MONITORING RESPONSE TO COVID-19 BY RBEC REGIONAL PROGRAMME AND PROJECTS

A GUIDANCE NOTE AND PLAN FOR ACTION

A. BACKGROUND:

The UN's socio-economic response, technically led by UNDP, is one of three critical components of the UN's efforts to save lives, protect people, and rebuild better, alongside the UN's health response, and the humanitarian response. The socio-economic response plans set out their collective support to countries in five main pillars: health services; social protection; jobs; fiscal and financial stimulus; and social cohesion and community resilience. A green and sustainable recovery is a thread running through these plans.

To embark on this socio-economic response, UNDP's ongoing projects, at country, regional and global levels, were required to review and adapt project implementation strategy and approach, redesign the operationalization of project's activities, and incorporate additional activities to address the impact of the pandemic to the project's results.

B. OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this action plan is to provide guidance and timeframe for; a) a comprehensive review of projects monitoring frameworks in light of the modification and changes introduced to respond to Covid-19; b) mapping projects and outputs to the Covid-19 marker; c) to identify Covid-19 indicators to track and capture results directly linked to UNDP's pathway to recovery along the identified three immediate priorities to response to the pandemic: health systems support, multi-sectoral crisis management, and socio-economic impact assessment and response; In addition, d) to identify knowledge products that are being prepared as part of the response, and to track their preparation and quality assurance requirements.

C. THE REVIEW PROCESS:

Grounded on the above objectives, a proposed process to review projects' monitoring frameworks is structured into four main milestones as per the below:

1. Review and Adjustment of Projects’ Monitoring Framework (7-23 October):

   This review of project's indicators should be carried out at two levels:
   a) Review and adjust or reaffirm targets within the existing indicators to align them to the revised project’s results.
   b) Remove obsolete indicators and, if necessary, identify new indicators correspond to the change introduced to the project's strategy and approach to deliver its intended results. Baselines and targets should be assigned to new indicators.

   Changes introduced at both levels should be explained and reported through a revised project result framework.

2. Map Projects and Outputs Against the COVID-19 Marker 2.0¹ (26-30 October)

   In line with UNDP Offer 2.0, projects should be assigned a COVID-19 marker in the corporate planning system based on their contribution to the response. The following table is designed to collect primary and secondary contributions from regional and global projects in IRH to the COVID-19 markers at the three priority areas. If a project output is addressing multiple-dimensions of the 2.0 offer, select primary and secondary contributions. If COVID-19 sensitive work is selected as a primary, no secondary option is available.

¹ For more details on COVID-19 Marker 2.0 please refer to the Guidance Note in this link.
Linking projects to Covid-19 marker could be directly in the CPS, or through using the following offline table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority Area</th>
<th>Marker</th>
<th>Contributing Projects (Project ID – Title)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Primary Contribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued Health Crisis Support</td>
<td>Resilient health systems to respond to COVID-19, including health procurement support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inclusive and multi-sectoral crisis management and response to COVID-19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Socio-economic Impact of COVID-19</td>
<td>Governance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Protection – Uprooting Inequalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Green Economy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Digital Disruption and Innovation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial Support to Address the Pandemic</td>
<td>COVID-19 Sensitive Work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Select COVID-19 Indicators for Each Project (2-6 November):**

The Covid-19 indicators are a set of socio-economic response monitoring indicators that emanated from an interagency consultation led by UNDP and DCO. Although the emphasis of these indicators is to track planned and actual work at country level, many of them are fit to use for tracking results at regional and global level. In case a project is fully or partially carrying out works on one or more of the identified three priority areas to respond to the pandemic, such work should be linked to the relevant indicators as outlined in the below:

a) **Pillar 2: PROTECTING PEOPLE: Social protection and basis services:**

Indicator 2.4: Number of countries with measures in place to address gender-based violence (GBV) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indicator 2.5: Number of beneficiaries of social protection schemes and services related to the COVID-19 pandemic, disaggregated by type of programme, territory (rural/urban), sex, age group and at-risk population.

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

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

Indicator 3.3: Number of countries adopting fiscal, monetary and legislative stimulus packages for COVID-19 economic response and recovery that are: a) Climate and environmentally sensitive; b) Gender sensitive.

c) **Pillar 4: MACROECONOMIC RESPONSE AND MULTILATERAL COLLABORATION:**

Indicator 4.1: Number of countries that undertook socio-economic impact assessments in response to the COVID-19 crisis, with a focus on vulnerable groups, directed at-risk populations.

Indicator 4.2: Number of countries implementing policies informed by socio-economic impact assessment, directed at-risk populations.

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2 Only indicators where UNDP is leading or participating in the immediate response are listed. More description about the indicators could be found in the [UN Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19](#)
d) Pillar 5: SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE:

Indicator 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 disaggregated by type of community-based organization.

Indicator 5.3: Number of social dialogues, advocacy and political engagement spaces facilitated with participation of at-risk populations and groups.

The following format should be used for this purpose:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project ID</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>COVID-19 programmatic output/activities</th>
<th>Proposed COVID-19 Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline Value</th>
<th>Target for 2020</th>
<th>Milestones Achieved Q3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. **Track Covid-19 knowledge products (in parallel):**

Regional knowledge products that are being prepared as part of the response to the pandemic should be reported on through the “knowledge product inventory”, including their dissemination and quality assurance plans and requirements.

D. **PROCESS FLOW AND TIMELINE:**

A high-level timeline is designed, as illustrated in the below, to put these actions in a time sequence: