**COUNTRY CONTEXT**

**Lock down**
The initial 21-day lock down on the country which ended on 19 April, 2020 was extended by two weeks to 3 May, 2020; Only essential services (food, hospitals etc) remain accessible to the public

**Borders**
Borders remain open to essential traffic; Non-essential travel except cargo is banned both in & out of the country

**World Vision Staff**
2 out of 3 staff working remotely or supporting field work with added safety measures

**Impact on programming**
WV continues to oversee humanitarian & other critical projects & activities, including in child sponsorship. About 60% of our programs are still running

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**RESPONSE PRIORITIES**

WVZ has developed an initial **US$1 million** response plan & intends to scale up interventions beyond this time frame drawing on additional resources & funding

**Food Assistance**
Continue to provide food assistance to drought affected populations in 9 districts. COVID-19 awareness & sensitization.

**Health & Nutrition**
Procure & distribute Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Support capacity building of Ministry of Health & Child Care staff & community health workers.

**Education**
Awareness (IEC) to all schools nationwide through print material & SMS to the hard to reach areas.

**WASH**
Procure & distribute soap, sanitisers, hand washing stations in communities and health facilities.

**Advocacy, Protection & Safeguarding**

**Admin & Procurement**
Timely purchase of response material & ensuring staff well-being.

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**KEY INTERVENTIONS**

- PPE distribution to community health centers and district hospitals in operational areas
- COVID-19 Awareness raising through IEC, SMS, Mobile Broadcasts, Radio slots, Social Media platforms
- High level participation at national COVID-19 fora
- Improved access to water in target communities

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**TARGET POPULATION**

- **329,918** children
- **69,118** sponsored children
- **426,720** men
- **684,655** women
- **1,441,293** total individuals

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**KEY MESSAGES**

- WVZ urges the nation to focus on the impact of the pandemic on children, especially the most vulnerable-their access to education, health services, care & pyschosocial support
- WVZ is concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on communities already in crises (Cyclone Idai & Drought). Funding must not be diverted from their current needs
- WVZ calls on government & other actors to adapt the child protection reporting & referral mechanisms in light of reports of increased gender-based violence during periods of movement restriction

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