

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE COORDINATION

1. The Law on Disaster Management primarily 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 comprised of high-level representatives from relevant 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 respective 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. Currently, the National Task Force for corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) response is established and operates under the NEC, and coordinates activities to contain the spread of the infection in the country.
2. The Ministry of Health (MOH) is leading the response of the health sector during public health emergencies. The World Health Organization's Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies serves as a regional guide for development of the national regulations and plans. The National Communicable Disease Center serves as focal point for the health sector response during public health emergencies, including outbreaks of communicable diseases. The Ministry of Health is member of the NEC and is represented in the national Task Force that oversees the COVID-19 response. The other members include the United Nations special agencies such as United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Development Programme, World Health Organization (WHO), Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Development Bank, World Bank; embassies that have programs in health the sector; and nongovernment organizations. The proposed additional financing will directly support the National COVID-19 Response Plan and coordination arrangements will be coursed through the Health Sector Task Force.
3. ADB's engagement in the health sector commenced in 1992 and it is the largest development partner in Mongolia with 5 loans, 7 grants, and 15 technical assistance projects extended to the sector, of which two are ongoing projects. In response to COVID19, besides ADB, the World Bank approved a loan of \$26.9 million to support training for emergency care doctors, nurses and paramedical staff and purchase of medical and laboratory equipment supplies with nation-wide coverage. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided \$1.2 million to strengthen infection prevention and control, expand laboratory testing capabilities and conduct outbreak surveillance. Government of Japan has supported the purchase of personal protective equipment kits for \$0.5 million. WHO is assisting with overall support across the sector and has provided \$0.3 million in direct support for training, technical support, awareness raising and advocacy, and provision of medical supplies. World Vision has also provided \$0.25 million in emergency medical equipment at the provincial level. The scope of interventions under the proposed additional financing has taken into account assistance being extended by other development partners and the implementation schedule has been calibrated to ensure synergies. Procurement arrangements for medical supplies and equipment are being coordinated by the MOH jointly with the development partners.