## **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE COORDINATION**

1. **Development partner coordination during the pandemic.** The United Nations (UN), under the direction of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Mongolia, is leading the coordination with national authorities of the international response to the pandemic in the country through the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). A cluster system has been activated, including a cluster that is coordinating efforts in the health sector. The HCT has established a planning mechanism aimed at coordinating contributions by UN agencies, nongovernment organizations, and development partners to support implementation of the government's Coronavirus Pandemic Response Plan. The contributions are tracked under five pillars: health first, protecting people, economic recovery, macroeconomic response and multilateral coordination, and social cohesion and community resilience. In addition to HCT initiatives, the UN Resident Coordinator's Office has activated a coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis management team. Table 1 shows development partner support for the COVID-19 response as of 25 May 2020.

## Table 1: Mongolia: Development Partner Support for COVID-19 Response

Development Partner	(\$) Current and Planned Contributions
United Nations agencies	5,204,257
International financial institutions	254,280,000
Other development partners	441,912
Total	259,926,169

Note: Data as of 25 May 2020.

Source: United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office, Mongolia.

2. **National coordination arrangements.** The Law on Disaster Management regulates all disaster management activities, including institutional arrangements and operations to ensure preparedness, emergency response, and recovery efforts. The National Emergency Committee (NEC), chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and comprising high-level representatives from sectors and institutions, oversees and coordinates disaster management at the national level. The capital city and *aimags* have their emergency committees that report to the NEC and have the power to make decisions for their administrative divisions. The National Emergency Management Agency that has branches in the capital city and all *aimags*, operates as a secretariat for the NEC and coordinates and operates the disaster management activities at all levels. A new National Task Force for COVID-19 response was established and operates under the NEC, and coordinates activities to contain the spread of the infection in the country. The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection (MLSP) is represented in the National Task Force.

3. **Asian Development Bank's holistic package of emergency support.**<sup>1</sup> This package, which incorporates gender mainstreaming throughout, includes rapid response measures in the health sector, such as reallocating \$1.4 million under an existing health project to procure emergency health equipment, preparing a small-scale TA project for health sector emergency response systems, and approving a \$1.0 million grant from the Asia Pacific Disaster Response Facility to support further procurement of emergency medical equipment. It also includes short-and medium-term responses such as a \$30.0 million loan to support health security, a \$24.0 million reallocation to support small- and medium-sized enterprises, and a \$100.0 million

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ADB. <u>Mongolia: COVID-19 Emergency Response Project</u>; Reallocation (\$1.4 million) and additional financing (\$30 million) for ADB. <u>Mongolia: Fifth Health Sector Development Project</u>; Support for emergency response systems under ADB. <u>Mongolia: Support for Improving the Preparedness and Response to Novel Coronavirus</u>; Reallocation of \$75,000 for purchase of screening equipment at selected border crossing points from ADB. <u>Mongolia: Regional Improvement of Border Services</u>; Countercyclical support of \$100 million through ADB. Mongolia: <u>COVID-19 Rapid Response Program</u>.

countercyclical support program to help the government manage the economic impact of COVID-19 and respond to public health and social protection needs for vulnerable groups through the countercyclical development expenditure program (CDEP). The COVID-19 Rapid Response Program (footnote 1) includes a detailed assessment of development coordination in the health sector and on macroeconomics.

4. **Social protection coordination.** The MLSP oversees the government's labor and social protection responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. On 27 March 2020, the government approved a CDEP to address the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDEP includes public health protection and economic and social protection measures to support citizens and businesses. The government approved an expanded package of temporary social assistance measures on 6 May 2020, to provide financial support to the poor, children, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups, which were approved in support of the Law on Prevention of Pandemic and Reduction of the Negative Social and Economic Impacts. The MLSP and Ministry of Finance have been in close coordination with social protection development partners on securing financing and technical advice. Table 2 shows details of development partner coordination in Mongolia and plays a leadership role in several sectors, including social protection.

Development Partner	Coordination Activities
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	<ul> <li>Coordination on debt position and impact of coronavirus disease (COVID-19)</li> <li>Provided Assessment Letter for the COVID-19 Pandemic Response Option</li> </ul>
United Nations Resident Coordinator	<ul> <li>Heads Humanitarian Country Team, which is leading overall COVID-19 response with Deputy Prime Minister's Office</li> <li>Coordination on economic analysis and impact on Sustainable Development Goals</li> </ul>
World Health Organization	<ul> <li>Laboratory supplies, personal protective equipment, mobilization of experts, training of trainers, planning, and planning workshops</li> <li>Coordinating COVID-19 assessment and communications with government</li> </ul>
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	<ul> <li>Early advocacy for increased child grants as social protection response</li> <li>Risk communications and community engagement; critical supplies and logistics including personal protective equipment; addressing primary impacts of the pandemic on health, nutrition, water supply, sanitation, and hygiene; and secondary impacts on children and families</li> <li>Strengthening gender-based violence /domestic violence prevention and response to provide essential services to survivors of domestic violence and to address the specific challenges of social distancing and limited mobility</li> <li>UNICEF has secured funds for some of the activities from the Government of Japan</li> </ul>
World Bank	<ul> <li>Providing \$5 million parallel cofinancing for the child money program top-ups. Coordination on economic and poverty analysis</li> <li>Also providing support in the health sector (close coordination on Asian Development Bank health sector operations)</li> <li>Support the government measure exempting the self-insured and qualified employers and employees from the social insurance contribution</li> </ul>
Swiss Development Cooperation Agency	<ul> <li>Increasing psychosocial resilience of vulnerable population in Ulaanbaatar during COVID-19</li> <li>Information and awareness-raising activities around COVID-19 impact and related response measures.</li> </ul>

 Table 2: Development Partner Coordination for Social Protection in Mongolia

Source: Asian Development Bank.