**Request for Country Allocation of UNDP COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility Resources for L3 COVID-19 Crisis**

**Country:** **Ukraine**

**Date:** 4 April 2020

**1. SITUATION ANALYSIS**

The first COVID-19 case in Ukraine was detected on 3 March in the western oblast of Chernivtsi. As of 4 April, the number of confirmed cases has reached 1096, including 28 deaths. It is important to note that the case identification is only a reflection of what has been laboratory tested, hence the actual number of cases is feared to be much higher.

This outbreak coincided with the government turnover in the country, exacerbated by the insufficient progress of reforms, weakened health system, ageing population, macroeconomic decline and the protracted armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, which may lead to a COVID-19 outbreak of considerable scale. According to the World Health Organisation, Ukraine is among the most vulnerable countries affected by the COVID-19, where the situation is deteriorating rapidly, and the risk of massive outbreak is very high.

The socioeconomic impact of the pandemic is already visible, disproportionately affecting women and girls. Women are on the forefront of the fight against the outbreak as health care workers (82% women), scientists, researchers, educators, and as family caregivers. In Ukraine, an unemployment raise to 9.4% due to COVID-19 and an increase of unpaid care and domestic work shared largely by women and girls affect their independence and economic empowerment. Also, in Ukraine, 2 in 3 women experience psychological, physical, or sexual violence. During the pandemic, the number tends to increase, when women are trapped in homes with abusers.

The Government of Ukraine has taken several steps to prevent and mitigate the spread of the COVID-19, notably: 1) developed a National Preparedness and Response Plan (NPRP) with the support provided by WHO and few other UN agencies; 2) on 25 March introduced emergency situation countrywide (currently until 24 April); and 3) established five crisis centres under different government authorities: Presidential Administration; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the coordination unit under the Prime Minister.

The above-mentioned mechanisms ***lack proper consultations with stakeholders and effective and efficient coordination.*** Government capacity for preparedness and response to the outbreak that affects disproportionally the most vulnerable, including for a resilient health system is very weak. Therefore, there is an immediate need for technical assistance to establish an inclusive and integrated crisis management and response unit under the leadership of the Prime Minister. The existing crisis management and response centre has not yet become operational because it ***lacks human resource and technical capacity*** to start functioning efficiently. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is playing an important role in coordinating humanitarian assistance provided to Ukraine, while formally this portfolio belongs to the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, as well as in dealing with the Diaspora and Ukrainians working abroad. Its current capacity requires enhancement, particularly with a strong focus on ***crisis management and communication support*** that take into account the gender specific aspects and vulnerable categories, especially, hard to reach groups and areas, access to health infrastructure and the political/conflict situation

**Rational for support**

The proposed project is based on urgent needs and strategic priorities to support the government in major crisis governance, coordination and management schemes in response to COVID-19 pandemic defined by the [Government Decree](https://www.kmu.gov.ua/npas/pro-zapobigannya-poshim110320rennyu-na-teritoriyi-ukrayini-koronavirusu-covid-19) as of 11 March 2020 (in Ukrainian). These strategic priorities include improved coordination of all government institutions and local authorities for effective response, enhanced preparedness of the health system, and better communication of life-saving information among population for minimizing the risks of accelerated outbreak of the pandemic.

UNDP Ukraine has been providing support to the Government to prepare, respond and recover from the pandemic since the very beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, focusing on the most vulnerable. This support focuses mainly on ***strengthening capacities of the crisis management governance structure of the Ministry of Health to procure medicine, personal protective equipment and other medical devices;*** including in the conflict-affected areas; supporting key government institutions to ***transition to working online***, assisting the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ***coordinate the communication and outreach to the diaspora and also organizing and facilitating the return of Ukrainian citizens back home*** in view of the introduced restrictive measures; strengthening the ***crisis*** ***communications and outreach capacities of the government institutions*** by using UNDP’s broad-based partner network in the country, both at the national and regional/local level. UNDP is also providing ***technical expertise to the leadership*** of the Government on alignment of national government strategies and programmes with the Agenda 2030 with gender equality as critical to delivering on all the SDGs. We have deployed two strategic advisors in the Cabinet of Ministers who have already laid the groundwork for establishing the above-mentioned National Crisis Management Unit headed by the Prime Minister.

The proposed project is fully in line with [UN Rapid Assistance](https://drive.google.com/file/d/109bgbgB4g0m2KsvMlWz2_vuqO58PdTdN/view?usp=sharing) to the Government of Ukraine, and the UN Resident Coordinator has been consulted on the proposal, and engaged in UNDP consultations with the Government on the subject matter. The request is catalytic as it will allow to further position UNDP as a lead development agency and a partner of choice to prepare, respond and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, and safeguard the progress towards the achievement of the SDGs, as it will: 1) enhance capacities of key government institutions to provide a coordinated, efficient and inclusive response to the crisis, and mobilise resources from donors, IFIs and private sector, 2) stimulate Prime-Minister’s Office and Ministry of Foreign Affairs to attract humanitarian assistance and potentially expand cooperation with diaspora, 3) unlock opportunities for partnerships with EU, World Bank and other development partners with ongoing essential support envelopes to the country.

**2. PROJECT OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Output:** The crisis management structure of the Government of Ukraine can provide a coordinated, efficient and inclusive response to the COVID-19 national crisis leaving no one behind.

**Activity 1.** Develop capacities of the crisis management structure of the Government to improve inter-ministerial multi-sectoral emergency response coordination and long-term COVID-19 response planning, rapid socio-economic recovery and sustainable development mitigating the consequences of crisis for women, men, girls and boys from diverse groups, focusing on the most vulnerable:

Activity 1.1. Provide technical expertise to the Office of the Prime-Minister, Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations which it operates, by setting up a Crisis Coordination Management Unit aimed to provide gender-responsive crisis monitoring and coordination support, in particular:

* + provide coordination between different agencies, including the national gender machinery, donors and regions, including information collection based on age, sex and displacement status-disaggregated data, dissemination, development of necessary decisions that address the needs of women, men, girls and boys from diverse groups;
	+ ensure coordination of the development of the whole-of-government humanitarian response plan, monitoring of its implementation and funds disbursement;
	+ ensure coordination of strategic gender-responsive communications;
	+ provide support to organize technical work of the State Commission, preparing its agenda, decisions
	+ transfer global experience and expertise on preparedness, response and recovery, especially measures that focus on the needs of women and men, are human rights compliant and address gender inequalities, in a time-efficient manner;
	+ facilitate the use of digital tools for meetings and decisions of the Commission, state agencies work.

Activity 1.2. Assess the social and economic impact of the restrictive measures and economic downturn on the lives of women, men, girls and boys, and develop socio-economic recovery strategy, including the immediate measures to be introduced by the government to address the rise in gender-based violence in isolation conditions (working with other UN agencies) for recovering economic growth, strengthening social safety nets, and safeguarding the progress made towards the achievement of the SDGs

Activity 1.3. Develop and introduce rights based digital solutions identified through the #HackCorona challenge launched by the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine in partnership with UNDP.

* + The Ministry of Digital Transformation in partnership with UNDP launched the #HackCorona challenge to engage IT specialists and civic activists in developing the digital solutions to address the crisis. The solutions to be funded will be defined based on the competitive process to identify the winners
	+ The digital solutions could focus on government coordination, remote access of civil servants to their workplaces, COVID19 prevalence/incidence mapping in respect to privacy, data protection and human rights standards, data/analytics for early warning and crisis management, and information sharing to citizens in partnership with mobile operators aiming at prevention, preparedness, behaviour change, social solidarity and zero tolerance of violence, stigma, discrimination, and abuse of human rights and guaranteeing universal freedoms of women, men, girls and boys. The latter can contribute to eradication of the culture of fear that is the main cause of discriminatory practices through the dissemination of true, accurate, clear, adaptable and available information

Activity 1.4. Set up a crisis management unit under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide technical advice and subject-matter expertise with a strong focus on crisis management communication support and response to COVID-19 outbreak that take into account the situation of women and men from diverse groups in Ukraine:

* + map, liaise, and coordinate international humanitarian assistance for Ukraine, in coordination with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine (based on the humanitarian response plan, including donor coordination, resource mobilization, communication etc);
	+ mobilise business and international financial support, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine and Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, to the crisis management activities of the MFA;
	+ set-up a crisis communication structure and mechanisms in MFA, conduct the regular media audit, SWOT analysis and develop strategies to respond to the information attacks and critical media situations;
	+ develop crisis management/coordination and reputational narratives and visuals and provide strategic social media support to the MFA in crisis situations and recovery phase including communicating on how the government prepares, respond and recover from the crisis in line with UNDP principles of gender-responsive communications.

**Activity 2.** Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine to ensure resilience and preparedness of the healthcare system response to COVID-19 pandemic addressing the needs of women, men, girls and boys.

Activity 2.1. Strengthening of the health crisis management capacities within the Ministry of Health and the Ukraine Public Health Centre for providing adequate and timely response including gender-responsive allocation of resources, infrastructure and rapid initiation of procurement and mobilization of the national supply chain.

Activity 2.2. Provide technical expertise to the Chief Medical Officer of Ukraine to improve inter-ministerial coordination of healthcare system entities as well as to collect, manage and provide verified data disaggregated by sex, age and other social identifiers to the State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations to support the national response and prepare information products for updates and committee decision making that respond to the needs of women and men and address gender inequalities.

**Activity 3.** Bolster gender-responsive communications and disseminate strategic messages to the public, including vulnerable groups of the population, with engagement of civil society and local communities to promote safety measures on preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Activity 3.1. Enhance capacities of the inter-agency communications group on effective awareness-raising and strategic crisis communication in line with UNDP principles of gender-responsive communications

Activity 3.2. Ensure properly targeted communications to women and men from different age groups, with specific regard to vulnerable groups and communities that provides for feedback mechanisms.

This work will aim, among other objectives, at addressing the gender-differentiated needs of specific population groups, protection of women health and care workers, ensuring safety and services for women, girls and boys trapped in abusive situations, etc.

**3. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The funding will be managed by UNDP and will be implemented in liaison with the coordination group comprising representatives of the key government institutions under the leadership of the Prime-Minister. The parties have agreed to the following management arrangements with the aim of ensuring adequate dialogue and timely decisions regarding this engagement:

* The Government crisis management unit with the technical experts mentioned above will be established by the Prime-Minister’s Office, and will formally be hosted by the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Minister to provide prompt support to the Government;
* UNDP will ensure quick engagement of the short-term experts for the crisis management unit in line with its procurement procedures and rules. The unit will be coordinated by the Strategic Advisor to the Government on SDGs who is already performing this role and is part of UNDP’s support to the government team.
* For the project administration purposes, it will be integrated within UNDP Democratic Governance Programme and will be implemented with support of a dedicated project manager under the overall supervision of the Democratic Governance Team Lead who will ensure quality and timeliness of the support;
* The government will identify the focal points for cooperation with the crisis management unit in each respective institution (at least, the Office of the President of Ukraine; the Office of the Prime-Minister; the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, and the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers), and will develop an internal decree of the Prime-Minister to set up the coordination mechanism with the clear roles and responsibilities of the parties;
* The crisis management unit under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will function under the leadership of the Minister and will work in close coordination with the Government crisis management unit.
* The proposed project has been developed by UNDP Ukraine in close consultations with the Prime-Minister’s Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs deployed by UNDP, with inputs from the democratic governance team, the gender expert, monitoring and evaluation unit, and communications experts.

**4. ANNUAL WORK PLAN BUDGET SHEET**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EXPECTED  OUTPUTS****and indicators including annual targets** | **PLANNED ACTIVITIES***List all activities including M&E to be undertaken during the year towards stated CP outputs* | **TIMEFRAME** | **RESPONSIBLE PARTY** | **PLANNED BUDGET** |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |  | Source of Funds | Budget Description | Amount, USD |
| **Output: The crisis management structure of the Government of Ukraine can provide a coordinated, efficient and inclusive response to the COVID-19 national crisis leaving no one behind.****Indicators/Targets (2020):**100,000 of women and men from diverse groups, including the most vulnerable, reached by the targeted communication of the government 5,000 of civil servants, using the digital solution, developed with the support of UNDP (w/m)**Activity 1. Enhance capacities of the crisis management structure of the Government through strategic planning and coordination with the government institutions across all sectors to provide a response to the national crisis caused by the COVID-19 outbreak in a coordinated, gender-responsive and inclusive manner:****Indicators / Targets (2020):**At least, 3 draft multi-sectoral emergency COVID-19 response policies developed (socio-economic sector; health sector; human rights; gender equality etc.)1 multi-sectoral long-term COVID19 response strategy developed  10 emergency plans of line ministries developed/reviewed1 mobile/IT solution or an emergency telecommuting digital tool for civil servants designed and rolled out  | Activity 1.1 Provide technical expertise to the Office of the Prime-Minister, Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations which it operates, to improve inter-ministerial multi-sectoral emergency response and long term COVID19 response planning:* Set up a crisis management unit with 6 short-term experts for 6 months
* Assist the Government with the development of gender-sensitive crisis response policies/strategies
* Establish and maintain an efficient dialogue and coordination mechanism for liaison with other stakeholders
 | xxx | xx |  |  | * UNDP;
* Office of the Prime-Minister;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* selected ministries
 | UNDP | 71300 Local consultants 71400 Contractual services Individuals: Project Coordinator/ Project Associate (50%) 6 months72100 Contractual services74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences74500 Miscellaneous Expenses | 20,0007,6511,5001,5001,5001,000 |
| Total Activity 1.1. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **33,151** |
| Activity 1.2 Assess the social and economic impact of the restrictive measures and economic downturn on the lives of women, men, girls and boys, and develop an economic recovery strategy, including the immediate measures to be introduced by the government for recovering economic growth and sustained progress towards SDGs: * Engage short-term technical experts for conducting a socio-economic impact assessment
* Develop multi-sectoral response policies/strategies, incl. measures for sustained progress towards SDGs
* Facilitate a consultative process with major think tanks and CSO on the recovery strategies
* Develop/review emergency plans of the key line non-health ministries
 | xxxx | xxx |  |  | * UNDP;
* Office of the Prime-Minister;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* Ministry of Health;
* Ministry of Economic Development and Trade;
* selected line ministries
 | UNDP | 71300 Local consultants 72100 Contractual services74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences | 10,0002,0002,0002,000 |
| Total Activity 1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **16,000** |
| Activity 1.3 Develop and introduce digital solutions for government coordination, remote access of civil servants to their workplaces, COVID19 prevalence/incidence mapping, data/analytics for early warning and crisis management, and information sharing to citizens in partnership with mobile operators:* Conduct a needs assessment and existing solutions mapping
* Design an IT/mobile solution for citizen outreach or an emergency telecommuting digital tool for civil servants
* Roll-out the solutions among the target audiences
 | x | xxx |  |  | * UNDP;
* Office of the Prime-Minister;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine
 | UNDP | 71300 Local consultants 74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences | 20,0002,0002,000 |
|  | Total Activity 1.3. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **24,000** |
| Activity 1.4. Set up a crisis management unit under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to provide technical advice and subject-matter expertise with a strong focus on crisis management communication support in response to COVID-19 outbreak that take into account the situation of women and men from diverse groups in Ukraine:* Map, liaise and coordinate international humanitarian assistance for Ukraine;
* Attract business and international financial support to the crisis management activities of the MFA;
* Set-up a crisis communication structure and mechanisms in MFA, conduct the regular media audit, SWOT analysis and develop strategies to respond to the information attacks and critical media situations;
* Develop crisis management/coordination and reputational narratives and visuals, and provide strategic social media support to the MFA in crisis situations and recovery phase including communicating on how the government prepares, respond and recover from the crisis in line with UNDP principles of gender-responsive communications.
 |  |  |  |  | * UNDP;
* Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 |  | 71300 Local consultants 72100 Contractual services | 20,0007,500 |
| Total Activity 1.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **27,500** |
|  | TOTAL Activity 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **100,651** |
| **Activity 2. Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine to ensure resilience and preparedness of the healthcare system response to COVID-19 pandemic addressing the needs of women, men, girls and boys.****Indicators / Targets (2020):**1 assessment report on the health crisis management capacities of MOH and UPHC1 set of recommendations to the Chief Medical Officer of Ukraine to improve inter-ministerial coordination of healthcare system entities in emergency situations1 set of recommendations to the State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations on the collection, management and provision of reliable and verified data   | Activity 2.1 Strengthening of the health crisis management capacities within the Ministry of Health and the Ukraine Public Health Centre for providing adequate and timely response including gender-responsive allocation of resources, infrastructure and rapid initiation of procurement and mobilization of the national supply chain:* Assess the health crisis management capacities within the Ministry of Health and the Ukraine Public Health Centre
* Strengthen human resource capacity of the MoH governance structure to support the epidemiological surveillance and adequate management of medical institutions during crisis response.
* Transfer UNDP global knowledge from countries with experience of effectively responding to COVID-19 for the improved implementation of governmental response programmes, in alignment with the SDGs
 | xxx | x |  |  | * UNDP;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* Ministry of Health;
* Ukraine Public Health Centre
 | UNDP | 71300 Local consultants 71400 Contractual services Individuals: Project Coordinator/ Project Associate (50%) 6 months74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences | 30,0007,6512,0002,000 |
| Total Activity 2.1. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **41,651** |
| Activity 2.2 Provide technical expertise to the Chief Medical Officer of Ukraine to improve inter-ministerial coordination of healthcare system entities as well as to collect, manage and provide verified data disaggregated by sex, age and other social identifiers to the State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations to support the national response and prepare information products for updates and committee decision making that respond to the needs of women and men and address gender inequalities. | x | x |  |  | * UNDP;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* Ministry of Health;
* Ukraine Public Health Centre
 | UNDP | 71300 Local consultants 74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences | 30,0002,0002,000 |
| Total Activity 2.2. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **34,000** |
| Total Activity 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **75,651** |
| **Activity 3. Bolster gender-responsive communication efforts and disseminate strategic messages to the public, including vulnerable groups of the population, to promote safety measures on preventing the spread of COVID-19.****Indicators / Targets (2020):**1 state emergency communication strategy and response plan developed with a particular focus on the outreach of vulnerable groups1 online training on emergency communications developed for ministerial press-offices and other civil servants | Activity 3.1 Enhance capacities of the inter-agency communications group on effective awareness-raising and strategic crisis communication in line with UNDP principles of gender-responsive communications:* Engage short-term communication experts to the group
* Develop communication plans to ensure coherent messaging on COVID-19
* Train communication experts of the government institutions on communication tools
 | X | X |  |  | * UNDP;
* Office of the Prime-Minister;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
* line ministries;
* Office of the President of Ukraine
 | UNDP | 71300 Local consultants 71400 Contractual services Individuals: Project Coordinator/ Project Associate (50%) 6 months74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences | 30,000 7,6512,0004,000 |
| Total Activity 3.1. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **43,651** |
| Activity 3.2 Ensure properly targeted communications to women and men from different age groups, with specific regard to vulnerable groups and communities:* Amplify the messages shared by WHO by engaging the network of UNDP’s SDG coordinators present in 24 oblasts of Ukraine, regional Ombudsperson’s network, and civil society organizations
* Diversify the usage of types of media to ensure coverage of hard-to-reach areas and populations
* Replicate and scale the activities of UNDP Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme on communication and messaging in conflict-affected communities
 | X | X |  |  | * UNDP;
* Office of the Prime-Minister;
* Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers/State Commission on Technical-Environmental and Emergency Situations;
* line ministries;
* regional partners’ networks
 | UNDP | 71300 Local Consultants72100 Contractual services74200 Printing, Design, Translations75700 Trainings and Conferences | 20,0002,0484,0004,000 |
| Total Activity 3.2.  | **30,048** |
| Total Activity 3 | **73,699** |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | **250,000** |