

An illustration on an orange background shows a woman with dark hair, wearing a blue dress, holding a baby in a white sling. The woman's face is split vertically, with the left side being a light skin tone and the right side being a darker skin tone. Three red, spiky virus-like particles are scattered around her. The entire illustration is framed by two thin, concentric orange circles.

BRIEFING TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

UNFPA Global Response to COVID-19

9 April 2020

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

On sexual and reproductive health and rights:

- Access to life-saving **sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services** severely disrupted.
- Pandemic is compounding existing **gender inequalities**.
- Shortages of vital **supplies for sexual and reproductive health**.



WOMEN

represent

70%

of the health
and social sector
workforce.



CHALLENGES IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

- Rise in gender-based violence
- Disruption of supply chains
- Rise in anxiety and fear among affected population – increased needs for mental health and psychosocial services
- Physical distancing is difficult in many crowded refugee and IDP sites



Part of a coherent UN response



Shared responsibility,
Global solidarity :
SG's 3-step plan on
socioeconomic impacts



IASC COVID-19
Global Humanitarian
Response Plan



WHO COVID-19 Strategic
Preparedness and Response
Plan and supporting Crisis
Mgmt Team

- **At the country level, work with UNCTs under leadership of RC/HC**
- **Under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee cluster system, lead coordination of GBV within protection cluster, and are part of health cluster**
- **Contributing to health and GBV components in various SG reports**
- **Participates in World Bank-UN coordination structure**

A UN framework for the immediate socio- economic response to COVID-19

- UNFPA is co-leading with WHO the “Health First” pillar of the UNSDG framework
- Contributing to social protection, social cohesion, strengthening resilience and other pillars.
- The framework is:
 - A companion piece to the UN Humanitarian Appeal and SG report
 - Practical and concrete initial offer of UNDS, coordinated and led by the RCs.
- Encompasses an immediate response with a holistic and long-term view towards 2030 Agenda



UNFPA Strategic Priorities and Interventions



3 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1

Continuity of sexual and reproductive health services and interventions, including protection of the health workforce

2

Addressing gender-based violence

3

Ensuring the supply of modern contraceptives and reproductive health commodities

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:

Continuity of sexual and reproductive health services and interventions, including protection of the health workforce

- Strengthen health systems to maintain quality sexual and reproductive health services.
- Ensuring an adequate healthcare workforce and relevant medical supplies, equipment and material for infection prevention and control.
- **Providing dignity kits** to address the hygiene needs of women and girls, based on local needs and procurement realities



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:

Addressing gender-based violence

- Continuity of life-saving services for survivors of gender-based violence and the most at-risk women and girls.
- Referral pathways and risk-mitigation information are updated.
- Prevention, protection, response, coordination and capacity development.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3:

Ensuring the supply of modern contraceptives and other reproductive health commodities

- Mitigating impact on reproductive health supplies, including modern contraceptives and maternal health medicines.
- Supporting ministries of health and other institutions to provide online screening, information, reproductive health and contraception counselling;
- Partnering with private-sector health-care providers to extend services,
- Promoting primary health-care and community empowerment programmes to shift commodity distribution from clinical settings to communities.



4 ACCELERATOR INTERVENTIONS

- 1 Leaving no one behind
 - 2 Data
 - 3 Risk communication and stigma reduction
 - 4 Youth engagement
-



TECHNICAL BRIEF

COVID-19: A Gender Lens

**PROTECTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH AND RIGHTS, AND PROMOTING
GENDER EQUALITY**

MARCH 2020



GLOBAL TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

UNFPA has partnered within the IASC and other coordination mechanisms to produce technical notes on the COVID-19 response:

- [Technical Brief on the Implications of COVID-19 on Census](#)
- [Adolescents and Young People & Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Gender Equality and Addressing Gender-based Violence \(GBV\) and Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Prevention, Protection and Response](#)
- [Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights: Modern Contraceptives and Other Medical Supply Needs, Including for COVID-19 Prevention, Protection and Response](#)
- [Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Maternal and Newborn Health & COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19: A Gender Lens](#)

PARTNERSHIPS, RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS AND MECHANISMS

RESOURCES REQUIRED
\$187.5 MILLION*
FOR GLOBAL RESPONSE

Part of the UN's [Global Humanitarian Response Plan](#), \$120 million, for humanitarian situations.
Additional needs – in contexts not covered by global appeal - totaling [US\\$67.5 million](#) until end April

- **Re-programming of existing resources is under way**
- **Core contributions** more important than ever as UNFPA responds to COVID-19
- Outreach to **private partners** to solicit support for COVID-19 appeal.
- **Visibility partnerships** to expand communication of risk-related messages and stories on access to SRH and GBV services.
- UNFPA responds to COVID-19 with critical support of **key partners** - governments, private sector, civil society, philanthropic organizations, UN entities and international financing institutions

**As the pandemic evolves and expands, UNFPA will revise its overall appeal, factoring in needs and appropriate responses within its mandate and across all settings – humanitarian, fragile contexts and development.*



Action on the ground



Our Response in Asia-Pacific

- China: Critical medical supplies and over 500,000 sanitary items delivered to the frontline health workers, women - particularly pregnant women - and girls in Hubei Province.
- Iran: We responded to the urgent needs of older persons for protection and procured thousands of PPEs
- Vietnam: Delivering critical supplies for pregnant women, women delivering babies, and frontline health workers.



Our Response in the Arab States

- Protecting pregnant women and safe deliveries in Yemen and in Zaatari camp in Jordan
- Working with the youth to spread awareness and prevention messages (Syria)
- Supporting community outreach through the large and expanding youth network (Sudan)
- Women centres sewing PPE for communities, health facilities & medical teams (Iraq)



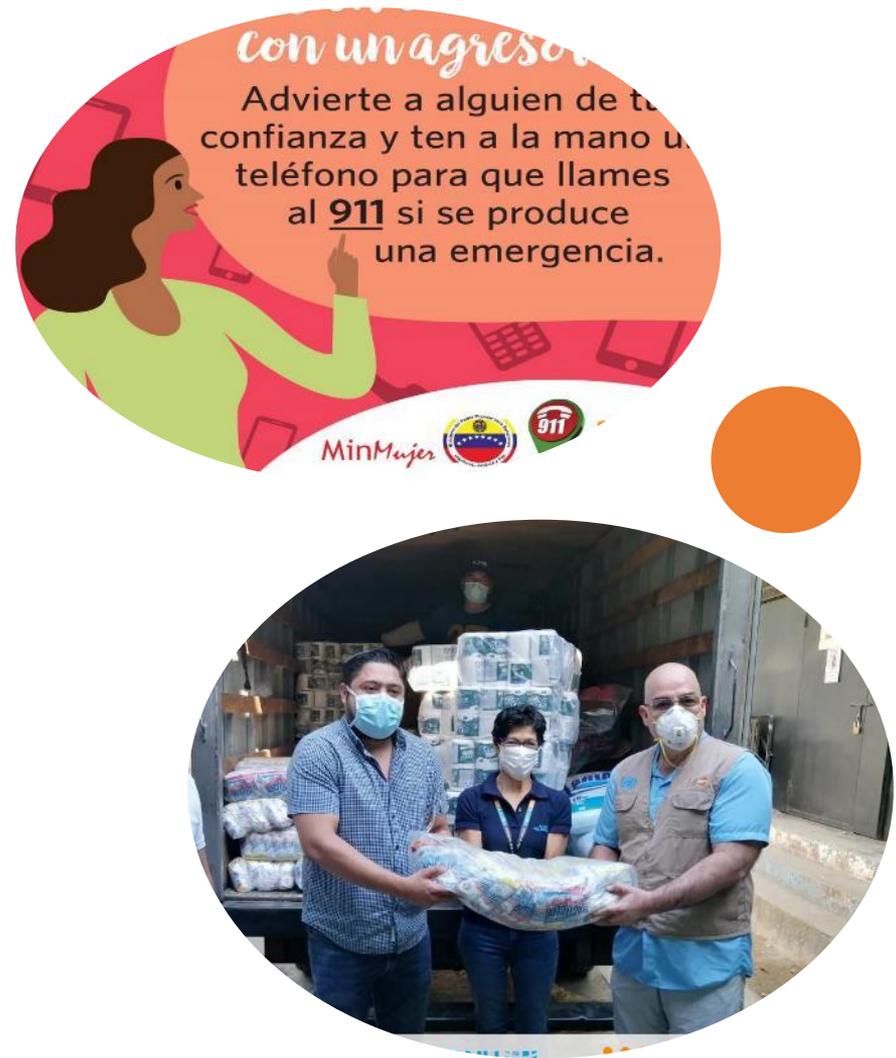
Our Response in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

- Turkey: Providing essential hygiene supplies and basic health screenings to help protect vulnerable people
- **Kyrgyzstan:** Youth volunteers bringing basic necessities & psychosocial support to older people living in isolation.
- Moldova: Supporting women affected by GBV, in partnership with UN Women



Our Response in Latin America and the Caribbean

- El Salvador: as part of HCT, UNFPA delivered to Criminal Centers personal hygiene products for women in prison.
- Venezuela: UNFPA supports a hotline to help women subjected to domestic violence during quarantine
- Haiti: UNFPA deployed community health workers in the Coupe de Pétiion-ville market to sensitize merchants on how to protect themselves
- The Caribbean: Ensuring that women and adolescent girls have access to modern contraception and that mothers can give birth safely.



Our Response in Africa

- Nigeria: Mobilized the private sector to contribute to procurement and ensure safe health services for women and girls, including gender-based violence survivors.
- Liberia: Working with the UNCT, UNFPA is working with the National Public Health Institute of Liberia in disease surveillance and contact tracing.
- East and Southern Africa: UNFPA provides online safe spaces where youth can share their concerns and access accurate information.



BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DUTY OF CARE

- UNFPA remains operational, supporting the people and communities we serve.
- Our priority is to ensure that all UNFPA personnel in over 150 offices are protected, and that our mandate stays central.
- We have activated global security management and crisis response teams to ensure rapid decision-making.
- Business continuity plans are in place, enabling us to continue providing financial, programme and technical support.
- Fast-track provisions will allow partners to respond in a timely and agile fashion to the rapidly evolving needs.

**THANK
YOU**

