms which assured them that the information they give will be confidential.

The research was also limited by the mode of the survey tool. Some of the respondents had low literacy levels thus needed a transcriber to translate the questions to Kiswahili. On the other hand, the PWD's especially the blind who were among the respondents, required help in filling the questionnaire since it was not in braille form. This was time consuming thus causing delay in completion of the questionnaires by the respondents.

The Key Informant Interviews were a bit slow due to last minute cancellation or rescheduling of appointments by the government officials. Consequently, this reduced the target number of key informants that we administered the survey tool to.

INSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

s articulated under Article 9(2) of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), each State party shall take appropriate measures to promote transparency and accountability in the management of public finances which shall encompass, inter alia: (c) A system of accounting and auditing standards, and related oversight; (d) Effective and efficient systems of risk management and internal control.

Our country has had an anti-corruption legislation from way back in 1956. The Prevention of Corruption Act (Cap. 65) was in operation from August 1956 to May 2003 when the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act, No 3 of 2003 became operational and repealed it . Despite enacting several anti- corruption laws, the vice of corruption is still prevalent in the country. Since the 90's, many Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have pursued anti-corruption programmes and strategies but the malpractice has persisted and, in some cases, intensified. Corruption in Kenya is perceived to be endemic, rampant and deeply entrenched. President Uhuru Kenyatta declared it a national security threat in 2015. The findings of the National Ethics and Corruption Survey, 2017 conducted by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (the EACC) indicate that over 70 per cent of the survey respondents perceive the level of corruption in Kenya to be very high. The Transparency International, Corruption Perception Index 2018 ranked Kenya at position 144 out of 180 countries. Kenya scored 27/100 which is below the global average score of 43.

CHAPTER 2

Kenya President Says Corruption a National Security Threat, Helen Nyambura-Mwaura, https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-11-23/kenyan-president-declarescorruption-a-national-security-threat

score of 0 means highly corrupt whereas a score of 100 means a country is clean from corruption

In Kenya, the main corruption regulator is the EACC, which is established pursuant to Article 79 of the 2010 Constitution of Kenya and by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission Act (Act No. 22 of 2011). Its primary objective is to enforce ethical standards in the public sector and help in the investigation and prosecution of corruption allegations. This remit has also been expanded by the Bribery Act, 2016 to cover the private sector and individuals involved in bribery. The provisions of the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act No. 3 of 2003 (the ACECA) also adds into the investigations and prosecution of offences and also apply to investigation and prosecution of offences under the Bribery Act, 2016. Under Section 23 of the ACECA, the Secretary of the EACC (the Secretary) or a person authorized by the Secretary may conduct an investigation on behalf of the EACC. Police officers also have wide powers to conduct investigations under the National Police Service Act, including requiring any person whom they reasonably believe has information to assist in the investigation of an alleged offence by attending before them at a police station or police office in the county where that person resides or is present for the time being.

Notably, pursuant to Gazette Notice No. 10263 published on 9th December 2016, the High Court of Kenya has an Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes division specifically tasked to deal with cases pertaining to corruption and economic crimes.

There are a number of other institutions and organizations such as the Asset Recovery Agency (the ARA) established under the Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Act (Act. No. 9 of 2009). The ARA is tasked with assisting, among others, in criminal and civil forfeiture of property obtained through corruption or bribery.

Through the SPAIS project, HURIA has developed a keen interest on key county and national concerns that touch on the integrity of duty bearers and unethical actions that have an effect on the enjoyment of rights and fundamental freedoms. The project has given birth to key partnership with EACC Coast Regional Office catapulting the organizations efforts in addressing COVID-19 related corruption allegations through investigation, follow-ups and awareness creation.

In the last few months, the country's mainstream and social media platforms have been clouded with allegations of COVID-19 corruption, unethical conduct and mismanagement of funds donated to cushion the effects and impact of the pandemic. The allegation of corruption and mismanagement of COVID-19 resources both at the national and county government prompted the survey and is the idea behind this report.

8

3.0

3.1

SURVEY RESULTS AND OBSERVATION

Introduction

This chapter presents the detailed survey results categorized as (i) Classification of the respondents (ii) Impact of COVID-19 (iii) Awareness of COVID-19 initiatives (iv) County and National Resources and Programs on COVID-19 (v) Impact on COVID-19 programs and initiatives.

CHAPTER 3

Classification of respondents

The Youth (Beneficiaries of the National and County government COVID-19 programs and initiatives) constituted the highest number of respondents in the survey at 45% compared to women at 23% and PWDs at 11%. The targeted respondents were both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the COVID-19 initiatives, and were purposefully mobilized with the aim of acquiring detailed information concerning the programs and initiatives, supported by both the County and National Government including those supported by non-state actors. It was observed that the youth were the majority in comparison to the other categories and that they stood to be the highest beneficiaries in both the National and County programs.



Demography of the respondents - AGE



Demography of the respondents - GENDER



3.2

Demography of the respondents

Age and gender were considered important variables to determine the composition of the respondents including the ratio of male and females engaged. According to the findings, female youth were more responsive to the survey compared to their male counterparts. This is because majority of the respondents were female youth translating to 63% of the respondents, while the 37 % were male counterparts. More female respondents also participated on the online survey and filling in of the questionnaires. Majority of the respondents fell between the age of 18-35 years at 61%, followed by adults of the age range between 35-50 years who comprised 29%. The observation for these variables are that women have been more proactive and involved in the programs and initiatives as direct beneficiaries such as food distribution. Also the beneficiaries in programs by the National Government such as Kazi Mtaani has mostly helped the youth who form a larger percentage.

3.3

3.3.1 Has someone in your family been a victim of Corona virus infection/placed under quarantine

Has someone in your family been a victim of Corona virus infection/placed under quarantine?

90.3% - NO

9.8% YES

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

This deemed an important was variable that aimed to understand the propensity of the respondents to COVID-19 infection. Majority of the respondents (90%) indicated that they had not undergone a coronavirus test including their family members, while 10% had undergone testing and placed under quarantine. The observation of this variable is that a majority of community members are yet to be tested and most of them are afraid of undergoing a coronavirus test based on the consequences and the myth around testing. Further, this confirms the fear on the cost implications of quarantine and the stigma that comes along with one being found positive of the virus.

3.3.2 Public opinion on the COVID-19 pandemic

This variable was important to perceive the understanding and opinion of the public on how the public felt about the efforts of the National and County Government in dealing with pandemic. This variable was also based on the opinion that many people felt the government has not been serious in dealing with how to cushion the effects of the pandemic against vulnerable individuals. The figure shows that 51% of the respondents view the coronavirus infection as a deadly infection, 30% hold the view that the virus is overrated while 9% think that there is too much misconception about the virus. 6% believe that there is nothing like corona virus and that the government is using the claims to get funding. The implication of the finding calls for the enhancement of citizen's awareness and knowledge about the virus and efforts of the county and National Government in fighting against the pandemic

30% ITS OVERRATED 9% ITS MISCONCEPTION 6% IT DOES NOT EXIST 4% NONE 51% DEADLY PANDEMIC

Opinion on the COVID-19 pandemic

3.3.3 Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic to the public

It was important to know whether the COVID-19 pandemic had affected or changed the respondent's normal way of life. It was also important to determine the most affected areas of their life that was gravely affected by the pandemic. 92% of the respondents indicated that the COVID-19 pandemic had affected and changed their way of life negatively, while 8% indicated that COVID-19 had not affected or changed their way of life. This therefore clearly shows that the pandemic has affected a majority of the citizens and its of important to understand to what extent and in which manner the pandemic has changed and affected the lives of the communities.

Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic



When asked about the direct effect of the pandemic on their life,

43% of the respondent indicated that they had loss employment and were now unemployed, 39% indicated that the pandemic had led to the closure of their businesses, while 10% cited the disruption of their academic calendar. 4% indicated the direct effect to be on salary reduction while 1% indicated that the effect was on the loss of loved ones. This poses a challenge to both the national and county government to provide alternative ways of generating income and employment while come up with measures of ensuring the effects of unemployment and loss of income do not generate into insecurity.

3.3.4 Uncertaintiesbrought about by theCOVID-19 pandemic

It was deemed as important to understand what the uncertainties the respondents were facing/dealing with as they battled the effects of the pandemic. Understanding the effects would help inform programs and initiatives deal with to such. Majority, 41%cited stress and depression а major issue as uncertainty during this period, 20% indicated the fear of being infected by the virus, while 18%indicated fear of being evicted from their houses for lack of rent. The pandemic has caused depression to many families, the stress that people are battling is on how they will be able to manage their life moving forward. The Findings of the study on what uncertainties they are facing are presented in the graph below.



Uncertainties brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic

3.3.5 Greatest social impact of COVID-19 pandemic to communities This variable was included into the study to understand the general social impact of the pandemic to the communities. There variable was underpinned from the conclusion that due to the containment measures and strategies from the government such as secession of movement, curfew, closure of schools etc. many communities have been affected both directly and indirectly. Majority 26% indicated that police harassment has been rampant and greatly affected their communities. Results of the study on impact of the pandemic to the general community are presented in the chart below.



Greatest social impact of COVID-19 pandemic to communities

3.4

AWARNESS ON COVID-19 INITIATIVES

AWARNESS ON COVID-19 INITIATIVES



3.4.1 Awareness on COVID-19 initiatives within the County

This variable was included in the study as it is evident that if someone aware of the existence of an initiatives, it then makes it much easier for them to benefit rather than someone who is not aware. from the findings below, it shows shat there is still need to create awareness on the COVID-19 programs and initiatives intended to support communities.
3.4.2 Views on Satisfaction on the County government responses to COVID-19 pandemic

Overtime, the level of satisfaction on the strategies and interventions on COVID-19 by the national and county government have been dropping. 55% feel unsatisfied with the Mombasa County intervention on COVID-19. Communities feel that the efforts in cushioning and combating COVID-19 are not being undertaken seriously, and this perception has been brought along by the level of corruption and lack of transparency in the programs. This study therefore sought to establish whether the respondents were satisfied with whatever little the County government was doing in dealing with the pandemic. Findings of the study are presented below.



3.4.3 Awareness of COVID- 19 programs and initiatives supported by the National Government

The national government is supporting programs and initiatives meant to cushion the effects of COVID-19. Notably, there are funds that are specifically meant to support the programs and initiatives.54% of the respondents are not aware of the Government initiatives on COVID-19 while only 45% of them are unaware of the programs and initiatives on COVID-19. This survey meant to find whether communities /respondents had an idea of the existence of such finds and existence of such initiatives. Findings of the study are presented below.



3.4.4. Awareness on funding/donations to the County /National Government meant to support COVID-19 initiatives

It is clear that the information available to members of the public concerning COVID-19 funding, donations and support from international partners and national government is not readily available to the public. 65% are not aware of any funding or donations given to the county or national government to support COVID-19 initiatives. The unavailability of such information makes it difficult to hold the National and county Government accountable. There is need to provide access to information and create awareness on the COVID-19 initiatives and program.



3.4.5 Key sources of information on COVID -19 initiatives and programs ongoing within the Sub-County

This variable sought to find out on the key sources of information regarding the initiatives and programs in the county. Understanding the key source of information from the respondents would help design information regarding the initiatives and use the platforms to enhance the access to information to the members of the public. A larger percentage 23% of the respondents indicated that they obtain information through Social Media while 20% indicated that they are informed through radio. The implication of this finding is that most respondents rely on digital platforms to access information and there is need to explore such platforms.



3.4.6 Awareness on Non-State COVID-19 initiatives and programs

The national government and county government has during the COVID-19 pandemic set aside funds that are expected to cushion the effects of the pandemic on marginalized and vulnerable populations. More over non state actors such as NGO, and CBOs have initiated activities to help in addressing the effects of COVID-19. Results of awareness on the non-state actors are captured in the figures below.

Awareness on Non-State COVID-19 initiatives and programs



3.4.7 Initiatives and programs supported by Non-State actors

Given the fact that majority (55%) are aware about the non-state COVID-19 initiatives within the county, it was prudent to find out the nature of initiatives including the type of organization supporting the initiative/ program. The information was intended to build synergy and find areas of partnership and collaboration. Results of the study are presented below.

Initiative	Organization
Food distribution	Red Cross, Mombasa Cement, Haki Afrika
Community sensitization	HURIA, Sauti Ya wanawake,
Counseling	CICC
Distribution of masks sanitizers and soaps	Haki Yetu, SHOFCO, Sanjeey Foundation, SautiYa Wanawake, DPC, Red Cross
Distribution of sanitary towels	Changamwe youth group
Distribution of tools & fumigation gears in old town	Kenya Muslim Doctors
Research on COVID Initiatives	HURIA, Transparency international

3.4.8 Awareness on initiatives supported by the National Government

Initiative	Proportional %
Kazi mtaani Program	68%
Cash Transfer Program	32%

When asked about awareness on the specific initiatives supported by the national government, the respondents only indicated to be aware of a few initiatives indicated in the table below. Majority indicated that they are aware of on the National Hygiene Program and the Cash transfer program. This shows that the level of awareness on the national programs and initiatives are low,

3.4.9 Assessment of Direct beneficiaries of the National COVID-19 programs

40% of the beneficiaries indicated that they had directly benefitted from the national COVID-19 initiatives, while 60% indicated that they have never benefited on any of the initiatives and programs supported by the National Government that are meant to cushion the effects of COVID-19 pandemic

Assessment of Direct beneficiaries of the National COVID-19 programs



3.5

Process of selection and recruitment of beneficiaries into the initiatives and programs

Process of selection and recruitment into the initiatives and programs

PROCESS OF SELECTION AND RECRUITMENT OF BENEFICIARIES INTO THE INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS



Selection and recruitment of beneficiaries to the national initiatives and programs was alleged to be marred with corruption and was alleged not to benefit the targeted beneficiaries in the programs. In was important through this variable to understand and get the perception from the beneficiaries on their procedure and involvement. 52% of the respondents indicated that the selection and recruitment process was biased and that it left out the most important beneficiaries, 15% was of the view that the process of selection was unfair and full of favoritism and nepotism. only 1% indicated that the processes were fair and excellent.



SPECIFIC FINDINGS AND KEY OBSERVATIONS

Through the survey, HURIA identified key specific findings and observations on the national and county government initiatives. The specific finding was also raised as concerns by individual taking part in the initiatives as beneficiaries. The following presents the specific findings in both the national and County COVID-19 programs and initiatives.

4.1

4.0

National Government Initiatives

Lack of proper public participation in designing and rolling out of the COVID-19 initiatives and programs

The rolling out of the programs and initiatives on COVID-19 by National Government were not subjected to the public for participation and this has created the feeling that the initiatives

Delay of payments to beneficiaries e.g. the Kazi Mtaani Initiative, and Cash Transfer program

HURIA registered complaints by beneficiaries on the initiatives over delayed and nonpayment of their dues for the number of days worked. The respondents complained that they had not received their payments and that seemed to be a problem in almost all the sub- counties that the survey was undertaken.

CHAPTER 4

Non-inclusion of PWDs in the initiatives such as the National Hygiene program.

Complaints of non-inclusion of PWDs in the program were registered during the survey. PWDs complained of not taking part in the Kazii Mtaani program and that they were feeling excluded in the program.

Lack of public awareness and information on government supported COVID-19 initiatives and programs.

There were low levels of information and awareness on the kind of initiatives and programs supported by the national government. The respondents had no clue on the kind of initiatives that exist and those that are specifically meant to benefit them.

Abuse of office- and unethical conduct by officials tasked with the management of the initiatives

Reports of corruption during recruitment and selection of beneficiaries were registered. Beneficiaries complained of the conduct of officials such as chiefs and Assistance County Commissioners in frustrating the processes. Respondents were also frustrated by the lack of Complaint resolving mechanisms for those beneficiaries with claims and complaints

Poor assessment and recruitment of beneficiaries intended to benefit from the COVID-19 programs and initiatives.

Assessment and recruitment of beneficiaries was said to have been tampered with and that majority of the recruited beneficiaries were not the ones intended to have benefited from the program/initiatives. The allegations of beneficiaries who are relatives of the duty bearers were registered in most of the sub-counties. The program should have instead benefitted communities from poor communities.

County Government Initiatives

Poor communication and lack of openness in the food distribution strategies within the Sub-Counties.

Communities struggled to stay up-to-date on the exact areas within which food was / is to be distributed within their sub counties. The lack of information on when and where lead to some not benefiting from the distribution. There were complaints that names of those benefiting from the program had been submitted more than thrice and that contributed to the decreasing public confidence in the process. This have left the village elders and volunteers to take the blame and many have opted to resign from the process.

Lack of proper selection criteria of beneficiaries of the food distribution program.

There lacked a standard selection criterion in all the sub-counties on the specific beneficiaries of the program. The information in the public domain was that each member was to submit names and details to the village area regardless you're vulnerable or not. Some needy beneficiaries ended up being left out.

Lack of proper arrangement in submission and assessment of the beneficiaries.

There are claims that most names submitted to the village elders and area chiefs for purposes of this program had been interfered with. That the custodians of the names

Favoritism and preferentialism in the distribution of food.

Claims of food distribution program benefiting certain communities and individual more compared to others. That the Muslim community was being favored and majority of beneficiaries were Muslims and persons related to those in charge or holding positions within the program.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

Lack of complementary mechanism for distribution of food to PWDs.

No proper arrangement for distribution of food to PWDs. In most areas PWDs were forced to que together with normal persons. In other circumstance the food distribution done at night was a hindrance to those vision impaired and those who cannot hear. No interpreters involved.

Intimidation of village elders by the community thus causing them to live in fear

Some of the village elders had complaints that the public perceive them to be beneficiaries of programs especially the relief food program yet they are false claims. This came out strongly in areas where they did not benefit from the program and thus hold the village elder is seen as the cause.



5.0

GENERAL OBSERVATION ON THE CHANGING COVID-19 CONTEXT

The high-level un-satisfaction and lack of trust on the government in the fight against COVID-19 as indicated in this report is worrying. Un-satisfaction by members of the public can easily result to an increased level of of ignorance on health measures and non-adherence of the restrictions and the COVID-19 health protocols in the country. As indicated in the report, a huge number 55% expressed their un-satisfaction and lack of faith on with the National and County Government approaches in the management and implementation of the COVID-19 initiatives and programs meant to cushion the impact of the pandemic.

This report came amid the easing of the restriction of the COVID-19 containment measures and protocols by the president. The president announced the suspension of the secession of movement in and out of specific counties in the country including Mombasa County as well as, extending curfew hours, among other new measures. The restriction of movement in and out of Mombasa County had intended to cushion the rapid spread of the virus in and out of Mombasa and into other counties.

Going by the findings on the satisfaction and impact of the COVID-19, as explained in the report, every duty bearer as well as, private individuals should be concerned on the outcome of the easing of the restrictions by the president. The intentions of the decision to uplift the restriction may have a positive impact on the currently experienced economic downturn but can be a huge contributing factor to not only to a faster rise in the national infections but also fatalities. As per the findings, the uplifting of the restrictions is predicted to lead to the ignorance of health measures such as social distancing and wearing of masks. Further to this, the Country is likely to record an increase of infections and the number of deaths. The tough balance between keeping our economy running and keeping people safe is hard to contain and if not well managed it will ultimately lead to Kenyans experiencing a second wave of COVID-19 infections.

CHAPTER 5



6.0

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

There is no doubt that embezzlement and mismanagement of public funds, especially, those meant to cushion the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country continue despite media highlights and expose. The funded COVID-19 initiatives and programs meant to cushion effects of COVID-19 have become hindrance and a cash cows to a few individuals at the helm. Our survey registered gaps and complaints from beneficiaries and proposed recommendation from the key findings and information obtained.

You can note from the survey, that corruption manifesting within this COVID-19 pandemic period mostly occurs from the officials and offices mandated with the management and oversight of the COVID-19 programs and initiatives. For example, the office of the Chiefs and Deputy County Commissioner (DCC) were said to be more corrupt in the recruitment and selection of beneficiaries of the government programs such as Kazi Kwa Vijana.

The fight against COVID-19 corruption continues to be complex and beset with a lot of challenges arising from the intimidation and arrest of individuals following up on the concerns and corruption allegations, the deliberate non-disclosure of information by County and National Government on resources and COVID-19 related funding. Following the crack down on protestors and protests against alleged embezzlement of funds meant for COVID-19 response measures, there has been a growing public apathy in dealing and following up on corruption allegations and matters, and this has led to the frustration that most individuals have no clue and have had to deal with the frustration of not knowing who, where and how to report corruption and unethical behavior of duty bearers and public officers especially during this COVID-19 period.

CHAPTER 6

6.1 **Recommendations**

With the findings of the study, the following recommendations will be necessary in improving the implementation of the initiatives while strengthening the accountability and integrity.

6.1.1 County Government of Mombasa

- Provide the requisite political good will and leadership in the fight against misuse and embezzlement of COVID-19 funds expenditure and the promotion of ethics and integrity in the county.
- Create public awareness on the COVID-19 initiative and programs supported by the county government of Mombasa
- Need to make information of the funds and resources received in county publicly available
- Publicize the COVID-19 initiatives and programs and the beneficiaries benefitting from the programs

6.1.2 Mombasa County Covid-19 Committee

- Audit and review the lists of beneficiaries benefiting from the ongoing food distribution programs and assess their inclusion on need basis.
- Undertake audit of beneficiaries benefitting in all the County Government programs and initiatives
- Operationalize the sanitization booths and other stalled County COVID-19 initiatives that are currently non-operational

6.1.3 Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission

- Initiate investigation on allegations of corruption and prosecution of individuals involved in the embezzlement of funds
- Monitor complaints on the initiatives and programs to detect corrupt practices and unethical conduct

6.1.4 Civil Society Organizations

- Undertake audit and review of beneficiaries benefitting in the county government programs such as food distribution
- Enhance public awareness and information on the County and National Government initiatives and programs.
- Address the non-Inclusion of the public participation in planning and designing of the COVID-19 programs and initiatives initiated by both the County and National Government.
- Monitor the expenditure of funds meant to support initiatives and programs on COVID-19 including funds meant for PWDs handed to NCPWD during this COVID-19 Pandemic Audit the utilization of government funds and resources channeled to support COVID-19 initiatives and programs
- Represent communities facing social inequalities and violation of rights during the pandemic
- Contribute to the COVID-19 initiatives and programs initiated by the National and County Governments

6.1.5 National Council of Persons Living with Disability

- Follow up on inclusion of PWDs in the Kazi Mtaani and Cash Transfer Program
- Review and Audit the lists of beneficiaries benefitting form the Cash transfer program during the COVID-19 pandemic

6.1.6 National Government

- Establish the appropriate legislative framework, including necessary safeguards, for emergency economic measures as part of crisis preparation plans.
- Come up with measures and standards for recruitment of individual beneficiaries for the programs
- Enhance Community awareness and provision of information on existing programs and initiatives being undertaken by the County and National Government
- Initiate payment to the beneficiaries of the Kazi Mtaani program
- Enhance dispute resolving mechanism and channels to lodge complaints over the ongoing programs and initiatives



MAPPING STATE AND NON-STATE ACTOR'S COVID-19 INITIATIVES AND IMPACT IN MOMBASA COUNTY

CONSENT FORM

Signing on this form is an indication that I took part on the mapping survey and willingly provided the necessary information without any form of coercion and that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Date.....

NO	Name	Designation	Contact	Signature
1.				
2.				
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Annex 1



MAPPING STATE AND NON-STATE ACTOR'S COVID-19 INITIATIVES AND IMPACT IN MOMBASA COUNTY

SECTION A: Personal Details	
Date:	
Age	[Below 18] [18-35] [35-50] [50-65]
Gender	[Male] [Female] Other
Sub-County	[Mvita][Changamwe][Likoni][Kisauni][Nyali][Jomvu]
Ward	
Current Occupation	[Employed]- (specify) [Unemployed] [Self- employed]- (specify) [Student]
	Others
Level of Education	[No formal Education] [Primary] [Secondary] [Tertiary / College] [University] [Others]
SECTION B: IMPACT OF COVID-19	
1. Have you or someone in your family been a victim of the COVID -19 infection /placed under quarantine ?	[YES] [NO]
 If YES, what is your opinion of the COVID-19 pandemic? 	[Deadly pandemic] [It's a misconception] [It does not exist] [It is overrated]
 Has the COVID-19 pandemic changed/affected your normal way of life ? If VES, what direct affect has COVID 10 	[YES] [NO]



[Salary reduction] Others (specify)	
[Stress and depression] [Fear of infection] [Job security] [Being evicted for rent arrears] Others	
[Curfew] [Cessation of movement] [Banning of Public gatherings] [Closure of public facilities e.g. church, mosque, Airport etc.] Others	
[Increased insecurity] [Police harassment] [Increase in GBV cases] [Teen pregnancies] [Drugs and substance abuse] Others	
[Youth][Women][Men][PWDs][Children][Elderly]	
[YES] [NO] <i>If YES, please specify</i>	
SECTION C: AWERNESS ON COVID-19 INITIATIVES	
[YES] [NO] <i>If YES, please specify which one(s)</i>	

12. Are you aware of any initiative(s) being	[YES]
undertaken in the management of COVID-	[NO]
19 pandemic in your sub-county?	If YES, please specify/ list which one(s)
	<u>IJ TES, piedse specify/ list which one(s)</u>
	[X [*] 1]111
13. What are your key sources of information on COVID -19 initiatives being undertaken	[Village elder] [Area Chief]
within your sub-county?	[Friends]
within your sub county.	[SMS]
	[Radio]
	[Social Media]
	Others
14. Are you aware of any Initiatives or	[YES]
programs being undertaken by the ; National Government, County Government,	[NO]
CSO,CBO, Community, within your ward	
in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?	
15. What initiatives/programs at your sub-	<i>List the programs /initiatives and organization?</i>
county are being supported by non-state	
actors e.g. NGO, CBO, FBO that directly	
responded to the management of	
COVID-19 impact.	
16. Are you aware or involved in any COVID-	[YES]
19 initiatives and programs at your sub-	[NO]
county supported by the National or	[]
County Governments	If YES, mention the initiative?
17 In paraantaga form how has seen	90%
17. In percentage form, how has your involvement/support from county/national	90% 60%
government on COVID-19 transformed	40%
your way of life during this period?	20%
	N/A
	[YES]
18. Have you directly or indirectly benefitted	[NO]
from any of the County or National	
government's project related to the	<u>Kindly Explain</u>
COVID-19 pandemic?	
19. If YES, how was the process of recruitment	[Fairly]

Do you think the projects were conducted in an open and transparent manner?	[Excellent]
20. Are you aware of any funding or donations to the County of National Government to support C OVID-19 initiatives in your	YES NO
ward?	Kindly specify
21. How satisfied are you with the county's government response on the management	[Very much satisfied]
of COVID-19?	[Satisfied]
	[Somewhat Satisfied]
	[Unsatisfied]
	[Very much unsatisfied]
COUNTY RESOURCE	S AND PROGRAMS ON COVID-19
22. List the available County Programs you are aware of, designed to Deal with the impact/effects of COVID 19 Pandemic in Mombasa?	
23. How much funds did/has the County Government of Mombasa set aside to support the available programs indicated above?	
24. Are you aware of any resources/funds mobilized by the County or resources freely issued to the County to support responses towards containing the spread, effects and impact of COVID-19? Give an estimate?	
25. How has the County Government identified and Supported vulnerable communities with their immediate needs during this COVID-19 pandemic?	
26. How was the process conducted in (25) above?	
IMPACT OF COUNTY PROGRAMS ON COVID-19	
27. What is the estimated number of communities target reach with the County COVI-19 program?	
28. To what extent has the County program on COVID-19 reached the target communities?	
29. What is your level of confidence on the	[Very efficient]
community sunnort programs initiated by	LIModerate

30. Explain your reason in (29) above	
31. Are you aware of any complaints against the County Government on the COVID-19 Initiatives	[YES] [NO] If Yes, Kindly Expound
32. How have the County programs on COVID-19 impacted communities within your ward?	
33. What gaps do you think exist in the county COVID-19 programs? List them?	
NATIONAL RESOURC	ES AND PROGRAMS ON COVID-19
34. Are you aware of any program(s) launched by the National Government in the COVID-19 response?	YES NO If Yes, Kindly List them down
35. What kind of support have you received from the national government to cushion the Impacts of this pandemic?	Explain
36. What can you identify as some of the challenges in the rolled national government initiatives and COVID-19 programs?	Identify the short comings in each program listed in (36) above
37. What proposed recommendation do you have for the COVID-19 programs and Initiatives.	



UNMASKING COVID-19 FUNDS EXPENDITURES

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