

## The UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund

(UN COVID-19 MPTF)

**Proposal Title:** "COVID-19 and Resilience in Armenia: Mitigating the Socio-Economic Impact on Vulnerable People and Communities"

Amount: 999,680 USD

## I. Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID19

Short Context – include hyperlinks to relevant reference material and analysis that frames the solution context firmly in the specific situation of the country in question. [1,000 word limit]

The COVID-19 crisis hit Armenia when the country had been on a positive development trajectory as the Armenian economy grew by 7.6% last year and continued to expand in the first two months of this year. In a direct consequence of COVID-19, the economy is expected to contract (negative GDP growth of - 1.5%<sup>1</sup>) leading to a rise in unemployment rate from 17.7% (2019) to 19.0% (2020) and 18.4% (2021). Thus further exacerbating the already high youth

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> IMF: https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/05/18/pr20219-armenia-imf-execboard-concludes-2ndrev-under-sba-augments-access-address-impact-covid19

unemployment (over 40% in 2019) and possibly expanding the total informality rate of work in Armenia, which already is estimated at about 46%. Considering the high share of agricultural employment, high dependence on seasonal labour migration, remittances and the fact that about 13% of wage employees do not have a written contract and do not have access to any form of benefits relating to paid leave, redundancy, childcare or sick leave, the unemployment rate is likely to be higher and poverty - already affecting every fourth adult and every third child - is set to increase.

The suppression of transmission to stop the pandemic and save lives is at the core of the Government's response<sup>2</sup>, while at the same time it exerts efforts to address and remedy the social, economic and multi-dimensional impacts on the Armenian people and their livelihoods<sup>3</sup>. On 16 March 2020 the Government of Armenia (GoA) declared a 30-day State of Emergency that was subsequently extended until 13th June 2020, thus implementing closure of educational institutions, non-essential businesses, public transportation and others. Similar to countries around the world essential businesses (e.g. agriculture, food retailers, public utilities and services, banks as well as food-processing, mining and cargo firms) continued their operation throughout the state of emergency, while restrictions on others were eased or lifted for the extension period.

Mindful of the shared responsibility and appealing to national solidarity (e.g. emphasizing physical distancing and recommending protective measures), the senior leadership of the country recognizes the need to balance concerns that easing restrictions advances the spread of the coronavirus with concerns of the severely disruptive social and economic impact of a prolonged period of lock-down for landlocked Armenia. Therefore, and despite increasing daily infections with COVID-19 that are likely putting a further strain on social services, economic activity and support requirements, the Government practically lifted all movement restrictions on 18 May 2020. The country is now shifting gears towards a modality where businesses can operate while ensuring safety and security of employees and customers as much as it is possible, i.e. adjusting to a new reality of living with the coronavirus.

To date, the GoA has implemented an "Action plan to offset the adverse economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic"<sup>4</sup> encompassing 18 targeted programmes, seven of which are aimed at supporting the economy and 11 which are aimed at social protection. Beyond the immediate and short-term COVID-19 response measures, the GoA needs to focus on sustainable and resilient social protection systems underpinned by reliable and high-quality service provision to mitigate the broader social and economic impacts of COVID-19. The longer the crisis prolongs, the larger the limitations on the public sector's ability will be to maintain continuity of service delivery together with shrinking possibilities for businesses to develop and grow with repercussions on employment, social protection and so on, thus adding to growing vulnerabilities and inequalities.

Burning issues pre-dating the COVID-19 crisis, such as the GoA's difficulties to automate data collection and maintain systematic information- and evidence basis of the needs of vulnerable groups key for tailored service delivery, hamper effective rapid response across the country and urgent support to the most vulnerable. Add to this the relatively young political and institutional structure established after the "Velvet Revolution" in 2018 with the promise to advance democratic reforms highlights not only current governance challenges (e.g. associated with the powers of the Commandant's office under the state of emergency) but also demonstrates opportunities in times of crisis. The establishment of the national SDG Council<sup>5</sup> on 22 April 2020 demonstrates the country's firm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See: National Preparedness and Response Plan available on the WHO COVID Partners Platform

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See: https://www.gov.am/en/covid19./

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See: https://covid19.gov.am/en/business\_and\_coronavirus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See: https://www.e-gov.am/decrees/item/22091/ (in Armenian).

commitment to internationally agreed development goals and signals the strong willingness to embed the socio-economic COVID-19 mitigation strategy in the broader national development plan towards achieving Agenda 2030.

Despite the Government efforts towards mitigating the impact of COVID-19 crisis, the overall socio-economic situation in Armenia[6] requires immediate action by the development community, and in this proposal the UN agencies being lead organizations in respective fields with the support of UN RCO have developed joint and coherent solutions to support the immediate response of the Government in the time of the pandemic, intertwined with more medium-term systemic changes. The solutions evolve around data driven decision making and capacity building for that purpose, rapid service targeting and planning to secure continuity and scale-up of social protection measures with better accessibility, better targeting of support to MSEMs to protect jobs and support the development of new businesses in the short-and medium term, and finally revitalization of the business. The project as a whole will support the development and implementation of the Government's planned National COVID-19 Action Plan, building on the recently launched UN Framework for immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19.

## **II.** Solutions proposed

#### Please provide a summary of the proposal. [1,000 word limit]

Based on the COVID-19 crisis situation in Armenia<sup>6</sup> and overall national socio-economic context, the present project proposal centers on two comprehensive output level solutions:

# Output 1: Rights- and evidence-based social protection measures, particularly cash transfer and primary services, are enhanced and coverage expanded to minimize exposure and vulnerability of disadvantaged groups to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19:

All of the activities to be undertaken within this output are in line with the principle of LNOB and the Human-right-based approach, they are aimed at enhancing and scaling-up of existing programmes for those outside of existing support packages and social protection programmes. The focus on the identification of vulnerable beneficiaries that have been adversely affected by the Covid-19 prevention and containment measures will ultimately help strengthening the country's social protection system by ensuring that policies and plans are developed using a holistic LNOB and human rights-based approach and rigorous analytical and forecasting methods.

Activity 1.1. One-time cash assistance to extremely vulnerable beneficiary groups. Rapid cash assistance will be provided to three main beneficiary groups that in collaboration with the Government have already been identified to have been pushed towards extreme vulnerability. Thus, direct multipurpose cash support will be provided to approximately 3,500 houeseholds through the family benefit system, with focus on families with children with disabilities and families taking care of older persons. In addition, 220 extremely vulnerable households displaced from Syria, hence, prioritized by the Government of Armenia, will receive emergency cash transfer to cover their acute basic needs (food, hygiene items, rent, utilities and communication

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For updates refer to the daily UNRCO Situation Report

costs). And finally, to increase resilience for COVID-19 and its impact support will be provided to elderly in vulnerable situations and those living in institutions, women with disabilities and women aged 50-63 who are left out from labour market, and to [female] victims of violence together with single mothers who have children with disabilities. Cash transfers will be performed with targeted support programmes for recipients.

Activity 1.2. Technical assistance to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) to design a system of rapid social needs assessment with consistent registration of beneficiaries for targeted service planning and delivery. Rapid needs assessment tools will be developed both as a response to COVID-19, but also serve as a long-term system to build resilience to shocks, stresses and emergency situations. The support includes development of business processes, definition of eligibility criteria, entry and exit rules, formula for prioritization of social protection programme beneficiaries, M&E, management information systems, payment systems etc. The rapid needs assessment will allow for quick enrolment of new beneficiaries, cushioning of COVID-19 effects on their families, and inform the Government for new social protection programme development. Linked to the rapid social needs assessment system, the management information systems will be reviewed for linkages to existing databases, other services and their ability to quickly cross-check and analyze information. This includes provision of a [unified] user interface rapid needs assessment, automated data analysis with plausibility cross-checks and provision of automated response and support options. With the use of alternative and innovative data collection and visualization tools, the methodological support to the Government and the MoLSA, in particular, will include the provision of data analytics, foresight modelling and risk analysis – disaggregated by vulnerable groups where possible. The activity implemented jointly by UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA in close cooperation with WFP and the World Bank will ultimately help the Government to speed up identification of and provision of support to emerging vulnerable groups.

Activity 1.3. Building capacity of frontline workers for the roll out of the needs assessment system, policy makers for data analysis and planning. Frontline social workers in 56 territorial offices of social services and integrated social centers will be trained to use the rapid needs assessment methodology, developed within the framework of this project according to Activity 1.2, with due attention to gender, disability and multiple vulnerabilities. The frontline workers will receive on-site support, coaching and virtual trainings addressing their psychosocial wellbeing, acquire tools and learn about procedures and protocols recommended in the situation of COVID19. Government as duty bearers responsible for data analysis, planning and policy design will receive necessary analytical capacity building to track multiple and emerging vulnerabilities related to COVID-19.

Activity 1.4. Design of COVID-19-adjusted and/or alternative ways of delivering social and support services. With the spread of the pandemic the continued delivery and provision of social services becomes dependent on the safety measures during face-to-face interactions, thus the activity aims at developing digital solutions for public service delivery for online accessibility and/or alternative non-digitized solutions based on the mapping and prioritization of basic social services. The activity will be implemented in close collaboration with the MoLSA who already has identified several services of priority for (re)design. Ideas under discussion include the development of mobile service delivery modalities such as mobile pharmacies in rural areas and prototyping field/mobile ambulatory facilities. Another area of priority is the establishment of a system to coordinate and amplify the work of Social Assistants. – As part of the project, a new social worker mechanism will be developed and social assistants scheme will be piloted to provide immediate

support to persons with limited mobility, including elderly, single-women headed households, persons with disabilities or severe health conditions, to access public services or food.

## Output 2: Employment and entrepreneurship efforts are supported and promoted for disadvantaged persons and MSMEs including through improved access to financial and technical assistance and digital innovation.

The activities identified under this output ultimately aim at supporting the GoA to develop short-, mid- and long-term economic recovery scenarios and plans in agriculture and rural development, entrepreneurship, and strategically relevant light industries.

Activity 2.1. Employment and entrepreneurial support to labour migrants and older persons and families who support older persons. The activity aims at supporting labour migrant households, in the migrant sending regions of the country, as well as older persons and households supporting older persons with the set-up of small enterprises, or re-profiling of existing small businesses towards fields less affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with prospects for development beyond the crisis. Labour migrants will be provided business counselling services and micro-grants to support business roll-out and support livelihoods.

Activity 2.2. Provide support to local SMEs, with focus on light industry, to ensure continuous domestic production and supply of PPEs. The activity is aimed at meeting the Government demand for PPE supply, including gowns, face masks, overalls and bedlinen, and simultaneously enhancing the resilience of local SMEs with potential of opening new export markets. For this activity suitable light industry sector companies will be identified and supported in the procurement of raw materials, along with facilitation in placing orders, production monitoring and support to the provision of produced medical supplies.

Activity 2.3. Provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Economy for improved planning and targeting of economic support packages, including the (re)design of the eligibility criteria, risk-scoring and scenario modelling to Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs). The activity sets out to remove current barriers for the effective roll-out of the GoA's socio-economic support packages to MSMEs. To this end, a new financial scoring mechanism will be developed and introduced to reflect the emerging economic reality and associated risks that the COVID-19 pandemic presents to businesses. In line with already identified access barriers, specific attention will be paid to the inclusion of eligibility criteria beyond tax and credit payments history to facilitate a broader participation and with a particular focus on female beneficiaries. In addition, based on data on specific value chains, including primary agri-production and agri-processing, transportation and market data, up to three forecasting models on agricultural and rural development will be designed with cultivation of COVID-19 -informed reliable scenarios. The objective is to feed into the Ministry of Economy's strategies and plans for agricultural development as well as to improve the design and roll-out current as well as new support packages to farmers and other disproportionately impacted actors engaged in agricultural activities.

## III. What is the specific need/problem the intervention seeks to address?

#### Summarize the problem. Apply a gender lens to the analysis and description of the problem. [1,500 word limit]

The COVID-19 pandemic is not only a global health emergency, taking a toll on human life, but also a threat to the socio-economic security of the people and economy in Armenia with all its communities and families, that deepens already existing vulnerabilities and deprivations. Sustainable and resilient social protection systems and financial support packages underpinned by reliable and high-quality service provision to those disproportionately affected by the crisis will thus play a key role in the Government's ability to respond to and mitigate the social and economic impacts of COVID-19. Yet, the virus continues to limit the public sector's ability to maintain continuity of service delivery and make strategic shifts to ensure that increasingly limited resources provide maximum benefit for the population. As a consequence, access to services is already severely restricted and the Government is struggling to obtain systematic information and evidence of the needs of vulnerable groups and business. Combined, this significantly limits the speed at which new, alternative or more inclusive, targeted and effective COVID-19-response measures and socio-economic assistance packages can be rolled out to minimise the effect of the crisis.

In light of this context, the JP sets out to address the following key issues:

- Lack of proper systems and capacity for data collection, synchronization and analysis impede the effectiveness and efficiency of social services and support programmes developed and adopted by the Government for mitigating the COVID-19 response particularly for vulnerable groups and those furthest behind;
- Inadequate financial support, coverage and/or technical assistance to COVID-19 impacted persons, industry sectors, businesses and entrepreneurs infringes economic recovery of the country.

According to the Core Diagnostic of the Social Protection System and Programmes, undertaken by the MoLSA, UNICEF and the World Bank just before the crisis, several vulnerable groups such as children aged 2-3, homeless persons, refugees, persons in informal employment and middle-aged unemployed persons lack access to existing social protection measures. Moreover, the assessment shows that the social protection system of Armenia, while being relatively well-regulated, is reactive rather than prevention-oriented and shock-responsive, thus risking leaving out vulnerable groups that prior to the crisis were not in need of social benefits and other support. These shortcomings have been verified during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis with current socio-economic responses to the COVID-19 pandemic being insufficient and inadequate in its ability to target and reach those in need. This is particularly evident when looking at already rolled out Government social support packages which primarily target formal workers although formal, informal and independent workers will all have their own particular financial needs. Moreover, a large part of the population is not registered and is thus not captured by any administrative data systems, limiting their ability to benefit from protection measures. For example, 220 extremely vulnerable households displaced from Syria who predominantly are engaged in a low-income job without a labour contract and live in a rented housing without proper contracts do not have access to family/community support. Persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, and lonely elderly receive support from the Government and NGOs mainly in the form of food packages and home care, but have not been prioritized in response packages to date. Moreover, those most vulnerable – approximately 100,000 poor families receiving family benefits – have been left out of most government programmes. Only recently has the Government embarked on a vertical expansion of cash transfers for such families in the am

Pre-existing gender inequalities — in economic opportunities, endowments and voice—are likely to deepen due to the economic and social consequences of the pandemic. The impacts of COVID-19 are expected to be exacerbated for women beacause of the unequal burden of unpaid care work on women; their lack of labour protections and legal rights to assets; their dominance in unprotected and informal sectors, biased intra-household allocations and that loss of household incomes and livelihoods can increase women's dependency on others for their own survival and the risk of increased and/or intensified gender-based violence. Women aged 50-63 are especially vulnerable considering that they often cannot find employment due to their age and at the same time they are not eligible to receive a pension or other benefits since they have not yet reached retirement age. This may deepen the inequalities between women and men, increase violence against women and result in violations of other economic and social rights. Due to the vulnerability towards COVID infection, elderly persons are affected more from the isolation as are deprived from an opportunity to do the basic necessary actions, such as shopping for food and first need items. Due to the fact that pensions are low, older persons in many cases are dependent on their families. Another issue related to the dependency on remittances. Almost 250,000 persons in Armenia rely on income facilitated by mobility - remittances sent by family members working abroad and income from circular or seasonal migration frequently form a livelihood strategy. ArmStat data confirms that 98% of received amounts are spent to support routine consumption expenses. This income has been severely diminished or interrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The population faces critical socio-economic difficulties, exacerbated by returnees, with little hope of finding alternative means of livelihood locally and no support for adapting to the unforeseen lack of income in the current economic shutdown, closed

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The Armenian government has approved several financial packages and measures to offset the economic impact of the coronavirus. Although the measures are aimed at giving businesses, entrepreneurs and priority sectors time to respond to changing demand conditions, and therefore continue to operate or to adapt to a changing economic situation, the impact of the measures have been underwhelming and been exclusive of reaching the most vulnerable. **Currently the main governmental financial support programmes only target a limited number of MSMEs**, due to narrow selection criteria based on tax and credit payments history. Moreover, the decisions on ongoing and new support measures are made without proper analysis of expected impact or economic consequences, such as insufficient funding for further implementation. This highly limits their effectiveness and ability to mitigate mid- and long-term economic consequences for the country. Another problem is the functionality of local manufacturing companies. The Armenian Light Industry as well as many other industries have suffered serious losses because of the COVID-19 lock-down and many company owners are facing bankruptcy due to export restrictions. It is assumed that approximately 5,600 employees (70% of 8,000 employees in the sector) will be laid off for at least a 6 months' period during this crisis. At the same time, the Ministry of Health needs a reserve stock of medical supplies and capacity to quickly arrange production of medical supplies domestically. This highlights an untapped opportunity to revive the light industry to support the COVID-19 health response in Armenia, whilst addressing the urgent needs to provide PPEs to health professionals working at the front line of the fight against COVID-19. The recently launched Unified COVID-19 response platform, developed with support from UNRCO, where the GoA logs PPE requirements further demonstrates a large demand across other ministries and state agencies to be able to continue operations uninterrupted.

Finally, rapid gender-responsive, age and disability-sensitive assessment tools for immediate and tailored emergency response through the social protection system are lacking, while provision of support has been complicated due to lack of harmonization of various databases and administrative systems within the MoLSA and beyond, making it difficult to capture all those affected, especially those outside of existing social protection systems. Moreover, this lack of data makes it difficult to make predictions about the future, including developing scenarios from which mid- and long-term programmes can be developed. The lack of LNOB data, disaggregated by gender, age and location further limits the Government's ability to ensure that its sector strategies and the Armenia Transformative Strategy 2050 (which currently is being drafted), are responsive to the new reality that COVID-19 presents to the Armenian Government, people and businesses. As such, there is a clear need to improve current data management systems and develop new skills and capacities within the Government to conduct high quality analysis of the rapidly changing situation.

# IV. How does this collaborative programme solve the challenge? Please describe your theory of change.

Describe programme approaches, methods, and theory of change, and explain why they are the appropriate response to the problem. State results and interim solution(s) you are proposing. Please highlight how the solution(s) is data driven; if it employs any innovative approaches; if it applies a <u>human rights-based</u> <u>approach<sup>7</sup></u> and how is it based on the principle of "build back better". [1,500 word limit]

The overarching theory of change (ToC) for the JP is that by strengthening social protection systems and service delivery and enhancing economic security and recovery, underpinned by evidence- and human-rights based and inclusive policies and plans, the Government as duty-bearers and the Armenian people as rights holder will be better equipped to mitigate the disproportionate socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on at risk populations and businesses in Armenia. The ToC is based on the following **programme approaches and principles**:

- 1. Human rights based and LNOB approaches and gender equality will be key guiding principles in project delivery, policy planning and implementation;
- 2. Focus on acceleration across multiples SDGs, particularly SDGs 1, 8 and 10;
- 3. Ensure access to health and social support services by adopting necessary prevention measures and alternative service delivery, especially for those with limited mobility or at risk;
- 4. Ensure income security and access to essential goods and services and protect human capabilities and livelihoods;
- 5. Identify and prioritize the most vulnerable with focus on emerging vulnerabilities and non-traditional groups;
- 6. Mobilize substantial domestic and international financing to protect and enhance fiscal space for health and social protection in Armenia;
- 7. Ensure continued/scaled up and coordinated delivery capacities of social protection and economic crisis response programmes;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Please refer to <u>OHCHR COVID19 Guidance</u>

- 8. Building on existing UN frameworks (e.g UN's Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19, Shared responsibility, global solidarity and urgent action for people in need, IOM's Health, Border and Mobility Management framework) to develop COVID-19 response interventions; and
- 9. Design crisis response measures also with a view to strengthening social protection systems and access to finance for businesses in the medium- and long term.

The programme will be implemented in line with the following methods: working closely with the Government and aligning interventions with national social and economic support packages with participation of CSOs and target beneficiaries; generating evidence to improve effectiveness, inclusiveness, adequacy and efficiency of support; engaging with IFIs to leverage additional financing and collaborate on data collection and analysis; and building on the UN convening role in the Multi-Sector Response, including the ongoing rapid socio-economic impact assessment focused on households, MSMEs and farmers and social protection coordination.

#### Assuming:

- (i) Increased citizen demand for, and Government commitment towards stabilizing the socio-economic situation in the country during and post COVID-19, including for vulnerable groups;
- (ii) Continued commitment to SDG nationalization, including the operationalisation of the National SDG Council in 2020; and
- (iii) Continued interest and willingness of development partners, IFIs and the private sector to channel resources towards COVID-19 response and SDG acceleration, the ToC statement follows:

Social protection and safety nets for the most vulnerable	Employment and entrepreneurship
<b>IF the JP</b> supports mechanisms for early identification and inclusive, gender- sensitive and age-appropriate rapid assessment of needs and enrolment of existing and potential/emerging beneficiaries (those left out of existing system);	<b>IF the JP</b> provides technical assistance to the Government for improved planning and targeting of economic support packages, including through the re-design of eligibility criteria for socio-economic support and scenario modelling in the agricultural sector;
supports the MoLSA in the identification of data gaps, harmonization and comparability of LNOB data to support the creation of foresight models and scenarios for improved COVID-19 response and planning; builds long-term shock-responsiveness of the social protection system and	encourages and supports employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for vulnerable persons and their families, including vulnerable groups of women, elderly and persons with disabilities, labour migrants and informal workers;
resilience of social workers through targeted and immediate interventions;	

creates space for alternative (digital and mobile) social and health service delivery models to reach out to those most marginalized; anddelivers and scales-up cash transfer schemes to include both most vulnerable groups and emerging ones, in a gender-sensitive and inclusive manner.	supports labour migrant households towards receiving accurate business counselling, mentoring and professional advice tailored to their needs; andprovide support to local SMEs, with focus on light industry, to ensure continuous domestic production and supply of PPEs.
<ul> <li>AND THE GOVERNMENT continues to rollout social support packages for the most vulnerable, including allocation of resources and stays committed to human rights, LNOB and inclusiveness; and</li> <li>relies on data and evidence to identify and target vulnerable groups in its COVID-19 response plans and strategies.</li> <li>AND THE CIVIL SOCIETY continues to work with vulnerable groups in disadvantaged communities and provides information on access to services and social support.</li> <li>AND THE SOCIAL WORKFORCE stays committed to high-quality service delivery to the most vulnerable</li> <li>AND THE IFIS continue to provide data on vulnerabilities and poverty.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>AND THE GOVERNMENT continues to roll out economic support packages to businesses, workers and individuals affected by COVID-19;</li> <li>stays committed to reviving the economy and boosting employment; and</li> <li>promotes economic diversification, including by supporting hard-hit sectors such as the agricultural and light industry sectors</li> <li>AND THE INDUSTRY, including workers are adaptable to the new COVID-19 reality.</li> <li>AND THE IFIS continue to provide macroeconomic analysis and forecasts.</li> </ul>
<b>THEN</b> rights- and evidence-based social protection measures, including cash and services, are enhanced and coverage expanded to minimize the exposure and vulnerability of disadvantaged groups to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19	<b>THEN</b> employment and entrepreneurship efforts are supported and promoted for disadvantaged persons and MSMEs including through improved access to financial and technical assistance and digital innovation

The expected systemic changes of the programme coincide with the three levels of action highlighted in the 2030 Decade of Action – global, local and people – and will jointly contribute to the development and implementation of evidence-driven and transformative policies and programmes for the benefit of the Armenian people at times of COVID and beyond. Particularly, increased focus on mitigating socio-economic impact will offset lost opportunities conditioned by COVID-19, so contributing to resilience building to shocks, economic security and ensuring that no one is left behind.

## V. Documentation

Attach/provide hyperlinks to documents/analysis prepared at the UNCT level with government counterparts to assess the potential cumulative impacts of COVID-19. Please indicate if the UNCT has completed and posted the National Plan for Combating COVID-19 on the WHO partner portal. [1,500 word limit]

The present proposal draws from a range of supporting documents that are Armenia specific and prepared within the UN System in collaboration with the Government, civil society and other partners and stakeholders:

#### UNCT

- Final draft of UN Common Country Assessment;
- UN Multi-Sector Response Plan (<u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1M0bwJpM0dm2uol5my4pzuRGx8gRXpEOfOZwAVn1iExY/edit</u>) including the sector-specific Terms of References, as well as detailed minutes from meetings with participation of Government counterparts;
- UN CT COVID-19 Impact Assessment Coordination Matrix (<u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IdNhXuv5tEMR2-LFZ-KQLTrzDHG2csECEIAaot1ycWM/edit?usp=sharing</u>)
- Agency specific response plans and comprehensive assessments conducted as part of the multi-sector response (see below:
  - Rapid Nationwide Socio-Economic Imact Assessment using primary data (household and business surveys and key informants interviews) and secondary data (official data) to define and assess the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis in Armenia on (i) Livelihoods/sources of income and the well-being of community members; (ii) Systems of delivery and demand for basic services in communities; and (iii) Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and self-employed farmers operating in the communities (led by UNDP and implemented by UNFPA, UN Women and UNAIDS in collaboration with the GoA, UNICEF, WHO, IOM, UNHCR, WFP, UNIDO, FAO, ILO, UNIDO, ADB and the World Bank;
  - To understand the possible impact of COVID-19 on Cash Plus pilot component of "Developing Capacity for Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Selected Countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia" project, FAO has conducted a phone survey with randomly selected beneficiary households. The impact assessment shows that Cash Plus approach has strengthened the resilience of the beneficiary households and will certainly contribute to early recovery and mitigation of consequences caused by current situation of the disease outbreak;
  - Rapid Survey of Food Supply Chains in Europe and Central Asia in the framework of COVID-19: The objective of this monitoring tool is to learn directly from food supply actors/operators whether COVID-19 pandemic is affecting their work, explore whether food supply chains are working based on the data analysis. The repeated weekly monitoring will allow obtaining first-hand knowledge of the problems in the country; and
  - **Conduct rapid assessment of greenhouses:** The objective of the assignment is to get information from agricultural producers in the field of greenhouse economy about the problems faced by these farms in the light of the COVID-19 epidemic, to see whether they work or how much

the links in the chain from agricultural producers to consumers are damaged, how "lock-down" affected the agricultural production, employment, level of wages, etc. in this sector.

- **Rapid assessment of socio-economic vulnerability of families to the secondary impact of COVID-19**: the objective is to understand the vulnerability of families to the impact of COVID-19 and their coping mechanisms through a household level phone survey (led by UNICEF, as contributory to the UNDP-led nationwide community level socio-economic impact assessment).
- "Core Diagnostic of Social Protection System and Programmes": draft prepared by World Bank, UNICEF, MoLSA and though not directly assessing impact of COVID-19, including assessment of the shock-responsiveness of the SP system and programmes; and
- Others

#### Government:

- https://www.gov.am/en/ and https://www.gov.am/en/covid19./
- Armenian Unified COVID-19 Infocenter https://twitter.com/ArmenianUnified
- https://www.gov.am/files/docs/3967.pdf
- Government of Armenia's Support Programmes: https://www.gov.am/en/covid19./ and https://www.gov.am/en/covid-19-cragrer./
- Sources provided by sectoral ministries, such as Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Ministry of Health

#### Health-specific:

- COVID Health System Response Monitor (HSRM) link: https://www.covid19healthsystem.org/mainpage.aspx ;
- The WHO COVID-19 Technical (Virtual) Mission Report from May 2020 http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/armenia

#### Others:

• Vulnerability map: https://armenia.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=7537d6b6e1f847d68b335b1909e64b86

## VI. Target population

Describe and estimate the direct users of the solution and potential impact on beneficiaries. Be explicit on who has established the need (plans, national authorities, civil society, UN own analysis, or citizens). [1,500 word limit]

Effective **social protection responses** in the face of crisis, including scaled-up cash transfer and developed social safety nets, play an important role for identified vulnerable groups to better prepare for and cope with the social and economic consequences of the Pandemic, and access to additional financial aid will also be crucial for the identified beneficiaries as many depend on services that have been suspended and have very specific needs that cannot be fully addressed by any of the GoA 18 targeted programmes. The crisis is revealing how certain groups are disproportionately affected -- for instance, through overrepresentation in figures on infections and deaths. Containment measures themselves have a disproportionate impact on the poorest populations who cannot work from home and live at subsistence levels. The pandemic has been most devastating for the lives, health and well-being access to rights of older persons, persons with underlying medical conditions, and those with lower socio-economic status - a category that tracks closely with minority status in most countries.

As **the social service workforce** is at the forefront of the rapid service provision dealing with the crisis on a daily basis. Increased skills and resilience of social service professionals will result in better understanding of psychological distress caused by COVID, strengthening coping mechanisms and better self-care, which in its turn will result in improved ability to serve and support the population in need. The capacity building of this target group is also crucial for the roll out of the needs-based assessment system thus they will also be the beneficiaries of job related capacity building. Hence, for the purposes of the proposal a target group is:

- Approximately 500 social service work force in 56 territorial offices of social services and integrated social centres;
- Government agencies and employees engaged in data collecting, analysis and planning.

The JP will primarily focus on socially vulnerable groups who are at risk and this risk is exacerbated by COVID-19 pandemic, leaving those groups behind and making them fall through the cracks of various support packages. Rapid social needs assessment system to be developed in Activity 1.1. aims at exhaustive identification of those beneficiaries falling within the following target groups identified for the purposes of this proposal:

- 3,500 vulnerable and poor families registered in Family benefit system, particularly those with children with disabilities;
- More than 30,000 families in informal employment and at the verge of poverty, with children under 5 (including children with disabilities);
- Single women-headed families impacted by COVID-19;
- Women from vulnerable groups, including women victims of violence, women living in poverty, women with disabilities, single mothers who have children with disabilities, women aged from 50-63 who are left out from labour market;
- Older persons from vulnerable groups, including older persons living in institutions, older persons with disabilities;
- Persons with disabilities, persons with limited mobility caused by health issues, persons living in social houses more generally, persons living in remote areas with no accessibility to healthcare and social services;

• 220 households of displaced persons from Syria socio-economically impacted by the Pandemic.

The target groups of the proposed activities in this proposal have been identified in line with UN's Framework for Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19, paying special attention to risk populations experiencing the highest degree of socio-economic marginalisation. All UN agencies are in daily contact with the Government counterparts at national level and with targeted local authorities, stakeholders and beneficiaries in a number of communities learning on issues and needs. Under the leadership of the UN RC a Multi - Sector Response Plan is being implemented which brings together RUNOs, Government, IFIs, CSOs and other development partners, thus allowing continues updates and progress on the ongoing COVID-19 response initiatives as well as emerging needs. Moreover, the target populations and economic entities of the proposal not only reflect the target groups of the Government's own support packages but expand to include previously unconsidered vulnerable individuals, groups and businesses identified as part of the ongoing rapid Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.

The JP is designed in a way that activities implemented by RUNOs and IPs complement one another and, thus, address the needs of target groups comprehensively. The JP will be implemented jointly with Government agencies, and in both Output 1 and 2 there are activities where the Government agencies themselves will be the direct beneficiaries of the initiatives, such as harmonized and comparable data collection tools, foresight scenarios for rapid response and recovery plans, data informed support packages as well as alternative approaches for targeted agile management and crisis response and recovery, in addition to alternative social assistance schemes to amplify Government efforts for immediate and long-term social service schemes.

Aiming for a more targeted support to businesses, the JP will equip the governmental officials responsible for decision making and design of support programmes with agile analytical tools which will allow structuring of social and economic support programmes based on evidence-based forecasting and result simulation. To obtain mentioned data, comprehensive economic models will be developed and applied. The target group for this purpose would be:

• The Ministry of Economy in its capacity as the ministry responsible for (i) the design and roll-out of the GoA's financial support packages; and (ii) agricultural development. To this end, the project will indirectly benefit up to 100 MSMEs that have yet not received financial support from the Government. Moreover, it will lay the foundation for support to businesses and individuals working in the agricultural sector, including but not limited to primary agriproducers (farmers), agri-processors, exporters and rural populations (including women and youth) who gain income from arbitral related activities.

Strategically relevant light industry sector companies will be provided with support to reprofile their industries to get involved in production of medical supplies, thus creating new job opportunities for about 2,000 workers and contributing to prevention measures among a targeted number of the population, as well as the healthcare system. As such, the target groups include:

- Staff of Ministry of Health
- 2,000 employees across 10 to 15 light industry companies; and
- Up to 10,000 physicians, nurses and other health personnel.

In addition, the JP will mitigate the immediate economic impacts on the **local mobility-dependent population** by prioritizing livelihoods and job creation through financial support to small enterprises to rapidly set up or resume operations and create sustainable jobs as sectors of the economy gradually resume their activities. The beneficiaries for this initiative are:

• 50 households of labour migrants

## VII. Who will deliver this solution?

List what Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs) and partners will implement this project and describe their capacities to do so. Include expertise, staff deployed, as well as oversight mechanisms that determine the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) arrangements and responsibilities. Use hyperlinks to relevant sites and the current portfolios of RUNOs so the text is short and to the point. [1,500 word limit]

In line with the "OneUN approach", RUNOs work with other relevant UN agencies who will contribute expertise, 'know how' and data wherever possible throughout the Assessment and the development of Early Recovery Strategies. This will also ensure that local capacity and insights are utilized effectively for sustainable COVID-19 response and recovery results. The participatory and bottoms-up approach to JP conceptualization facilitated by the RCO has also yielded valuable and lasting synergies between PUNOs and non-participating agencies that will be leveraged during implementation.

The overall coordination, direction, and supervision of JP implementation will be in close cooperation with and guided by the leadership of the DPM. This highlevel political engagement demonstrates the GoA's serious commitment to the activities outlined in the JP and their congruency with the reforms agenda, which is the result of collaborative engagement and continuous consultations throughout the JP conceptualization. Leadership at the DPM level will facilitate effective cross-sectoral coordination of JP implementation across multiple line ministries and enable linkages with supporting reforms processes for strategic intervention and institutional impact. It will ensure genuine national ownership of the COVID-19 response programs and actions and support implementation of 2030 Agenda. It will also allow for natural synergies and strategic integration with related projects by other partners, which are likewise coordinated by the DPM. Finally, DPM leadership will safeguard effective implementation at the line ministry level through standard governmental supervision and accountability mechanisms enforced by high-level political authority.

**UNDP's** unique contribution is based on its role as the SDG integrator and connector of various stakeholders for SDG acceleration and its close and longstanding relationship with the Government - at national, regional and local level. Beyond UNDP's leadership related to the design of inclusive and SDG aligned policies and programmes, the country office brings a variety of innovative tools, methods and approaches for data collection and analysis for evidence-based policy making, future modelling and AI for good. Examples include the National Armenia SDG Innovation Lab, the Kolba Lab and ImpactAIM, which can offer solutions that can be replicated or scaled within the scope of the project. In addition, UNDP has extensive experience in applying the human-rights based approach to its programmes and projects as well as working on resilience and post disaster and recovery. UNDP also runs a large network of comprehensive local development interventions around the country, with direct access to beneficiaries and a network of volunteers that will help implement the proposed activities. Currently, UNDP is leading the UN's Multi-partner Response on Socio-Economic sector support/Early Recovery – endorsed by the UN Country Team (UNCT). In this capacity, UNDP sets out to work closely with key government and development partners to ensure that COVID-19 response activities support and link into recovery and sustainable development strategies. UNDP is also leading the UNCT Rapid Assessment of the Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 pandemic, expected to be available in first iteration by mid-June 2020. The key findings from this assessment will lay the ground works for a number of the activities presented in this proposal.

**IOM's** unique contribution reignites it it's role to assist the government and partners in responding to the mobility aspects of crises and supporting communities to recover. During 1997 – 2015 IOM was implementing micro-enterprise development activities to increase the economic self-sufficiency of vulnerable people as well as to facilitate integration of refugees and displaced Armenians emerged as a result of the Nagorno-Karabakh (NK) conflict. IOM staff, including qualified Business Adviser will be responsible for the project implementation in the selected regions of Armenia, including provision of business counselling services. IOM will implement internal monitoring of all operational activities according to established procedures, including through assessment, feedback and reports from beneficiaries and stakeholders. IOM's monitoring system is based on a continuous data collection system and review of all related activities throughout the project life cycle to ensure that operations are proceeding in an efficient manner, effectively and timely as planned. Following internationally accepted standards, IOM's institutionalized Monitoring and Evaluation System provides guidance and ensures mission-wide compliance, embedding impact-driven programming. Applying its internal financial administration system called Processes and Resources Integrated Systems Management (PRISM), IOM will conduct structural monitoring of project expenditure.

<u>UNICEF's</u> unique contribution is the leadership and breadth of work on child rights realization in Armenia. UNICEF has been a convener on social protection, as well as supporter of the development of sound evidence on children for policy and budget-making, including during the crisis. UNICEF has led the work on shock-responsive social protection in the country, including establishment of a UN Working Group on humanitarian cash transfer programming, which will be used for scale up for Government cash transfer schemes, rapid assessment and linkages to existing databases, making sure that all interventions are age, gender and disability-sensitive and LNOB. UNICEF is leading the UN's Multi-partner Response on Social Protection and Psychosocial Support. UNICEF has all capacities for project implementation - dedicated staff for social and child protection, a strong education, health, communication, M&E and disaster risk reduction team; experience in coordination and implementation of joint UN programmes, UNDAF and donor coordination groups on social services; experience in leading the GTG; strategic partnership with the World Bank on social protection, health and education. UNICEF will adhere to its contracting rules and procedures, including effective quality assurance and monitoring measures. UNICEF's risk informed programming is reflected in the UNICEF Armenia Emergency Preparedness Platform, Risk Register, as well as the dedicated plan for COVID-19 Response.

**UNFPA's** unique contribution reignites in its extensive experience in supporting the Government to reach groups left behind and ensure inclusive, human rights friendly and gender sensitive approaches. UNFPA partners with governments, civil society and other agencies to advance its mission UNFPA Armenia country team has an experience of implementing joint UN programs, as well as leading interagency and multi-stakeholder working groups (GTG group, GTG GBV subgroup). UNFPA is the member of the Council on improvement of Demographic Situation of RA established by the Prime Minister. UNFPA has also supported the Government and other stakeholders in data collection and analysis, development of evidence-based policies and implementation of actions aiming at elimination of gender inequalities and ensuring everyone's access towards SRH and GBV services. UNFPA is conducting COVID-19 Rapid Gender Assessment, as well Domestic Violence Service Accessibility during COVID-19 assessment in Armenia. Moreover, UNFPA has all necessary capacities for project implementation, including team members specialized in working in the area of SRHR, youth, gender equality and population and development, M&E.

#### PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

**<u>UNHCR's</u>** unique contribution stems from its experience in working with the government towards realization of rights of most vulnerable groups. UNHCR has worked in the area of addressing the vital humanitarian needs of the refugees in the areas of integration, support of housing, psychosocial support, healthcare,

education, legal aid and counselling, and livelihoods. UNHCR has the necessary human resources and already existing mechanisms to implement the project activities. UNHCR will conduct regular financial verifications and project performance monitoring to ensure that the CBI distribution to persons in refugee-like situation is conducted in a transparent and fair manner. The overall evaluation of the cash-based interventions to address COVID-19 emergency needs will be assessed based on post-distribution monitoring conducted by UNHCR Armenia.

<u>UNIDO's</u> unique contribution reignites in its experience in promoting and accelerating inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Current UNIDO Project Team Members who have experience working with local textile and clothing and footwear companies and organize training for work personnel of partner companies will support the implementation of activities within the JP. On the one hand, the Project Staff have well established relations and ties, is well aware of the needs, opportunities and challenges of the sector, is well experienced in facilitating the cooperation between the companies and is able to respond adequately to the raised challenges. On the other hand, the proposed actions go in parallel and complement and in no way repeat the current Project activities.

**FAO's** unique contribution sites from experience in developing Guideline and Methodology for disaster needs assessment in the agriculture sector which aimed to provide a uniform methodology to be utilized in the assessment of damages and losses as well as post-disaster needs in the agriculture sector, including crop, livestock, fisheries and forestry. FAO is also co-leading the UN's Multi-partner Response on Food Security and Agriculture sector support in cooperation with WFP. In scope of this sector working group, FAO jointly with WFP are closely work with the government and development partners, and donors to ensure that COVID-19 response activities support and link into recovery and sustainable development strategies of the Government.

<u>Ministry of Economy</u>, custodian of the Agricultural sector, coordinator of investments towards agribusinesses and overall development-oriented interventions will actively participate in the development and implementation of the JP activities to ensure that climate change, food security and Human Capital considerations will be fully integrated and drivers of new synergies.

<u>Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs</u> will be involved in project implementation as the Government entity responsible for COVID19-social response, as well as social and child protection, development of family-friendly policies, poverty reduction, social inclusion and promoting gender equality with focus on gender-responsive budgeting, while it will also be pivotal in supporting the identification of social protection-targeted individuals that will be supported with the implementation of activities and relevant longer-term results.

The <u>Ministry of Health</u> as the key responsible actor for the development of the health care sector will play an instrumental role in all JP aspects related to maternal and child health and the support of policies and activities targeting healthier dietary habits that will positively impact on the health of the population.

The Ministry of High-Tech Industry will be a partner in the development of technological and information solutions, as well as innovation.

**Civil Society Organizations** will ensure the voice of the population to be heard, the protection of human rights and the good governance of the JP. This will be achieved through their engagement, as reference groups representing labour, employment, and tackling poverty, education, healthcare, environment and climate change, justice and protection of human rights, industry, trade & innovation, and infrastructure (energy, water, roads, transport, etc). The **extended Gender Thematic Group** and leading **women's rights organizations** and platforms will be consulted regularly and invited to follow the JP implementation, particularly in the development of family-friendly policies, the active participation of women in the national labour force.

The **national and international donor community** will play a key role in both the design of the JP as well as its operationalisation. IFIs will be engaged to support social and economic measures, including leveraging of finance.

## **Cover Page**

Contacts	Resident Coordinator or Focal Point in his/her Office
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	Position: Resident Coordinator
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Description	In support of the Government of Armenia's COVID-19 response, the UN proposes a joint project towards supporting the country's socio-economic recovery by safeguarding people and their livelihoods through mitigation of the impact of the COVID-19 crisis and towards enhancing resilience, which allows Armenia to achieve its development priorities under Agenda 2030. The project specifically addresses the needs of vulnerable populations and builds on the existing economic structure.
Universal Markers	Gender Marker: (bold the selected; pls select one only)
	a) Have gender equality and/or the empowerment of women and girls as the primary or principal objective.
	b) Make a significant contribution to gender equality and/or the empowerment of women and girls;
	c) Make a limited contribution or no contribution to gender equality and/or the empowerment of women and girls.
Fund Specific Markers	Human Rights Based Approach to COVID19 Response (bold the selected): Yes/No
	Considered OHCHR guidance in proposal development UN OHCHR COVID19 Guidance

Geographical Scope	Fund Windows (bold the selected; pls select one only)         Window 1: Enable Governments and Communities to Tackle the Emergency         Window 2: Reduce Social Impact and Promote Economic Response         Regions:								
	Country: Armenia								
Recipient UN Organizations	UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ION	Л							
Implementing Partners	UNIDO, FAO and UNHCR	UNIDO, FAO and UNHCR							
Programme and Project Cost	Budget	Agency	Amount	Comments					
	Budget Requested	UNFPA	\$149,907						
	Budget Requested	UNDP	\$404,995						
	Budget Requested	UNICEF	\$ 219,992						
	Budget Requested	IOM	\$224,786						
	In-kind Contributions	n.a.	n.a.						
	Total		\$999,680						
Comments	n.a.								
Programme Duration	Start Date: asap								
	Duration (In months): 6								

End Date: 31 December 2020	
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## **Results Framework**

Window 2: Proposal outcome	COVID-19 and Resilience in Armenia: Mit Communities	Outcome Total Budget			
	2.1 The disproportionate socio-economic imp Armenia is mitigated through access to adequ	USD			
		Baseline	Target	Means of verification	Responsible Org
Outcome Indicator [Max 2500 characters]	2.1a Proportion of population covered by COVID-19 social protection programmes, by sex, age, vulnerability (related to SDG indicator 1.3.1)	309,951 beneficiaries and 84,810 families for social support; 486,434 families beneficiaries for gas/utility subsidies	At least 10% increase in coverage of beneficiaries and families ( <i>with focus on</i> <i>emerging vulnerable</i> <i>groups outside of</i> <i>ongoing Government</i> <i>support programmes</i> )	ARMSTAT database and reports; GoA reports (sectoral and over- arching), project reports, and others	Joint RUNOs, DPM's office, line Ministries
	2.1b Proportion of population covered by COVID-19 economic assistance measures , by sex, age, vulnerability	29,543 beneficiaries <sup>8</sup>	At least 10% increase in coverage of beneficiaries by economic assistance measures (focus on emerging groups)	ArmStat, Government and Ministry of Economy reports, project reports	Joint RUNOs, DPM's office, line Ministries

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Source: https://www.primeminister.am/hy/interviews-and-press-conferences/item/2020/05/16/Nikol-Pashinyan-Press-Conference/

Proposal Outputs	2.1.1 Rights- and evidence-based social protection measures, particularly cash transfers and services, are upgraded and their coverage expanded to minimize the exposure and vulnerability of disadvantaged groups to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19										
	2.2.1 Employment creation and entrepreneurship efforts are supported and promoted for disadvantaged persons and MSMEs, including through improved access to financial and technical assistance and digital innovation										
Proposal Output Indicators	2.1.1a Number of HHs/persons receiving direct cash transfers through JP response to COVID-19 (disaggregated by age, sex, vulnerability, location)	0	3,500 children with disabilities; 220 HHs with persons displaced from Syria 300 women and older persons in vulnerable situations	MoLSA reports, exchange of letters with Government partners, agreements with partners	UNICEF, IOM, and UNFPA in partnership with UNHCR, MoLSA, Ministry of Finance, CSOs						
	2.1.1b Number of HHs/persons benefiting from new or additional social assistance measures provided by governments to respond to COVID-19 with JP support (disaggregated by age, sex, vulnerability, location, type (cash/services))	0	7000 HHs/ 30,000 persons (from emerging vulnerable groups)		UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA with Ministry of Social Affairs						
	2.1.1.c Number of social service workforce professionals/allied professionals who benefitted from capacity development activities (disaggregated by age and sex)	0	500 professionals	MoLSA reports, agreements with partners, training materials	UNICEF, UNDP with MoLSA, social service workforce, CSOs						

2.1.1.d MoLSA procedures for collecting and analyzing COVID-19 related and LNOB (disaggregated by age, sex, vulnerability, location) data are developed.	Few procedures in place, but data not synchronized and not comparable	Procedures in place, allowing for disaggregated data analysis, comparability and forecasting	ToR for technical assistance team, LNOB data	UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA, in partnership the MoLSA, MoH, Ministry of High- Tech Industry, ArmStat
2.2.1a Number of female headed/male headed HHs/persons benefiting from economic support packages through JP response (disaggregated by age, sex, vulnerability, location)	0	50 HHs with seasonal labour migrants 100 women and elderly persons in vulnerable situations	Data from local communities, Project Reports	IOM, UNFPA in partnership with MoLSA, Migration Office, Ministry of Finance
2.2.1b Number of businesses/ persons benefiting from financial and technical assistance through the JP (data collected disaggregated by age and sex)	0	10 industrial companies, including 2000 employees 100 MSMEs	MoE reports; Data from the beneficiary companies; Project reports	UNDP in partnership with UNIDO and the Ministry of Economy, SMEs in the light industry sector
2.2.1.c Number of forecasting scenarios developed in agricultural sector for improved COVID-19 response planning and targeting (beneficiaries disaggregated by age and sex)	0	3 forecasting scenarios	MoE reports, Project reports	UNDP in partnership with FAO, Ministry of Economy

## SDG Targets and Indicators

Susta	inable Development Goals (SDGs) [select max 3 goals]						
$\square$	SDG 1 (No poverty)		SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)				
	SDG 2 (Zero hunger)		SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)				
	SDG 3 (Good health & well-being)		SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities)				
	SDG 4 (Quality education)		SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production)				
	SDG 5 (Gender equality)		SDG 13 (Climate action)				
	SDG 6 (Clean water and sanitation)		SDG 14 (Life below water)				
	SDG 7 (Sustainable energy)	SDG 15 (Life on land)					
$\square$	SDG 8 (Decent work & Economic Growth)	SDG 16 (Peace, justice & strong institutions)					
		SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)					
	rant SDG Targets and Indicators ending on the selected SDG please indicate the relevant tar et	-	d indicators.] cator # and Description	Estimated % Budget allocated			
women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions			1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age20 per cent1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its20 per centdimensions according to national definitions20 per cent				
1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable			1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable30 per cent				

1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	<ul> <li>1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per</li> <li>100,000 people</li> <li>1.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)</li> </ul>	10 per cent
8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value	<ul> <li>8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities</li> <li>8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</li> </ul>	30 per cent
10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality	10.4.1 Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers	10 per cent

Risk

Event	Categories Financial Operational Organizational Political (regulatory and/or strategic)	Level 3 – Very High 2 – Medium High 1 - Low	Likelihood 6 – Expected 5 – Highly Likely 4 – Likely 3 – Moderate 2 – Low Likelihood 1- Not Likely 0 – Not Applicable	Impact 5 – Extreme 4 – Major 3 – Moderate 2 – Minor 1 – Insignificant	<b>Mitigating Measures</b> (List the specific mitigation measures)	Risk Owner
Risk1: Lack of coordination amongst government agencies	Political	2	4	4	<ul> <li>Enhanced dialogue and engagement with relevant government stakeholders</li> <li>Provision of additional coordination support</li> </ul>	
Risk 2: COVID-19 pandemic continuation impacting project implementation	Operational / organizational	2	3	4	<ul> <li>Introduce digital and alternative non-digital tools for planning and activity delivery</li> <li>Develop foresight models for COVID-19 pandemic continuation</li> <li>Provide staff with PPEs</li> <li>Limit travel to affected regions of the country</li> </ul>	RUNOs
Risk 3: Lack of reliable and ready to use data for implementation, causing project delays	Operational	2	3	4	<ul> <li>Identification of data gaps</li> <li>Support data collection and analysis efforts</li> <li>RUNOs identification of vulnerable groups</li> <li>.</li> </ul>	RUNOs

## **Budget by UNDG Categories**

Budget Lines	Fiscal Year	Description	Agency 1	Agency 2	Agency 3	Agency 4	Total
		[OPTIONAL]	UNFPA	UNICEF	UNDP	IOM	USD
1. Staff and other personnel	2020					16,700	16,700
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	2020			5,000	5000		4,000
3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture, incl. Depreciation	2020		10,000				16,000
4. Contractual services	2020		128,000	53,000	367,500		565,500
5. Travel	2020		1,100	2,600	2,000	5,400	14,100
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	2020			145,000		187,000	312,000
7. General Operating and other Direct Costs	2020		1,000		4,000	980	5,980
Sub Total Programme Costs			140,100	205,600	378,500	210,080	934,280
8. Indirect Support Costs * 7%			9,807	14,392	26,495	14,706	65,400
Total			149,907	219,992	404,995	224,786	999,680

\* The rate shall not exceed 7% of the total of categories 1-7, as specified in the COVID-19 Response MOU and should follow the rules and guidelines of each recipient organization. Note that Agency-incurred direct project implementation costs should be charged to the relevant budget line, in line with UNSDG guidance.