COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund

Engaging civil society organizations in the whole-of-society response to COVID-19 at national and local levels

October 2021
WHO Initiative on engaging civil society organizations (CSO) in COVID-19 response at national and local levels

CSOs reaching over 80 million people in situations of vulnerability in 40 countries
WHO initiative on engaging civil society organizations (CSO) in COVID-19 response at national and local levels

GOAL
Strengthen community readiness and resilience to public health emergencies

AIM
Prioritize vulnerable communities
Connect to essential public health services
Enhance participatory community-centred governance

OBJECTIVE
CSOs engaged in decision-making, planning, monitoring, and accountability processes in the context of community readiness and resilience to public health emergencies

STRATEGY
CSO response actions are part of whole-of-society support to national response strategies

TARGETED DELIVERABLES/GLOBAL LEVEL
CSO mapping survey (https://forms.office.com/r/cMWmwfdddmX) to strengthen capacities, networking, and partnerships to facilitate systematic engagement
Guidance on community centred participatory governance for public health emergencies to enhance inclusion and integrate community structures with EPHS
Interactive knowledge-sharing platform to support peer-to-peer learning through networking
Protecting health workers and strengthening capacities of frontline care providers

COTE D’IVOIRE and MALI

Association of deans of medical faculties of French-speaking African countries (CADMEF)

COTE D’IVOIRE

Bouake University: experts trained to lead the COVID-19 response

MALI

Bamako University: IPC curriculum developed /free elective course online > Discussions ongoing to make it obligatory for all medical diploma holders

Op. research > To develop national SOPs on protecting health workers
ECUADOR

CONFIENAE

The only indigenous radio *La Voz de la CONFIENAE* now reaches 1,500 indigenous communities of 100,000 people with public health messages on COVID-19 in 11 local languages.

FUNDACIÓN PACHAMAMA

Community health workers trained on:

- Health promotion beyond COVID-19
- Local soap production
- Addressing domestic violence
- Safe deliveries and avoiding maternal deaths
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>DISHA FOUNDATION</td>
<td>70,000 internal migrants supported with access to COVID-19 information, treatment, vaccination, legal- and health-rights awareness in Maharashtra state, NCR Delhi, and South and North Goa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>HEEVIE</td>
<td>60,000 persons supported with referrals and community-based prevention and care in IDP camps in Duhok, Ninewa, and Sulaymaniyah</td>
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<tr>
<td>North West Syria</td>
<td>UDER</td>
<td>Local artists deliver COVID-19 messages by painting on the ruins of war-destroyed buildings in Idleb</td>
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Mitigating COVID-19 impact on persons with disabilities

NEPAL / National Federation of Disabled Nepal (NFDN) and KOSHISH

86,000 persons with disabilities vaccinated and included in local COVID-19 response plans

5 community level health care facilities and 8 mental health self-help groups established to reach 12,240 persons
Religious leaders sensitized on COVID-19 awareness deliver public health messages to their communities

100,000 people reached through 1,000 mosque miking and 500 bike miking
KENYA
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN YOUTH (OAY)

Active member of the National COVID-19 Response Committee, and supports health authorities in awareness campaigns and actions for youth
Examples of participatory community structures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SRI LANKA / CORONA CALENDAR INITIATIVE</th>
<th>NORTH MACEDONIA / EMANCIPATION, SOLIDARITY AND EQUALITY OF WOMEN (ESE)</th>
<th>KYRGYZSTAN / RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE ELDERLY (RCE)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community-led structure of contact tracing linked to local health centres and involves primary school children in tracking behaviour of their family members from the perspective of COVID-19 preventive measures and symptoms/signs.</td>
<td>Roma Community Boards established to develop community resilience plans for 2,500 Roma households and include representatives from the Roma community, ESE, and local authorities: health, education, law enforcement and municipal sectors.</td>
<td>Council of Paramedics – network of older persons with medical backgrounds – supports pandemic response in coordination with the Ministry of Health.</td>
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Examples of WHO technical guidance adapted for the use at the community level

- Implemented in hospitals in Guatemala
- Adapted for the landscape analysis on bridges/barriers to community engagement in North Macedonia
- Adapted for local use in Roma communities in North Macedonia
- Used to design a logbook for monitoring the health status of miners in rural Itogon, Philippines
- Used for COVID-19 awareness among Arabic speaking refugee communities in Malaysia
The future: Community Readiness and Resilience

Ready & Resilient Communities

WHO Risk Communication & Community Engagement

RCCE Collective Service (WHO, UNICEF, IFRC & GOARN)

Civil Society Organizations

Public Health & Service Delivery