The global outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has affected more than 195 countries. In India, as of 25 March 2020, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has confirmed a total of 562 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 9 deaths in the country.*

The primary concern at SEEDS is for a rapid de-escalation of the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The impact of the pandemic has started to emerge as the country is in the lockdown situation, and the long-term consequences will be far-reaching and particularly extreme for the most vulnerable in India.

Daily wage earners with marginal savings have temporarily lost their jobs and are unable to access food and essential items to sustain themselves.

Evidence shows that adults aged 60 years and older or those with chronic medical conditions seem to be at highest risk of complications and fatality rates. The elderly in old-age homes or living by themselves without adequate support systems face acute challenges. Due to isolation, they do not get information about what to do and they are not able to get the food they need if neighbourhood stores are out of stock.

SEEDS Joins fight against Coronavirus, activates action
Serving the most vulnerable and invisible

Appeal for immediate needs
24 March 2020

SEEDS is reaching out to economically vulnerable people in partnership with Government of India and state governments of Bihar, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttarakhand in India

*Data as on 25 March 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India (https://www.mohfw.gov.in/)
The children in orphanages are in confined limited spaces with high susceptibility issues arising over health and hygiene. Children who are unwell, such as those in children's hospitals are particularly at risk.

Frontline health workers and public health centres are challenged with availability of crucial protective gear and equipment to meet their safety needs.

People affected by the pandemic need support in building a strong and robust defence against such unpredictable phenomena. Enabling local resilience is the critical need of the hour.

SEEDS is committed in reaching out and supporting these invisible individuals - the elderly, children, and frontline health workers of the communities who are disproportionately impacted by coronavirus and the economic consequences of the outbreak in their time of need. Together, we will overcome this pandemic by making sure the most vulnerable among us are protected.

We are actively working in close coordination with Government of India and state governments of Bihar, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttarakhand to respond to the physical health, mental health and economic impacts of the pandemic.

**SEEDS Response to COVID-19**

SEEDS is launching an appeal for immediate needs in the following areas:

1. **Financial and essential services support to the daily wage earners**
2. **Support to district administration for complementing and supplementing public health systems**
3. **Supply of hygiene kits and food rations to marginalised families, old age homes and orphanages**
4. **Support to Government for establishment of temporary quarantine facilities, where needed**

**Support us in our efforts!**

[http://www.seedsindia.org/covid19/](http://www.seedsindia.org/covid19/)

*SEEDS is registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. All donations made to SEEDS are eligible for Tax Deduction under section 80G of the Income Tax Act 1961*

**About SEEDS:** SEEDS (Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society) is a not-for-profit organisation that enables community resilience through practical solutions in the areas of disaster readiness, education, water and sanitation, health and hygiene, and post disaster rehabilitation. Since 1994, the organisation has worked extensively on every major calamity on the Indian subcontinent. SEEDS is also India’s first agency to be certified for the global Core Humanitarian Standards – an international certification system for quality and accountability in humanitarian response.

**For further information contact:** Pritha Purkayastha, Co-ordinator, Resource Mobilisation and Partnership | Mobile: +91 98685 06347 | Email: pritha@seedsindia.org | Web: www.seedsindia.org