United Nations in Armenia

COVID-19 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN

SEPTEMBER 2020

United Nations
ARMENIA

COVID-19
RESPONSE

THE UN COUNTRY TEAM IN ARMENIA

WFP

UNAIDS

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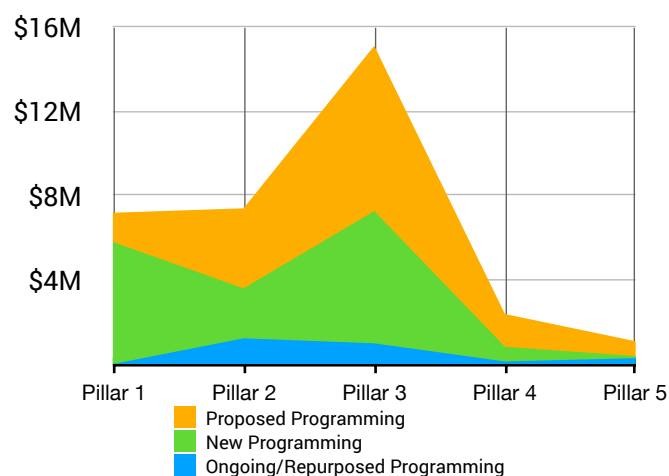UNFPA

UNIDO

UNDP

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Prepared by the UN Country Team in Armenia, under the overall leadership of the Resident Coordinator's Office and the technical leadership of UNDP
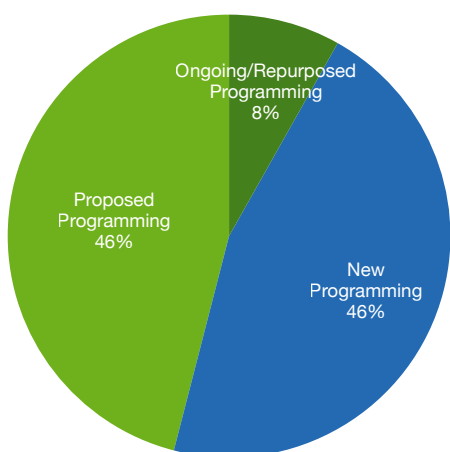
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RECOVERY PLAN AT A GLANCE

	Ongoing/ Repurposed	New	Proposed	Total
1	$20,000	$5,780,000	$1,385,000	**$7,185,000**
2	$1,240,090	$2,364,792	$3,790,540	**$7,395,422**
3	$1,002,000	$6,263,635	$7,823,000	**$15,088,635**
4	$145,000	$694,580	$1,550,000	**$2,389,580**
5	$300,000	$100,000	$700,000	**$1,100,000**
Total	**$2,707,090**	**$15,203,007**	**$15,248,540**	**$33,158,637**

Proposed Programming
New Programming
Ongoing/Repurposed Programming

Recovery Plan by Programme Type

Ongoing/Repurposed Programming 8%
Proposed Programming 46%
New Programming 46%

Recovery Plan By Pillar

Pillar 4 7%
Pillar 5 3%
Pillar 1 22%
Pillar 3 46%
Pillar 2 22%
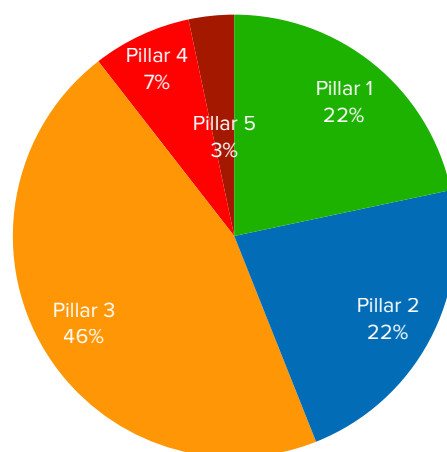
Project Classifications

New Project*:
▶ a project launched explicitly for COVID-19 response and recovery
▶ a pipeline project launched within the operational timeline of the Plan with prioritized COVID-19 recovery activities
▶ New projects are funded and ready for implementation, or implementation has just begun.

Ongoing/Repurposed Project*:
▶ a current or ongoing project launched prior to the pandemic but has been part of our COVID-19 response
▶ Ongoing/repurposed projects are funded, either based on already existing project agreements with donors, or as a result of new agreements with donors for reallocation of resources.

Proposed Project:
▶ A project that is either in the conceptual, proposal drafting stage, or has recently been submitted and is awaiting a response.
▶ These are priority project proposals that are fully costed and provide a new contribution to the plan not covered by 'new' or 'ongoing/repurposed' projects.

*Note: Budget estimates for New and Ongoing/Repurposed projects are prorated to reflect only the amounts that fall within both the thematic scope of COVID-19 response and recovery and intended timeline of operations up to 18 months (currently set to last until the end of December 2021).

FOREWORD

The global COVID-19 pandemic is, as we have learned, far more than a health challenge. Rather, it is a crisis of unprecedented human scale, directly impacting people, communities and economies in previously unimaginable ways, exposing the profound structural fragilities of our institutions, exacerbating pre-existing inequalities, and deepening social and economic vulnerabilities. No country has been spared, and Armenia is no exception. Paradoxically, the virus simultaneously exploits the very connections that form the fabric of our societies at all levels, within and across nations, yet thrives as some retreat from cross-border cooperation and the global public space.

Overcoming this unprecedented challenge therefore requires an ambitious, integrated response that matches the complexity and magnitude of the crisis, while ensuring that people, societies, and the planet emerge stronger and more resilient than before. The role of international cooperation and multilateralism, as well as partnerships across government, civil society and the private sector, has perhaps never been more important in the face of such a global adversary.

The COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan (SERRP), developed collectively by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Armenia in consultation with Government and our civil society and international partners, outlines our vision and offer to leverage just such an inclusive approach to effectively mitigate the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 in Armenia, to save lives, protect people and communities leaving no one behind, while building back better and greener.

The Plan comprises strategic directions and programming initiatives addressing the next 12-18 months, with a dual imperative: first, it presents an immediate health response to suppress transmission of the virus and end the pandemic, while addressing short-term social, economic and humanitarian needs. At the same time, the Plan focuses on the more medium and longer term social, economic and health consequences, seeking to address the most vulnerable as a priority.

Prepared under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator Office, and with UNDP as technical lead, the Plan is guided by national priorities and needs, as well as rapid social and economic impact assessments undertaken by the UNCT and partners. It presents an integrated approach to recovery that combines expertise and resources from across the UN development system, including 12 resident Agencies and two Regional Economic Commissions, in coordination with development partners, including the International Monetary Fund as a co-lead of Pillar 4. The Plan follows the structure of the Global UN Framework, with five strategic Pillars, and resource estimates across three types of programmatic responses. These include ongoing initiatives we have managed to quickly repurpose, special new initiatives already brought on-stream, including via the UN's COVID-19 Multi-Partner Trust Fund, and proposed programmes that form a pipeline of priority actions necessary to reach the required level of impact. We greatly appreciate the support of all of our donor partners in putting this plan into action with a sense of urgency.

Finally, the Plan also represents a bridge to the next UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Armenia, an important milestone outlining our collective contribution to longer term development in the coming five years, 2021-2025. Taken together, in this the 75th Anniversary year of the founding of the United Nations, we believe we have set a strong foundation to achieve the overarching goal of a resilient recovery on the path to delivering Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals for all people in Armenia.

In the words of the UN Secretary-General, this pandemic has made more clear than ever that "we absolutely must come together to reimagine and reinvent the world we share". And together we will.

Shombi Sharp
Resident Coordinator in Armenia

I. INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Armenia registered its first coronavirus disease (COVID-19) case on 2 March 2020. Within two weeks, the Government of Armenia declared a State of Emergency and introduced measures to limit the transmission of COVID-19, including a 14-day nation-wide lockdown. From the outset of the COVID-19 crisis the United Nations together with development partners in Armenia has supported the Government's efforts through implementation of a multi-sector response mechanism covering the areas of health, education, social protection, food and agriculture, as well as logistics and supply chain procurements. The COVID-19 pandemic is more than a health crisis: it affects the whole of the Republic of Armenia and its people with impact on nearly every aspect of social and economic life. Building on the immediate multi-sector support offer, the United Nations developed the following Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan (SERRP) based on the United Nations Framework for the Immediate Socio-economic Response to COVID-19. The SERRP, as a living document covering the next 18 months, will be updated on the basis of current and new insights obtained from national, regional and global COVID-19-related impact assessments. The joint programme portfolio that this Plan supports will be developed further with consideration to government priorities, response gaps and opportunities as well as emerging data and other evidence.

Purpose and Guiding Questions

The purpose of the UNs recovery and response efforts is threefold and driven by a set of guiding questions (see Box 1).

Integrated analysis, solutions and innovative responses are developed across sectors towards ensuring continuity between immediate measures and the longer-term recovery approach. As part of our promise to "do no harm", the UN support – ranging from assessment and programming to policy advice and advocacy – takes into account human rights considerations, the gender impact of the COVID-19 crisis and associated responses that leave no one behind. Ultimately, this will help inform the design of policies that recover and protect development gains.

Box 1. Guiding Questions

1. Tackle the immediate emergency

▶ Who has been targeted when devising the country's health and socio-economic response measures?

▶ What is the demographic and where do they reside?

▶ Where are the gaps?

2. Focus on the social impact and economic response

▶ Which barriers keep people beyond the reach of infrastructure, employment, services, jobs and other socio-economic response measures

▶ How can the response ensure that the varied impacts of COVID-19 on the lives of all women, men, girls and boys are comprehensively addressed?

3. Recover better

▶ How can those who are excluded, marginalized and vulnerable come into the fold? How can they be made more resilient to shocks and crises?

▶ How to ensure that women's voices are fully represented in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts?

▶ How can the responses help remove and avoid exacerbating structural drivers of exclusion, inequalities and discrimination?

Alignment with National Priorities

The Government of Armenia is developing its national COVID-19 response along two streams: First, under the leadership of the Deputy Prime Minister Tigran Avinyan's Office (who also serves as Commandant under the current State of Emergency), is the development of a comprehensive "National COVID-19 Strategic Management Plan" outlining the methodology and risk assessment guidelines that inform targeted policy interventions to contain the spread of COVID-19. The development of this plan is supported by international development partners, most notably the World Bank and World Health Organization (WHO), and coordination support by the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO). Second, under the leadership of the Office of Deputy Prime Minister Mher Grigoyan, is the formulation of "National COVID-19 Mid-term Recovery Plan" that - alignment with the United Nations global framework - consolidates the Government of Armenia's approach to comprehensive socio-economic recovery aimed at building back better. The development of this plan is supported jointly by the United Nations and the European Union.
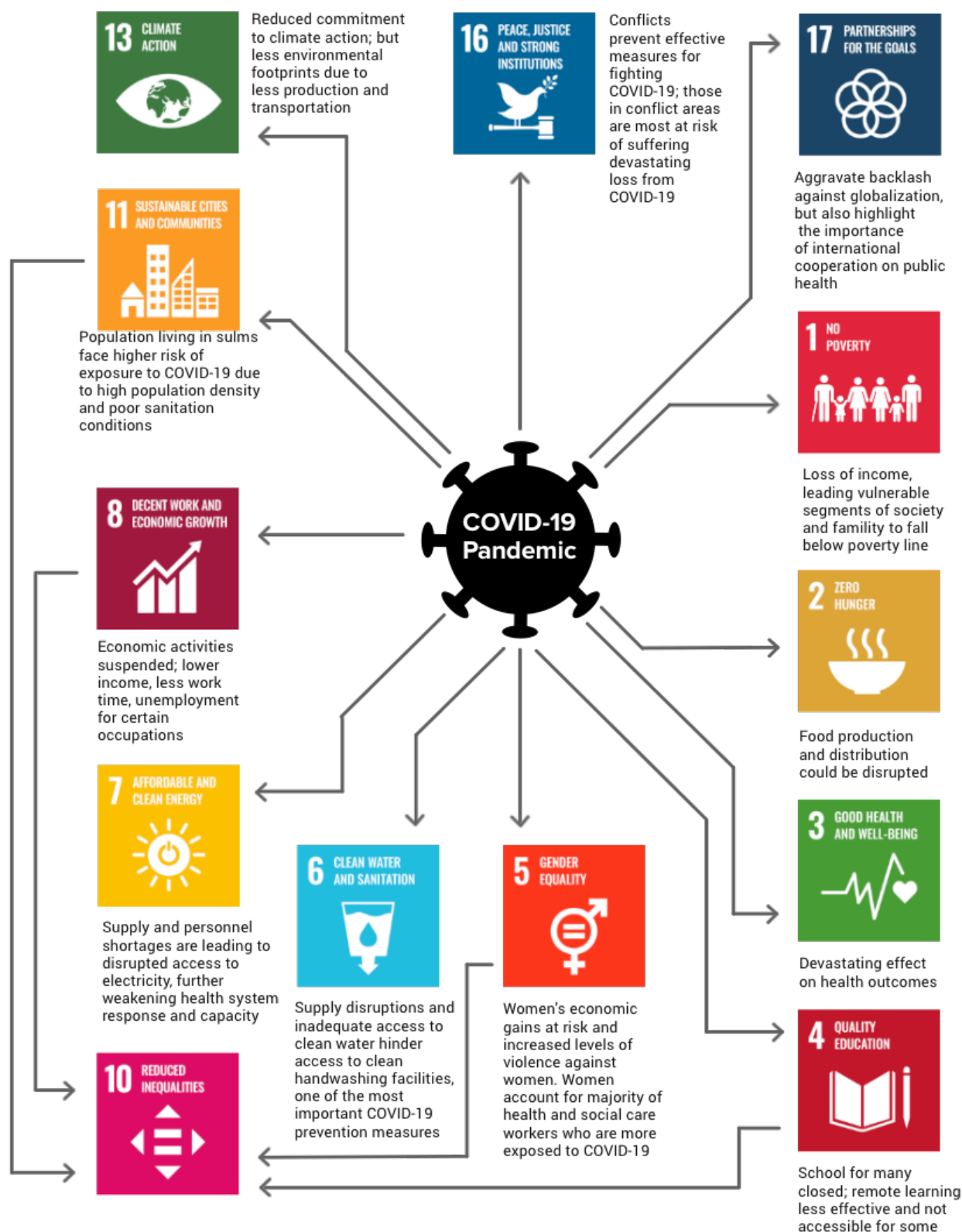
Consequently, the SERRP anchors the United Nations socio-economic response firmly within the national COVID-19 response and its long-term comprehensive and sectoral strategies. As such, the SERRP will both contribute to and be informed by (in order of temporal horizon):

▸ The Government of Armenia's COVID-19 support packages

▸ The National COVID-19 Strategic Management Plan (under development)

▸ The National COVID-19 Mid-term Recovery Plan (under development)

▸ WHO's Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan

▸ The Government of Armenia Programme 2019-2023

▸ Relevant Sectoral Strategies (adopted and those under development)

▸ The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (under development)

▸ The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals)

▸ The 2020 Armenia Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report

▸ The Armenia Transformation Strategy 2050 (under development)

While the total budget of the Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan is estimated at 33.1 million USD, as a result of concerted efforts by the UN in Armenia and our donor partners, the priority funding gap remains 15.2 million USD. To date, around 2.7 million USD of ongoing programming has successfully been repurposed, with 15.2 million USD in new projects mobilised to support COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.

COVID-19 AND THE SDGS

13 CLIMATE ACTION

Reduced commitment to climate action; but less environmental footprints due to less production and transportation

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Conflicts prevent effective measures for fighting COVID-19; those in conflict areas are most at risk of suffering devastating loss from COVID-19

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Aggravate backlash against globalization, but also highlight the importance of international cooperation on public health

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Population living in sulms face higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 due to high population density and poor sanitation conditions

COVID-19 Pandemic

1 NO POVERTY

Loss of income, leading vulnerable segments of society and familty to fall below poverty line

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Economic activities suspended; lower income, less work time, unemployment for certain occupations

2 ZERO HUNGER

Food production and distribution could be disrupted

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Supply and personnel shortages are leading to disrupted access to electricity, further weakening health system response and capacity

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Supply disruptions and inadequate access to clean water hinder access to clean handwashing facilities, one of the most important COVID-19 prevention measures

5 GENDER EQUALITY

Women's economic gains at risk and increased levels of violence against women. Women account for majority of health and social care workers who are more exposed to COVID-19

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Devastating effect on health outcomes

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

School for many closed; remote learning less effective and not accessible for some

SOURCE: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

II. UN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Coordination of Multi-sector Response

The COVID-19 Multi-Sector Response was activated by the UN Resident Coordinator immediately after the initial COVID-19 outbreak in Armenia.

It served as a UN coordination mechanism for scaling up immediate national actions with a multi-dimensional approach and short-to-midterm time frame that combines attention to six sectoral working groups plus two cross-cutting working groups on human rights and gender mainstreaming.

Table 1. Multi-sector Response Architecture

	SECTOR GROUPS	LEAD AGENCY	FOCUS OF MULTI-SECTOR RESPONSE
	Health and Health Continuity	WHO UNICEF	▶ Immediate assistance for medical needs of health institutions for COVID-19 response (PPE, tests, ventilators, etc.) ▶ Technical support and capacity building to the Ministry of Health to scale up the preparedness of the healthcare system and ensure continued service delivery
	Education Continuity	UNICEF	▶ Support to the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports for continuity of educational services, improving the quality and access of distant learning
	Social Protection and Psychosocial Support	UNICEF	▶ Technical assistance to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to address immediate operational continuity needs in relation to social protection and psychosocial support, including data management, rapid assessment tools for better targeting, design of alternative social support schemes ▶ Impact assessments, provision and scale-up of cash transfers and counselling services
	Food Security and Agriculture	WFP FAO	▶ Immediate food assistance to the most vulnerable and at-risk populations ▶ Rapid and comprehensive assessments on food supply chains, food safety and food security ▶ Technical assistance to elevate the national food production capacity and stabilize the supply of food products within national and international markets ▶ Support in formulating assistance packages and develop public food reserves
	Socio-Economic and Early Recovery	UNDP	▶ Emergency packages to remote border villages and vulnerable people ▶ Technical assistance to hard-hit sectors to adjust or repurpose its operations ▶ Support in formulation and targeting of assistance scheme
	Supply Chain and Procurement	WFP WHO	▶ Coordinate demand and supply of medical and other immediate response items ▶ Map and coordinate requests from partners for more effective supply chain management ▶ Facilitates access to global COVID-19 Supply Platforms, including coordination of light cargo movements

Impact Assessments

The impacts of the COVID-19 crisis have been indiscriminate. However, understanding how the multidimensional socio-economic impacts of the crisis affect economies, communities (urban, rural and consolidated) and vulnerable groups differently is fundamental to inform and tailor responses that will help Armenia and people in Armenia recover and build back better, whilst leaving no one behind.

As the technical lead for the socio-economic response and under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, UNDP – in partnership with UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNWomen and ADB and close collaboration with specialised UN agencies and International Financing Institutions (IFIs) – assessed the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis at community level. While the long-term impact remains uncertain, the findings highlight structural as well as emerging inequalities and

Table 2. Ongoing, Planned or Finalized UN Led Assessments

SECTOR	FOCUS OF ASSESSMENT	LEAD AGENCY	DATES
Health & Health Continuity	Disaster readiness assessment of maternity hospitals	UNFPA	August – October 2020
	Rapid needs assessment of People Living with HIV	UNAIDS	15 April – 30 April 2020
	Coronavirus Immunity Survey Among Medical Staff and Population	UNAIDS	15 May 2020 – Ongoing
	WHO Regional Office for Europe and the Robert Koch Institute COVID-19 technical (virtual) mission to the Republic of Armenia.	WHO	29 April 2020 6 – 7 May 2020
	WHO HQ online survey on continuity of essential health services	WHO	15 June 2020
	High level WHO mission to review COVID-19 response in Armenia.	WHO	19 June – 8 July 2020
Social Protection & Psychosocial Support	Vulnerability assessment of families to COVID-19 socio-economic impact and access to services in regions of Armenia	UNICEF	June 2020 – Ongoing
Food Security & Agriculture	Rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on FAO beneficiaries	FAO	March 2020 – Ongoing
	Rapid assessment of greenhouses	FAO	April 2020 – Ongoing
	Rapid Survey of Food Supply Chains in Europe and Central Asia	FAO	17 April 2020 – Ongoing
	Food security assessment and vulnerability mapping	WFP	15 May – 15 July 2020
	Beneficiary registration	WFP	April – June 2020
	Monthly Food systems assessments	WFP	July – December 2020
Socio-Economic & Early Recovery	Socio-economic situation COVID-19	IOM	March – April 2020
	Labor market diagnostics and impact rapid assessment	ILO	May – August 2020
	Rapid Nationwide Community Assessment focused on the Socio-Economic Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic	UNDP	May – June 2020
	Multidimensional Vulnerability Assessment	UNDP	July – August 2020
	Implications of the COVID-19 crisis for industries in ECA and Online survey on the impact of the crisis on women-led businesses.	UNIDO	April – June 2020
	COVID-19 safety measures and effects of economic crisis on MSMEs	UNECE	May – August 2020
	COVID -19 Cash assistance Post-Distribution Monitoring	UNHCR	May – June 2020
Human Rights Cross-sectoral	Human rights of migrants, residing in Armenia	IOM	April – July 2020
Gender Cross-sectoral	Rapid gender assessment	UNFPA UN Women	14 April – 15 July 2020
	GBV response assessment	UNFPA	15 April – May 2020
Supply Chain & Procurement	Logistics Capacity Assessment	WFP	May 2020 – Ongoing

vulnerabilities that risk an escalation of the health, economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis in the long-term. The health crisis shock and imposed restrictions resulted in business disruption, income loss and income insecurity at household level as well as deterioration of health and social well-being of the population. The nature and magnitude of the impact is partly due to systemic deficiencies in governance structures, weaknesses in the overall economic architecture as well as pre-existing vulnerabilities and inequalities, resulting in varied impacts across regions, communities, sectors and demographical groups, including between women and men.

On the basis of the key findings from the Rapid Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (See Box 2) specific policy recommendations and programmatic opportunities for the Government of Armenia, UN agencies, the private sector and other development partners have been developed across the five strategic pillars of the UN COVID-19 response framework. Acting on these recommendations, not least through the implementation of the SERRP will be critical for a recovery that leads to a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive future.

Complementary UN-led thematic assessments are conducted to gain a deeper understanding on

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Box 2. Key findings from the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

▶ Basic personal protection measures and access to health services has not easily available for all during the COVID-19 lockdown. This issue of limited access to social protection measures is partly driven by institutional as well as data gaps for effective targeting and reach of social assistance programmes. The health service situation has been particularly challenging in rural areas and in the capital were health facilities have been poorly equipped with critical medical equipment, supplies and human resources to operate effectively during the COVID-19 outbreak.

▶ Analysis of reported physical, mental and emotional health issues due to the COVID-19 crisis indicate that women are more impacted than men. Women working in educational institutions, health and social services, frontline services and the manufacturing industry, as well as single female retirees are at particular high risk of physical and mental stress.

▶ Government-led COVID-19 measures, including the lockdown and other travel restrictions disrupted the most critical value chains and traditional ways of doing business in Armenia, thus causing rapid loss of jobs. SMEs are predominantly hard-hit with the highest staff changes observed in sectors that historically employ more women than men, such as beauty and well-being, tourism and food services. More young people have lost their jobs than other age groups.

▶ There is generally a sharp decline in labour demand in Armenia. This situation is worsened by an increase in the labour supply due to an inability of labour migrants to seek employment abroad.

▶ The IT and agri-food sectors, including independent farmers in rural areas, have shown more resilience to the COVID-19 crisis, whereas the service sector has suffered the most, affecting Yerevan and other urban areas more. A firm's age and size is nonetheless positively correlated with its adaptive capacity to operate during the COVID-19 pandemic, making more established and larger SMEs more likely to survive the COVID-19 crisis.

▶ The Armenian educational system was highly impacted by lockdown measures despite state and community efforts to transition to digital service provision modalities. Limited access to computers and the Internet created a new digital divide across urban and rural communities and thereby preventing many children from accessing online classes, and online studies demanded more time from parents to support their children's education.

▶ Both men and women report that they took on new responsibilities in the family during the lockdown. The burden of increased unpaid domestic work and caretaking has nonetheless predominantly fallen on women. As a result, women have had less time to engage in economic activities.

▶ Civil Society Organisations and the Human Rights Defender's office reported an 50% increase in domestic violence cases in June 2020. Yet, women subjected to domestic violence reported additional challenges in seeking state-sponsored social assistance during this period.

▶ The use of the Internet as the main communication channel for government assistance created accessibility difficulties for rural populations and the elderly.

specific topics. In tandem with the findings from the overall socio-economic impact assessment, the findings ensure that the UN's response is evidence-based and adjusted to the most recent developments and vulnerabilities (See Table 2).

Further assessments will be designed and implemented as needed to compliment already available data and analysis. Integration of multi-dimensional perspectives is key to this process. The United Nations is also working with Government counterparts and civil society organisations to build technical, methodological and analytical capacity to conduct assessments on their own, including replicating UN-led assessments such as the Rapid Socio-Economic Impact Assessment.

At-Risk Populations, Including Vulnerable and Excluded Persons

Pre-existing vulnerabilities and inequalities related to personal, status, occupation, location, etc., risk exacerbating the impact of the pandemic on certain groups and persons. To this end, and in line with the principle of leaving no one behind, the response pays special attention to at-risk populations that experience highest degree of socio-economic marginalisation and exclusion; have low incomes or depend heavily on the informal economy for earnings; have inadequate access to social protection and social services; and/or are denied access to support due to discrimination. The response also recognises the different ways in which women and girls have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 due to increased violence and burdens of unpaid care work and unemployment and interrupted access to sexual and reproductive health services.

Building on the pre-COVID-19 situation in the country, as well as findings from ongoing and finalised assessments, target populations in Armenia for the COVID-19 response include:

▸ People in poverty, especially extreme or multidimensional poverty

▸ Specific categories of women disproportionately affected by the pandemic including women and girls who experience additional and intersecting forms of discrimination and marginalization

▸ Older persons

▸ Adolescents, children and youth, especially girls and young women

▸ Persons with disabilities and persons with mental health conditions

▸ Migrants, asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons

▸ Minorities

▸ Persons in institutionalised settings (e.g. persons in psychiatric care, old age homes or prisons)

▸ Dwellers and homeless persons

▸ People living with HIV/AIDS or other pre-existing medical conditions

▸ Small farmers, rural workers, informal workers, self-employed and other persons experiencing income loss and/or insecurity

▸ Owners and employees of small and medium-sized enterprises

▸ Returning labour migrants and persons experiencing loss/reduction in remittances due to the pandemic and associated mitigated measures

▸ Groups that are particularly vulnerable and marginalised because laws, policies and practices do not protect them from discrimination and exclusion (e.g. LGBTI people)

As the circumstances and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are continuously changing, the UN will target already vulnerable and marginalised populations and well as those at risk of becoming vulnerable. The approach is grounded in continued data collection and analysis, including through innovative, people-centric and smart solutions, as well as through upscaled monitoring and evaluation of rolled out interventions in line with the global monitoring framework for the UN framework for the immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19. To ensure that the UN in Armenia's COVID-19 response is inclusive, participatory, risk-informed and gender responsive, the UN Country Team will work as one, drawing on the expertise and insights from specialised UN agencies, IFIs, Civil Society Organisations, women's groups, the private sector, and other development partners.

III. THEORY OF CHANGE

The Theory of Change of the Response and Recovery Plan builds on the five pillars of the "UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19". It focuses on supporting the Government of Armenia in their efforts to tackle the immediate health emergency during the COVID-19 outbreak and on coordinating between social support to vulnerable and marginalised populations as well as economic recovery measures that minimise the long-term impact of the pandemic. In its implementation the plan centres on five pillars underpinned by a strong commitment to environmental sustainability, protection of human rights, gender equality and risk-informed development:

1. Ensure that essential health services are available during the crisis, and help improve health systems by developing necessary capabilities as well as capacities;

2. Help people cope with the adversity of the crisis through improved access to social protection, education and other essential services, including for survivors of gender-based violence;

3. Protect jobs and vulnerable workers in both formal and informal sectors, support small and medium-sized enterprises in hard-hit sectors, and help create new job opportunities for women and men in line with Armenia's comparative advantages;

4. Help guide the necessary surge in fiscal and financial stimulus to make the macroeconomic framework work for the most vulnerable and foster sustainable development and strengthen multilateral and regional responses; and

5. Promote social cohesion and build trust through social dialogue and political engagement and invest in community-led and gender-responsive resilience and response systems.

The guiding reference for the Theory of Change is the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its central promise to 'leave no one behind'. To this end, significant efforts to continuously map current and emerging marginalisation, inequalities, and vulnerabilities in Armenia, to ensure that the response adequately addresses the multidimensional consequences of the pandemic. The pathway to change further relies on the ability of the United Nations in Armenia to mobilise partners and to promote substantive stakeholder engagement required for a whole of society response, delivery of integrated, coordinated and coherent support; and leverage of several funding modalities to channel funds to programmatic interventions quickly.

The pathway to expected change in Armenia draws on linking three priority areas for sustainable development enabled through the recovery efforts and processes:

▶ **More Resilience** to reduce vulnerability to future epidemics, socio-economic shocks or other crises

▶ **More People Centred Development** to ensure that social services and socio-economic prosperity benefit all

▶ **More Green Growth** to protect the natural environment and ecosystems and address climate change

In concert, positive change among these priorities will help the Republic of Armenia to build back better both towards the achieving the Armenia Transformation Strategy 2050 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the SDGs.

The Response and Recovery Plan will be monitored across a set of socio-economic response indicators (see pillar chapters) that have been selected from the global Monitoring Framework of the UN framework for the immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19. These programmatic indicators will enable the UN Country Team in Armenia to effectively monitor its activities and progress across all pillars of the Plan while minimising the cost and burden to collect data. Ultimately, the data will feed into single, consolidated dashboard that provide up-to-date visibility on the UN system's activities and progress in relation to the COVID-19 crisis

THEORY OF CHANGE

Impact

People living in Armenia benefit from more **Resilience**, **People Centred Development** and **Green Economic Growth** for a sustainable and prosperous future for all

Outcome

The Government of Armenia, its people and businesses successfully **respond to and recover from** the immediate and medium-term **adverse health, social and economic impacts** of the pandemic

1	HEALTH FIRST

Output 1

The resilience of Armenia's health systems is strengthened, and capabilities, reserves and tools are enhanced to ensure continuation of essential health services during the pandemic

2	PROTECTING PEOPLE

Output 2

Access, quality and continuity of social protection, education and essential services are ensured and coverage expanded to minimise exposure and vulnerability of disadvantaged groups to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

3	ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Output 3

Existing jobs (formal and informal) are protected, small and medium-sized enterprises are supported, and new employment opportunities are created

4	MACROECONOMIC RESPONSE AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

Output 4

An equitable macroeconomic response framework is developed and implemented through multilateral collaboration and diverse sources of financing

5	SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Output 5

Social cohesion, trust and community resilience is enhanced through social dialogue, extended connectivity and human rights-based and inclusive governance systems

Interlinkages:	▶ Gender Equality	▶ Human rights
	▶ Environmental Sustainability	▶ Risk-informed development
Principles:	▶ Leaving no one behind	▶ Partnerships and coherent response
	▶ Whole of society response	▶ Multiple sources of financing
Inputs:	▶ Armenia Transformation Strategy 2050	▶ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
	▶ National Sectoral Strategies	▶ UN Cooperation Framework
	▶ National Mid-term Recovery Plan	▶ UN Global COVID-19 Response Framework
	▶ Mid-term Expenditure Framework	▶ Impact Assessments

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IV. FIVE STRATEGIC PILLARS

The UN Framework

With particular focus on the most vulnerable and marginalised groups and people who risk being left behind, the present socio-economic response framework builds on five substantive pillars to protect the needs and human rights of people in Armenia during the course of the pandemic. The five pillars are not only connected but embedded in considerations for strong environmental sustainability, gender equality and human rights focus, and an imperative to build back better. Building a better, post-pandemic future will require social and economic interventions today for more resilience to future shocks.

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1 ⚕ **HEALTH FIRST:**
Protecting health services and systems during the crisis

UN ENTITIES	PROJECTS	REQUIREMENTS (USD)
4	**11**	**$7.2M**

Key Challenges and Gaps

Armenian health authorities have established systems to contain COVID-19 transmission in the country, with focus on identifying, testing, isolating and treating cases, as well as tracing and quarantining contacts.

The burden of COVID-19 epidemic in Armenia has nonetheless been among the highest in the world when comparing the incidence rates. At the same time, public financial expenditures on healthcare as a percentage of GDP at 1.4% is among the lowest in the world, leaving the health system and its facilities poorly equipped with critical medical equipment, supplies and human resources to operate effectively during the COVID-19 outbreak. These capacity gaps suspended the availability and continuity of essential health services nationwide particularly for vulnerable populations, such as people with disabilities, children and adolescents, specific categories of women, elderly, asylum-seekers, refugees and other displaced persons, people in institutionalised settings, people living in remote rural areas, borderline areas, people living with HIV/AIDS and other people with pre-existing and/or chronic medical conditions. Out of pocket payments moreover constituted around 80% of total health expenditures, creating further inequalities in terms of access to quality health services during the pandemic, not least between rural and urban areas.

UN in Armenia's Approach

To tackle the capacity contains in the healthcare system, the UN, under WHO's technical leadership, sets out to work with the Government of Armenia and relevant national stakeholders to ensure that the limited resources of the health system provide maximum benefit for the population. Focus will be on efficiency and capitalising on other sectors' and partners' resources and capacities, aligning it with data-driven proportionate policy decisions and actions. The latter will help turn the COVID-19 adversity into an opportunity to build a more prepared and resilient health system for the future.

The UN and partners will focus on:

In the short-term (1-3 months):

▶ Coordinate the health sector response between UN agencies and partners to ensure proper information sharing, avoiding duplication and pooling together available capacities and resources;

▶ Assess the performance of the healthcare care systems through expert missions to identify major gaps and possibilities for short- and long-term improvements;

▶ Enhance risk communication to promote non pharmaceutical measures and decrease the burden of disease on the health system;

▶ Ensure continuity and services on sexual and reproductive health for women and girls.

▶ Provide evidence based rapid technical guidance to health authorities both for crisis response areas such as surveillance, contact tracing, case management and for continuity of essential health services at primary level, Maternal and Child Health (MCH), immunisation, etc.;

▶ Support procurement of critical biomedical equipment, laboratory tests and personal protective equipment for designated and non-designated facilities;

▶ Facilitate trainings on case management and infection prevention and control for health providers from all levels of the healthcare system;

▶ Conduct trainings on child health, nutrition and development issues, including immunisation; and

▶ Monitor the Reception Centre for asylum-seekers and the Integration House for refugees to be able to identify COVID-19 as early as possible; supporting asylum-seekers and refugees, who are in need of medical assistance (interpretation, escorting in specific cases, medicines, and financial assistance); providing PPEs and hygiene/ sanitation items to the Migration Service and asylum-seekers and refugees accommodated in the reception and social facilities; and encouraging the Migration Service and other relevant state authorities to develop proper measures or seek alternative solution ensuring (self)isolation of asylum-seekers and refugees residing in the reception facilities in case of a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case.

In the medium to long- term (3-18 months):

▶ Continue coordination of health sector response within the UN and with partners;

▶ Develop and implement a risk communication strategy based on the results of behavioural insight assessment;

▶ Support procurement of biomedical equipment, tests, and personal protective equipment to prepare the health system for the subsequent waves of the epidemic, with a special focus on the facilities in the remote areas;

▶ Develop and implement a comprehensive training programme for health providers to ensure quality of care and proper infection prevention and control at all health facility levels;

▶ Integrate surveillance for COVID-19 into the existing surveillance system for acute respiratory disease;

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- Improve the quality of laboratory services and access to testing across the health system;

- Support the health authorities to strengthen command and control structure for health emergency response;

- Prepare points of entries to ensure their capacities to timely detect and report on imported cases after easing travel restrictions;

- Ensure higher quality and access to care at primary healthcare facilities with special focus on rational antibiotic use;

- Ensure higher quality and accessibility, including alternative service delivery, of primary health care facilities for all population groups, with focus on rural and remote areas;

- Ensure that healthcare facilities are capacitated to adequately respond to crisis with Emergency preparedness plans developed and operationalised

- Assess and prioritise support in the areas of essential health services primarily affected by COVID-19, such as immunisation, services related to sexual and reproductive health, and services provided to the vulnerable population groups;

- Ensure continuity of child health, nutrition, immunisation services in primary and secondary health care facilities through enhancing capacities of health providers and facilities across the country

- Support fundraising and encourage the Government to construct a new reception centre for asylums-seekers with proper isolation conditions in case of the public health concerns; and

- Support a study on the Coronavirus Immunity Survey Among Medical Staff and carrying out a scientific analysis, which must be presented to the Ministry of Health.

Pillar 1 Monitoring Indicators

1.1. Number of people accessing essential (non-COVID-19 related) health services

1.2. Number of health facilities that received UN support to maintain essential immunisation services since COVID-19 disruptions

1.4. Number of community health workers receiving UN support to maintain essential services since COVID-19 disruptions

2 PROTECTING PEOPLE:
Social protection and basic services

UN ENTITIES	PROJECTS	REQUIREMENTS (USD)
8	**33**	**$7.4M**

Key Challenges and Gaps

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected Armenia's people and communities, deepening already existing inequalities, vulnerabilities and deprivations as well as making room for emerging vulnerabilities, also amongst formerly non-poor households. Decades of progress on reducing poverty are set to reverse, thus having a devastating impact on human capital and food security. Automatic social protection stabilisers (including child allowances, statutory pensions, unemployment benefits and others) that could cushion the economic impact on individual households and on the economy in general are either non-existent or limited, particularly for those in the informal sector. The existing social protection system and programmes are not shock-responsive and multiple databases are not integrated, thus delaying the Government's ability to offset the impact of COVID-19 on affected households. The problem is not just lack of viable mechanisms but also scope and depth of coverage (i.e. universality versus discretionary, means-tested or otherwise merit-based systems).

The lack of capacity and tools to track multiple and emerging vulnerabilities related to COVID-19 hampers effective rapid response across the country and provision of support to the most vulnerable. Moreover, there is a risk of increasing and/or intensifying violence against women and girls, including domestic violence in a context where the provision of basic support services (hotlines and support services) is already insufficient. Education is a crucial element to future proof Armenia and to build people's resilience, but the pandemic caused interruption of education for all children and youth. The Government of Armenia almost immediately put into action an online learning system adopting a mix of digital and non-digital platforms to ensure the continuity of children's learning. Nevertheless, the transition to distance learning has revealed and exacerbated existing inequities in education (e.g. a digital gap preventing marginalized children and communities from participating in e-learning, limited capacities of teachers and students for online classes). Schools are moreover providing broader social protection to vulnerable children including nutrition, health and emotional support for the most disadvantaged. Accordingly, their absence may lead to an inevitable learning loss, psychological, physical and nutritional distress.

UN in Armenia's Approach

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the need for comprehensive, shock-responsive and adequately funded social protection systems, education as well as for efficient basic services that serve persons across the lifecycle. Accordingly, the UN's approach is to support the G of Armenia in:

1. Scaling-up social protection mechanisms, including cash and services, to relieve the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 crisis;

2. Designing an inclusive, shock-responsive, nutrition-sensitive and sustainable social protection system to address vulnerabilities and deprivations across the lifecycle and accelerate the creation of a social protection floor, including during shocks and crises;

3. Providing rapid and equitable provision of distance learning as well as ensuring the safe re-opening of schools to minimize disruption;

4. Rapidly rolling out agile COVID-19 adjusted social services and schemes (including digitally) at the national and local level, that are underpinned by evidence to meet the needs of vulnerable and marginalised persons.

The UN and partners will focus on:

In the short-term (1-3 months):

▸ Conduct vulnerability and needs assessments of the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and design rapid assessment tools for beneficiary identification and scale-up of cash transfers and basic social and psychosocial support services for all vulnerable groups;

- Urgent scale-up, design and provision of cash-based interventions to address immediate social needs;

- Help to preserve and enhance access to quality basic services and address the crisis of care with gender-responsive measures;

- Provide technical assistance to the Government in the development and revision of social protection schemes, based on feedback loops and data collection and analysis;

- Ensure that staff involved in frontline social work and high-risk rapid service delivery are protected, including having access to provision of PPE, are trained on integrity measures and receive social benefits to improve their well-being;

- Support to Government in ensuring rapid and equitable provision of distance learning to minimize disruption of education;

- Support to Government in development of scenarios for ensuring continuity of education, including safe reopening through development of guidelines and outreach to schools, parents and students;

- Repurposing the school feeding COVID-19 response to temporarily contribute to social protection outcomes by ensuring that households with children continue to receive essential food assistance;

- Organization of delivery of necessary and quality psychosocial support and other services to the most affected groups of the population, including support to victims of violence and others vulnerable groups;

- Effective service delivery at the national level and local levels through introduction of digital technologies at central government and local governing bodies;

- Strengthen the role and capacity of local service providers in the recovery phase to deliver/enhance quality and access to services, including through population participation; and

- Create mechanisms for efficient PPPs, formal and informal platforms for business and local self-government bodies for engagement of the businesses in the public support schemes and mutually beneficial response design and delivery.

In the medium to long- term (3-18 months):

- Support the accelerating establishment of a national social protection floor containing basic social protection guarantees for various groups of the population;

- Provide technical support in the review and design of an inclusive, shock-responsive, nutrition-sensitive and sustainable social protection system and programmes across the lifecycle underpinned by adequate financing;

- Support revision of eligibility, registration and delivery mechanisms of social protection programmes, including through revamped management information systems, making them responsive to shocks and crises and strengthening the capacity of the system on national and local levels;

- Design nutrition sensitive social protection to tackle food insecurity;

- Support development of COVID-19 sensitised national safety nets, targeting and validation, registry and beneficiary platforms, M&E and feedback mechanism;

- Ensure provision of basic support services (hotlines and support services) for survivors of gender-based violence;

- Introduce and pilot new, diversified, alternative, environmentally friendly and gender-sensitive social services at the national and local level that are increasingly preventive and agile to shocks;

- Ensure mechanisms for women's participation in design as well as decision-making on services, emergency response and recovery measures;

- Establish citizen-monitoring groups to maintain preventive and protective measures in the communities;

- Support the increase of employability of social assistance users and their participation in active labour market programmes through coordinated response of social protection departments and public employment services;

- Design options for introduction of unemployment insurance scheme;

- Support rethinking of strategies for transition from informality to formal employment and work to ensure a stronger connection between socio-economic development and social protection;

- Support development of viable mechanisms for better access to quality mental and psycho-social health and support services with attention to particular groups of people with specific needs;

- Build future resilience and capacities of frontline social workers and service providers;

- Support development of family-friendly policies and practices, including access to affordable childcare;

- Provide technical advice for school reopening, including policy, financing, safe operations, learning, as well as modalities for reaching the most marginalized and wellbeing/protection:

- Support assessing distance learning practices and digital innovations that emerged from the first response to the pandemic that can be built upon;

- Support safe re-opening of schools to ensure that they reach the most vulnerable, improve teaching to help students learn, and meet the holistic needs of children and youth, including nutrition, mental health and protection;

- Supporting assessing facilities, premises and school/preschool financial needs regarding water, sanitation and personal hygiene equipment

- Promote safety and wellbeing of students, parents and teachers in the long run;

- Support the development of a long-term distance learning strategy for the introduction of more advanced distance learning tools, including reforming the curricula and teaching methods;

- Invest in distributed digital infrastructure, skills, distance education and learning, with specific focus on girls and women in STEM; and

- Support addressing critical governance bottlenecks, including at the local level, that constrain the delivery of essential services – health, water, electricity etc. – to prevent breakdowns in security and livelihood degradation.

Pillar 2 Monitoring Indicators

2.1. Number of people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items) and services

2.2. Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning

2.3. Number of primary school children receiving meals or alternatives to meals, such as take-home rations

2.4. Measures in place to address gender-based violence (GBV) during the COVID-19 pandemic

2.5. Number of beneficiaries of social protection schemes and services related to the COVID-19 pandemic

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UN in Armenia | SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN

3 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY:
Protecting jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises, and vulnerable workers in the informal economy

UN ENTITIES	PROJECTS	REQUIREMENTS (USD)
8	**25**	**$15.1M**

Key Challenges and Gaps

The COVID-19 pandemic has severe impact on Armenia's economy, with rural areas especially hard hit, losing about 40% of income. Many households, especially the precariat, are at greater risk of poverty and disproportionally exposed groups such as informal workers, those being furloughed, migrants and people depending on remittances are experiencing diminishing income security. Major structural issues in the labour market has been exposed, especially labour supply and demand mismatches in the increasingly digitalised COVID-19 adjusted economy and a growing digital divide between urban and rural areas and across generations. Youth unemployment has increased dramatically and the excess supply of labour, caused by the closed borders for migrant workers and considerable reduction in economic activity risk resulting in higher rates of unemployment and declining average wages.

The pandemic moreover risks exacerbating and deepening pre-existing inequalities in the labour market, including women unemployment and their labour rights, unevenly distributed care work, as well as gender pay gaps. Whilst Government support measures are targeting hard-hit Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), particularly in the tourism and service sectors, many individual entrepreneurs, micro- and unregistered SMEs have been left out. Sectoral analysis reveals slightly higher resilience among agriculture farms, but the sector is expected to suffer in the coming months given the disruption of transport links and global and local supply chains. This will limit the country's export potential, distract local markets and create food insecurity risks.

UN in Armenia's Approach

In this context, the UN will provide support that will help Armenia "build back better." It aims to use this crisis as an opportunity to recover by building a more resilient, shock-responsive and environmentally sustainable economy, and accelerate progress towards the SDGs and "leaving no one behind". The UN's response will be future-oriented using existing foresight, helping develop new innovative business models and re-think what jobs and businesses Armenia needs to become more competitive in the global market. While recognizing the limitations of the fiscal space and current investment flows, the UN will promote green and equitable recovery as a key concept, with resource-efficient and smart agriculture and industry as a cornerstone of the mid-term recovery, and green public works and green energy solutions as short term boosters. Gender-differentiated impacts of, and responses to the compounded crisis will also be explored, along with innovative approaches and solutions developed by the private sector itself.

The UN and partners will focus on:

In the short-term (1-3 months):

▶ Provide targeting and policy advice to help adjust and evolve the government support packages and design a new generation of stimulus measures

▶ Provide technical assistance and limited grant co-financing/support to MSMEs and other potential recipients of government support

▶ Provide specific measures to restore and recover the livelihoods of women and girls due to losses created by the pandemic (especially for women working in the informal sector and women-run SMEs)

▶ Help deliver non-cash contributions, for innovative inputs and fast extension agriculture support in rural communities

▶ Help prepare a set of COVID-19 safety standards for small businesses as a means to run a crisis-proof business in the next year of expected new waves of COVID-19

▶ Provide re-skilling and upskilling support, especially to unemployed or job insecure youth, migrants and other vulnerable people

▶ Help design digital and innovative solutions for SMEs and e-commerce platforms to help SMEs transition to more resilient business models

▶ Support the design and organisation of a government public works programmes as a short-term boost to employment, including green public works (afforestation, etc.)

▶ Support the 'education to work transition' for recent university graduates

▶ Help design and introduce incentives for employers to extend labour contracts for 3-6 months

▶ Help strengthen the Government's data collection and management infrastructure on key economic risks and vulnerabilities, and develop digital capacity for regular COVID019 assessments(e.g. mini-SEIA, labour market food security, value chains, green house assessments)

▶ Map value chains and support SMEs to diversify their production into critical sectors for the country (e.g. PPEs

▶ Support the Government in COVID-19 recovery planning by modelling scientifically justified scenarios on most affected directions/value chains of agriculture

In the medium to long- term (3-18 months):

▶ Promote investments towards green and circular economic development, including green energy solutions that also address energy efficiency and poverty

▶ Support the reconstruction of supply chains to regain lost demand caused by the COVID-19 outbreak

▶ Promote investment in green food systems, including stabilising nutritionally diversified food availability, and supply chain components and create income generating opportunities for rural and urban poor

▶ Promote rural transformation through the introduction of digital solutions in agri-food systems and customized technologies and practices suitable for location specific contexts

▶ Promote migrant workers' engagement in agriculture activities in their rural communities, and support the development of solutions related to land abandonment issues

▶ Help develop a new generation of post-COVID-19 value chains, with focus on potential new markets and new marketing opportunities for the new post-COVID economy & and new generation of export and trade promotion activities

▶ Help design a set of COVID-19 proof standards in food systems

▶ Help create a model for cooperatives or innovative community self-organization approaches (LAGs, Community Development Foundations, Community Seed Banks, etc.)

▶ Provide support in the review of the National Employment Strategy and the Labour and Social Protection Sector Development Strategy

▶ Support the design of family-friendly policies and practices, including employment, income protection for parents of small children, flexible working arrangements etc.

▶ Support entrepreneurship and employment by providing integrated business support to SMEs start-ups:

   • Support the preparedness of the economy and business for the second wave and subsequent

recurrence of COVID-19 and similar socio-economic crisis situations

- Advocate for and advise the government and partners on how to integrate migrant and refugee populations into entrepreneurship policies;

- Implement acceleration programmes with special focus on start-ups that transform COVID-19 safety measures into viable business models; and

- Work with the start-up ecosystem to help remove bottlenecks for venture and other capital investments and missing non-financial/alternative credit ratings for ventures.

▶ Promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development for post-COVID-19 recovery of industries:

▶ Assist pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors and R&D institutions move towards production of critical medicines, tests and medical items through increased access to technology and investment, applying international quality standards;

▶ Enable government and industry actors to share best practices resulting in coordinated and agile response through virtual collaboration platforms;

▶ Manage global and country-level data and supply chains foresight information, supplemented by market assessments for manufacturing sectors; and

▶ Promote innovation clusters adopt 4IR[1] technologies resulting in accelerated development of products and use of Artificial Intelligence/Big data for product performance prediction

▶ Support transfer of climate resilient and clean technologies resulting in increased share of renewable energy and sustainable use of natural resources;

▶ Introduce sustainable waste management practices, including waste-water treatment and plastic recycling

▶ Work to build inclusive **labour** markets, strengthen public employment services, develop gender-sensitive labour and labour market policies and introduce digital educational tools and methods, reskilling/upskilling schemes:

- Help design and launch a skilled worker programme, including with a component of "virtual returns" for diaspora Scale up the Kolba Lab digital skills and job matching platform to help link Armenian youth to the global labour market.

Pillar 3 Monitoring Indicators

3.1. UN supported employment policies and a regulatory environment conducive to economic recovery and decent work, especially in high risk COVID sectors (Yes/No)

3.2. Number of private sector companies and formal and informal sector workers supported during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

3.4. Number of direct beneficiaries of food supply protection regimes

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[1] Fourth Industrial Revolution

UN ENTITIES	PROJECTS	REQUIREMENTS (USD)
4	**9**	**$2.4M**

Key Challenges and Gaps

The pandemic is expected to significantly weaken Armenia's near-term economic prospects, given COVID-19-related restrictions on domestic mobility and activity, lower external demand, tighter financial conditions, and disruptions in global trade and supply chains. The recent IMF report[2] projects the fiscal deficit to widen significantly in 2020 due to lower revenues and additional spending needs on healthcare and economic support exceeding 2 percent of GDP. Despite efforts to find savings by reallocating expenditure within the budget envelop, closing the 2020 fiscal financing gap of about US$500 million requires external financing from IFIs, such as the IMF, and other partners.

Accordingly, government debt is expected to exceed 60 percent of GDP in 2020. Once the COVID-19 shock dissipates, the authorities plan to implement gradual fiscal consolidation in line with Armenia's fiscal rule. This puts an additional premium on crafting a well-prioritized, effective and efficient recovery strategy consistent with financing constraints and opportunities, and at the same time securing critical social spending necessary for the wellbeing of the population both at national and local levels. General contingency and risk-planning

arrangements are limited in the country's public finance management system, making it less adaptive to various types of shocks and disasters. It is also detached from mid-term and annual planning processes, constraining the speed and timeliness of response and recovery.

UN in Armenia's Approach

1. Facilitate immediate macroeconomic Government response to the COVID-19 shock to prevent more permanent and generalized socio-economic damage;

2. Support the planning and implementation of a "better" recovery that accelerates a transformational shift to a more productive, sustainable and equitable economy, underpinned by human capital development, digitalisation, and transboundary and multilateral collaboration; and

3. Assist in ensuring alignment between medium-term planning and financing frameworks, including the mid-term recovery plan, expenditure framework and sectoral strategies, in adherence to the SDG

Ultimately, this will help provide building blocks for an alternative macroeconomic agenda that promotes job-rich and equitable growth during the recovery, is rights-based and gender-responsive

The UN and partners will focus on:

In the short-term (1-3 months):

▸ Assist the authorities with designing cost-effective, efficient, targeted, temporary and transparent assistance to vulnerable populations and businesses;

▸ Undertake comprehensive socio-economic impact analyses to provide feedback on coverage and adequacy of crisis-response packages;

▸ Provide technical assistance and advisory services to facilitate evidence-based and gender-responsive policy making and budgeting,

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[2] Republic of Armenia: Second Review Under the Stand-By Arrangement, Requests for Augmentation of Access, Modification of Performance Criteria, and Monetary Policy Consultation Clause-Press Release; Staff Report; Staff Supplement; and Statement by the Alternate Executive Director, May 22,2020, IMF Country Report No. 2020/176. Available at https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2020/05/22/Republic-of-Armenia-Second-Review-Under-the-Stand-By-Arrangement-Requests-for-Augmentation-49455

including by working with regional and local stakeholders to replicate or scale up ongoing COVID-19 related assessments;

▶ Address external and fiscal financing gaps by providing budget support; and

▶ Advise on appropriate monetary and financial sector policies to maintain macroeconomic stability considering the global and regional context.

In the medium to long- term (3-18 months):

▶ Support the design of a plan for green, equitable and resilient recovery, which is aligned with medium-term sectoral strategies, budgets and the SDGs; and

▶ Support the design of policies to mobilize revenue and create fiscal space for additional priority spending critical to building Armenia's potential

▶ Provide technical assistance to improve public investment management and create a pipeline of public investment projects that are ready for immediate execution, including green infrastructure investments;

▶ Conduct a COVID-19 adjusted Development Finance Assessment[3] and work directly with the Government to prepare and implement a roadmap for a full-fledged Integrated National Financing Framework[4];

▶ Assist with both strategic and fiscal risk management, including by designing mechanisms for effective contingency and risk financings;

▶ Build capacity of relevant stakeholders, including the Government, line ministries Parliament and civil society, in programme-based planning and budgeting, including at times of crisis;

▶ Conduct sectors diagnostics, support costing and mapping of expenditure of Government strategies and plans in the COVID-19 adjusted reality, and help identify sustainable financing options and sources for effective implementation;

▶ Assist medium-term fiscal planning by providing technical assistance and capacity building to safeguard debt sustainability while maintaining space for priority investment and social spending

▶ Facilitate multilateral cooperation at global, regional and national level, including with the private sector and coordinate closely with development partners to ensure complementarity of efforts;

▶ Build capacity to facilitate the use of multilateral agreements to enhance connectivity, address transboundary risks and promote regional cooperation around environmental resilience and climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts; and

▶ Facilitate cross-border trade, e.g. by addressing logistic/supply chain disruptions, support the harmonisation of non-tariff regulations, and develop e-commerce tools and measures

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Pillar 4 Monitoring Indicators

4.1. Number impact assessments in response to the COVID-19 crisis, with a focus on at-risk populations

4.2. Number of policies informed by socio-economic impact assessment focused on at- risk populations

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[3] The Development Finance Assessment (DFA) Guidebook, UNDP 2019. Available at: https://www.asia-pacific.undp.org/content/rbap/en/home/library/sustainable-development/development-finance-assessment-guidebook.html

[4] Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2019, United Nations 2019. Available from: https://developmentfinance.un.org/fsdr2019.

5 💬 SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

UN ENTITIES	PROJECTS	REQUIREMENTS (USD)
5	**9**	**$1.1M**

Key Challenges and Gaps

Pre-existing disparities across regions and between rural, peri-urban and urban communities in relation to poverty levels, economic development as well as access to basic services have been further exacerbated during the initial months of the COVID-19 crisis. This is enforcing the importance of regional development, including secondary city development in Armenia, and urging for a new thinking on decentralization, improved connectivity and strengthened value chains.

Disaster risk preparedness and response capacities at community levels have also been put to test and issues around social cohesion, including trust in authorities have been exposed. The lock-down and shift to digital modes of engagement naturally shrink the platforms for assembly, civic activism, engagement of communities and individuals in policy processes and decision making, and naturally pose challenges in access to institutions. From a gender perspective, COVID-19, aggravated the situation with domestic violence increased of cases by 30% have been recorded by civil society organizations and Human Rights Defender's Office. Work from home combined with household duties and online schooling of children have also increased the workload for women.

UN in Armenia's Approach

In this context, the UN sets out to work hand in hand with the Government of Armenia - at national, regional and local levels, as well as with civil society organizations to enhance social cohesion, increase the community resilience as well as safeguard human- and equal gender rights. Specifically, UN's approach is focused on:

▶ Building social cohesion and resilience, including in the most vulnerable, isolated and conflict-

affected areas through inclusive social dialogue, advocacy and participation in decision-making;

▶ Developing and promoting participatory, bottom-up and risk-informed approaches for regional and local development, including by empowering women, youth, people with disabilities, and other marginalized groups;

▶ Facilitating collaboration and knowledge exchange across regions and communities through digitalization and joint programming and action for long-term suitability; and

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▶ Streamlining risk informed development and boosting crisis response capacities at all levels.

The UN and partners will focus on:

In the short-term (1-3 months):

▶ Analyse assessment results from a social cohesion and community resilience lens to prepare potential response and preparedness plans;

▶ Identify risks and negative impacts that may skew efforts of equitable development between regions, rural, peri-urban and urban populations and deepen gender inequalities further; to that end, create mechanism for ongoing horizon scanning to allow selected communities to capture risks and potential threats at early stage;

▶ Develop and pilot digital tools for equitable services and strengthen digital literacy of end-users to increase accessibility of services;

- Strengthen the connectivity and access to data among the stakeholders at horizontal and vertical levels as well as support effective data collection at local level; and

- Strengthen community level programming, value-oriented work and self-support schemes to improve inclusive economic, social development and mainstream reintegration aspects of migrants and refugees into communities and opportunities for labour migrants

In the medium to long- term (3-18 months):

- Resilience building for communities, followed by joint actions (social, environmental, economic, preparing for piece, etc.) aimed at promoting collaboration and improved connectivity across regions and between communities (rural/urban perspectives);

- Strengthen community resilience towards shocks and stressors (including conflicts) and support disaster risk reduction (DRR) and management at national and local level, with emphasize on critical infrastructures, educational and health facilities;

- Empower access to equitable services and strengthen the capacities of the central and local institutions responsible for service provision;

- Engage women's organizations and networks, including organizations of marginalized women, in order to ensure women's leadership in pandemic preparedness and response.

- Increase community mobilization, participation and public behaviour change through participatory decision making, inclusive social dialogue and creative advocacy campaigns for all people and with particular emphasis on the most vulnerable populations and fine-tuned to needs of special groups of people (minorities, people with disabilities, etc.) in Armenia;

- Enhance the capacity of children and youth for engaging in community DRR and organize community level DRR/Resilience advocacy campaigns;

- Support Armenia's efforts towards promoting risk informed development, policy and foresight for community development in Armenia, with emphasize on critical infrastructures, educational and health facilities, as well as creation of incentives for private disaster risk reduction investments;

- Promote equitable regional development and local connectivity, and integrate specific lenses for the urban and rural development aspects;

- Contribute to increased resilience of communities by capacitating local self-government for improved risk management and disaster risk preparedness, as well as capacities service provision and community engagement;

- Support communities to introduce new and organize leisure time services for all age groups;

- Strengthen the connectivity and access to data among the stakeholders at horizontal and vertical levels as well as support effective data collection at local level;

- Support access to justice including legal aid, towards achievement of rule of law & gender equality with particular attention to women empowerment;

- Strengthen community level programming, value-oriented work and self-support schemes to improve inclusive economic, social development and mainstream reintegration aspects of migrants and refugees into communities and opportunities for labour migrants; and

- Strengthen civil society ecosystems at central and local level, direct people participation and promote new partnership platforms.

Pillar 5 Monitoring Indicators

5.1 Number of organisations benefiting from institutional capacity building so that governments, employers' and workers' organisations can work together to shape socio-economic policy responses

5.2 Number of community-based organisations capacitated to respond to and mitigate the pandemic, fight against COVID-19 related domestic violence, racism, xenophobia, stigma, and other forms of discrimination, prevent and remedy human rights abuses, and ensure longer-term recovery

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IV. RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Re-purposing of Existing Resources

To scale up national actions of immediate needs emerging from COVID-19 crisis the UN Country Team in Armenia activated Multi Sector Response as a coordination mechanism aimed at supporting vulnerable populations immediately following the State of Emergency. This initiative including a temporary re-programming of 30 UN projects which resulted in $8,325,730 total amount of repurposed funds. The projects, linked to all 5 pillars of the UN socio-economic response framework, evolve around the following main outputs:

▸ Cash assistance to (a) refugees and asylum seekers, (b) families with school children deprived from proper nutrition, (c) domestic violence victims, and other socio-economically vulnerable groups.

▸ Support with hygiene kits and PPEs for (a) medical service providers, (b) preschool services, (c) refugees and asylum seekers, and (d) domestic violence victims.

▸ Innovation informed support to SMEs, particularly in rural communities

▸ Behaviourally informed COVID-19 related communications campaign

▸ Digitalisation of a few state services to ensure enhanced access.

All the initiatives were being gander mainstreamed and following the principle of LNOB to endorse inclusiveness of and access to services.

Resources Mobilised for New Projects

Along with projects reprogramming UNCT Armenia with RCO leadership and individually on agency bases has mobilised in total $14,624,164 for 37 new projects aimed at mitigating and finally building back better from the COVID-19 socio-economic impact.

Partnership for Resource Mobilisation

Within the Multi Sector Response groups the UN Country Team has been actively collaborating with IFIs, Development agencies and/or initiatives of the US, the UK, the Russian Federation, the Swiss Development Cooperation, as well as the EU Delegation to Armenia. Substantive support has been provided to the government and for strengthening COVID-19 response coordination, monitoring of virus transmission, capacity enlargement for testing and treatment, as well as for the enhancement of healthcare facilities, risk communication and data collection for more targeted response. Through Multi Sector Response Groups the UN Country Team has supported the government with ensuring access to online education by provision of electronic devices, strengthening instruction in distance learning through supporting the development of individualised education plans development, disaster risk management capacity development in kindergartens and pre-schools, nutrition sensitive food/cash transfers to vulnerable populations and importantly, range of initiatives have been taken to strengthen security, stability and resilience in bordering communities.

In collaboration with other development partners regional infrastructure is being strengthened and capacitated support is being provided for entrepreneurship especially to SMEs most severely hit by COVID-19 pandemic, aiming at skills development, employment generation, as well as income generating opportunities for women and older people from vulnerable groups. Significant resources have been mobilised for various impact assessments, which have been informing government agencies as well as development community in the programmatic planning and targeted response.

The International Monetary Fund, in particular, has demonstrated active engagement and provided valuable policy expertise that has not only informed the UN Country Team's Multi-Sector Response efforts, but has contributed substantially to development of this Recovery Plan as a co-lead agency of the Pillar 4 drafting group. Moreover, the IMF's budgetary support of almost $500 million USD in drawing rights has been crucial for ensuring fiscal liquidity and immediate financing for the healthcare response and socio-economic support measures. While the IMF's activity is not included in the pillar programme portfolios (Annex 3), the Plan is in alignment with current and IMF support measures.

Joint SDG Fund

The recovery plan includes the multi-agency joint programme on SDG financing within its portfolio of new projects. While the proposal was developed before the pandemic, its toolkit of activities provide a versatile and innovative element to the overall recovery plan. Using analytical approaches such as the Development Finance Assessment and the Integrated National Financial Framework, not only serve to mobilise multiple sources of public and private finance for SDG achievement, they exemplify the principle behind Building Back Better. Through the Joint SDG Fund programme, the UN in Armenia will support the Government in optimising its public finance management frameworks, and foster complementary policymaking for more effective targeting of foreign direct investments and oversees development aid for a green and resilient recovery that will accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

UN COVID-19 Response & Recovery Fund

In addition to the mobilisation of resources for the above mentioned initiatives, UN agencies with the overall leadership of RC have mobilised resources through UN COVID-19 Response & Recovery Fund for 2 inclusive outputs:

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

▸ 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

All of the activities to be undertaken within these outputs 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, as well as 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.

Funding Gap

The Socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19 pandemic revealed how important cooperation and coordination is among state institutions, public and private sector, as well as SMEs in terms of joint strategising for supply chain, proactive measures, financial uncertainties, etc. For these purposes availability of data is a crucial component, thus SERRP Armenia has developed a number of projects aimed at ensuring inclusive, gender mainstreamed and disaggregated data collection and support to National statistical service, together with digital transformation and data driven policy intervention modelling.

Food insecurities and malnutrition is another major theme in SERRP Armenia, and solutions to this challenge evolve around risk informed and self-sufficient rural community development built on green and supported by resilient value chains.

Special emphasis is put on women empowerment in rural communities, income generating initiatives and capacity building presented in a broader spectrum as well as linked with regional development potentials and educational infrastructure around it.

Finally, SERRP puts strong emphasis on job creation, entrepreneurship and income generation projects that consider green recovery, and sustainable use of natural resources.

V. COMMUNICATIONS

To effectively spread information on UN's efforts and results in relation to the UN Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan, the UN envisages messaging that is unified, clear, simple, and relevant to the target participants. The umbrella messaging of 'Building Back Better' and Leave No One Behind' through more resilience, more people centred development, and more green growth will serve as the anchoring communication framework.

Strategic Approach

The overall **objectives** of the communications efforts in related to UN's COVID-19 socio-economic response and recovery efforts are:

▶ Further position the UN in Armenia a key partner to the Government in responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 crisis to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs

▶ Raise public awareness around the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, including from a human angle

▶ Present key UN initiatives mitigate or address socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and demonstrate the change in situation that was induced by UN efforts, using national and regional level examples

▶ Inform and incentivize behavioural change among the general population for more effective and efficient COVID-19 response and recovery in line with the notion of Building Back Better

▶ Mobilize the international donor community and private sector to support implementation of the Plan

The main **channels** that will be used to reach the main objectives are:

▶ UN Armenia's official website

▶ UN agencies' official social media channels

▶ Traditional and digital media platforms

▶ Workshops and seminars

The overall **beneficiaries** that will be reached out through the channels are:

▶ Direct beneficiaries of activities under each pillar

▶ General population

▶ Government of Armenia - at national, regional and local levels

▶ UN Agencies

▶ International community and IFIs

▶ Private sector

▶ Non-governmental organisations

▶ Women's organisations

▶ Diaspora

▶ Media

The messages will be communicated through several **tools**, including but not limited to:

▶ Infographics and Factsheets as progress reports

▶ Monthly e-Newsletter informing about the implemented projects of the Plan

▶ Media appearances / interviews informing about the progress of the Plan

▶ News, articles and press releases about different programmes of the Plan

▶ Human interest and success stories about the beneficiaries of the programme, illustrating the problem caused by the COVID-19 and how UN helped to overcome it

▶ Social media posts, videos, podcasts, photo stories, micro-narratives

Annex 1: Plan Portfolio by Project Type

Annex 1 Project Classifications

Annex 1A: Ongoing/Repurposed Projects:

▶ A current or ongoing project launched prior to the pandemic but has been part of our COVID-19 response

▶ Ongoing/repurposed projects are funded, either based on already existing project agreements with donors, or as a result of new agreements with donors for reallocation of resources.

▶ Budget estimates for Ongoing/Repurposed projects are prorated to reflect only the amounts that fall within both the thematic scope of COVID-19 response and recovery and intended timeline of operations up to 18 months (currently set to last until the end of December 2021).

Annex 1B: New Projects:

▶ A project launched explicitly for COVID-19 response and recovery

▶ A pipeline project launched within the operational timeline of the Plan with prioritized COVID-19 recovery activities

▶ New projects are funded and ready for implementation, or implementation has just begun

▶ Budget estimates for New and projects are prorated to reflect only the amounts that fall within both the thematic scope of COVID-19 response and recovery and intended timeline of operations up to 18 months (currently set to last until the end of December 2021)..

Annex 1C: Proposed Projects:

▶ A project that is either in the conceptual, proposal drafting stage, or has recently been submitted and is awaiting a response.

▶ These are priority project proposals that are fully costed and provide a new contribution to the plan not covered by 'new' or 'ongoing/repurposed' projects.

Annex 1A: Repurposing of Existing Resources and Ongoing Projects

Project Title	Total Cost	Government Partner	UN Agency	Pillar
COVID-19 Immunity Survey of Medical Staff	$20,000	MoH	UNAIDS	Pillar 1
Cash assistance to vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers	$126,000	n/a	UNHCR	Pillar 2
Hygienic kits distributed to 116 asylum-seekers and refugees	$730	n/a	UNHCR	Pillar 2
Fostering Participatory Development in Bordering Settlements of Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor regions	$15,200	MoTAI, MES	UNDP	Pillar 2
Integrated Support to Rural Development: building resilient communities project	$5,000	MoTAI, MES	UNDP	Pillar 2
Enhancing Human Security and Building a Resilient Society in the Disadvantaged Communities of Armenia	$15,160	MoTAI, MES	UNDP, IOM, WFP, UNIDO, FAO	Pillar 2
Women and Youth for Innovative Local Development	$50,000	MoTAI	UNDP	Pillar 2
EU Future Today Project	$300,000	MoESCS MoTADI MoLSA DPM's office	UNICEF; UNDP	Pillar 2
Shock Responsive School feeding	$487,000	MoLSA MoESCS	WFP	Pillar 2
Designing nutrition sensitive social protection to tackle food security and lower poverty line	$40,000	MoLSA, MoTAI	WFP	Pillar 2
Food and Nutrition security assessments	$16,000	MoLSA, MoTAI	WFP	Pillar 2
Ensuring service acessability for victims of DV	$10,000		UNFPA	Pillar 2
Ensuring service acessability for victims of DV	$10,000	Police HRDO MLSA	UNFPA	Pillar 2
Building resilience to COVID for DV victims	$20,000		UNFPA	Pillar 2
Strengthening of the shock-responsiveness of the social protection system, including rapid needs assessment and beneficiary registration	$50,000	MoLSA MoHTI	UNICEF	Pillar 2
Implementation of community social projects to support early recovery of communities (incl. income-generating opportunities for vulnerable groups).	$65,000	MoLSA MoTAI sub-national authorities and communities	UNICEF UNDP FAO UNIDO IOM WFP	Pillar 2
Vulnerability assessment of families to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19	$30,000	MLSA MoH MoESCS	UNICEF	Pillar 2
EU Green Agriculture	$250,000	MOE	UNDP	Pillar 3
Future Skills and Jobs for Youth in the Regions of Armenia	$60,000	MTAI MLSA MESCS	UNDP	Pillar 3
Enhancing Human Security in Communities of Armenia	$230,000	MTAI	UNIDO	Pillar 3

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Project Title	Total Cost	Government Partner	UN Agency	Pillar
Establishment of land management instruments and institutional framework to address land abandonment	$172,000	MOE	FAO	Pillar 3
Strengthening food safety and animal health capacities in risk assessment and management	$210,000	MOE	FAO	Pillar 3
Future Today	$80,000	PM office	UNDP	Pillar 3
Innovative Solutions for SDG Implementation in Armenia	$4,000	DPM's office	UNDP	Pillar 4
Edu2Work	$6,000	DPM's office	UNDP	Pillar 4
Technology for SDGs financing platform/ImpactAim accelerator program	$70,000	MOESCS	UNDP UNICEF	Pillar 4
Development of communities through designing the strategy and policy	$30,000	MOE	FAO	Pillar 4
Technical Support for Revision of the National Forest Policy and Strategic framework	$35,000	MOE	FAO	Pillar 4
Women and Youth for Innovative Local Development	$20,000	MTAI	UNDP	Pillar 5
Women in Politics	$20,000	MTAI	UNDP	Pillar 5
Support to Justice Sector Reform	$130,000	MoJ SJC	UNDP	Pillar 5
Adolescent Engagement in Community DRR and Resilience	$50,000	MESCS MES	UNICEF	Pillar 5
DRR capacity building strategy	$10,000	MES	WFP	Pillar 5
Future Today	$70,000	MLSA, PM office	UNDP	Pillar 5
Total	$2,707,090			

Annex 1B: New and Funded Programmes

Project Title	Total Cost	Government Partner	UN Agency	Pillar
Solidarity for Health Initiative	$2,715,000	MoH	WHO	Pillar 1
COVID response support	$650,000	MoH	WHO	Pillar 1
COVID response support	$1,600,000	MoH	UNICEF	Pillar 1
Support to COVID response	$100,000	MoH	UNICEF	Pillar 1
MPTF project	$75,000	MoH	UNDP	Pillar 1
COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility	$30,000	MoH	UNDP	Pillar 1
Support procurement of PPE	$610,000	MoH	WFP	Pillar 1
Technical Support for Secondary Education	$32,800	MoESCS MoTAI	UNHCR	Pillar 2
Assessment of COVID-19 impact on food security, agricultural production and livelihoods of vulnerable households and the use of cash+ as a resilience tool	$50,000	MoLSA MoE	FAO	Pillar 2
Disability Inclusive COVID-19 Education Response for Children in Armenia	$50,000	MoESCS RPPS	UNICEF	Pillar 2
Smart Resilience for Kindergartens	$22,000	Yerevan Municipality MES	UNDP UNICEF	Pillar 2
COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	$180,000	MoESCS MES Marzpetarans MoESCS	UNICEF	Pillar 2
Beneficiary registration mechanism	$15,000	MoLSA	WFP	Pillar 2
Nutrition sensitive SP Food/cash transfers to vulnerable populations	$1,500,000	MoLSA	WFP	Pillar 2
COVID-19 and Resilience in Armenia: Mitigating the Socio-Economic Impact on Vulnerable People and Communities (MPTF)	$514,992	DPM's Office MLSA MoE MoF MoHTI	UNICEF UNDP UNFPA UNHCR	Pillar 2
Fostering Participatory Development in Bordering Settlements of Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor Regions	$1,997,000	MTAI MOE	UNDP	Pillar 3
COVID-19 and Resilience in Armenia: Mitigating the Socio-Economic Impact on Vulnerable People and Communities (MPTF)	$484,995	MoLSA MoE	UNDP UNIDO FAO IOM UNFPA	Pillar 3
COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	$217,000	MTAI MLSA	UNDP	Pillar 3
EU LEAD for Tavush and Lori	$643,000	MTAI	UNDP FAO	Pillar 3
Rapid Response Facility (RRF)	$192,600		UNDP	Pillar 3
Assessments of market functionality /COVID19 impact on agri SMEs	$200,000	MOE	WFP	Pillar 3
Integrated policy response on employment and social protection in the context of COVID-19 crisis mitigation and recovery, supported by social dialogue	$124,540	MLSA RUEA CTUA	ILO	Pillar 3

Project Title	Total Cost	Government Partner	UN Agency	Pillar
Enabling environment for sustainable and resilient enterprises generating employment and transition to formality in the COVID-19 post-crisis recovery	$233,500	RUEA MLSA	ILO	Pillar 3
Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 among returned migrants and their households in the South Caucasus	$35,000		IOM	Pillar 3
Climate Resilient Forestry Management and Reforestation in Armenia	$2,040,000	MOE	FAO	Pillar 3
Socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19	$41,000	MOE	FAO	Pillar 3
Making Finance Work for Transformative Change in Armenia: UN-locking Finance for Armenia 2030	$55,000	DPM's Office MoLSA MoF	UNDP UNICEF WFP	Pillar 3
Making Finance Work for Transformative Change in Armenia: UN-locking Finance for Armenia 2030	$694,580	DPM's office	UNDP UNICEF WFP	Pillar 4
"SDG Partnership on Transparency & Accountability" Programme for knowledge exchanges with Republic of Korea in the context of COVID-19	$20,000	MoJ CPC	UNDP	Pillar 5
Talent Nests: Small Cities for People	$80,000	MTDA	UNDP	Pillar 5
Total $15,203,007				

Annex 1C: Funding Gap

Project Title	Total Cost	Government Partner	UN Agency	Pillar
Strengthening child health services and primary and secondary level	$800,000	MoH	UNICEF	Pillar 1
Building Back Better through Strengthening Resilience of Rural Communities in Ararat, Aragatsotn, Armavir and Kotayk regions	$135,000	MoTAI	UNDP	Pillar 1
One-health approach: linking environment, helath, food safety and security	$450,000	MoH, Minitsry of Environment, Ministry of Economy	UNDP (in partnership with WHO, FAO, WFP) and IDEA foundation	Pillar 1
Strengthening Social Protection System to Break the Cycle of Poverty, Improve Food Security and Resilience of Vulnerable Rural Households	$1,400,000	MoLSA MoE	FAO	Pillar 2
Increase the role and strengthen the preparedness of the local self-governments in Armenia for better response to pandemics in the communities	$300,000	MoTAI	UNDP	Pillar 2
COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	$716,000	MoTAI MoESCS MES Marzpetarans MoESCS	UNDP UNICEF	Pillar 2
Integrated policy response on employment and social protection in the context of COVID-19 crisis mitigation and recovery, supported by social dialogue	$124,540	MoLSA RUEA CTUA	ILO	Pillar 2
Review and design of an inclusive, shock-responsive, gender-sensitive and sustainable social protection system and programmes across the lifecycle	$500,000	MoLSA MoTAI	UNICEF	Pillar 2
Ensure access, continuity and quality of water, sanitation and personal hygiene equipment in schools/preschools	$750,000	MoESCS MoTAI	UNICEF	Pillar 2
Building Back Better through Strengthening Resilience of Rural Communities in Ararat, Aragatsotn, Armavir and Kotayk regions	$1,123,000	MTAI	UNDP	Pillar 3
COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	$1,400,000	MTAI MLSA	UNDP	Pillar 3
Social Partnership for VET in Armenia: building skills against uncertainty	$1,500,000	MESCS, MLSA	UNDP	Pillar 3
Small Grants Programme	$500,000	MOE	UNDP	Pillar 3
Enabling environment for climate sensitive recovery of migrant households	$200,000		UN Women	Pillar 3
Accelerating women's empowerment for economic resilience and renewal: the post COVID-19 reboot in Armenia	$1,000,000	MoLSA	UNDP UNICEF UN Women UNIDO	Pillar 3
Unleashing the She-Force	$750,000	MTAI	UNDP	Pillar 3
Digital Transformation & Business Model Innovation Accelerator	$350,000	MOE	UNDP	Pillar 3
Sustainable Yerevan: Solutions for Green Recovery	$1,000,000	Yerevan Municiplaity	UNDP	Pillar 3

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COVID – 19 Response: Data Science Toolkit: Common Operating Picture Dashboard and AI Simulator (SDG Lab program)	$400,000	RA National Institute of Health	UNDP	Pillar 4
Enhancing comprehensive recovery at city level through "doughnut" economics model	$500,000	GoA, Yerevan Municipality	UNDP	Pillar 4
COVID-19 Digital Transformation Toolkit	$650,000		UNDP	Pillar 4
Support to NSS for analysis of COVID-19 impact based on annual survey and UN agency assessment data	$50,000	NSS	WFP & other agencies	Pillar 5
Support to healthy recovery and improved nutrition and poverty reduction in rural migrant sending communities in Armenia	$500,000	MTAI	IOM WFP FAO	Pillar 5
Food value chain employment for disabled people impacted by COVID-19	$150,000	MLSA MOE	WFP & other agencies	Pillar 5
Total $15,248,540				

Annex 2: Cooperation Framework Linkages

		1	2	3	4	5
Cooperation Framework Outcomes	CF 1: People benefit from universal, affordable, accessible and & quality healthcare system & demonstrate responsible healthy behavior	X	X	X		
	CF 2: People benefit from a progressively universal, inclusive and shock-responsive social protection system across the life cycle		X	X		
	CF 3: People living in Armenia exercise their talents and skills and benefit from inclusive and quality education		X			
	CF 4: People, communities and regions benefit from equitable economic opportunities, decent work and sustainable livelihoods, enabled through competitiveness and inclusive green growth		X	X	X	
	CF 5: Ecosystems are managed sustainably, and people benefit from participatory and resilient development and climate smart solutions			X	X	
	CF 6: People benefit from effective and accountable governance systems and institutions that safeguard human rights and uphold the rule of law, and public administration that ensures effective and human centered service delivery for all		X	X		X
	CF 7: People benefit from evidence-based, human-centric and SDG-aligned policies supported by diversified sources of financing, innovation, and partnerships for sustainable development for all	X	X	X	X	X
	CF 8: Women and men, girls and boys and minorities in Armenia enjoy equal opportunities to fulfill their economic, political and social potential and contribute to the sustainable development of the country		X			X

Annex 3: Pillar Programme Portfolios

1 🩺				HEALTH FIRST:					
				Protecting health services and systems during the crisis					

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
1.1	Solidarity for Health Initiative	Long-term	National preparedness and coordination mechanisms of COVID-19 response strengthened Increasing general public awareness about the pandemic and its health risks, related government measures and restrictions and acts upon at individual level Monitoring and reporting of COVID-19 transmission strengthened Operational and technical capacity for COVID-19 detection (testing) scaled up in line with optimal strategies Health and first-line workers are protected and trained to act in line with best international practice Patients have access to adequate treatment	3.d 3.8	$2,715,000	New	MoH	WHO
1.2	COVID response support	Mid-term	Laboratory capacity to manage large-scale testing for COVID-19 strengthened. Clinical care of COVID-19, including the management of increasing number of severe cases, in designated healthcare facilities enhanced.	3.d	$650,000	New	MoH	WHO
1.3	COVID response support	Long-term	Risk communication and community engagement Infection prevention and control (IPC) and WASH in COVID19 designated health care facilities/ centers and other targeted facilities likely to receive suspected cases of COVID19 in high risk communities Provision of critical hygiene or other USAID HQ-approved supplies Data collection and analysis to improve the overall COVID-19 emergency response	3.d	$1,600,000	New	MoH	UNICEF
1.4	Support to COVID response	Mid-term	Support in PPE provision	3.d	$100,000	New	MoH	UNICEF
1.5	Strengthening child health services and primary and secondary level	Long-term	Ensure continuity of child health, nutrition, immunization services in parimary and secondary health care facilities through enhancing capacities of health providers and facilities across the country	3.d	$800,000	Proposed	MoH	UNICEF
1.6	MPTF project	Short-term	Development & pilot of a model of alternative service delivery i.e. mobile clinic in consolidated community	3,10	$75,000	New	MoH	UNDP

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HEALTH FIRST:
Protecting health services and systems during the crisis

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
1.7	Building Back Better through Strengthening Resilience of Rural Communities in Ararat, Aragatsotn, Armavir and Kotayk regions	Long-term	Ensure continuity of primary healthcare services in rural communities through improved capacities of healthcare personnel and primary healthcare facilities: Implement comprehensive evaluation of the crisis preparedness level of the rural healthcare facilities, particularly in the context of COVID-19. Renovate and refurbish some of the most vulnerable local healthcare facilities, integrating risk mitigation measures. Capacity-building of healthcare personnel of the local ambulatories on the main principles of primary care in the COVID-19 in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health	3 10 11	$135,000	Proposed	MoTAI	UNDP
1.8	COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility	Mid-term	Development of Hospital Safety Index and DRM plans for three hospitals in Yerevan, Noyemberyan and Echmiadzin	3	$30,000	New	MoH	UNDP
1.9	Support procurement of PPE	Short-term	Procurement of PPE for Armenia Government	3	$610,000	New	MoH	WFP
1.10	COVID-19 Immunity Survey of Medical Staff	Short-term	Provide data for estimating infection rates and monitoring the progression of the epidemic.	3	$20,000	Repurposed	MoH	UNAIDS
1.11	One-health approach: linking environment, helath, food safety and security	Long-term	Formulation and implementation of "One Health" System Approaches. Introduce system and tools for economic valuation of the impact of pollution on human health, biodiversity and infrastructures. for evidence-based policy choices in municipalities. Stakeholder consolidation to address food safety issues to minimize impact on the most vulnerable and increase resilience of population to potential pandemics (food safety ropad map)	2 3 15	$450,000	Proposed	MoH, Minitsry of Environment, Ministry of Economy	UNDP (in partner ship with WHO, FAO, WFP) and IDEA foundation
					Total	$7,185,000		

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No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
2.1	Cash assistance to vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers	Short-term	One-time cash assistance provided to 507 households to address basic needs due to COVID-19	1.1 2.1 3.8	$126,000	Repurposed	n/a	UNHCR
2.2	Hygienic kits distributed to 116 asylum-seekers and refugees	Mid-term	Provision of hygienic kits (supplies) to asylum-seekers and refugees residing in the Reception Centre for asylum-seekers, Integration House, Darbnik social house	3.8	$730	Repurposed	n/a	UNHCR
2.3	Technical Support for Secondary Education	Mid-term	Provision of around 164 pcs of electronic tablets to school-age children to access distance education with facilitation of MoE and MoTA	4.1	$32,800	New	MoESCS MoTAI	UNHCR
2.4	Assessment of COVID-19 impact on food security, agricultural production and livelihoods of vulnerable households and the use of cash+ as a resilience tool	Short-term	Statistically representative evidence of how the Cash+ pilot participants compared to the other groups have experienced the emergency in terms of food security, income generation, agricultural activities, coping mechanisms and support from the government Descriptive evidence of how the emergency has impacted vulnerable rural households in Cash+ pliot communities	1.1 1.4 1.5 2.1	$50,000	New	MoLSA MoE	FAO
2.5	Strengthening Social Protection System to Break the Cycle of Poverty, Improve Food Security and Resilience of Vulnerable Rural Households	Long-term	Reduction of food insecurity and malnutrition of socially vulnerable households, improved resilience and sock/crisis mitigating capacity	1.1 1.4 1.5 2.1 8.3 8.5 5.5	$1,400,000	Proposed	MoLSA MoE	FAO
2.6	Fostering Participatory Development in Bordering Settlements of Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor regions	Short-term	Support to vulnerable population in remote areas with the provision of emergency packages: food and hygiene	1 2	$15,200	Repurposed	MoTAI, MES	UNDP
2.7	Integrated Support to Rural Development: building resilient communities project	Short-term	Support to vulnerable population in remote areas with the provision of emergency packages: food and hygiene	1 2	$5,000	Repurposed	MoTAI, MES	UNDP
2.8	Enhancing Human Security and Building a Resilient Society in the Disadvantaged Communities of Armenia	Short-term	Support to vulnerable population in remote areas with the provision of emergency packages: food and hygiene	1 2	$15,160	Repurposed	MoTAI, MES	UNDP, IOM, WFP, UNIDO, FAO
2.9	Women and Youth for Innovative Local Development	Mid-term	Modern and user-centric municipal /public services are piloted with the participation of residents in enlarged municipalities Monitoring mechanisms are developed and piloted in enlarged municipalities, provisin of suport to vulnerable population in remote areas	5.5 16.6	$50,000	Repurposed	MoTAI	UNDP
2.10	Increase the role and strengthen the preparedness of the local self-governments in Armenia for better response to pandemics in the communities	Long-term	Legislative changes Capacity building of LSGs Improvement of horizontal and vertical data collection and communication Service transformation and digitalization	16.6	$300,000	Proposed	MoTAI	UNDP

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
2.11	COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	Long-term	In-depth vulnerability and capacity assessments will be conducted in selected community hospitals and kindergartens. Development of disaster management plans and selected risk mitigation measures for kindergartens and ambulatories in 62 bordering settlements of the three marzes using Hospital Safety Index model. SSW professionals in Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor regions provided with: a) professional guidance and support to work in COVID-19 situation and beyond, including through training, coaching, mentoring, supervision activities and through professional helpline b) with mental health and psychosocial support, including psychoeducation, individual and group supervision and counselling Emergency foster care is promoted in Gegharkunik, Syunik, Vayots Dzor regions •The School Disaster Risk Management Methodology is applied to assess the crisis management capacities and inhance implementation in 60 schools of borderline communities from Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor Marzes •Capacity of teachers of borderline communities in the areas of first aid, PSS and GBV risks is enhanced •Students in borderline communities are capacitated on the use of 21st century skills in DRM processes and actively engage in the process of planning and addressing community resilience and disaster risk reduction needs. •SSW professionals in Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor regions provided with: a)professional guidance and support to work in COVID-19 situation and beyond; b)with mental health and psychosocial support, including psychoeducation, individual and group supervision and counselling •Emergency foster care is promoted in Gegharkunik, Syunik, Vayots Dzor regions •Community Parent Support Groups (for parents of children and adolescents aged 7-11 and 12-18) are established. •The Child Protection Hotline for reporting cases of violence against children for parents and adolescents is enhanced with a strong referral system in case of need for specialized services. •Peer support volunteer groups are established, trained and supported	3 10 11 4 6	$716,000	Proposed	MoTAI MoESCS MES Marzpetarans MoESCS	UNDP UNICEF
2.12	Disability Inclusive COVID-19 Education Response for Children in Armenia	Long-term	Supporting the Individualized Education Plans (IEP) Ensuring the accessibility of distance learning resources and instruction	4	$50,000	New	MoESCS RPPS	UNICEF

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
2.13	EU Future Today Project	Long-term	Pre-position/provide sanitation supplies/hygiene kits to 370 preschools, in Lori, Shirak, Tavush, Gegharkunik and Syunik for three months Training and support for preschool nurses and teachers on hygiene/sanitation and COVID prevention; Professional guidance, psychosocial support and burnout prevention for care professionals Grant support to Civil Society Oranizations and active groups in ensuring continuity of good governance during emergency situation. Series of TV programs and webinars to depict main issues and to highlight opportunities for CSOs during emergency.	4	$300,000	Repurposed	MoESCS MoTADI MoLSA DPM's office	NICEF; UND
2.14.	Smart Resilience for Kindergartens	Short-term	Development of an attendance monitoring system to track daily attendance, an electronic information exchange system for transparent registration, documentation and queues and for strengthening risk related information exchange capabilities between municipality and kindergartens, Assessment of 10 kindergartens and DRM capacity development of all 167 preschools in Yerevan	4	$22,000	New	Yerevan Municipality MES	UNDP UNICEF
2.15.	COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	Long-term	The School Disaster Risk Management Methodology is applied to assess the crisis management capacities and inhance implementation in 30 schools of borderline communities from Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor Marzes COVID 19 guidelines for safe school reopening and operations are developed and applied, including in the monitroing process. SSW professionals in Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor regions provided with: a) professional guidance and support to work in COVID-19 situation and beyond, including through training, coaching, mentoring, supervision activities and through professional helpline b) with mental health and psychosocial support, including psychoeducation, individual and group supervision and counselling Emergency foster care is promoted in Gegharkunik, Syunik, Vayots Dzor regions	4 16	$180,000	New	MoESCS MES Marzpetarans MoESCS	UNICEF
2.16	Shock Responsive School feeding	Short-term	Provision of cash transfers for school feeding to 29,300 children through Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	2	$487,000	Repurposed	MoLSA MoESCS	WFP
2.17	Beneficiary registration mechanism	Long-term	support the MLSA to establish beneficiary registration platform	2	$15,000	New	MoLSA	WFP
2.18	Designing nutrition sensitive social protection to tackle food security and lower poverty line	Short-term	Model and parameters for setting up nutriton sensitive SP and distribution of food/cash transfers to vulnerable populations	2	$40,000	Repurposed	MoLSA, MoTAI	WFP
2.19	Food and Nutrition security assessments	Short-term	Food and Nutrition security assessments across Armenia to understand the FS&N impact of COVID-19 on households and to draft adequate response strategy	2	$16,000	Repurposed	MoLSA, MoTAI	WFP

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
2.20	Nutrition sensitive SP Food/cash transfers to vulnerable populations	Mid-term	Nutrition sensitive social protection to tackle food security and lower poverty line	2	$1,500,000	New	MoLSA	WFP
2.21	Ensuring service acessability for victims of DV	Short-term	Procurment of PPE's for shelters of DV	5	$10,000	Repurposed		UNFPA
2.22	Ensuring service acessability for victims of DV	Mid-term	Enhancment of GBV application Safe You	5	$10,000	Repurposed	Police HRDO MLSA	UNFPA
2.23	Building resilience to COVID for DV victims	Short-term	Cash Assistance to DV victims	5	$20,000	Repurposed		UNFPA
2.24	Integrated policy response on employment and social protection in the context of COVID-19 crisis mitigation and recovery, supported by social dialogue	Long-term	Update, adapt or develop as appropriate a diagnostic tool based on individual assessments and interviews for better coordination within social services. Establish a coordination mechanism for all means-tested social benefits and subsidies and harmonize rules granting benefits. Propose ad-hoc modes of case management	8	$124,540	Proposed	MoLSA RUEA CTUA	ILO
2.25	COVID-19 and Resilience in Armenia: Mitigating the Socio-Economic Impact on Vulnerable People and Communities (MPTF)	Mid-term	Rights- and evidence-based social protection measures, particularly cash transfer and primary services, are enhanced and coverage expanded to minimize expore and vulnerability disadvantaged groups to socio-economic impacts of COVID-19; 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	1.2 1.3 1.5 8.5 10.4	$514,992	New	DPM's Office MLSA MoE MoF MoHTI	UNICEF UNDP UNFPA UNHCR
2.26	Strengthening of the shock-responsiveness of the social protection system, including rapid needs assessment and beneficiary registration	Long-term	Shock-responsiveness of the social protection system and programmes is strengthened; Rapid response mechanism is embedded as part of the integrate social protection management information system	1.2 1.3	$50,000	Repurposed	MoLSA MoHTI	UNICEF
2.27	Implementation of community social projects to support early recovery of communities (incl. income-generating opportunities for vulnerable groups).	Long-term	Members of vulnerable households are empowered to increase knowledge and access to social services. Support proactive and early prevention case management and community social work practices in the target regions/communities. Develop and implement community social projects addressing collective vulnerabilities of families and children	1.2 1.3	$65,000	Repurposed	MoLSA MoTAI sub-national authorities and communities	UNICEF UNDP FAO UNIDO IOM WFP
2.28	Vulnerability assessment of families to the socio-economic impact of COVID-19	Mid-term	COVID-19 vulnerability assessment at household level conducted together with the World Bank	1, 2, 3 4, 5 16	$30,000	Repurposed	MLSA MoH MoESCS	UNICEF

2 PROTECTING PEOPLE:
Social protection and basis services

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
2.29	Review and design of an inclusive, shock-responsive, gender-sensitive and sustainable social protection system and programmes across the lifecycle	Long-term	Revised eligibility, registration and delivery mechanisms of social protection programmes, including through revamped management information systems; New, diversified, alternative, environmentally friendly and gender-sensitive social services are introduced at the national and local level for children and families that are increasingly preventive and agile to shocks; providing costing options and fiscal space analysis for ensuring sustainability and affordability of social protection.	1 2 5 16	$500,000	Proposed	MoLSA MoTAI	UNICEF
2.30	Ensure access, continuity and quality of water, sanitation and personal hygiene equipment in schools/preschools	Long-term	Assessed facilities, premises and school/preschool financial needs regarding water, sanitation and personal hygiene equipment	4 5	$750,000	Proposed	MoESCS MoTAI	UNICEF
			Total $7,395,422					

3 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY:
Protecting jobs, small medium-sized enterprises, and vulnerable workers in the informal economy

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
3.1	EU Green Agriculture	Long-term	Technical Assistance to Government on implementation of Government Support schemes through provision of consultancy and supporting the farmers and agribusinesses to increase the uptake of the government support measures as well as to increase production volumes. Procurement of agriequipment and supplies for small farmers Capacity building for value chain development	2 5 8 12 13 15	$250,000	Repurposed	MOE	UNDP
3.2	Fostering Participatory Development in Bordering Settlements of Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor Regions	Long-term	Fostered local participation in development planning and monitoring for bottom-up community development. Increased economic activity in the settlements through efficient local production and Processing Improved production and management through new technologies and innovation	8 10	$1,997,000	New	MTAI MOE	UNDP
3.3	Future Skills and Jobs for Youth in the Regions of Armenia	Long-term	Future-oriented opportunities for youth Digital skills for youth Regional resource centers for youth	5 8 10	$60,000	Repurposed	MTAI MLSA MESCS	UNDP
3.4	COVID-19 and Resilience in Armenia: Mitigating the Socio-Economic Impact on Vulnerable People and Communities (MPTF)	Mid-term	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.	1.2 1.3 1.5 8.5	$484,995	New	MoLSA MoE	UNDP UNIDO FAO IOM UNFPA
3.5	COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	Short-term	Increased resilience and socio-economic security of the bordering communities in Gegharkunik, Syunik and Vayots Dzor regions	5 10 11 16 17	$217,000	new	MTAI MLSA	UNDP
3.6	EU LEAD for Tavush and Lori	Long-term	Mobilize, capacitate and incentivize local actors to define community needs-driven strategies in Lori and Tavush regions. Build supporting infrastructure to prioritize, implement and sustain local-grown initiatives in Lori and Tavush regions. Improve the capacity of the relevant ministries and other bodies and develop policy mechanisms at the national level for successful piloting and sustainability of the LEADER approach in Armenia (policy component).	1 8 5 10 11	$643,000	new	MTAI	UNDP FAO
3.7	Building Back Better through Strengthening Resilience of Rural Communities in Ararat, Aragatsotn, Armavir and Kotayk regions	Long-term	Support local COVID-19 socioeconomic recovery through risk-informed context-specific recovery plans and improved national information system. Strengthen food security and increase self-sufficiency of rural householdsthrough building green and resilient value chains Help rural population, including the youth and women, cope with adversity of COVID-19 through protecting and creating jobs, as well as income generation opportunities Support the rural settlements to restore and build back better their basic services, including primary healthcare services.	1 5 8 10 11	$1,123,000	proposed	MTAI	UNDP

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ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY:
Protecting jobs, small medium-sized enterprises, and vulnerable workers in the informal economy

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
3.8	COVID-19 Response: Strengthening Security, Stability and Resilience of the Bordering Communities in Vayots Dzor, Gegharkunik and Syunik Regions	Long-term	Strengthening resilience and security in bordering regions of Syunik, Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor	5 10 11 16 17	$1,400,000	proposed	MTAI MLSA	UNDP
3.9	Social Partnership for VET in Armenia: building skills against uncertainty	Long-term	1. Comprehensive skills mapping exercise to assess the new needs of the economy for human resources and skills, with specific view on the disruptions caused by COVID-19. 2. Social Partnership for VET: fostering cross sectoral cooperation 3.Institutional development and strategic investment 4.Public Awareness: architecture of informed choices	4,5,8	$1,500,000	Proposed	MESCS, MLSA	UNDP
3.10	Small Grants Programme	Long-term	Support small and medium entrepreneurship development and enhancement linked to sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, particularly focusing on vulnerable groups, such as women, persons with disabilities, at risk youth; Support and incentivize sustainable agricultural production and supply chain to improve food security, provide targeted support to small farmers, water supply and irrigation support, including with renewable energy; Support conservation related initiatives safeguarding key protected area conservation measures, including forest protection and provision of critical ecosystem services, particularly associated with preservation of water sources and water supply; Promote indigenous crops and traditional practices to enhance sustainable land management and food security; support growing of medicinal plants and gathering ancestral knowledge related to health and epidemic response; Recover and support sustainable nature-based tourism activities, in light of the COVID-19 impacts, for both job creation and promote wildlife/natural resource management; Deployment of renewables and energy-efficient technologies for productive use, especially in rural and marginalized communities, including production, processing and storage of agricultural products; Renewable energy access for health facilities, medical waste management, etc.; Improve medical and hazardous waste management	1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 11 13	$500,000	proposed	MOE	UNDP
3.11	Rapid Response Facility (RRF)	Short-term	Rapid assessment of public health and socio-economic vulnerability in target regions Catalytic interventions to ongoing Government and UN projects conducted to kick start programme activities in response to COVID 19 impact.	1 3 6 11 17	$192,600	new		UNDP
3.12	Assessments of market functionality /COVID19 impact on agri SMEs	Short-term	Country wide recurrent assessments for 6 months to capture developments of the impact on markets and agricultural SMEs of COVID-19. (several assessments)	2	$200,000	new	MOE	WFP
3.13	Enhancing Human Security in Communities of Armenia	Long-term	Increased activities of rural SMEs through efficient production, processing and marketing Strengthened business capacities of rural SMEs and beneficiary groups through innovative platform	8 9	$230,000	Repurposed	MTAI	UNIDO

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
3.14	Integrated policy response on employment and social protection in the context of COVID-19 crisis mitigation and recovery, supported by social dialogue	Long-term	Building strategic partnerships between the PES and local government social services; Supporting coordination mechanisms with the private sector to design training and skills development programmes provided by PES for the (re)integration into the labour market of those affected by the current economic crisis; Support PES designing, planning and implementation of pilot cooperation program between employment services and social services at local and regional level; Strengthen the PES capacity to profile jobseekers, identify employment barriers, to conduct time-limited interview, and to identify groups in need of employment services and social services support. Support cooperation and coordination with the private sector to develop apprenticeship opportunities and job experience in the workplace for the beneficiaries of that PES' programme	8	$124,540	new	MLSA RUEA CTUA	ILO
3.15	Enabling environment for sustainable and resilient enterprises generating employment and transition to formality in the COVID-19 post-crisis recovery	Long-term	Support to SMEs in generating employment in the COVID-19 post-crisis; support to transition to formality	8	$233,500	new	RUEA MLSA	ILO
3.16	Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 among returned migrants and their households in the South Caucasus	Mid-term	Support to national and local partners in responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 among recently returned migrants and their households	2 10	$35,000	new		IOM
3.17	Enabling environment for climate sensitive recovery of migrant households	Long-term	Support local COVID-19 socioeconomic recovery for migrant households through climate risk-informed business/ enterprise development	2 8 10	$200,000	proposed		UN Women
3.18	Establishment of land management instruments and institutional framework to address land abandonment	Long-term	The goal of the project is to provide support to the establishment of a new Land Agency and initial assistance to operationalize the proposed framework for the mediation of lease.		$172,000	Repurposed	MOE	FAO
3.19	Accelerating women's empowerment for economic resilience and renewal: the post COVID-19 reboot in Armenia	Long-term	Women and girls in vulnerable situations benefit from targeted business, digital and STEM skills to access/adapt to changing markets in the COVID-19 context. New sources of income and livelihood opportunities are created for vulnerable women affected by the COVID-19 crisis through access to employment opportunities Women at risk and survivors of violence benefit from safe access to GBV evidence-based information and protection support adapted to the COVID-19 context	4 5 8	$1,000,000	proposed	MoLSA	UNDP UNICEF UN Women UNIDO
3.20	Climate Resilient Forestry Management and Reforestation in Armenia	Long-term	Climate Resilient Forestry Management and Reforestation in Armenia		$2,040,000	New	MOE	FAO
3.21	Strengthening food safety and animal health capacities in risk assessment and management	Long-term	The project will support improved safety and quality of the food produced and consumed in Armenia and increased competitiveness in international trade.		$210,000	Repurposed	MOE	FAO

3 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY:
Protecting jobs, small medium-sized enterprises, and vulnerable workers in the informal economy

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
3.22	Socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19	Short-term	Collect and analyze information to put in place systems for continued monitoring and assessments, including effective policy responses that minimize the negative impact of COVID-19.		$41,000	New	MOE	FAO
3.23	Making Finance Work for Transformative Change in Armenia: UN-locking Finance for Armenia 2030	Long-term	Armenia Transformation Strategy is adopted as an integrated, gender-sensitive and equitable national SDG framework Public finance management system is strengthened for better measurement and increased adequacy, effectiveness and equitability of the distribution of public resources for the realization of gender-responsive, child-sensitive and SDG-aligned policies Public, private and development financing landscape, including existing flows, gaps and options, is mapped to inform the implementation of the ATS Financing needs and gaps are diagnosed in the achievement of climate change, food security and human capital sectoral targets Coherent financing frameworks developed in the pre-selected sectors for the allocation of sufficient and adequate public and private resources	1 2 3 4 5 13 16 17	$55,000	New	DPM's Office MoLSA MoF	UNDP UNICEF WFP
3.24	Unleashing the She-Force	Long-term	Upskilling and monetization opportunities for women for their indigenous talents with no disruption in the local behavioural and perception patterns. VET capacity building extension to other population segments and triggers a trend of modernizing traditions and building new value chains around it. Self-employment opportunities for women, which make them more safe towards turbulences of the employment market. New tourism attraction points and economic catalyzers/multipliers for communties.	5 8	$750,000	Proposed	MTAI	UNDP
3.25	Digital Transformation & Business Model Innovation Accelerator	Long-term	The project will develop a "Business support/transformation vehicle" embedding tailored acceleration programme focused on digital transformation and business model innovation to increase resilience and adjust to post-COVID reality, including training on innovative financing tools, impact metrics & SDG positioning. The platform will feature a database bringing together the various business support interventions of UNDP Armenia to maximize impact, increase efficiency and establish knowledge repository.	8, 17	$350,000	Proposed	MOE	UNDP
3.26	Sustainable Yerevan: Solutions for Green Recovery	Long-term	Participatory green urban planning – integration of environmental needs (mainstreaming of climate change, DRR, ecosystem values) in urban planning and new approach towards green space planning and management . Institutional framework for green urban recovery – modernization of governance systems to catalyze investments in low carbon and resilinet development (innovative PPP, fiscal mechanisms for outcome based public service delivery, municipal bonds, etc.). Demonstration of climate smart and resilient green urban solution – the output aims to prevent degradation in urban areas, to reduce risk to human health and improve community resilience through ecosystem restoration, green space management and innovative mobility options.	3 11 13 15	$1,000,000	Proposed	Yerevan Municiplaity	UNDP
3.27	Future Today	Long-term	Support to Civil Society Organization through tailored grant support schemes to carry civic oversight on labor rights observance. Projects shall include support to e-gov tools, CSO monitoring mechanisms and methodologies, support to dedicated actions and capacity building of labor unions	16	$80,000	Repurposed	PM office	UNDP
					Total	$15,088,635		

4 📈 MACROECONOMIC RESPONSE AND MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
4.1	Innovative Solutions for SDG Implementation in Armenia	Long-term	Increased use of environmentally friendly practices as a result of behavioral experiments Increased availability of data for evidence-based policy and decision-making Enhanced capacity of National SDG Champions in innovative research methods and skills Successful model for accelerated implementation and financing of Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) is designed and tested. Implementation, monitoring and evaluation Mapping of Armenia and Georgia's reform priorities regarding EU approximation and the SDGs Behaviourally Informed anti-COVID communication campaign	1 2 3 5 7 8 16 17	$4,000	Repurposed	DPM's office	UNDP
4.2	Edu2Work	Long-term	The "Edu2Work" online platform is created using advanced analytics of labour market data to inform policy making. Experimental interventions are designed and carried out to connect education to labour market to develop policies based on tested and successful solutions. Recommendations, advocacy and awareness raising on evidence-based policy making.	4 8	$6,000	Repurposed	DPM's office	UNDP
4.3	Technology for SDGs financing platform/ ImpactAim accelerator program	Long-term	Tech4SDGs Incubator and Accelerator Tech4SDGs Impact Investment Fund ImpactAim acceleration programme	17	$70,000	repurposed	MOESCS	UNDP UNICEF
4.4	Making Finance Work for Transformative Change in Armenia: UN-locking Finance for Armenia 2030	Long-term	Armenia Transformation Strategy is adopted as an integrated, gender-sensitive and equitable national SDG framework Public finance management system is strengthened for better measurement and increased adequacy, effectiveness and equitability of the distribution of public resources for the realisation of gender-responsive, child-sensitive and SDG-aligned policies Public, private and development financing landscape, including existing flows, gaps and options, is mapped to inform the implementation of the ATS Financing needs and gaps are diagnosed in the achievement of climate change and human capital sectoral targets Coherent financing frameworks developed for the allocation of sufficient and adequate public and private resources to climate change and human capital	1 2 3 4 5 13 16 17	$694,580	new	DPM's office	UNDP UNICEF WFP
4.5	COVID – 19 Response: Data Science Toolkit: Common Operating Picture Dashboard and AI Simulator (SDG Lab program)	Long-term	The Project outcome will be a decision/strategy/ policy making process at times of crises and recovery that takes into account all available evidence, factors and interconnections - creating a close-to-real-world simulation. This way scenarios and decisions will be tested first in the virtual world, and only those that survive the amounting evidence and still generate the desired impact will come into effect, saving time, resources and potentially lives.	3	$400,000	proposed	RA National Institute of Health	UNDP

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
4.6	Development of communities through designing the strategy and policy	Long-term	Development of communities through designing appropriate strategy and policy: including Law on agriculture		$30,000	repurposed	MOE	FAO
4.7	Technical Support for Revision of the National Forest Policy and Strategic framework	Long-term	The project output and activities will directly contribute to developing activities and projects that will support sustainable forest management in Armenia in line with Government priorities, as well as FAO Regional Initiatives in Europe and Central Asia and FAO Strategic Objectives, and the Sustainable Development Goals		$35,000	repurposed	MOE	FAO
4.8	Enhancing comprehensive recovery at city level through "doughnut" economics model	Long-term	The project output is a new, comprehensive recovery model at city level balancing economic growth with the planetary boundaries. The "doughnut" model for recovery is based on the UN SDGs and aims to balance on one hand the needs to lead a good life, ranging from food and clean water to a certain level of housing, sanitation, energy, education, healthcare, gender equality, income and political voice; and on the other hand considering the ecological ceiling - boundaries to avoid damaging the climate, soils, oceans, the ozone layer, freshwater and abundant biodiversity. The project will also have 1-2 pilots implemented at city level deriving from the economic model.	11	$500,000	proposed	GoA, Yerevan Municipality	UNDP
4.9	COVID-19 Digital Transformation Toolkit	Long-term	The project will provide support in mainstreaming people-centric approach to design of services and policies by establishing standards and streamlining design thinking methodologies that would allow tailoring services (both digital and offline) to the needs of people, while at the same time work on increasing the uptake of digital services through a behaviourally-informed sensible communication and incentives campaign as the future of living with COVID-19 unfolds.	3	$650,000	proposed		UNDP
			Total $2,389,580					

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5 SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

No.	Project Title	Timeframe for Impact	Project Outputs	SDG Targets	Total Cost	Project Status	Government Counterpart	UN Agency
5.1	Women and Youth for Innovative Local Development	Long-term	Youth advanced as future leaders, crisis-responders, changemakers and enablers of local democracy Women advanced in political participation, crisis response, party democracy and local leadership	5.5 16.6	$20,000	Repurposed	MTAI	UNDP
5.2	Women in Politics	Long-term	Country-wide network of women and youth champions and contributors to crisis response is further capacitated and advanced; New participatory mechanisms introduced in communities for accountable and transparent governance.	5.5	$20,000	Repurposed	MTAI	UNDP
5.3	Support to Justice Sector Reform	Long-term	Support digitization of the court and case management system for effective and efficient judiciary, but also to allow remote functioning of the court system during crisis and pandemic to safeguard the right for access to justice.	16.3	$130,000	Repurposed	MoJ SJC	UNDP
5.4	"SDG Partnership on Transparency & Accountability" Programme for knowledge exchanges with Republic of Korea in the context of COVID-19	Long-term	Integrate transparency, accountability and anti-corruption in social and economic needs assessment and response in the context of COVID-19	16.9	$20,000	New	MoJ CPC	UNDP
5.5	Adolescent Engagement in Community DRR and Resilience	Short-term Mid-term	Enhance the capacity of children and youth for engaging in community DRR and organize community level DRR/ Resilience advocacy campaigns.	4.7 11.7	$50,000	Repurposed	MESCS MES	UNICEF
5.6	Support to NSS for analysis of COVID-19 impact based on annual survey and UN agency assessment data	Mid-term	Transfer data to NSS by UN Support a comparative study of the Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia, 2019 and 2020 to identify COVID-19 impact on national and marz level	17	$50,000	Proposed	NSS	WFP & other agencies
5.7	Support to healthy recovery and improved nutrition and poverty reduction in rural migrant sending communities in Armenia	Mid-term	Studying the impact of COVID 19 on food security and nutrition in migrant sending rural communities Implementing behavioral change campaign on improved nutrition in migrant communities Designing diversified nutrition-sensitive and resilience/ climate-smart Cash+ packages	17 11	$500,000	Proposed	MTAI	IOM WFP FAO
5.8	DRR capacity building strategy	Mid-term	Support formulation of DRR capacity building strategy and action plans to include pandemic situations	17	$10,000	Repurposed	MES	WFP
5.9	Food value chain employment for disabled people impacted by COVID-19	Mid-term	Employment opportunities to enhance resilience of disabled people impacted by the socio- economic consequences of COVID-19	17 8 10	$150,000	Proposed	MLSA MOE	WFP & other agencies
5.10	Future Today	Long-term	Capacity Building for local and central government offices in training a cadre of mid level professionals in citizen-oriented services and enabliung them with sufficient tools.	16	$70,000	Repurposed	MLSA, PM office	UNDP
5.11	Talent Nests: Small Cities for People	Long-term	Talent Attraction and retainment project for Stepanavan	11	$80,000	New	MTDA	UNDP
					Total $1,100,000			

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