

Aflatoun International COVID-19 Impact & Response Survey Summary of findings

April 2020

A view from around the world

The COVID-19 outbreak has an immensely negative impact on children and young people around the world. It also has major consequences for organisations that normally support vulnerable children.

In order to assess how Aflatoun partner organisations are affected, learn more about how they are continuing to reach children and youth and help us identify the best ways we can provide support– we opened a short, rapid online survey from 15-17 April 2020. 113 organisations from 67 countries responded within the short timeframe.

This note provides a summary of the key results and highlights the innovating responses we are seeing from our partner network.

Impact on Aflatoun Partners* - All organisations have been negatively impacted by the crisis. The majority of Aflatoun partners are working from home or are closed. Organisations report a reduction in income, cash flow problems and the psycho-social wellbeing of staff is affected. Several organisations are reporting reduction in salary for staff.

Life Skills, Financial & Entrepreneurship Education - More than two-thirds of the regular social & financial education programmes are carrying out less than 50% of the activities they were pre COVID-19 or they are offering no activities at all. The large majority of ongoing social & financial education programmes are implemented through distance learning (75%).

Response to COVID-19 outbreak – The large majority of organisations are responding to the current crisis.

More than three-quarters (76%) are directly responding to the COVID-19 outbreak. They are responding in three ways: creating *communication on COVID-19* (65%), distributing education material (35%) and distributing water & soap (30%).

More than half of the organisations (57%) are working to *continue education of children and youth*. This includes support and guidance to parents (41%), digital interventions (34%), and lessons via radio/tv (15%).

In addition, 41% are providing support to *mitigate the impact of the crisis* by distributing food (25%), cash assistance to vulnerable families (13%), and child protection & violence prevention activities (27%).

Digital approaches to respond - Most interaction with beneficiaries is via basic phone (63%), SMS (38%), and the use of smartphones (74%). Only a quarter have direct face-to-face interaction and have implemented social distancing approaches. Overall, four out of five beneficiaries (or their parents) have access to a simple (offline) phone (82%). More than two-thirds have access once every two days to the internet (68%). In sub-Saharan Africa this is 56%. In all other regions it is nearly 90%. Overall, only 17% have continuous internet access.

Support to the partners – There are five priority areas our partner organisations request strategic guidance on and support in: (i) Implementing Social & Financial Education programmes during the crisis; (ii) Support to continue education for children and youth while schools are closed; (iii) Communication material on COVID-19 prevention; (iv) Guidance on fundraising; and (v) How to mitigate the impact of the closures/lock-down on the children & youth.

*Aflatoun's overall mission is to socially and economically empower children and young people to make a positive change for a more equitable world.

Aflatoun is not a typical NGO. It employs the social franchise model, which has allowed the organisation to develop, roll out and replicate programmes through a partner network of 300+ organisations (including NGOs, CSOs, and governments) who implement programmes in over 100 countries.

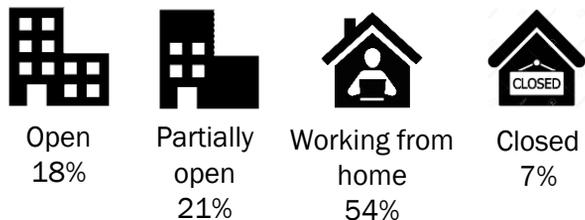
The dynamic, bottom-up network of interlinked partner organisations is based on reciprocal empowerment. It is a flexible low cost/high impact model with strong South-South cooperation building resilience among children.

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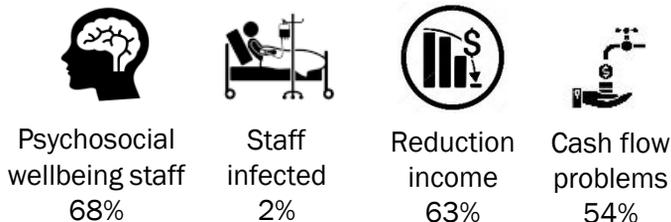
114 Aflatoun partners – 67 countries

21 April 2020

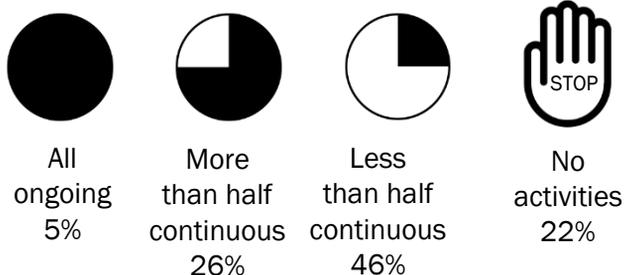
Organisation office status



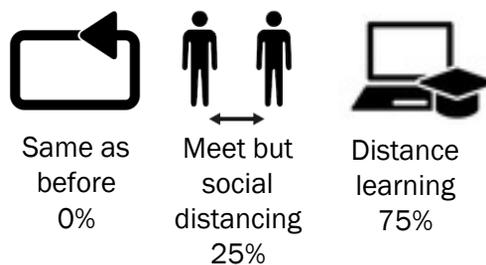
Organisation affected by COVID-19



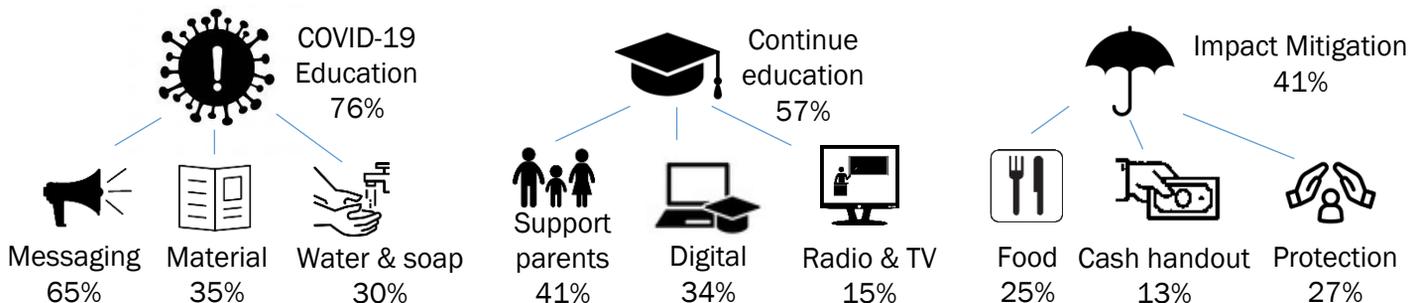
Status of regular programmes



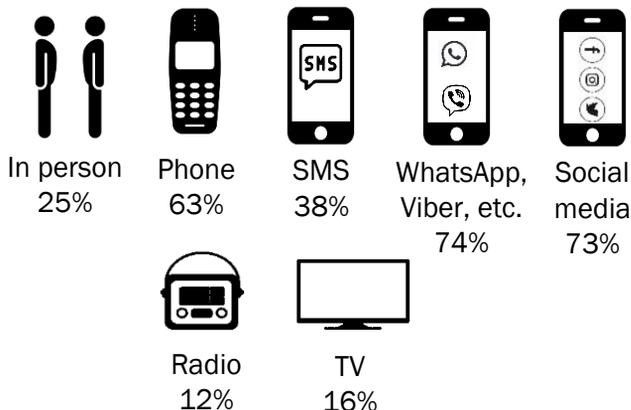
Implementation mode programmes



COVID-19 Emergency Response by Organisations

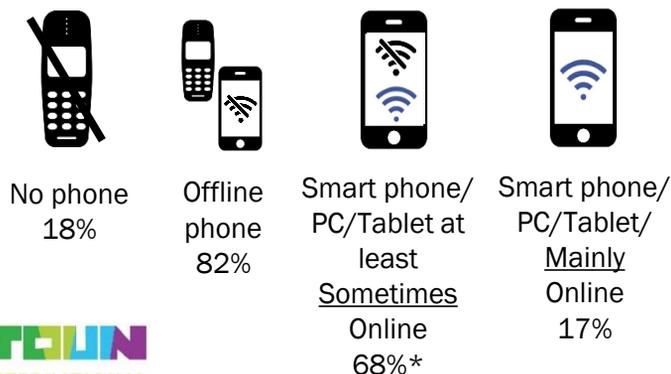


Mode of activities past 7 Days*



Digital Connectivity

Programme beneficiaries have at least once every 2 days access to:



*active organisations

Prevention of COVID-19

Botswana – *Project Concern International*: Created WhatsApp groups to disseminate COVID-19 messaging in communities they operate.

India – *Children International SAHAY*: Spreading information through WhatsApp, YouTube and SMS on hand washing, preventive measures, information about COVID-19, food habits etc.

Burundi – *Mamas for Burundi Association*: Raising awareness among families on the COVID-19 pandemic and how to talk to their children about the impacts and consequences.

Sudan – *Global Organisation for the Family and Child Welfare*: Aflatoun club members are sending messages about COVID-19 to other children in the country.

Saudi Arabia – *Arab Institute for Urban Development*: Created storyboards to help education children on negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Somalia – *Solidarity Youth Voluntary Organisation*: Prepared and installed hand washing facilities in public places where children meet. Developed and distributed materials on information about COVID-19 prevention.

Mozambique – *Rede para o Desenvolvimento da Primeira Infancia*: Created a pamphlet for parents that included information about COVID-19. Highlighting the steps to take to prevent child violence.

Malawi – *Hope for Relief*: Hosting handwashing competitions. Children & young people encouraged to illustrate hand washing or create a short video on how to wash your hands. There is a prize for the best video.

Nepal – *Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN)*: Distributing awareness campaign materials on mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

Distance Education - Offline

Kenya – Action For Child Development Trust: Arranged program where children or parents pick homework from school.

Kenya – Siaya Education Project: Downloaded educational material and printed them to give them out as hand outs as most of the kids do not have access to electricity

Bangladesh – BRAC: Teaching pupils social education through small group calls (5 along with teacher) by mobile phone.

Ecuador – Children International Guayaquil: An Aflatoun platform for children who can complete the program without the need for the internet, can download the module and then send it for review.

Haiti – Parole & Action: Some lessons are prepared at the P&A's office and distributed to teachers who, in turn, provided explanations to parents to assist the children's learning during the time of confinement.

Yemen – For All Foundation: Currently working with a new innovative plan aimed at completing education for students and at the same time raising awareness for parents and students.

Liberia – Liberia Rural Children Psychosocial Development Organization: We also work with youth to prepare educational materials and take it to our beneficiaries while using social distancing.

Jordan – INJAZ: Moving our financial programs on TV for schools.

Uganda – Girls in Red Organization: We have designed a program of recording vital information on CD/DVD and to be distributed to 500 homes

Sudan – Sudanese Coalition for Education for All: broadcasting educational seminars through various social media and by broadcasting organized seminars of lessons via television and radio so they reach children in the rural areas.

Distance Education - Online

Belarus – Ministry of Education: Students of the Maxim Tank Belarusian Pedagogical University launched a volunteer project. They provide online lessons in various subjects.

Puerto Rico – Nuestra Escuela: Adaptation of personalized education model. A new relational narrative developed between the participants and their mentors and the programmatic planning and execution strategy had to be adapted.

Peru – CARE: Delivery of tablets with content on social, entrepreneurial and socio-emotional education.

Honduras – Fundacion Ficohsa: Talks are being organised via Zoom.

Malawi – Hope for Relief: Created a WhatsApp group. All the teachers and mother groups trained in Aflatoun and Aflateen+ are part of this forum making comments and contributions to the sessions that are guided by our staff focal person.

Palestine – Al-Nayzak Foundation for Scientific Innovation: Launched a free electronic educational platform for students.

Indonesia – ChildFund: Collaborating with technical partners to provide online learning services that can be accessed by phone or online.

Ethiopia – Future Hopes Integrated Development Organization: Disseminating social and financial education through media.

Thailand – SEAMEO Secretariat: Share educational materials through the Links of SEAMEO Online Resources. It can be accessed on the Website: www.seameo.org. All materials are available for students, teachers and educators.

Iran – BECG Child & Youth Department: Preparing training courses for teachers considering ongoing digital learning. And hosting Q&A sessions.

Sudan – Global Organisation for the Family and Child Welfare: Social media platforms help students while schools are closed.

Uganda – National Curriculum Development Centre: Developing a customised classroom tablet with social and financial literacy content which can be used online and offline.

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Examples of Innovations

Mitigating impact of the Crisis

Ghana – Savana Signatures: Frequent messages via radio geared towards reaching parents and guardians. Especially communicating the need to pay close attention to girls and their needs in order to protect them from sexual and gender based violence.

Philippines – Children International BICOL: Using cash transfer facilities to send mobile data directly to constituents' phones.

Indonesia - Kampus Diakoneia Modern: Involving small groups of youth in packaging goods for low income families. And organising a gardening project to teach youth about how to grow their own food.

Colombia – Instituto Coomuldesa: Youth are coming up with creative ways to make money - selling produce, making masks with their family to sell, etc. And giving back to their community by calling people who suffer loneliness.

Palestine – Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development: Sharing information on creative ways to plant gardens in different spaces. Women are also participating in emergency committees, creating social initiatives to support their families and offering learning activities for children that are now at home.

Tunisia – Enda inter-arabe: Online survey to support the population and prepare for post-COVID-19. Online sessions for psychological care and entrepreneurial support.

Ghana – New Dawn for Social Development: Radio discussions on managing personal and family resources to reduce resource stress/constraints during the crises and the future. And distribution of materials for daily consumption (flour, sugar, oil, etc.) for the vulnerable.

Burkina Faso – Cadre de concertation des ONG et Associations actives en éducation de base au Burkina Faso: Working meetings on innovative strategies with network partners to prepare for courses set to resume on 28 April 2020.

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