

**COVID-19  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN  
APRIL-JULY 2020**



## **1. Background and Context**

The World Health Organization (WHO) on 11 March 2020, declared the coronavirus (COVID-19), as a global pandemic. A very rough guess is that, without a campaign of social distancing, between 25% and 80% of a typical population will be infected. Of these, perhaps 4.4% will be seriously sick and a third of those will need intensive care. For poor places, this implies calamity. In Zambia 65 Covid-19 cases have been recorded with three deaths. The current low numbers are due either to a lack of detection or to the time lag between when the virus first spreads and when it begins to manifest. For poor countries like Zambia, if Covid-19 spreads, it would be disastrous due to high risk factors resulting from inadequate basic health infrastructure and human resource, lack of clean running water in most communities and households, high population densities that will impede physical distancing and high dependence on paycheck, or daily earnings, to survive. Additionally, the government cannot afford to cover the difference, the cost of shutting down businesses and the commensurate contraction in demand for casual labor will cause widespread distress. All of this will be compounded by the dramatic global economic slowdown, which is likely to hit fragile states the hardest.

Even, so, the Zambian government has imposed restrictive measure of people staying in homes and encouraging social distancing to manage the spread of the virus. Notwithstanding these government initiatives, the detrimental impact on children, of these restrictions are already starting to be seen. Education has come to virtual standstill as children are home because of school closure and there is minimal reading and learning taking place at home. Casual laborers are unable to find work to earn daily wages. Some families particularly those living in urban informal settlements are starting to face food shortages because of a lack of money to buy food and, in some areas, caregivers are rationing food to having only one meal per day in order to sustain their supplies. Parents are having to make difficult choices between staying home with no source of income or leaving young children unattended while they search for food. There is a high likelihood of domestic and gender-based violence as tension increases in homes due to being confined in small domestic space, and the frustration of not being able to provide or obtain necessities. Shortages of water supply have also started being experienced, especially in urban informal settlements in Zambia. ChildFund will work with its local partners to implement these initiatives. The LPs being at the frontlines will implement and ChildFund will provide technical support. ChildFund will also engage relevant line ministries to support the initiatives.

### **2.0 Project Goal and objectives**

#### **2.1 Project goal**

The main goal of this project is to protect children and their families from the COVID-19 pandemic, reducing transmission risks and mitigating socio-economic impacts due to restriction measures.

#### **2.2 Specific Objectives:**

- 2.2.1 To reduce the risks of transmitting COVID-19 to 30,000 households with targeted vulnerable children by improving access to improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities.*
- 2.2.2 Improve livelihood security for 6000 households targeting 1000 households per LP, whose*

*livelihoods are severely impacted by movement restriction measures due to COVID-19 outbreak.*

2.2.3 *Strengthen Child Protection Mechanisms in the target communities during the lockdown for COVID-19*

2.2.4 *Ensure Continuity of Learning for Learners through procurement and distribution of 3500 radios for Primary School and 5GB data bundles for 1500 Secondary school learners Project activities for three months.*

**Objective 2.2.1: 2.2.1 To reduce the risks of transmission of COVID-19 to 30,000 households with targeted vulnerable children by improving access to improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities .**

**Activity 2.2.1.1: Provide Information, Education & Communication (IEC) for COVID-19 to targeted communities:** ChildFund will support LPs to undertake community sensitization through information dissemination, education and communication to the general public in the targeted districts. This will be done through distribution of IEC/BCC materials in local languages, mobile vehicles and loudspeakers using ZANIS & sponsoring of Community Radio Station programmes on COVID-19 prevention. This will be done in the 10 districts where the 6 ChildFund Local partners have a presence through LPs. (Chongwe, Luangwa, Lusaka, Rufunsa, Chilanga and Kafue (Lusaka Province), Mumbwa, Chibombo, Chisamba and Shibuyunji (Central Province)

**Activity 2.2.1.2: Design and print or reprint IEC/BCC materials in local languages and distribute via mobile vehicles and loudspeakers using ZANIS & sponsoring of Community Radio Station programs on COVID-19 prevention:** ChildFund will print and or reprint IEC/BCC materials in local languages and supply to LPs for distribution through the 6 LPs. All the 6 LPs will engage and support MoH efforts at district level using mobile vans and loudspeaker through collaboration.

**Activity 2.2.1.3: Procure and distribute WASH supplies and materials to 101 health facilities and to surrounding vulnerable households:** ChildFund will procure and supply LPs with hand washing facilities, soap, hand sanitizers, face masks and gloves to health centers and public facilities as part of promoting personal hygiene. This will target 101 health facilities in LPs operational areas. Additionally, Information will be provided to children, parents and care givers on how children can protect themselves from COVID-19, best hand washing practices & paying attention to personal & environmental hygiene. Information will be disseminated to community members targeting children and caregivers.

**Objective 2.2.2: Improve livelihood security for 6000 households, whose livelihoods are severely impacted by movement restriction measures due to COVID-19 outbreak.**

- **Activity 2.2.2.1: Provide emergency Cash Transfers to 6000 vulnerable households:** ChildFund will support LPs to provide monthly cash transfers to vulnerable households whose livelihoods have been severely impacted by the social distancing and other restrictions imposed to curb the spread of COVID-19, and who lack alternative means of subsistence. This activity is targeting 6,000 households in the six Local partners. Each Local partner will target 1,000 households. LPs will engage the Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare Services (MCDSWS) to select beneficiary households. Funds will be transferred to household through Mobile Money and Cash in hand for Households without mobile money facilities following the set rules. On Average, a Zambian household has 6 members.

**Objective 2.2.3 Strengthen Child Protection Mechanisms in the target communities during the outbreak of COVID-19**

**Activities 2.2.3.1: Advocacy for Children to strengthen existing community and district level child support structures:** ChildFund will work with LPs to strengthen existing community and district level child support structures. Circles of support from the district and community structures will be kept active with communication lines open for any case of abuse to be reported quickly. these structures will be trained virtually and supported with Information, Education and Communication materials. In strengthening child health and protection, the following will be our advocacy points. 1). Advocate for the continuity of health care services provision to children and pregnant women including immunization and Maternal Child Health (MCH) and Focused Antenatal Care (FANC) activities, 2). Enhancing advocacy in preventing child marriages; 3). Support community child protection advocates to ensure that abuse and violence against children continues to be monitored and reported. Messaging will be done through media houses, community advocates to help children's voices to be heard in times of distress.

**Objectives 2.2.4 Objectives 2.2.4: Ensure Continuity of Learning for Learners through procurement and distribution of 3500 radios for Primary School and 5GB data bundles for 1500 Secondary school learners from economically disadvantaged households:**

**Activity 2.2.4.1 Procurement and distribution 3500 radios for Primary School learners in grade 7 and 1500 Ipads with 5GB data bundles for grades 9 and 12 secondary school learners:** ChildFund will work with all the 6 LPs in collaboration with the Ministry of General Education to ensure continuity of learning for all children in examination classes through suitable content development that is aligned with the curriculum used in schools. These radios and Ipads will be distributed to households with school learners. With learning from our previous ZeduPad project, iPads were given in groups. Considering that Covid 19 restrictions does not promote group gathering, the selection of the beneficiaries for the 3500 radio will target the exam classes (grades 7) while the distribution of 1500 iPads with 5GBs data bundles will target Grades 9 and 12 which are also exams grades. The eligibility will be based on the vulnerability of children following the LP enrollment standards. All LPs will engage targeted school management committees to select the number of children to benefit based on their child vulnerability registers. This will ensure continuity of learning for Learners during the Covid 19 restriction period.

**3.0 Response Target Reach**

<b>Approach</b>	<b>Households/Persons</b>	<b>Below 15 yrs</b>	<b>15 to 65years. (Adults)</b>
Sensitization	30,000 Household/180,000	85,520	96,480
WASH Materials	30,000 Household/180,000	85,520	96,480
Child Protection	30,000 Households/180,000	85,520	96,480
Cash transfers	6,000 Households/36,000		6000

#### **4.0 Response Operations**

Senior Management Team (SMT) role will be a critical success factor toward the COVID-19 response. The Country Director and the SMT will dedicate significant level of effort to the response. ChildFund's existing local partner organizations will directly implement activities and deliver assistance to affected communities. ChildFund COs will also collaborate with relevant local and national government authorities including line ministries of Health, Education, Community Development and Water & Sanitation and the Local Government in ensuring successful implementation of the COVID-19 response.

The Africa Regional Director will provide technical and management oversight to the Country Office during the COVID-19 response implementation. At global level, ChildFund's Emergency Management Unit Director will provide technical support on the COVID-19 response. The other global teams and Alliance members will be engaged as appropriate.

#### **5.0 Communications and Visibility**

The contact person for the Country Office will be the Country Director with the support of the CO's Communication Specialist. All the materials to be printed will be branded with ChildFund. Handovers of materials will be done in collaboration with the relevant line ministries and the media.

## 6.0 Estimate Budget

Objective	Activities/items	Total USD
<b>Objective 2.2.1: Reduce COVID-19 transmission risks for 30,000 families with children through improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).</b>	Activity 2.2.1.1: Provide Information, Education & Communication (IEC)for COVID-19 to target communities vulnerable communities	35,625
	Activity 2.2.2.2: Procure and distribute WASH supplies and materials for 101 health facilities and to surrounding vulnerable households	
	Activity 2.2.2.3: Design and print or reprint IEC/BCC materials in local languages and distribute mobile vehicles and loudspeakers using ZANIS & sponsoring of Community Radio Station programs on COVID-19 prevention	
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>35,625</b>
<b>Objective 2.2.2: Improve livelihood security for 6000 households, whose livelihoods are severely impacted by movement restriction measures due to COVID-19 outbreak.</b>	Activity 2.2.2.1: Provide emergency Cash Transfers to 6000 vulnerable households in the target districts	337,500
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>337,500</b>
<b>Objective 2.2.3 Strengthen Child Protection Mechanisms in the target communities during the outbreak of COVID-19</b>	Activities 2.2.3.1: Advocacy for Children to strengthen existing community and district level child support structures.	31,250
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>31,250</b>
<b>Objectives 2.2.4: Ensure Continuity of Learning for Learners through procurement and distribution of 3500 radios for Primary School and 5GB data bundles for 1500 Secondary school learners from economically disadvantaged households.</b>	Activity 2.2.4.1: Facilitate procurement and distribution of 3500 radios for Primary School and 5GB data bundles for 1500 secondary school learners	75,312
	Activity 2.2.2.2: Improved case management and quality of services:479687	
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>75,312</b>
<b>Admin Cost</b>	CO Administration Costs 10%	47,968
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED RESPONSE BUDGET</b>		<b>527,655</b>