COVID-19 Member States
Information Session 29 April 2021

COVID-19 Response Coordination with UN Partners
Coordinated response

UN CMT
- 23 UN entities
- 9 areas of work

IASC
- 18 agencies
- COVID-19 adapted system wide scale up protocols

UNCT
- 136 UN Country Teams
- Interagency coordination for country action
COVID-19 plans and frameworks (2020)

**Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP)**

- **Purpose:** Strategic plan and resource mobilisation vehicle
- **Objective and scope:** Respond to immediate health & multi-sectoral humanitarian needs in vulnerable countries
- **Who benefits:** Most vulnerable people in 63 countries with a refugee or humanitarian crisis, or with high vulnerability

**Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP)**

- **Purpose:** Strategic plan and resource mobilisation vehicle
- **Objective and scope:** Support public health measures to stop transmission of the virus and care for those affected
- **Who benefits:** People in all countries affected by the pandemic or at risk

**UN Socio-Economic Framework**

- **Purpose:** Programming framework
- **Objective and scope:** Mitigate the social & economic impact of COVID-19
- **Who benefits:** Vulnerable people in 162 countries covered by 129 UN Resident Coordinators
COVID-19 plans and frameworks (2021)

Complementary Strategies

**Socio-economic framework**
- Protect health services and systems
- Protect people: social protection and basic services
- Protect jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises, and informal sectors
- Facilitate macroeconomic response and multilateral collaboration

**Humanitarian overview**
- Contain the spread of COVID-19 and decrease morbidity and mortality
- Reduce the deterioration of human assets and rights, social cohesion and livelihoods
- Protect, assist, and advocate for refugees, internally displaced people, migrants, and vulnerable communities

**SPRP 2021**
- Suppress transmission
- Reduce exposure by engaging with and mobilizing communities
- Protect the vulnerable through vaccination
- Reduce mortality and morbidity from all causes
- Catalyse development of and access to COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics

**ACT-A partners:**
UN Crisis Management Team (CMT)

Purpose
Facilitate and align whole of UN efforts to enable coherent coordinated action leveraging synergies and ensuring transparency and accountability in response to COVID-19

Activated in 2020
• 31 Jan PHEIC –> 4 Feb WHO requested CMT activation –> 11 Feb 1st meeting
• WHO: Global Crisis Manager

Operational roll out: using existing global, regional & country mechanisms
• IASC Emergency Directors Group, chaired by OCHA
• UN Country Teams, under DCO’s global coordination

UNCMT triggered further global response actions
• Set up and bringing the COVID-19 Supply Chain System (CSCS) to scale
• Interagency action for UN staff protection: medevac system

23 Participating entities
9 Strategic work streams
23 Briefing sessions to the UN Deputies Committee & Executive Committee
40 Meetings to date (Feb 2020 – Apr 2021)
130 Crisis updates (published by UNOCC)
COVID-19 Supply Chain System: collective effort of UN agencies, health and donor partners to access and procure $1.1 billion of essential supplies for 192 countries

Informed by the epidemiological and operational intelligence monitored by WHO and partners
Underpinned by WHO technical guidance, standards and supply forecasting tools
Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

Purpose
- COVID-19 activated IASC system-wide “Scale Up” in 2020
- Responsible for adapting humanitarian response to COVID-19:
  - Ensuring continued delivery of essential services in FCV countries
  - Safeguarding humanitarian financing for COVID-19 response
  - Working with COVAX for vaccine delivery in humanitarian settings

Health-led, FCV-focused, whole-of-system oriented
- Weekly Principals Meetings on COVID-19 coordination: co-led by OCHA & WHO
- IASC operational guidance aligned with WHO guidance on COVID-19
- IASC-managed GHRP aligned with SPRP, including monitoring framework

Operational foresight: shock-proofing countries with FCV settings
Global Health Cluster: strength of partnership, coordination and country support

WHO leading the collective force of >900 partners at country level to respond more effectively to COVID-19

31 Health Clusters/Sectors of which 2 are regional coordination mechanisms: targeting 83.8 million people

Banadir Development Foundation in Somalia: local NGO working to dispel myths and stop COVID-19 transmission

Concern Worldwide in Central African Republic: raising local government awareness & supporting clinical care

INTERSOS in Iraq: conducting pre-screening activities and infection prevention & control in 10 facilities
Collective Service: a partnership endorsed by the IASC for a community-centred approach on Risk Communication & Community Engagement focusing on scale and quality

- Collaborative
- Community-led
- Reinforce capacity
- Data driven

www.rcce-collective.net
UN Country Teams (UNCT)

Presence
136 countries with a UN footprint coordinated by resident/humanitarian coordinators
UNDCO: global level leadership and coordination, articulating the support of the UN system

Frontline engagement on COVID-19
Agencies mobilized to provide vital strategic, technical and operational support to national authorities and partners
Translating the 3 global plans/frameworks into a contextualized and coherent response

UN wide three-level interagency coordination
- Existing mechanisms used and optimized: health at the heart of the response
- UNDCO led platforms and meetings with UNCTs, WHO technical leadership
- Regional interagency coordination for targeted action

Global briefing sessions for UNRCs/UNCTs (Mar 2020 – Apr 2021)
Participants from >20 UN agencies in-country
HQ-RO meetings REDs/IMs (Jan 2020 – Apr 2021)
WR bulletins: key actions (Feb 2020 – Apr 2021)
Country impact: interagency action, three-level commitment

- **COVID-19 response plan**: 176 countries
- **COVID-19 risk communication & community engagement plan**: 188 countries
- **Tracking pillar actions on WHO Partners Platform**: 134 countries, territories & areas
- **COVID-19 functional multisectoral, multi-partner coordination mechanism**: 190 countries
- **Multisectoral mental health & psychosocial support working group**: 53 priority countries
- **COVID-19 NDVP shared on WHO Partners Platform**: 105 countries, territories & areas

Data as of 25 March 2021
Progress and future direction

• Build on the gains made in UN-wide three-level cohesion, and the relationships established for future resilience:
  • Centrality of health in humanitarian and development action
  • Country needs drive the response
  • Epidemiological and operational data drive action

• UN CMT: opportunities for use in future emergencies maintaining links to existing coordination structures and operational mechanisms

• Institutionalizing ‘building back better’ at country level considering the different global plans and frameworks
  • Opportunities to utilize the linkages, tools and mechanisms established during COVID-19
  • Humanitarian and development action for health to allow recovery and, where possible, with strengthened health security functions and basic safety in service delivery
Operational links: recognizing the critical role of interagency staff

- UNICEF and WFP: staff embedded into
  - Incident management support teams (IMSTs)
  - COVID-19 Supply Chain System (CSCS)

- UNOCC: co-secretariat of the UNCMT

- All UN agencies for their continued engagement in response to the pandemic

THANK YOU!