

Pan American Development Foundation Response Capabilities for COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean

Health and Livelihoods

With nearly 60 years of experience across the region and strong partnerships with local communities, civil society and public sector, the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) is **uniquely positioned to offer immediate assistance in three of the four most urgent areas of response to COVID-19**. PADF has extensive in-country networks working in open and closed societies and an established track-record of effective project management through on-the-ground and virtual collaboration. With sound financial controls, we can quickly facilitate remote procurements and payments through mobile and e-vouchers. We are prepared to provide immediate services in the three blue-shaded quadrants of the four main areas of response to COVID-19.

	Community Level	Health System Level
Long Term	#1 Mitigation of the social and economic impact on communities and local livelihoods	#2 Provision of routine community health services for overburdened health facilities
Immediate	#3 Community prevention and response	#4 Attention to patients in health facilities

= areas in which PADF **is** prepared to provide immediate services
 = areas in which PADF **is not** prepared to provide immediate services

PADF Experience and Capabilities in the Region

As a non-profit and non-governmental organization, PADF can receive funding through donations, grants, contracts, and partnerships with governments, foundations, and the private sector. We have vast experience supporting civil society and coordinating efforts to deliver vital services and humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations. We are a strategic partner and proud affiliate of the Organization of American States (OAS) and part of the Inter-American Human Rights System, and our Public International Organization (PIO) status under the OAS allows us to quickly receive funding from the U.S. Government and scale up programs.



“Let’s Wash Our Hands”: PADF’s Urban Planning Project for Strengthening Resilience to Disasters (UPGRADE) program features a marketing plan to educate residents about handwashing, water treatment, litter management and more. In these vulnerable urban areas, poor sanitation facilities and a lack of knowledge about sanitation make it difficult to prevent the rapid spread of diseases, including pandemics like COVID-19.

#1 Mitigation of the economic impact of COVID-19 on communities and local livelihoods

Mitigation of the immediate economic impact of COVID-19 entails addressing food insecurity, including distributing vouchers and supporting community kitchens and farmers. Mitigating economic impact longer term requires a two-pronged approach: livelihoods and access to markets. We train vulnerable groups (daily wage earners and self-employed) to participate in livelihood opportunities, including cash- and vouchers-for-work programs. We provide farmers with access to markets and (re) connect them to supply and value-chains. PADF has worked with micro, small, and medium enterprises to address credit, insurance, and financial issues associated with disaster response and preparedness, such as emergency grants, tax rebates, rent, and debt waivers to entrepreneurs.

#2 Provision of primary community health services and nutrition as health systems become overburdened by COVID-19 cases

As COVID-19 patients overwhelm health systems, primary community health services will be stretched thin. PADF has experience implementing emergency programs to enhance access to life-saving primary health care to migrants and their host communities along the Colombian/Venezuelan border and in other countries in the region, with the enormous influx of Venezuelan migrants (3.5 million to date) that overwhelm local health services. Through partnerships with healthcare providers and community organizations, PADF provides biomedical equipment and supplies, psychosocial support workshops for armed conflict victims, migrants, displaced families, ethnic groups, and host populations. We also offer HIV/AIDS testing, preventive and curative care, and rehabilitation. PADF’s expertise includes nutrition, maternal and child health, infectious diseases, and services for the disabled. PADF has experience coordinating with United Nations agencies and other partners for migration and crisis care.

#3 Community prevention and response to COVID-19

Community prevention and response to COVID-19 entails preparation, coordination, and credibility. To date, PADF has pilot tested and rolled out COVID-19 prevention and mitigation materials in Central and South America and the Caribbean. PADF has experience creating diverse civil society networks and fostering coordination between local governments and communities to deliver vital services and humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations. PADF is a trusted community partner; a provider of supplies including soap, sanitizer, and buckets; and a reliable source for social and behavior change activities around WASH, hygiene, and stopping infection and transmission.

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