

United Nations Development Programme



COUNTRY: TAJIKISTAN

INITIATION PLAN

Project Title: Support to COVID-19 Rapid Response & Recovery Initiatives in Tajikistan

Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s): UNDAF Outcome 2: People in Tajikistan benefit from equitable and Sustainable economic growth through decent and productive employment; stable energy supply; improved access to specialised knowledge and innovation and a more favourable business environment, especially for entrepreneurs and farmers.

UNDAF Outcome 6: People in Tajikistan are more resilient to natural and human-disasters benefiting from improved policy and operational frameworks for environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources

Expected CPD Output(s): Output 6.2: Strengthened institutional frameworks and capacities for disaster risk management and emergency preparedness, conflict prevention, sustainable natural resource management and environmental protection, mine action

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: 04 May 2020 – 04 December 2021

Implementing Partner: UNDP Tajikistan

Brief Description

The overall *Objective* of the project is three-fold: **a)** conduct rapid gender-responsive socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19 on livelihoods and enterprises/entrepreneurship in Tajikistan- which would serve as basis for immediate support to the Government and preparation of post-COVID recovery strategy, with consideration of human rights and gender dimensions; **b)** develop processes and infrastructure for effective emergency coordination and management within healthcare system through the establishment of an Operational Platform between the central and regional levels including improved data collection, analysis and management; **c)** strengthen preparedness of healthcare facilities to respond effectively to the risks associated with global COVID-19 through the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) and disinfection liquids to front-line healthcare workers thereby reducing the likelihood of health-associated transmission to vulnerable groups.

The applied interventions will allow UNDP to enhance and adapt its contribution to immediate, mid- and long-term recovery planning of the Government in post-COVID period, maintaining adherence to SDG agenda and leave no one behind principles at the high policy level.

Programme Period: 2016-2021

Award ID: 00127403

Atlas Output ID: 00121342

Atlas Output ID: 00121348

Atlas Output ID: 00121349

Gender Marker: GEN 2

Total resources required US\$ 434,150.00

Total allocated resources: US\$ 434,150.00

- Other (FW/GCPR) US\$ 219,350.00
- Other (TCCF) US\$ 50,000.00
- Other (RBEC FF) US \$ 164,800.00

Agreed by UNDP:

Christophoros Politis

Mr. Christophoros Politis, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Tajikistan

I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

On 30 April 2020, Tajikistan officially announced 15 confirmed cases of COVID-19. The number of cases sharply rose in the following days to 75, with two deaths reported.

Since late March, the Government's prevention measures were limited to suspending international flights, closing the country's borders and putting all people arriving from abroad to quarantine for a period of 14 calendar days. It is noteworthy that the Government exerted efforts to make information about COVID-19 available to the public and used several channels to disseminate information about preventive sanitation measures however, no guidance or recommendations related to social distancing were prescribed. The Government did not follow the WHO recommendation to cancel big celebrations, and the Nawruz national holiday was commemorated with a large national festival in the city of Khujand in the north of the country in late March. Schools, businesses and most public spaces remained open until end of April.

While COVID-19 reached the country relatively late, in comparison to other neighboring Central Asian Countries, its impact on the economy had already been felt from the onset the global pandemic crisis. Tajikistan, as the only low-income country in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, has already started witnessing **severe impact** of the pandemic on its economy. Fluctuations of global prices for export products, economic recession in countries that are recipients of Tajik labour migrants (predominantly Russian Federation and Kazakhstan), have had a direct and dramatic impact on the economic cycle domestically. Rapid **depreciation of the local currency** (Tajik Somoni) in the 1st quarter of 2020² is a key indicator of economic volatility; this has also further jeopardized consumption potential of the population.

Tajikistan, being one of the most remittance-dependent countries worldwide, has **around 30 to 40 percent of households**³ with at least one family member working abroad⁴. Majority of Tajik migrants are men (83%)⁵ in the age of 15-65. There are anecdotal evidence and reports in the media that labour migrants are locked in Russia and other recipient countries due to quarantine with no income. Moreover, until the Russian authorities issued a decree extending visas and residency permits till 15 June, many migrants were facing a risk of legal issues due to expired job or temporary residence permits. The Russian money transfer companies already report **decrease in remittances** from Russia to CIS countries in the 1st quarter of 2020 **between 11% to 36%**, and 47% of increase in personal transfers sent from CIS to Russia (to support relatives). For Tajikistan, further decrease of remittances up to 50% is projected in the next 3-4 months⁶.

The closure of borders and limitations of movement of people have already impacted the sectors of tourism, cross-border trade and services with evidence of people being dismissed or sent on leaves without pay. A potential outbreak of COVID-19 can further hit the **service sector**, currently employing 32% of the labour force (35% male and 26% female). It is anticipated that **informally employed people** (approx. 47% of all employed including in the agriculture sector) and **small entrepreneurs** will be those most affected. Women and youth of 15-24 years are at higher risk of losing their job due to higher rates of participation in informal sector and unpaid jobs (25% women are employed in unpaid family businesses and farming, compared to 13% men)⁷. 73% of households income in Tajikistan comes from informal sector activities, whereas women account for 58% of people producing good for own use⁸.

Considering number of people employed in informal sectors, as well as services and in particular in tourism, very rough preliminary assumptions could be made that under the best case scenario between 300,000 and 400,000 people may face the risk of being unemployed or receive reduced income; in the worst case scenario of COVID outbreak, without relevant measures taken by the Government to maintain livelihoods and employment, it is anticipated that between 500,000 to 1,160,000 people will be directly affected. There is no real-time data but it is evident that the crisis like others **differently affects women and men** with regard to their socio-economic well-being, unpaid work and care responsibilities, gender-based violence, and access to education and healthcare services. Whereas globally increased online interaction and contact-less consumption

¹ On April 25th, the Government issued a decree prescribing what was referred to as 'additional vacations' for schools and kindergartens for the period from 27 April to 10 May. Universities, on the other hand, continue operations.

² 01 January 2020: 9.6910 TJS/USD and 0.1556 TJS/ Russian Ruble

³ 08 April 2020: 10.2294TJS/USD and 0.1350 TJS/ Russian Ruble

⁴ The latest figures estimate the number of Tajik labor migrants working in Russia is around 1,200,000 people, and remittances around 30% of the GDP

⁵ <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/dependent-remittances-tajikistan-prospects-dim-economic-growth>

⁶ National data on migration

⁷ <https://tj.sputniknews.ru/infographics/20200409/1031039001/koronavirus-dohody-migranty-russia.html>

⁸ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/tajikistan/publication/tajikistan-addressing-challenges-to-create-more-and-better-jobs>

⁹ Labor Force Survey, 2016

become increasingly important in service provision, in Tajikistan context the limited access to and high cost of Internet connection may result in increased inequality gap between rural and urban citizens in terms of access to information, essential services and consumer goods and potential for people to continue working from home⁹.

The health system is already over-stretched with the application of preventive and quarantine measures. The Government is concerned that fast rise of COVID-19 cases, a growing demand for care of COVID-19 patients and inadequate number of equipped healthcare and special isolation facilities in rural regions, will pose additional risks to healthcare providers for effective infection prevention, control and management of suspected and/or confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection in healthcare settings.

According to the latest information (as of 20 April 2020), over 1744 people are quarantined in medical institutions, and only 2317 tests for COVID-19 conducted. The Ministry of Health reports that only 500 lung ventilators are currently available¹⁰, which puts the country at high risk in case of the spread of the epidemic to Tajikistan. There are already high demands for disinfectants, personal protective equipment (PPE) for medical staff, medical supplies and equipment, as well as for health system upgrading at all levels¹¹.

The crisis is amplified by Tajikistan's economic vulnerability. As per ADB estimates, Tajikistan has a having budget deficits of 3.8% of GDP and an external debt raising to 40% of its GDP. The country cannot afford embarking into an anti-crisis programme for economic stimulation¹², as other countries have done or are planning to do. Targeted social assistance program is already limited and cannot support people in need. The spectrum of vulnerabilities is rapidly increasing, with increasing disproportionate burden of women's care and household work, many low-income households, families with many children, PWDs and those in residential/correctional institutions and detention, unemployed youth and other vulnerable groups falling into poverty trap due to increased prices for essential commodities, and potential exponential expenditures on healthcare due to COVID-19. The most evident social consequences of pandemic and economic crisis include disruption in provision of basic services, further decrease in quality of healthcare and education services and increased demands on workers in these women-dominated sectors, increased demand for targeted social assistance, coupled with increased risk of **political instability, social tensions and violence (including domestic GBV)**.

The Government has taken several efforts to prevent the epidemic, with suspension of all flights as of 20 March, and prohibition of all mass gatherings as of 6 April. All land borders are closed, except for cargos importing essential commodities. The Government is gearing up, by putting together response plans and establishing response teams to deal with COVID-19, within Ministry of Health, Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defense and Ministry of Internal Affairs. Several meetings to coordinate actions with international community were conducted under leadership of the Prime Minister.

The Government of Tajikistan has created an **Inter-ministerial Standing Committee**, led by the Prime-Minister and prepared a National Action Plan to mitigate the risk of COVID on socio-economic development of Tajikistan. Based on the parameters of this plan, two additional plans were prepared by the Ministry of health and Social protection and economic block of the Government on 1) *Action Plan for prevention and reducing the national economy's exposure to potential risks of COVID-19*, approved by the Prime-Minister with estimate of USD700 mln. (mainly for budget support) and 2) *COVID 19- Country Preparedness and Response Plan*, approved by the Minister of Health and Social Protection with USD 111,7 mln budget.

While the main challenge remains preparedness of the health sector, the Government appreciates the importance of adopting socio-economic redress mechanisms and is equally prioritizing this stream of work.

The UNCT established a COVID Coordination Team, that has several sub-groups such as 1) Coordination, support to government in preparedness and response 2) Internal preparedness and operations, led by Operations Management Team 3) Public communication led by UNICEF and 4) Socio-economic impact task team, led by UNDP. **UNDP in Tajikistan** has also played a pivotal role in supporting **inter-agency coordination** and ensuring complementarity and cohesiveness of the support, through the development of a Dashboard on COVID-19 response for the UNCT. UNDP has also embarked on a re-purposing exercise of existing

⁹ <https://eurasianet.org/tajikistan-and-its-terrible-horrible-no-good-very-bad-internet>

¹⁰ <https://tj.sputniknews.ru/country/20200412/1031051875/tajikistan-minzdrav-apparaty-iskusstvennaya-ventilyaciya-legkih.html>

¹¹ UNDP has already received a number of requests for support from the Ministry of Health.

¹² <https://www.adb.org/publications/asian-development-outlook-2020-innovation-asia>

programmatic activities and has negotiated with donors and partners immediate support to health preparedness. A total amount of US\$422,000 has already been channelled from Global Fund and GAVI programming for **health procurement**, primarily for PPEs and laboratory equipment.

As part of the Multi-Sector response, UNDP has identified the following **critical gaps/needs**:

- Importance of building an evidence-based Socio-economic recovery strategy/approach in mitigating the impact of the crisis. While other IFIs are looking at macro-economic trends, **UNDP identified the meso and micro levels as critical for recovery. UNDP would engage in a gender-responsive socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19 on livelihoods, short and long-term employment, access to services for vulnerable populations, men and women, and on small and medium-size businesses including women-led businesses**, which would serve as basis for immediate support (2 months) and preparation of **post-COVID recovery strategy**, with consideration of human rights and gender dimensions.
- **Effective emergency coordination within healthcare system through the establishment of an Operational Platform between the central and regional levels** – develop processes and infrastructure for emergency management within healthcare system and ensure effective crisis management, through data collection, data analysis and management.
- **Strengthen preparedness of healthcare facilities to respond effectively to the risks associated with global COVID-19 through the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) and disinfection liquids to front-line healthcare workers thereby reducing the likelihood of health-associated transmission to vulnerable groups**

With its strong network of area-based work, access to vulnerable population, strong technical expertise and recorded achievements in gender equality and marginalization, UNDP is well positioned to deliver on these requests. UNDP has already: a) stepped in to support Country Response and Preparedness plan through procurement of personal protective equipment, medical equipment for isolation facilities; b) engaged with the Government and donors (e.g. engaged with Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDs, TB and Malaria, GAVI, SDC) on re-purposing ongoing programmes to accelerate immediate livelihood support and design of potential crisis-response schemes; c) engaged with UNCT, development partners, IFIs and other donors on possible partnerships and mobilization of resources for COVID-19 response. There are also several UNDP ongoing projects that may support the subsequent programmatic activities following the assessment.

The below outputs and activities will generate immediate impact, address critical gaps, using the socio-economic impact assessment as evidence base for scaled-up partnership with government and donors and catalytic programmatic interventions. It is envisaged that the key knowledge products to be produced will support effective resource mobilization and strategic positioning and programming of UNDP. It will also enable UNDP to play a stronger thought leadership role within the UNCT in the current and as the UNCT embarks into the next phase of programming cycle (next UNSDCF 2022-2026). UNDP will continue its technical assistance provision to the Government in development planning; the outcome will enable UNDP to enhance and adapt its contribution to immediate, mid- and long-term recovery planning of the Government in post-COVID period, and will also help to maintain adherence to SDG agenda and leave no one behind principles at the high policy level. The applied interventions would set the base for scaling up innovative adaptation practices and will tailor the emergency coordination processes to keep focus on the critical vulnerability pockets and emerging inequalities. Through implementation of analytical and practical actions envisaged, UNDP will strengthen its lead positioning and cooperation at the UNCT level in the areas of policy research, digital innovations and acceleration, as well as emergency coordination and recovery planning.

Below are the major ***Project OUTPUTS***:

Output 1: Rapid assessment of the Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihoods and Enterprises/Entrepreneurship and Recovery Programming

UNDP is keen to support the Government of Tajikistan and relevant stakeholders to understand and address socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis both in the short and medium term, to understand the channels in which the crisis affects poverty, employment, gender and other forms of inequality, human development and economic fundamentals in Tajikistan, to identify and address the disproportionate impact of virus on the most vulnerable groups, and to elaborate recommendations for the Government and development stakeholders on the measures to mitigate the impact of crisis, while supporting socio-economic recovery. Methodology of the assessment will derive from the methodology for economic impact assessment in crisis or disaster response

context and must take into account the new dimensions of the looming crisis imposed by both health and economic crisis going in parallel. Mix of qualitative and quantitative indicators and data to be collected, triangulated and analyzed. Findings and recommendations will be grouped by categories of impact (immediate and long-term impact at macro, meso and micro level, impact on households, self-employed people and informal workers, women and women-led businesses, SMEs, farmers). Assessment should consider human rights, gender and youth dimensions as well as the voice and participation, in addition to vulnerability of specific groups and groups left behind. The assessment will look at women's agency and voice and decision-making at national and community level in the COVID response and recovery phase and how UNDP can strengthen it. The findings of the assessment will inform UNDP strategic positioning and policy support, and will be communicated and used for advocacy of relevant recovery planning and response to be integrated into the national and sectoral development plans (e.g. Mid-term Development Program of Tajikistan for 2021-2025, Export Promotion Strategy, Entrepreneurship Support Strategy, National COVID-19 Recovery Action Plan, etc).

Simultaneously, UNDP Tajikistan has embraced its technical lead role in the operationalization of UN Framework for Socio-Economic Response in response to COVID-19. UNDP Tajikistan is closely collaborating with the RCO and UN agencies in coordinating the design and implementation of the UN Recovery Framework. The socio-economic impact assessment and operationalization of the UN Framework are complimentary processes that build on each other and will, ultimately, lead to a UN and UNDP response and recovery programmatic design in support of the Government of Tajikistan

Activity 1.1. Formulation of the SEI assessment tool/methodology.

UNDP will work on formulation of the methodology in close consultation with the UNCT task team for socio-economic framework. The gender-balanced team of national experts will be engaged to elaborate the methodology, data collection tools and a set of questionnaires. The methodology of the assessment will derived from the UNDP's corporately adopted SEI principles tailored to Tajikistan context, will be focused from human development lens and will consider specific needs of the most vulnerable women and young people, in addition to migrants, PwDs and other groups of population affected by COVID social and economic consequences and will follow a gender-responsive approach and data collection methods considering limitations imposed by COVID.

Activity 1.2. Implementation of primary and secondary data collection and analysis. Develop UNDP position paper and policy brief.

UNDP will support collecting primary data disaggregated by sex, age, income, occupation, urban and rural distinctions, and other relevant factors based on methodology and representative sampling pattern. The primary data will be triangulated with statistics and administrative data and analytical sources developed by other stakeholders. The initial results of disaggregated data collection will be used by UNDP to develop 1) the UNDP position paper, 2) a policy brief on gender-disaggregated socio-economic impacts, as well as impacts on the most vulnerable groups and 3) will contribute to the UNCT Common framework for socio-economic impact analysis and response. It is envisaged that **the three analytical products will be catalytic** for the resource mobilization efforts of UNDP and UNCT and will set the background for policy support and recovery actions.

Activity 1.3. Develop the assessment report and elaborate strategic recommendations for the Government immediate and post-crisis response and formulation of the national recovery plan.

The full-fledged Report on the Assessment of Socio-economic impact of COVID19 will be elaborated and published. UNDP jointly with UNCT task team will launch dissemination campaign and advocacy at the policy level to ensure integration of the findings in Government's recovery plans.

Activity 1.4: Stakeholder consultations and dissemination campaign utilizing UNDP's integrator role – to integrate research findings and policy recommendations into strategic documents.

Integration of SEI assessment findings will be crucial to ensure risk-informed mid-term and long-term policy actions into the key strategic documents. Currently, in addition to support to above-mentioned COVID19 Action Plans, UNDP continues its support to the Government with the long-term strategic planning, including a) elaboration of the Mid-term Development Program 2021-2025, b) Development of Export Promotion Strategy 2025, and c) National Entrepreneurship Support Program 2025. The Government intends to elaborate all above-mentioned documents until September 2020 and adopt them officially by the end of 2020.

Accordingly, under this activity, UNDP will utilize its lead position in SDG mainstreaming in national strategic planning, and the role of partnership integrator to facilitate open stakeholder consultative process and to engage national partners to maintain momentum towards achieving of SDGs. Stakeholders consulted will include also women in leadership positions who can identify measures to support women and also ensure their voice and participation in decision-making.

Activity 1.5: Tailor UNDP acceleration programs to support innovative coping strategies of the private sector and business support organizations with a focus on social good impact and protection of job security of vulnerable groups.

Within this activity UNDP will apply the assessment findings to tailor its ongoing business acceleration programs to support vulnerable youth and women-led income-generation projects and small businesses in the new niches (e.g. online retail, delivery of goods and services, digital upskilling, digital platforms to consolidate service delivery, reorienting SMEs to address growing local demand for specific goods and services). UNDP will expand the scope of its Innovation Facility *#InnoResponse*, announced in April 2020 to define the new ideas and partnerships. It is envisaged to support at least 3 innovation projects to promote application of digital platforms and innovative schemes aimed at addressing immediate needs, expand social support nets and livelihood opportunities for men and women affected by COVID19.

Activity 1.6: Enhance capacities of UNDP Tajikistan for strategic policy support and recovery programming in response to COVID19 social, economic and environmental consequences.

To pursue the above activity, UNDP Tajikistan intends to enhance its internal technical capacity and to engage two (2) International Advisors: An Economic Development Expert and a Recovery Advisor. These advisors, who will primarily be home based (until international travel is re-established) and are expected to provide the below listed support:

Economic Development Advisor: Provision of strategic advice and support on operationalizing the UNDP-led Assessment of Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 and translating the recommendations into high level policy advisory services to the Government. Specific activities will include:

- a. Analysis of data and findings collected through envisaged Assessment and elaboration of response and recovery recommendations,
- b. Policy support to the Government of Tajikistan and specifically to the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, State Investment Committee, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation, as well as Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defence, and Committee for Environmental Protection to connect the recovery planning with longer term strategic development vision of the Government aligned with SDGs.

Recovery Advisor: Provide Advisory Services to UNDP Tajikistan, advice and guide the design of COVID-19 recovery programming in all clusters/areas of work, focusing on the achievement of the following results:

- a. Identification of strategic opportunities and entry points for UNDP's contributions to the UN Recovery Framework and Plan;
- b. Contribute to the expansion of UNDP Tajikistan programmatic offer to prepare, respond and recover based on UNDP Global Offer, focusing on health systems, crisis coordination and management and addressing the socio-economic and environmental impacts of COVID-19. Proposed interventions should target short, medium and long term recovery, and can focus on, among others: support to targeted livelihoods and enterprise recovery aimed at restoring micro and small enterprises; support to national systems in developing crisis/disaster coordination and management capacities; support to farmers in mitigating land degradation and climatic vulnerabilities.
- c. Support CO management in resource mobilization to ensure quick implementation of the proposed recovery strategies through proposal development, position papers;
- d. Work closely with national and international counterparts, donors and other stakeholders to ensure that the ongoing activities tie in with recovery strategies.

Subject to improved epidemiological situation, one in-country mission is envisaged in the Q3 or 4 of 2020 for each advisor to work directly with the country office team and to interact with national stakeholders in line with above -mentioned objectives. It is envisaged that the evidence-based policy and advisory support to the Government will also strengthen the resource mobilization efforts of UNDP and UNCT thus allowing to increase contribution to the immediate recovery measures and longer-term national development goals in the country.

Output 2: Effective emergency coordination within healthcare system ensured.

In March 2020, the Government of Tajikistan adopted the Country Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID19 with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MoHSP) being the lead government structure to coordinate emergency response. The plan envisages strengthening the emergency coordination to connect the MoHSP with local units and establishing of the Operation Call Center to collect real time information COVID cases, share guidelines to local units and coordinate response actions. It is also planned to support MoHSP in strengthening the functioning of healthcare facilities to respond effectively to the health risks associated with the global COVID-19 and reduce the potential of healthcare-associated transmission to vulnerable groups.

Yet, there are gaps in terms of emergency coordination to be urgently addressed. The healthcare system has no established system of emergency coordination, at planning and preparedness, as well as at the response levels, between the central apparatus in the capital and regional (province) centers. The Government is concerned that fast rise of COVID-19 cases in neighboring countries, a growing demand for care of COVID-19 patients and inadequate number of equipped healthcare and special isolation facilities in rural regions, will pose additional risks to healthcare providers for effective infection prevention, control and management of suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection in healthcare settings.

Strengthened emergency response potential of health system will also support the Government's actions on awareness raising among population regarding COVID19 and providing information about available support and healthcare services.

UNDP in Tajikistan plans to work closely with UN RC office, UN Country Team, and in particular with WHO, to ensure the support to emergency coordination within healthcare system is harmonized.

Activity 2.1: Develop IT-infrastructure of healthcare emergency management to ensure better connectivity among central and local units, effective information management, and coordination of response measures.

In line with request from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, UNDP will provide means for ICT connectivity between central and local emergency healthcare units in charge of COVID19 epidemic coordination. This platform will enhance communication and real time monitoring and will directly contribute to a more coordinated and effective response.

Activity 2.2: Engagement of local experts to support with development of standard operation procedures and information management for effective emergency coordination in health system.

In consultation with UNCT COVID19 response group and WHO, UNDP will support elaboration of SOPs and protocols for emergency coordination. Local experts will be engaged to consolidate information to inform coordination procedures.

Output 3: Improved preparedness of healthcare facilities for effective response to risks associated with global COVID-19 ensured.

Activity 3.1: Provide and equip front-line healthcare workers with personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfection liquids and hand sanitizers to ensure protection from contracting COVID-19 and reduce the likelihood of health-associated transmission to vulnerable groups

In line with request from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, UNDP will procure personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfection liquids and hand sanitizers for front-line healthcare workers and practitioners, including primary care staff (physicians, nurses and administrative staff having contact with patients), hospital administrators and long-term care facility administrators in Tajikistan to ensure effective response measures and reduce the potential of health-associated transmission to vulnerable groups.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The project will be implemented through a direct implementation modality (DIM), with UNDP working closely with key government partners, namely the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the UNCT and other partners, especially private sector, IFIs, the EU and with bi-lateral partners.

The following UNDP officials will lead the implementation of the activities planned under this Initiation Plan:

- Team Leaders of the Sustainable Economic Development Cluster and the Resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Cluster: The TLs will lead on day to day management of project activities (as assigned) and will provide both technical and managerial support to the implementation of activities.
- Programme Associates: The Programme Associate will provide support to the day-to-day management of the project. The Programme Associate will be responsible of providing administrative and programmatic support in accordance to UNDP's rules and regulations.

The following officials will support the implementation of planned activities:

- M&E Analyst: The M&E Analyst will ensure that regular monitoring is performed and reporting on results is being effectively captured. This will be done through regular or alternative M&E channels and tools, noting the limited movement to be imposed by COVID19.
- Communications Analyst: The Communication Analyst will ensure the visibility of the project and will contribute to reporting on activities on UNDP's communication platforms and will regularly develop stories and document achievements.

A dedicated project board will not be required for the implementation of this plan/project. UNDP will substitute the project board structure with quarterly meetings with the leadership of MoHSP and MEDT to jointly monitor and evaluate the implementation of activities.

III. MONITORING

Ongoing and regular monitoring will be conducted throughout the life cycle of the project and will be the responsibility of UNDP. Monitoring will take the form of regular field visits and collection of data, if possible, or will adopt alternative methods of data collection. UNDP's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) guidelines will be applied.

The project will be reported upon on a regular basis. Mid-term and final reports will be developed by the implementation team (TLs and Pas). Upon completion, results and lessons learned will be documented, using UNDP's standard reporting template will be used to develop reports.

UNDP's M&E Analyst will support the project team in its monitoring, reporting and evaluation endeavour and will be responsible for quality assurance

The Initiation Phase Report will be prepared at the end of the Initiation Plan, using the standard format available in the [Executive Snapshot](#).

IV. WORK PLAN

Period¹³: May 2020 – December 2021

EXPECTED OUTPUTS Indicators including Annual Targets	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	PLANNED BUDGET by FUNDING SOURCE			TOTAL BUDGET 18 months (GCPR+TCCF)
		Q2	Q3			UNDP/FW (GCPR)	TCCF	UNDP/RB EC FF	
Output 1: Rapid assessment of the Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship in Tajikistan <i>Indicators:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of assessment reports produced • UNDP Position Paper elaborated • # of Concept Notes developed • Research findings applied in policies and recovery strategies • # of innovative pilots to support recovery measures <i>Targets:</i>	Activity 1.1. Formulation of SEI assessment tool/methodology	X	X	UNDP	National Consultants	\$ 20,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000
	Activity 1.2. Implementation of the data collection and analysis. Develop position paper and policy brief.	X	X	UNDP	Contract with research institute Cost of Internet package for partners & research team	\$ 30,000 \$ 1,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31,000

¹³ Maximum 18 months

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment report on COVID-19 impact on SMEs • Report on gender-responsive socio-economic impact of COVID on vulnerable households • UNDP Position paper and Policy brief to inform policies and decision taking • Concept Note focusing on mid-term and long-term recovery activities • Three innovative schemes supported to address livelihoods and expand coping capacities of SMEs 	<p>Activity 1.3. Develop the assessment report and elaborate strategic recommendations for the Government immediate and post-crisis response and formulation of the gender-sensitive national recovery plan.</p>	X		UNDP	Translation & printing costs	\$ 5,000		\$0.00		\$5,000
	<p>Activity 1.4. Stakeholder consultations (with dedicated consultations with women in light of the specificities of the impact on their socio-economic situation) and dissemination campaign utilizing UNDP's integrator role – to integrate research findings and policy recommendations into strategic documents.</p>	X	X	UNDP	Meetings	\$ 4,000	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$4,000
	<p>Activity 1.5: Tailor UNDP acceleration programs to support innovative coping strategies of the private sector and business support organizations with a focus on social good impact and protection of job security of vulnerable groups.</p>	X	X	UNDP	Innovation grants for 3 pilot recovery projects	\$ 60,000	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$60,000
	<p>Activity 1.6: Enhance capacities of UNDP Tajikistan for strategic policy support and recovery programming in</p>	X	X	UNDP	International Consultants (2) Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$142,800 \$12,000	\$164,800

	response to COVID19 social, economic and environmental consequences (engagement of Int. Recovery & Economic Development Advisors)				Trainings/Conferences			\$10,000	
SUB-TOTAL FOR OUTPUT 1:						\$120,000	\$0.00	\$164,800	\$284,800
Output 2: Effective emergency coordination within healthcare system ensured Indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Call centre is functioning, and ensures coordination among emergency health units Targets: MoHSP's operational Call Center is equipped and enabled to effectively telecommute and coordinate the health response online.	Activity 2.1. Develop IT-infrastructure on healthcare emergency management and coordination to ensure effective information sharing, timely consolidation and mapping of information about COVID19 and coordination of response measures	X	X	UNDP	ITC equipment & internet package	\$75,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000
	Activity 2.2. Engagement of local experts to support with development of standard operation procedures and information management for effective emergency coordination in health system.	X	X	UNDP	Local consultants/development of coms & coordination procedures	\$10,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000
	SUB-TOTAL FOR OUTPUT 2:						\$85,000	\$0.00	\$0.00

<p>Output 3: Improved preparedness of healthcare facilities for effective response to risks associated with global COVID-19 ensured.</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front-line healthcare workers equipped and protected to effectively respond to risks associated with COVID-19; • Community members benefit from access to hygiene materials and become less prone to contracting COVID-19; • The potential of health-associated transmission among vulnerable groups reduced <p><i>Targets:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 274 front-line healthcare workers in at least 10 healthcare facilities throughout the country equipped with PPE and hygiene materials. - At least 50,000 community members benefit from better preparedness in healthcare facilities and access to disinfection and hygiene materials 	<p>Activity 3.1. Provide front-line healthcare workers with personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfection liquids and hand sanitizers to ensure protection from contracting COVID-19 and reduce the likelihood of health-associated transmission to vulnerable groups.</p>	X		UNDP	Procurement of goods (PPE, disinfection liquids & hygiene materials)	\$0.00	\$46,296	\$0.00	\$46,296
SUB-TOTAL FOR OUTPUT 3:						\$0.00	\$46,296	\$0.00	\$46,296
General Management Support (GMS): 7% -Funding Window/GCPR; 8% - TCCF.						\$14,350	\$3,704		\$18,054
Total						\$219,350	\$50,000	\$164,800	\$434,150

