



GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN COVID-19

UNITED NATIONS COORDINATED APPEAL
APRIL – DECEMBER 2020



Foreword by the Secretary-General of the United Nations

The world faces a global health crisis unlike any in the 75-year history of the United Nations – one that is spreading human suffering, crippling the global economy and upending people’s lives.

COVID-19 is threatening the whole of humanity – and the whole of humanity must fight back. Global action and solidarity are crucial.

The world is only as strong as the weakest health system. This COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan aims to enable us to fight the virus in the world’s poorest countries, and address the needs of the most vulnerable people, especially women and children, older people, and those with disabilities or chronic illness.

“The world is only as strong as the weakest health system. This COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan aims to enable us to fight the virus in the world’s poorest countries, and address the needs of the most vulnerable people.”

Coordinated by the UN’s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, it brings together appeals from the World Health Organization and other UN humanitarian agencies.

Properly funded, it will provide laboratory materials for testing, supplies to protect health care workers and medical equipment to treat the sick. It will bring water and sanitation to places that desperately need it, and enable aid workers to get to the places they are needed.

I appeal to governments to strongly support this plan, which will help stem the impact of COVID-19 in already vulnerable humanitarian contexts.

I also call on all donors and partners to maintain core support to programmes for the most vulnerable, including through UN-coordinated humanitarian and refugee response plans.

To divert funding from humanitarian needs at this time would create an environment in which cholera, measles and meningitis would thrive, even more children would become malnourished, and the narratives of violent extremists would take deeper hold. It would also extend the breeding ground for the coronavirus disease itself.

We cannot afford to lose the gains we have made through investments in humanitarian action and in the Sustainable Development Goals.

At the same time, we are doing our utmost to plan for and respond to early recovery in the countries around the globe that will need it most, so that we achieve a new sustainable and inclusive economy that leaves no-one behind. I have asked United Nations Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams to support countries around the world in addressing the socio-economic implications of this pandemic, which will require an adequate funding mechanism.

This is a moment for the world to come together to save lives and fight a common threat. The only war we should be waging is the war against COVID-19.

António Guterres

Secretary-General of the United Nations

At a glance

Requirements (US\$)

\$2.01 billion

At the time of writing, many priority countries are working on or just issuing their revised plans for the COVID-19 response. Funding requirements have not yet been estimated for a number of countries. For this reason, individual country requirements will be provided in the next update of the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

Purpose and scope

The COVID-19 Global HRP is a joint effort by members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), including UN, other international organisations and NGOs with a humanitarian mandate, to analyse and respond to the direct public health and indirect immediate humanitarian consequences of the pandemic, particularly on people in countries already facing other crises.

It aggregates relevant COVID-19 appeals and inputs from WFP, WHO, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF and NGOs, and it complements other plans developed by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

NGOs and NGO consortiums have been instrumental in helping shape the plan and conveying local actors' perspectives, and they will play a direct role in service delivery. NGOs will be able to access funding mobilized in the framework of this plan and related country plans through partner arrangements with UN agencies, through pooled funding mechanisms, including Country-Based Pooled Funds, and through direct donor funding.

This ensures complementarity, synergy, gaps and needs identification, and a coordinated response. The Global HRP also complements and supports existing government responses and national coordination mechanisms, with due consideration paid to the respect for humanitarian principles.

The Global HRP identifies the most affected and vulnerable population groups in priority countries, including countries with an ongoing Humanitarian Response Plan, Refugee Response Plan or multi-country/subregional response plan, as well as countries that have requested international assistance, such as Iran. Updates to existing country plans should be initiated to ensure that humanitarian organisations are prepared and able to meet the additional humanitarian needs occasioned by the pandemic. Further updates to these plans will likely be necessary if a major outbreak occurs. In other countries, a humanitarian response plan/Flash Appeal should be considered if they are unable to cope with the emergency.

Humanitarian needs analysis

The Global HRP builds on a joint analysis of the immediate health and non-health needs of vulnerable populations, and offers a multi-partner multisectoral response to

the pandemic. It does not attempt to deal with secondary or tertiary issues related to macroeconomic effects or more longer-term requirements in various sectors.

Strategic priorities

The Global HRP is articulated around three strategic priorities. Several specific objectives are linked to each priority, detailing the outcomes that the Plan aims to achieve. They are underpinned by a series of enabling factors and conditions.



Contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and decrease morbidity and mortality.



Decrease the deterioration of human assets and rights, social cohesion and livelihoods.



Protect, assist and advocate for refugees, internally displaced people, migrants and host communities particularly vulnerable to the pandemic.

Response approach

The response approach is guided by **humanitarian principles** as well as by inclusivity, gender, protection and community engagement principles.

The importance of involving and supporting local organizations is emphasized given the key role they are playing in this crisis, which is increasingly being characterised by limited mobility and access for international actors.

The logistics, air and maritime transportation services included in this plan will serve the entire humanitarian community, including the UN and NGOs, providing essential support to supply chains and the movement of humanitarian actors.

The public health response outlined in the Global HRP is fully aligned with WHO's soon to be updated Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19, which has a much broader remit than the Global Humanitarian Response Plan.

Coordination mechanisms and monitoring framework

The Global HRP outlines how **agency responses are to be coordinated** based on existing humanitarian and national/local government coordination mechanisms.

The Global HRP integrates a monitoring framework to provide systematic and frequent information on changes in the humanitarian situation and needs emanating from the COVID-19 pandemic (including for countries not considered in the first iteration of the Plan) and to inform rapid adjustments of the response.

Financial requirements

The financing requirements for the Global HRP over a period of nine months (April–December 2020) are estimated at US\$2.012 billion. They represent an initial estimate of the funding required to address the additional needs provoked by the COVID-19 pandemic across all regions, building on, but without prejudice to the ongoing humanitarian operations for pre-COVID-19 emergencies.

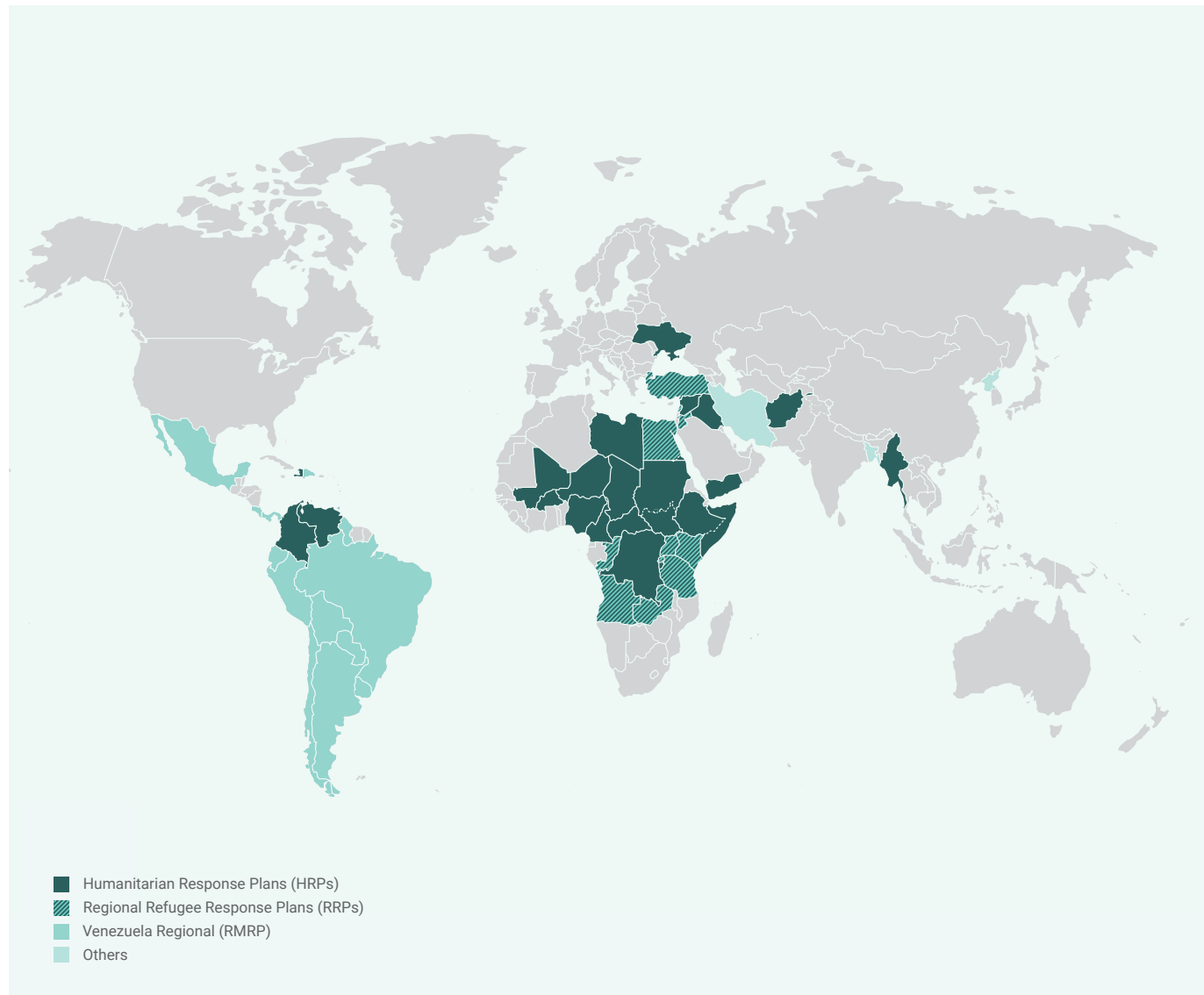
Funding for ongoing humanitarian response plans, including preparedness activities related to other disasters, remains the top priority given that people targeted in these plans will be the most affected by the direct and indirect impact of the pandemic.

Many humanitarian response plans are severely underfunded at the time of writing this Global

HRP. Ensuring that they are fully resourced and country teams granted increased flexibility in the approval of modifications is essential to avoid further loss of life and increased vulnerability. They will also be an important stabilizing factor in these fragile contexts.

At the same time, the United Nations, other international organisations and NGOs are doing their utmost to plan for and respond to early recovery in the countries around the globe that will need it most, in order to achieve a new sustainable and inclusive economy that leaves no-one behind. United Nations Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams will support countries around the world in addressing the socio-economic implications of this pandemic, which will require an adequate funding mechanism.

Priority regions and countries



Source: OCHA. **Disclaimer:** The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

* Aruba (The Netherlands) and Curaçao (The Netherlands)

Humanitarian Response Plans

Afghanistan	Ethiopia	oPt
Burkina Faso	Haiti	Somalia
Burundi	Iraq	South Sudan
Cameroon	Libya	Sudan
CAR	Mali	Syria
Chad	Myanmar	Ukraine
Colombia	Niger	Venezuela
DRC	Nigeria	Yemen

Regional RRP

Angola	Jordan	South Sudan
Burundi	Kenya	Syria
Cameroon	Niger	Uganda
Chad	Nigeria	Tanzania
DRC	Lebanon	Turkey
Egypt	Rep. of Congo	Zambia
Iraq	Rwanda	

Venezuela Regional RMRP

Argentina	Costa Rica	Panama
Aruba*	Curaçao*	Paraguay
Bolivia	Dominican Rep.	Peru
Brazil	Ecuador	Trinidad and Tobago
Chile	Guyana	Uruguay
Colombia	Mexico	

Others

Bangladesh	DPR Korea	Iran
------------	-----------	------