

Annual Project Progress Report

Project title:	Rapid Response to COVID-19 (UNDP COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility Resources for L3 COVID-19 Crisis)
Award ID:	00124733
Project ID:	00121319
Implementing partner(s):	n/a
Period covered in this report:	May-October 2020
Date of last Annual Report:	n/a
Date of the last Project Board meeting:	n/a
Date of last Quality Assurance and rating:	n/a

1. Project Performance

Please state the expected Output of the Project, set indicators and corresponding CP Outcome (as per project document/AWP):

Project Output 1:

Support to health systems response to COVID-19 through strengthening national procurement capacities for crisis situations:

Output indicators:

- 1.1 Availability of Plan for fast-track health procurement in crisis situations
- 1.2. % of requested PPE for COVID-19 delivered within 3 months

Output targets:

- 1.1 Plan for fast-track health procurement in crisis situations: Developed/in progress/not developed

a) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes No Partially

b) If no or partially, please explain why?

- 1.2 100% of all requested PPE delivered within 3 months

a) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes No Partially

b) If no or partially, please explain why?

Project Output 2:

Communities resilience is enhanced to COVID-19 response and recovery through targeted support to vulnerable groups of population across Turkmenistan

Output indicators

- 2.1 Most vulnerable people and criteria for aid are identified.
- 2.2 Number of beneficiaries from vulnerable populations received social support (packages).
- 2.3 Number of beneficiaries reached with reliable COVID-19 information and community support.

Output targets:

2.1 Most vulnerable people and criteria for aid are set up: Yes/ In progress/ No

a) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes No Partially

b) If no or partially, please explain why?

2.2 At least 700 beneficiaries from vulnerable populations received social aid

a) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes No Partially

b) If no or partially, please explain why?

2.3 At least 10,000 people provided with community support and information

a) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes No Partially

b) If no or partially, please explain why?

2. Progress Reporting

Please summarize the main achievements during the project cycle:

With short-terms funds allocated by UNDP COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility, UNDP Turkmenistan effectively supported the implementation of Turkmenistan's Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan to Acute Infectious Disease Pandemic. In this work, within the 6-month period, UNDP Turkmenistan designed and carried out activities that contributed to 1) strengthening the national health system's response to COVID-19 and 2) provision of targeted support to the most-affected vulnerable groups of the population as part of the UN-Turkmenistan joint effort to mitigate the negative impact of the global pandemic on the socio-economic situation in Turkmenistan with particular focus on the most vulnerable groups in line with the principle of "leaving no one behind" and SDG 1, SDG 3 and SDG 17.

Project Output 1

As part of the first strand of work, UNDP engaged with the Ministry of Health of Turkmenistan for provision of consultancy services that resulted in updating Turkmenistan's Comprehensive Action Plan for sanitary protection of the etrap/city territory from the outbreak and spread of especially dangerous and quarantine diseases. At the same time, drawing on its advanced procurement architecture, [UNDP procured](#) eight disinfectant skid sprayers with eight trailers for the sanitary-epidemiological service of Turkmenistan to support the national response to pandemic.



Project Output 2

Under the second strand of work, UNDP Turkmenistan supported the national effort to expand outreach to vulnerable and insecure people to build their COVID-19 resilience and recovery by providing essential social aid. To this effect, based on the rapid scan findings,



[UNDP procured and delivered](#) 13690 food and hygiene parcels and 40500 facemasks to 7940 people from the most-affected vulnerable groups of the population (low-income families, children with special needs, people with disabilities, single mothers of many children, lone elderly people). In this work, [UNDP used the networks of major local CSOs](#) for distribution of life-saving social aid in all five regions of Turkmenistan and the capital city Ashgabat, thus not only reaching out to vulnerable populations but also testing and strengthening the CSOs financial and organizational capacities to respond to crises such

as the global pandemic.

The rapid scan of vulnerabilities informed UNDP of the concerns, anxieties and challenges facing vulnerable groups in the times of pandemic and provided recommendations to all interested stakeholders for the further action. The rapid scan findings will be used further as an advocacy resource to stimulate government's attention to the social sector and developing new initiatives on mitigating the social and economic impact of the pandemic. The rapid scan findings were shared with interested UN agencies in Turkmenistan for the further analysis and reference in work



Along with social aid provision, UNDP supported the nation-wide awareness raising campaign against the pandemic by providing the Ministry of Health with funds for printing 5000 information booklets on COVID-19 awareness and prevention measures that were distributed among the most-affected vulnerable groups of the population.

3. Project Risks and Issues

The project Risk Log is maintained throughout the project implementation to capture potential risks to the project and associated measures to mitigate risk. The Project Manager shall maintain and update the Risk Log and ensure that risks are identified, communicated and managed effectively.

A number of potential risks are listed below.

Description of risk	Type and category	Risk management actions	Current situation
Delayed allocation of second tranche from the regional hub because of delayed procurement and delivery of medical supplies and social aid packages	Organizational	Engage UNDP Regional Hub as early as possible for assistance	Second tranche was released on time owing to the timely procurement and delivery of social aid packages
Social aid packages delivered to reduced number of vulnerable population because of local market prices fluctuations.	Financial	Deliver social aid packages only to the most affected vulnerable population	Social aid packages delivered to even more than planned vulnerable population owing to the favorable market conditions.

4. Lessons learned and follow-up steps (if applicable)

Please provide the lessons learned and further steps after the project's closure.

- The rapid scan assessment mechanism proved to be useful for identification of vulnerabilities of the population and provision of recommendations for the further action.
- Promoting the implementation of the RRF project as one of the activities of Turkmenistan's Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan to Acute Infectious Disease Pandemic, thus raising the status and importance of the project activities in the national context.
- In the time of pandemic, the most urgent needs of vulnerable populations are best served by local CSOs that proved to be very efficient in mobilizing internal resources for social aid distribution among the most-affected vulnerable groups of the population.
- Although officially supported by the government and incorporated into Turkmenistan's Immediate Socio-Economic Response Plan to Acute Infectious Disease Pandemic, the governmental bureaucracy in matters requiring quick decision making coupled with certain sensitivities in relation to accepting external emergency aid caused some disruptions in the delivery of social aid to the target audiences, thus prompting UNDP and CSOs partners to look for alternative solutions of reaching out to vulnerable groups of the population.

5. Transfer of Assets or other related matter

Please state on any past or future transfer of assets made within the project cycle (Attach list of equipment, cooperation frameworks with beneficiaries, etc.)

n/a

6. Financial management

Budget item	Total approved in 2020 (in USD)	Expenses + commitments	Budget utilization in % to planned
Output 1 and Output 2	276,086	249,312	90.3%
Total delivery in 2020	276,086	276,086	100%
In % to total project budget	100%		

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Date: 18.12.2020

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Date: 18-Dec-2020