

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



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**Country:** Malaysia

**Date:** 6 April 2020

**TITLE:** Support to Malaysia's Rapid Response on Covid19

## 1. SITUATION ANALYSIS

*Half a page. Source: situation reports and Resident Representative letter to Crisis Bureau requesting the Crisis Assessment and Coordination Resources.*

As of 30th March 2020, Malaysia reported 2,470 confirmed cases of COVID-19 (2,047 under treatment, 388 recovered, 35 deaths). A nation-wide Movement Control Order (MCO) was enforced from 18 March 2020 to 31 March 2020, to curtail the spread of COVID-19. The duration of MCO was later extended to 14 April 2020. Between 21 March to 28 March, the number of COVID-19 cases almost doubled from 1183 cases to 2320 cases.

The government has since responded with steps to strengthen its efforts in early detection and treatment, such as increasing screening capacities especially in high-risk areas, and involving vulnerable groups (e.g. low-income, women-headed households, undocumented, migrants and refugees). With much of the government's efforts focused in urban areas, screening and quarantine for communities in rural and remote areas presents serious gaps in the early detection and containment strategy. The government has gazetted 409 sites (mostly government-owned buildings) to be repurposed into makeshift Quarantine Centers (QC) to house COVID-19 patients as part of the government's contingency plans. Government sources estimated there are approximately 77,000 persons under surveillance (PUS) that will require a budget of MYR 3.95bil (USD 938mil) to manage under QCs nationwide. Establishments of QCs is an important strategy to extend services to vulnerable communities at identified high-risk areas, who otherwise have no financial means or access to COVID-19 testing, and therefore gets left behind in containment and treatment efforts.

Of the gazetted sites, 72 QCs have already been set up, including 18 in the state of Sabah (involving over 500 PUS), which has the highest incidence of poverty with high estimated undocumented population in the country. The Malaysian National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)<sup>1</sup> – the agency leading the coordination of the Technical Working Committee for COVID-19 in the country - has identified two high-risk districts in Sabah urgently requiring the support of QCs – Tawau and Lahad Datu - where bed occupancy at the district hospitals have reached 99% and 71% of capacity, respectively.

QCs will be designated for patients at stage 1 and 2 of the infections (those showing only mild symptoms), and is expected to play key role in lessening the burden on hospitals, which will function to treat patients in stages 3, 4 and 5 of the infection (those who require ventilators and breathing support). Having sufficient QCs would ensure that patients at more advance stages of the virus receive adequate treatment. To prepare

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<sup>1</sup> Members of the Technical Working Committee for COVID-19, includes Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysian Immigration Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other related agencies.

for the likely increase in infected persons, QCs throughout Malaysia will need to be equipped with the proper non-medical items, supported by ground staff (medical and support staff).

Based on close consultation with NADMA, UNDP Malaysia proposes three strategic initiatives below to address the requests and urgent needs of the government of Malaysia in national COVID-19 response.

- 1) The provision of rapid response support to the establishment and effective operations of selected QCs in Sabah.
- 2) A strategic analysis on Malaysia’s Response to COVID-19 to distil lessons for emergency response and preparedness planning, through commissioning of a General Observers Report, and
- 3) Strengthen public communication (e.g. through inclusive language of vulnerable indigenous populations).

While the Malaysia One UN-plan to COVID is still being developed jointly with other UN agencies, coordinated by RCO, UNDP has shared details of its CO support package to the national COVID-19 response with UN Agencies through the UNCT Results Group meetings and the Crisis Management Team meetings. WHO, RCO and UNICEF has been major contributors pertaining coordination plans for PPE and Public Service Announcements (PSAs), while IOM, UNHCR, ILO and UNFPA has provided feedback on the assessment-related outputs to ensure the inclusion of underserved and vulnerable populations in recovery planning. UNDP will continue to engage UNCT to coordinate One UN efforts on COVID-19 response to the government.

The three RRF strategies make up to a larger UNDP Malaysia support package to the national COVID-19 response – of which, the other strategies will be applied through Government Cost Sharing funding. Contributions delivered through the support package offers not only valuable learning and strengthen capacity for CO policy advisory, but will position UNDP suitably in national crisis support and management, safeguarding SDGs and especially demonstrate relevance for supporting local development challenges.

The support package for the national COVID-19 response covers the following components under the following funding envelopes (**note: only the BOLD requires funding from RRF**):

<b>Components</b>	<b>Breakdown by Funding Source</b>	<b>Total</b>
1) <b>Health system strengthening and inclusive response</b> a. Procurement of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and medical supplies for frontliners b. <b>Efficient operation of five (5) Quarantine Center (QCs) in Sabah is supported with procured non-medical items and support staff services for a 2-month period</b> c. Public health response is strengthened targeting vulnerable communities	UNDP TRAC2 (USD 65,000)	307,000
	<b>UNDP Rapid Response Facility (RRF) (USD 142,000)</b>	
	Government Cost Sharing (GCS) (USD 100,000)	
2) <b>Multi-sectoral support across government</b> a. Strengthening Communications & Data by utilizing Big/Small-data analytics & Behavioural Insight (i.e link with Anti-Fake News Act, social distancing pattern, embrace IR4.0) b. <b>General Observers Report: Malaysia’s Response to COVID-19 Pandemic is documented and developed as lessons for inclusive emergency response and preparedness</b>	UNDP TRAC2 (USD 35,000)	363,000
	<b>UNDP RRF (USD 58,000)</b>	

<b>Components</b>	<b>Breakdown by Funding Source</b>	<b>Total</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Strengthen public communication (e.g. through inclusive language of vulnerable indigenous populations), using a range of communication channels to maximize the reach capacity</li> <li>d. Support for effective, efficient coordination for multi-sectoral social and financial assistance to COVID-19</li> <li>e. Private sector is mobilized to support COVID-19 health systems response while strengthening systems for recovery</li> </ul>	GCS (USD 270,000)	
3) Analysis of the impact of the pandemic and recovery strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on national priorities, SDGs and vulnerable groups are assessed with policy recommendations proposed</li> </ul>	UNDP TRAC2 (USD 0)	140,000
	UNDP RRF (USD 0)	
	GCS (USD 140,000)	
<b>TOTAL REQUEST TO RAPID RESPONSE FACILITY (USD)</b>		<b>USD 200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT PACKAGE</b>		<b>USD 810,000</b>

UNDP has had a strong working relationship with NADMA on strengthening disaster preparedness for tsunamis. Support to the QCs in Sabah will build upon this relationship and planned activities with NADMA to conduct disaster drills and training of trainers for at-risk schools in Kudat, Sabah in 2020. UNDP's COVID-19 response in Sabah's high-risk districts will provide a very strategic entry-point that will accelerate UNDP's plans to spearhead its first area-based programming intervention in the targeted districts under this proposal in Sabah. That will include anchoring Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and health-emergency efforts within a much larger, comprehensive engagement package spanning eco-system protection, SDG review, aged-friendly and gender-sensitive cities, strengthening local service delivery through citizens' journey approaches and innovating data use for local public policy targeting – all centered around strengthening local government capacity, governance and judicial coverage to underserved populations. The strategic analysis on Malaysia's Response to COVID-19 potentially assist to scale up UNDP's programme and policy support for future DRR and climate change adaptation programmes.

## **2. PROJECT OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES**

*Half a page. Limited number of outputs (preferably up to 3) with bullet points for 1 or 2 key activities under each output. Outputs should be limited to coordination, assessment and recovery planning efforts and be realistically implementable within a 6-month period.*

UNDP support will be directed to assist NADMA in the procurement and deployment of non-medical items and essential ground personnel to support five (5) Quarantine Centers in Sabah. Non-medical items are those essential to the daily operations of the QCs and includes food items, rental of tents and logistical equipment, and cleaning and disinfecting services and supplies. The rapid response facility will also support the procurement and deployment of two types of ground support personnel - medical personnel and those in charge of the general management of the QCs (food and nutrition, cleaning and disinfecting, management of families, safety etc).

Additionally, UNDP will also support the documentation of Malaysia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic to distill lessons learnt that will help Malaysia to improve its emergency response and preparedness for future pandemics/ disasters. UNDP will also support the strengthening of COVID-19

communications for the indigenous communities (namely Kadazan-Dusun in Sabah and Iban / Kenyah communities in Sarawak), who have not been able to access mainstream Public Service Announcement messages from the government due to language barriers. For new PSA content dissemination strategy, UNDP will leverage on a family-oriented local animation series Papa dan Pipi, which has a strong local following so that COVID-19 and MCO information is more likely to reach audiences in the vulnerable communities more effectively. The PSA strategy will tap on a father-daughter relationship in spreading the word on COVID-19 and how both father and daughter are collectively educating their family members on containing the spread of the virus through proper handwashing techniques, and adherence to MCO.

Outputs	Activity	Timeline
1. Efficient operation of five (5) QCs in Sabah is supported with procured non-medical items and support staff services for a 2-month period.	1.1. Undertake procurement of non-medical items and as per the requirements of the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA).	April 2020
	1.2. Undertake procurement of support staff services as per the requirements of the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)	April - May 2020
2. Prepare and submit General Observers Report (GOR), a Malaysia's Response to COVID-19 Pandemic as lessons for emergency response and preparedness.	2.1. A team of crisis observers assembled to document government's response to COVID-19 and conduct analysis, stakeholder consultation and reporting	April - August 2020
3. PSA messaging and new communications content on COVID-19 targeted at indigenous communities is produced through private partnership.	3.1. Translation/ subtitling of existing PSA content and production of new communications content leveraging on a famous local animation series as video / digital campaign.	May - August 2020

### 3. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

*One paragraph. Describe how the funding will be managed between UNDP and the partners.*

Procurement of non-medical equipment and ground personnel support services for the Quarantine Center will be done through NADMA, and NADMA will also conduct the required onboarding training for ground personnel support services. For the General Observers Report (GOR), procurement of crisis observers will be done through UNDP, and the analysis will be done in coordination with the key agencies in charge of the national COVID-19 response (e.g. Ministry of Health, NADMA, Ministry of Defense etc). Procurement of video production company to support the development of communications content will be done through UNDP, with dissemination of communications products to be done in partnership with NGOs and community advocates.

For support to QC & GOR, UNDP and NADMA will convene a Project Execution Committee jointly chaired by NADMA & UNDP of appropriate level, including UN Agencies, and key government agencies at the state level, to monitor project progress and address implementation gaps as needed.

For PSA, UNDP will work in close consultation with UN Agencies (especially WHO) and all stakeholders deemed relevant such as Department of Orang Asli Development (JAKOA), ministries, NGOs, and community advocates, for content development and dissemination. Additionally, PSAs will be developed in lined with global guidelines and WHO guidelines. UNDP will also engage with a local animation production company of a famous family-oriented local animation series (Papa and Pipi) for the production of new and inclusive PSA content. Engagement approaches and endorsements from relevant stakeholders will be coordinated by UNDP CO Management Team.

#### 4. ANNUAL WORK PLAN BUDGET SHEET

Outputs and activities as described in section 3 above with budgetary requirements: printed from ATLAS.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS and indicators including annual targets	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List all activities including M&amp;E to be undertaken during the year towards stated CP outputs</i>	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4		Source of Funds	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
<b>Output 1</b> Efficient operation of five (5) QCs in Sabah is supported with procured non-medical items and support staff services for a 2-month period.  <b>Indicator:</b> Number of Quarantine Centre (QC) in Sabah receiving non-medical items and support staff service over a 2-month operation period <b>Baseline:</b> 0 QC supported with non-medical items and support staff service by UNDP <b>Target:</b> Five (5) QC in Sabah supported with non-medical items and support staff service for a 2-month period	<b>Activity 1.1:</b> Undertake procurement of non-medical items as per the requirements of the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)		X			NADMA	RRF	72200-Equipment (based on breakdown table in Section 2 – funding for 1 QC, 2 months)	89,000
								71300-Local Consultant (set-up tent, technician)	6,000
									74500 – Miscellaneous (related logistics cost into Sabah’s district)
								72800 – IT equipment (necessary broadband connection)	5,000
	<b>Activity 1.2:</b> Undertake procurement of ground personnel support services as per the requirements of the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA)		X			NADMA	RRF	72100- Contractual Service (25 support staff)	25,000
								71600 – Travel	2,000
	<b>Activity 1.3:</b> UNDP Advisory Services - Field mission & QA		X			UNDP	RRF	64300 - Direct Project Cost	5,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS and indicators including annual targets	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List all activities including M&amp;E to be undertaken during the year towards stated CP outputs</i>	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4		Source of Funds	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
<b>Output 2</b> General Observers Report: Malaysia's Response to COVID-19 Pandemic is documented and developed as lessons for emergency response and preparedness  <b>Indicator:</b> Number of reports which document Malaysia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic as lessons for emergency response and preparedness <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Target:</b> 1	<b>Activity 2.1:</b> A team of crisis observers assembled to document government's response to COVID-19 and conduct analysis, stakeholder consultation and reporting		X	X		UNDP	RRF	71300-Local Consultant (team of at least 3 IC consultants)	28,000
	<b>Activity 2.2:</b> UNDP Advisory Services - QA - Policy inputs for 12MP				X		UNDP	RRF	64300 - Direct Project Cost
<b>Output 3</b> 3. PSA messaging and new communications content on COVID-19 targeted at indigenous communities is produced through private partnership. <b>Indicator:</b> Numbers of	<b>Activity 3.1:</b> Translation/subtitled of existing PSA content and production of new communication content leveraging on a famous local animation series as video / digital campaign.		X			UNDP	RRF	74200- Audio visual & printing production	18,000
								71300-Local Consultant (translation services)	2,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS and indicators including annual targets	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List all activities including M&amp;E to be undertaken during the year towards stated CP outputs</i>	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4		Source of Funds	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
communication content accessible for indigenous communities on COVID-19 awareness <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Target:</b> 2 existing PSA videos subtitled, 2 new videos produced and 4 social media cards	<b>Activity 3.2:</b> UNDP Advisory Services - Contents and QA - Dissemination strategies		X			UNDP	RRF	64300 - Direct Project Cost	5,000
<b>TOTAL (USD)</b>								<b>200,000</b>	