NEPAL COVID-19 RESPONSE

Response Objectives

- Support Government of Nepal’s effort to scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- Support Government to strengthen health system and workers.
- Support children, women and most vulnerable families impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food and livelihood interventions.
- Collaborate and lobby with stakeholders to ensure the most vulnerable children and groups are protected.

Background

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, the government of Nepal initiated countrywide lockdown starting from March 23, 2020 initially for the period of 7 days which has been already extended 4th time until 18th of May 2020. As per World Bank, the impact of the pandemic will hit low-income people hard, especially informal workers in the hospitality, retail trade, and transport sectors who have limited or no access to healthcare or social safety nets. With a poverty rate of 25.2% (source: ADB), the crippling economy of the country and extension of lockdown is going to have serious impacts on food security.

World Vision International Nepal started implementing its preparedness and response starting from March 27, 2020 with an objective to support the government of Nepal to strengthen the capacity of health facilities and also support the most vulnerable population directly or indirectly impacted by this pandemic.

0-30 days Programme Strategy

1. The major focus was on the preparedness activities focused on health and WASH through two major activities; integrated messaging on COVID 19 and distribution of 1000 sets of PPE to be used by the frontline health workers in 14 WV working districts.
2. Integrated messaging is covering the content of COVID 19 risk communication, preventive measures, services available from government and other relevant clusters, tools for psycho-social support and engaging children at homes.
3. Demands need to be analyzed and changes to the plans to be made accordingly if budget and capacity is available with the organization.

Needs Analysis

The major needs for the community and government seems to be food, protective clothing (PPE sets) and NFI to operate the quarantine centers. WV has received requests to support the following from WVIN working areas:

1. Food (Requests for 90,005 Households till date)
2. PPE (Requests for 16,882 till date)
3. NFI (to operate quarantine shelters)

WV is in the process of finalizing response plan for next 90 days to address short term and long term recovery needs of the vulnerable communities.
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World Vision International Nepal's Response (April):

- Handed over 1000 PPE sets (containing 19 items) and 130 Infra-red thermometers to Government of Nepal. These PPE sets will be delivered by the local governments to front line health workers in 14 districts.
- Distributed food rations 1596 Households, additional food rations provided to local level governements to reach 685 HH and 661 HH linked with government to receive food.
- Supported DDMCs in Morang, Udaypur, Sunsari, Sarlahi, Rauthat, Mahottari, Doti and Kailali Districts with Non Food Items (Tarps, rope, blanket, mosquito net, bucket, jerry can, plastic mat, Pfoam and shovel) to build and operate quarantine shelters.
- Distributed 16,499 soap bars and other hygiene materials reaching 5,163 households.
- Dissiminated PSA messaging through social media and 300+ community radios all over the country reaching 15 Million+ people.

Major Highlights (April)

1,000 PPE SETS
Including 19 different items

2,945 HH Supported
with food rations

16,499 Soap bars

3,868 Masks

1,038 Woolen
Blankets

117 Liters of Hand
Sanitizers

818 Mosquito Nets

494 Jerry Cans

824 rolls of ropes

1,338 Tarpulins

261 Plastic and PU Foam
Mats

130 Infra Red
Thermometers

Figure 1: WV Partner staff helps beneficiary to apply hand sanitizer before giving the food rations in Brick kiln Lalitpur

Figure 2: Beneficiary from Brick kiln receiving the food package

Figure 3: WV Partner staffs orient the beneficiaries before distribution maintaining social distancing.

Figure 4: Brick kiln worker in line to receive food support in Brick kiln Kathmandu