REPOSITORY OF INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOOD PRACTICES

IN RESPONSE TO
CORONAVIRUS • COVID-19

Volume III
9th Edition
June 26, 2020
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CONTEXT

The evolution of the crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has generated, globally, profound political, economic and social impacts. Considering the majority of urban population in the world (55%), which in Brazil reaches 85% of its 210 million inhabitants, the large metropolises, as political, economic and cultural centers, and connection and destination for international travelers, are the largest and main affected with the new emergence of coronavirus.

Cities are where the greatest number of cases of contamination and deaths, with their dynamics - in all dimensions and sectors - strongly impacted by preventive measures to reduce the risk of contagion and the escalation of the epidemiological crisis. First of all, it is necessary to protect the life and health of the population, paying attention to the other impacts that disruption of daily life can bring to the future of urban centers.

As principally impacted, cities have taken the lead in implementing measures in the face of the global pandemic, even anticipating the mobilization of their respective national governments. At the current moment of fighting the pandemic, some governments, national and subnational, are already planning and/or organizing measures to resume their economic and commercial activities, depending on the stage they are in the “contamination curve”.

As the third largest Brazilian metropolis and seventh in Latin America, Belo Horizonte City hall has acted with courage and determination, within the current conditions of exceptionality, to contain the advance of the greatest international crisis in recent history.

PROPOSAL

With the objective of subsidizing the municipal administration in the actions for the management of the current crisis and its impacts, the Directorate of International Relations (SUAIE/SMDE) of the City of Belo Horizonte will weekly produce the “Repository of Recommendations and Good International Practices in Response to COVID -19” (RRBPI-19). Bringing the main guidelines and recommendations of specialized international organizations, as well as experiences and references from governments around the world, the document presents actions, projects, programs and policies that can be appropriate and adapted to the local reality.

The work points to initiatives in the following areas: Public Actions and Services, Social Assistance, Communication, Culture, Tourism, Economy, Education, Mobility and Health. In this 9th Edition all actions mapped between 2 and 23 June 2020 are concentrated, including those of the 7th and 8th Editions of RRBPI-19.
As in the previous edition, we continue to dedicate a specific space for actions with a focus on resuming activities with the probable approach of the end of the most serious phase of the crisis. These actions are arranged in a dedicated space, within each main theme, and the main actions of countries, regions/states, and cities for resumption of activities following the main guidelines and recommendations of specialized international organizations.

Below are the numbers for this edition, with an overview of actions by general themes and the number of countries represented in each theme. In the second table, a global assessment of actions mapped in all editions of RRBPI-19, the total number of countries represented, and recommendations from International Organizations.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Theme</th>
<th>Volume I Actions (1st, 2nd and 3rd Ed.)</th>
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<th>Total Actions</th>
<th>Total Countries</th>
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<td>93</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>279</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social welfare</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>33</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>74</td>
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<td>Culture and Tourism</td>
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<td>229</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Mobility</td>
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<td>International Organizations</td>
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<th>IO Recommendations</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1st</td>
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<td>9th</td>
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<td><strong>Aggregate Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>159</strong></td>
<td><strong>180</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
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For volumes and previous editions visit: [https://prefeitura.pbh.gov.br/saude/coronavirus](https://prefeitura.pbh.gov.br/saude/coronavirus)
## STATISTICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Recovered</th>
<th>Fatalities</th>
<th>Follow-up cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>World</strong></td>
<td>9,641,472</td>
<td>4,865,058</td>
<td>489,990</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brazil</strong></td>
<td>1,228,114</td>
<td>679,524</td>
<td>54,971</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minas Gerais</strong></td>
<td>32,769</td>
<td>19,466</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>12,497</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Belo Horizonte</strong></td>
<td>4,977</td>
<td>3,910</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>949</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data obtained and updated on: 06/26/2020 at 11:30 am Sources

1. **Sources:**
World and Brazil:
https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6

Note: The link above presents statistics compiled from data from the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA), World Health Organization, ECDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Europe), NHC, DXY, 1point3acres, Worldeters.info, BNO, COVID Tracking Project (tests and hospitalizations), health departments of state and national governments and media reports.

Minas Gerais:

Belo Horizonte:
2. **Evolution of cases over time - Comparison of countries**

Confirmed cases by country after the 60th case
Cumulative on a logarithmic scale

![Graph showing the evolution of COVID-19 cases in various countries over time.](image)

*Source: Nexo Jornal - Coronavirus Bulletin. 05/20/20*

3. **Confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Brazil**

![Graph showing the confirmed cases and deaths in Brazil.](image)

*Source: Nexo Jornal - Coronavirus Bulletin. 04/29/2020*
Governments at all levels are being called upon to assume a leading role in the response and management of the crisis arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. As governors closest to the people, mayors and their teams have made significant efforts around the world to contain the spread and threat of the virus.

Many have assumed the role of primary promoters of distance and lockdown measures, but several other measures to prevent and minimize the pandemic are up to local governments. Such governments have sought to support public services giving the need for changes in functioning, or facing a significant increase in demand, as in the case of health services.

It is also noted the tendency of concentration, in the sphere of local governments, of decisions regarding the treatment of victims of COVID-19, as well as decisions on preventive measures, such as the restriction of the movement of people, agglomerations, closing of public places and maintenance of essential services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Waste Management</th>
<th>Resumption actions</th>
<th>Other Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guinea-Conacri</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equatorial Guinea</td>
<td></td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
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<td>Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
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<td>Senegal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
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<td>X</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

X = number of actions per country, added in the 9th edition
1. Quarantine and Isolation

One of the main preventive actions that have been adopted is mandatory quarantine, or social distance. This measure aims to decrease, through the containment of social contact, the number of people infected by the new coronavirus, and, with this, to decrease the number of infected and dead. This determination is based on the comparative results presented in the management of other epidemics - such as SARS, MERS, Spanish Flu - between countries that have adopted mandatory social distance and others that have not.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Extended state of emergency
Thailand

The Thai central government has decided to expand the state of emergency, as well as the curfew until June 30, in order to prevent a second wave of infections in the country.

Reference:

Dynamic quarantine
Bolivia

The current quarantine will remain in effect until May 10, after which the country will enter a dynamic quarantine where cities with fewer cases may have their quarantines relaxed. The Ministry of Health will assess the situation in each municipality every 7 days to make the decision on flexibility.

Reference:

Quarantine throughout the national territory
Lithuania

On its official website, the Lithuanian government announced the quarantine declaration throughout the country. The quarantine regime, in principle, will run until May 11. The resolution on its website also explains everything about COVID-19.

Reference:

48 hours of rigid confinement for testing
Manila, Philippines
The government started, on April 23, a regional confinement in the district of Sampaloc that will last until the 25th of the same month. Mandatory isolation of all citizens for 48 hours, with the exception of health and safety officials, has been declared to facilitate mass testing of family members of patients who have been hospitalized due to COVID-19.

References:

Emergency situation extension
Estonia

The government decided in a meeting that it will extend the emergency situation already established at the beginning of May 1st to May 17th. According to the prime minister, the numbers in the country of infections and hospitalizations have declined a lot and the government is now looking for a draft strategy for exit, but due to the number of steps, they preferred to extend the emergency situation.

Reference:

Extension of the state of emergency
Japan

The Prime Minister of Japan explained that efforts against COVID-19 are a “long battle” and extended the state of emergency in the country until the end of May. In addition, in view of the threat of a second wave of the virus in the country, the possibility was raised that measures of social distancing make up normal life for a few more months or even years. Therefore, the economic sector presses the government for more aid.

References:
https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/20g20/05/05/national/japan-new-lifestyle-coronavirus-shinzo-abe/#.XrFPaqhKiUk

Imposition of new restrictions
Bangladesh

The movement of people between districts was restricted, as well as the exodus of people that occurs due to the festival of Eid-al-Fitr. In addition, people must stay in their
homes between 8 pm and 6 am, except in emergencies. Stores and malls were allowed
to remain open until 5 pm, with limited scale, maintaining social distance and health
guidelines.

Reference:
movement/1828684

Quarantine extension
India

The country, which established the containment since March 24, announced the
extension of the measure for another two weeks, dividing the country into red, orange
and green zones, with the metropolitan regions being classified as red because they are
the centers of contamination.

Reference:

Extended isolation after increasing cases
Singapore

Singapore’s prime minister announced that the country will have its quarantine extended
until June 1 due to the surge in new infections. Activities that had been allowed to reopen
as of May 4 have been revoked and are expected to remain closed.

Reference:
in-coronavirus-infections

Extent of social isolation
Jakarta, Indonesia

On April 22, the governor of Jakarta decreed the extension of social isolation until May
22, the end of the isolation was previously scheduled for April 23. According to the
regional authority, the extension is due to the opinions of experts and the considerable
increase in cases of contamination in Jakarta.

Reference:
https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20200422171044-20-496220/anies-resmi-perpanjang-
psbb-jakarta-hingga-22-mei-2020

Quarantine hardening
Chile
With more than 20,000 infected in the country, the Chilean authorities have decided to intensify the containment measures. According to the Minister of Health, Jaime Mañalich, the objective is to reduce the number of cases in the capital, for which 12 communes in Santiago have been in total confinement.

Reference:
https://g1.globo.com/mundo/noticia/2020/05/06/chile-endurece-quarentena-na-capital-apos-aumento-de-contagios-de-coronavirus.qhtml

2. Funerals and Burials

Funeral services were strictly restricted in several countries. In some, only funeral professionals can have contact with the body, and even then, with mandatory use of protective clothing. In others, there is a limitation on the maximum number of people at funerals and burials - usually up to 20 people - and there are even cases of restricted access to families.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Wedding and funeral restrictions
Cayman Islands

Weddings and funerals with more than 10 guests were banned by the government. Essential officiators and employees are not added to this total of people. The objective of the measure is to reduce agglomerations and will be maintained until May 18.

Reference:
https://www.exploregov.ky/government-covid19-policies

Ban on the incineration of dead bodies by COVID-19
Mexico

The incineration of unidentified and unclaimed bodies that died due to COVID-19 was prohibited.

Reference:

3. Restrictions on Crowding

In order to slow the spread of the new coronavirus, authorities in several countries have been closing, canceling and prohibiting the crowding of people and, consequently, schools, universities, shopping centers, etc. This measure aims to ensure the safety and health of all.
Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Prohibition of agglomerations
Jamaica

During the period from March 25 to April 7, crowds of more than 10 people in public places are prohibited. These 10 people still need to be separated by at least 91.44 centimeters from each other. Hospitals, essential services and government and armed forces establishments are excluded from the measure.

Reference:

COVID-19 transmission curfew
Amman, Jordan

The Jordanian government announced, on March 31, 2020, that the following Friday (April 1, 2020) - the day of the week when there is the greatest concentration of people due to the crowds in mosques - there will be a curfew of 24 hours. Only health and safety officials will patrol the streets to ensure there are no crowds.

Reference:

4. Trade Operation Guidelines

The evolution of the coronavirus crisis has also motivated governments to promote more flexible measures in relation to the functioning of trade, in the face of measures of isolation and social distance. All measures are still interested in the protection of people, but there is a great concern with maintaining essential activities.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Home office obligation
Granada

All non-essential companies can continue working as long as they allow their employees to work remotely from their homes. If work by a ‘home office’ is not possible, the company must temporarily close.

Reference:
Distance in establishments  
Granada  

All establishments must ensure that consumers and workers maintain a distance of at least 2 meters, in addition to placing distance markings inside and outside the establishment. The number of people within the establishments is also limited to 1 person per 30 square meters.

Reference:  

Trade operation control  
Seychelles  

The national health department brought new measures to reinforce the containment of the pandemic, which include maintaining the closure of all stores that do not sell groceries and restricting the opening hours of supermarkets from 6 am to 6:30 pm.

Reference:  

5. Repatriation of Nationals  

With the initiatives of isolation and social distance, many expatriates have expressed an interest in returning to their countries of origin. With great movement restrictions and reduced offers of commercial transport services, countries and foreign services have been entrusted with the task of repatriating their citizens.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)  

Citizens repatriation operation  
Benin  

In an operation organized together with the government of Gabon, 35 Beninese voluntarily returned to the country. To prevent these citizens from entering the virus, they were directed to the screening center for testing. Those who showed symptoms were automatically hospitalized and the rest were able to go home, where they will be followed, for 14 days.

Reference:  

Voluntary repatriation assistance plan
Malta

The government has initiated an assistance plan that will help residents and tourists who express a desire to return to their country of origin. As a result, these individuals from countries in Europe were offered to be repatriated through subsidized flights. About 4200 individuals have already been repatriated in the last 3 weeks and the government’s intention is to open up to other foreigners soon.

Reference:
https://covid19malta.info/

Mass repatriation operation

India

The Indian government has initiated a project to repatriate thousands of nationals imprisoned in other territories due to the restrictions of COVID-19. As of May 7, this process will begin through coordination between embassies. The State has announced that it will not bear the cost of tickets and that returning citizens must pass the test and remain in quarantine for two weeks.

Reference:
https://asiatimes.com/2020/05/india-to-mount-massive-coronavirus-repatriation/

Repatriation of Nationals

New Caledonia

Since April 3, New Caledonia has repatriated its residents trapped abroad due to the COVID-19 crisis. From the arrival of the nationals in the archipelago to the trip to the hotels for the fortnight of isolation, the procedures are based on strict health protocols. Seven hotels have been requested, 150 people have been mobilized, 1,167 residents have already been repatriated and 1,000 are still waiting.

Reference:
https://gouv.nc/actualites/04-05-2020/mobilises-pour-les-confines

6. Migration control

The advancement of isolation and social distance measures has brought new attitudes towards the movement of people. Many governments have taken mild measures and, in the face of disrespect for these measures, such actions have increased. Restrictive stances on the movement of people include immigration measures and also those that affect nationals.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)
Arrival record from other regions and countries
Ryazan, Russia

The regional authority requested municipalities to register all citizens from other states and countries. Monitoring is done through the collection of telephone data to enable constant calls to verify insulation for the specified time.

Reference:
https://www.ryazangov.ru/governmentro/covid-19/?ELEMENT_ID=1098206

Increase in border control measures
Uruguay

Concerned about the growing number of COVID-19 cases in Brazilian border cities, Uruguay has increased sanitary control and intensified the presence of authorities on its border with Brazil. The purpose is to reduce the number of sick people and to guide those who cross the borders on the precautions to be taken against the new coronavirus.

Reference:

Border control
New Zealand

New Zealand’s Prime Minister said the country will not have its borders open to the rest of the world for long. According to her, there is the possibility of a “trans-Tasmania bubble”, when the border between Australia and New Zealand would be open so that people can move between countries freely and without quarantine.

Reference:

Change in entry restrictions
Jamaica

Any person other than Jamaican citizens and persons authorized by the Minister responsible for immigration is prohibited from entering the country from April 22 to May 31. Previously, the ban also extended to citizens.

Reference:
Flight ban
Bahamas

Ban on flights at the Family Islands airport, except for emergency medical flights, cargo transportation and flights approved by the country’s aviation authorities. The purpose is to avoid tourist movements, very common in the place.

Reference:

Entry and exit control
Granada

All ports will be closed to regional and international boats. In addition, no person will be able to disembark or enter the country, except with the permission of the air authorities and the Ministry of Health. The purpose is to avoid contamination of port workers by ship workers.

Reference:

Control zones in border locations
Djibouti

The country located on the horn of Africa has established control points in the cities of Galafi, near Ethiopia, and Loyada, near the border with Somalia. Due to the support of Germany, Turkey and Chinese billionaire Jack Ma, the country has sufficient stocks of test kits and was able to detect COVID-19 not only in the capital, but also in its border regions.

Reference:
https://www.jeuneafrique.com/936883/societe/comment-djibouti-resiste-au-coronavirus/

Temporary border control and quarantine
Iceland

The Minister of Health changed the rules on restricting people who go to the country. From April 24, everyone who arrives in Iceland - except citizens of the European Union and the United Kingdom - must be quarantined for 14 days, complete a form and submit the necessary information. Measures will, in principle, until May 15.

Reference:
https://www.government.is/news/article/?newsid=058de3e7-84a8-11ea-9458-005056bc530c
Medical certificate and health insurance to enter the country
Cambodia

Upon entering the country, travelers must present a medical certificate certifying the non-infection by COVID-19, issued up to 72 hours before the trip. Foreigners must also have medical insurance with a minimum coverage of US$ 50,000. Travelers arriving from Italy, Germany, France, the United States and Iran have been banned from entering the country for 30 days from April 16.

References:
https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/1902075/cambodia-extends-entry-ban-for-passengers-from-six-countries

Migration stations are emptied
Mexico

As a way to contain the spread of the new coronavirus, the National Migration Institute (INM) sent the majority of the occupants of the migratory stations to their respective countries of origin. Some people have been allowed to remain in the country, either because they are waiting for the result of the asylum application, hearings before the authorities or because they have expressly requested permission to stay.

Reference:
https://lta.reuters.com/articulo/inmigracion-mexico-migrantes-idLTAKCN2280SR

7. Waste management

The concern with the best waste treatment is also part of the actions to combat the spread of the virus. There is a possibility that contaminated waste does not receive adequate attention at this time and the focus of governments is to assist and raise awareness of the population in this regard, since just like hospital waste, household waste as much as it can be vectors of contamination.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Data-based garbage collection management
Amman, Jordan

The city has adopted a data-centric system to optimize waste management, based on monitoring the amount of waste by district, citizen complaints, and tracking collection trucks. Thus, the public administration can adapt the services according to the needs of each part of the city.
Financial support for garbage collection
British Virgin Islands

Government release of eight hundred thousand dollars (US$ 800,000) to supplement the budget for garbage collection services. The purpose is to increase hygiene in the city and consequently stop the proliferation of the virus.

Reference:
https://bvi.gov.vg/media-centre/special-arrangements-during-new-7-day-curfew-announced

8. Resumption Actions

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Loosening the curfew
Senegal

Due to pressure from social groups most affected by the crisis, the government of Senegal eased the curfew time, which started from 9 pm to 11 pm. In addition, the resumption of public and private meetings and the reopening of restaurants, gyms, casinos and transportation between cities were authorized.

Reference:

Debate initiative for more human cities
Rosario, Argentina

A virtual debate space was developed between the municipal government and the National University of Rosario, in order to integrate society and academia in an effort to rethink the development of a more humane society in the context of crisis. Thus, there are virtual debates between members of the government and specialists, with all conferences being made available on the YouTube channel of the Secretariat for Culture and Education.

References:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCImAjF7vgknTffQou_Tk4A
Authorization to hold religious events
Israel

As part of the gradual process of returning to normality, the Israeli government authorized religious celebrations like Bar Mitzvahs to take place on June 14. These events can hold a maximum of 250 guests with one person per two square meters and the venue management must maintain a list with the contact details of each person who was at the celebration for 20 days.

Reference:

Return of the national championship
Tanzania

The country was the first to resume national football competition on the continent. For that, the matches must respect the sanitary protocols with the use of masks by the fans, who must also respect the social distance and have the temperature measured before entering the stadium.

Reference:
http://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique-foot/20200614-championnat-tanzanien-reprend-premi%C3%A8re-continente-africain

Return of transport and commercial activities
Algeria

The country has allowed the return of barber shops and beauty salons, clothing, footwear and car rental activities. Municipal transport is in operation, but interregional transport is still suspended.

Reference:
http://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique/20200614-coronavirus-afrique-face-%C3%A0-la-pand%C3%A9mie-le-dimanche-14-juin

Flexibility of health measures
Madagascar

The government announced an easing throughout the territory, with the exception of the five most affected regions on the island. In the capital, the population will be able to work until 5 pm and transport will operate until 7 pm. The curfew remains active from 10 pm to 4 am.

Reference:
Flexibility of containment measures
Equatorial Guinea

The containment measures in Malabo and Bata were eased as of June 15, which allowed economic activities to resume, in addition to domestic and international flights with a coronavirus negative diagnostic certificate less than 48 hours for passengers. To make the resumption possible, the use of masks and social distance are mandatory in public places.

Reference:

Progressive loosening of confinement
Guinea-Conacri

With the low rate of cases, the president decided to make the curfew time flexible for 11 pm to 4 am, merchants are allowed to operate until 6 pm, in addition to resuming elementary, high school and university classes. The places of worship, especially those located in regions that have had no cases of COVID-19 in the past 30 days, will open from June 22. The use of masks and social distance remains mandatory.

Reference:

Resumption of public sector activities
Dubai, UAE

The government of the Arab city ordered the return to work of most civil servants, those who belong to risk groups, pregnant women and people with disabilities remain working remotely.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Reopening of kindergartens
Escaldes-Engordany, Andorra
The Consul General has announced that nurseries across the parish will reopen on June 2 and that a total of 28 places for children in the two community centers that exist in the region are also planned. In addition, he indicated that childcare checks will be made available to families who cannot attend nursery schools with an hourly fee of 12 euros for each child under 3 years old.

Reference:
https://www.diariandorra.ad/noticies/nacional/2020/05/21/escaldes_obrir_les_llars_infants_juny_161340_1125.html

Second phase of easing restrictions
Cyprus

After meeting the Council of Ministers, a document was made available with information to relax some restrictions. Schools have reopened since May 21, except daycare centers, nursery schools and others. Meetings with up to 10 people were allowed. In addition, there was permission to walk in parks, squares and other public environments. There was also a reopening of hair salons, barber shops, catering services, among others.

Reference:

Permission for civil marriages
Rwanda

One of the measures implemented for flexibility is the permission to hold civil marriages. But some restrictions must still be respected, such as the maximum number of fifteen people, who must maintain social distance.

Reference:

British government hotsite with safe return to work information
United Kingdom

On the official website of the British government there is a hotsite with 8 guides on safe work during the COVID-19 crisis. Created by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the guides offer information to help people return to work during and after the pandemic and according to the type of activity.

Reference:

Relaxed restraint measures in three shifts
Croatia

The Croatian government has decided that some measures should be relaxed. In the first phase, all retail stores, except for shopping centers, will reopen as well as services that do not require close contact with customers. In the second phase, if the first is effective, relaxation will be in the public health system. The third phase will allow up to ten people to meet at the same location.

Reference:

Extension of measures to prevent COVID-19
Netherlands

The government of the Netherlands, on its official website, released news that it would extend most of the measures in principle until May 19. Some measures that will be changed, for example, are the gradual return of classes in schools; the gradual return of sports activities; elderly people may be visited occasionally; and other measures.

Reference:

First phase of measures to reopen
Slovakia

In the first phase of release of measures, stores and services with an area of up to 300 m², public food service, places for sports practices with certain restrictions, foreign markets and car dealerships will resume functioning. The government divided the release of the restrictions into four phases, ideally two weeks apart.

Reference:

Relaxation in anti-coronavirus measures
Germany

The federal government and state governments have announced further relaxation of measures implemented to combat COVID-19. According to the prime minister, relaxation includes the total reopening of trade, respecting rules of hygiene and social distance; open-air sports training and competitions; visits to hospitalized persons; among others.
German football championship restart
Germany

Germany, after months of paralysis, has allowed the German football championship (Bundesliga) to restart its season activities in the two professional divisions involving 36 clubs. The games will take place with closed gates from the second half of May. This return can be vital for clubs to survive and be able to maintain themselves.

Reference:
https://www.dw.com/pt-br/germany-anuncia-amplo-relaxamento-nas-restri%C3%A7%C3%A7%C3%B5es-devido-ao-coronav%C3%ADrus/a-53352908

Relaxation of restrictions
Bahrain

Bahrain’s Ministry of Health said shops and industries could resume work on Thursday (7), but restaurants, cinemas, sports facilities and beauty salons will remain closed, limiting the spread of COVID-19. Health officials said workers and customers should wear protective masks and follow guidelines for social detachment.

Reference:
https://www.beiruttimes.com/article/10694

Resumption of mining operations
Bolivia

The country’s Ministry of Mining and Metallurgy informed state and private companies that they could resume operations as long as they create and present a health security protocol, focused on their operations, to the government.

Reference:

Release of physical activities outdoors
Colombia

Since the 27th of April, the practice of outdoor sports has been released individually, respecting the distances between people, and in the times and areas released according to what is determined by each municipality.

Reference:
Reopening of trade
Costa Rica

The government has released the opening of cinemas and theaters as long as a distance of two meters is maintained between each spectator. The gyms will be able to reopen with 25% of its total capacity. Beauty salons and barber shops will be able to operate at 50% of their capacity and only by appointment.

Reference:

Flexibility of social distance
South Korea

To the extent that COVID-19 is relatively controlled in South Korea, the South Korean government has chosen, as of May 6, to relax current social distance measures in the country. Thus, through the measure, small meetings and events will be allowed again in the country, as long as hygiene and safety practices such as wearing masks and frequent hand hygiene are maintained.

Reference:

Relaxation of restrictive measures
Serbia

The Serbian government decided to relax some measures that were imposed to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Citizens over the age of 65 will be able to walk for half an hour on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. The opening of stores offering services such as car workshops, shoemakers, driving schools, bookstores and others will also be allowed.

Reference:

Cemeteries are reopened for citizens
Northern Ireland, U.K.

The Northern Ireland government will reopen all cemeteries in the region. The restrictive action to access the cemeteries was placed due to the increase in deaths, causing crowding of people in the places. However, due to popular pressure to be able
to watch over their dead family members, they were reopened, as long as sanitary restrictions were respected, such as social distance and the limit of 10 people per wake.

References:

Second phase of measures against quarantine
Italy

According to Prime Minister, the second phase of measures against COVID-19 has started. Among them, the mandatory use of masks in public transport and access to public parks, always respecting the distance and regulating the entrances for children’s recreation. There will be specific rules for travel around the region and beyond; manufacturing, construction, wholesale and so on will be able to go back to work.

Reference:
http://www.governo.it/node/14518

Extension of the state of emergency
Latvia

The Latvian government announced the extension of the state of emergency, which was initially valid until May 12, until June 9. However, from now on, some measures will be made more flexible in the area of education and sports, events and meetings, shopping centers, transport and tourism.

Reference:

Return of activities
Paraguay

Counting few cases of COVID-19 in the country, the Paraguayan government announced a “smart quarantine”, with the return of workers in the industrial, civil construction and some services sectors. The government was also afraid of citizens residing abroad and their return with the disease, for this purpose shelters were made to put them in quarantine.

Reference:
https://www.correio辫ziilienese.com.br/app/noticia/mundo/2020/05/05/interna_mundo,851726/paraguai-retoma-atividades-gradativas-apos-quarentena.shtml
Relaxation of social distance measures
New Zealand

As of April 28, the country began to relax social distance measures. About 75% of New Zealand’s economic activity has been allowed to reopen, however it must comply with measures of social distance, as well as restrictions on movement.

Reference:
https://noticias.r7.com/saude/nova-zelandia-zera-registro-de-novos-casos-de-covid-19-04052020

Flexibility of containment rules
Cameroon

The Cameroonian government has decreed a release from the containment rules. This decision was made because, according to the government, the confinement measures caused distortions in the country's economy. Bars, restaurants, places of leisure and public and private transport resume their activities. Sanitary measures are foreseen, such as the use of masks, social distance and prohibition of overload in transport.

Reference
https://www.bbc.com/afrique/52496808

Partial deflation
Botswana

An approval in Botswana’s parliament allowed the government to gradually begin a de-escalation from 8 May. The President of the Republic declared that schools, commerce and companies can reopen if they were able to measure people’s temperature before entering and do frequent disinfection.

Reference:

Partial reopening of establishments
Poland

As some restrictions increase, Poland decided to reopen some establishments, such as hotels and shopping malls. According to the prime minister, the country will now enter the next phase of easing the blockade. Nurseries and preschools resumed operations from May 6, sport areas reopened on May 4. Other places, such as museums, galleries and libraries, have also opened their doors.

Reference:
Progressive deconfinement plan
Mauritania

The Secretary-General of the Government of Mauritania, Niang Djibril, presented on Wednesday, May 6, the deconfinement plan. The secretary said that markets, restaurants and mosques will be able to resume their activities respecting the following rules: wearing masks, hand washing, maintaining social distance. Carpets must also be removed and sprayed after each prayer.

Reference:

Mandatory use of masks revoked
Bulgaria

The use of face masks and other protective clothing in public outdoor places was revoked in an order issued by the Ministry of Health. However, in public places, it is necessary for citizens to comply with social distancing as previously imposed. In terms of contact with other people, Bulgarians will still need a mask to protect their nose and mouth.

Reference:
https://bbj.hu/region/wearing%20of%20masks%20in%20public%20places%20no%20longer%20mandatory%20in%20bulgaria_182259

Reopening of establishments
Slovakia

As of May 6, the Slovak government ordered the reopening of all stores, except for malls. In addition, religious events, beauty salons, restaurants for dinner, museums, galleries, bookstores, taxi services and outdoor tourist attractions can also resume their activities, as long as they always keep the distance rules, the use of masks and the limit of people on site.

Reference:
https://sk.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/

Relief from restriction of freedom of movement
Burkina Faso

The prime minister of Burkina Faso announced the easing of the confinement. The decision to ease the restriction measures was motivated by economic issues. For this reason, a gradual resumption of economic and educational activities was enacted in
order to alleviate the suffering of the populations. The prime minister stated that the flexibilization process involves the reopening of schools, markets and certain socio-economic activities.

Reference:
https://www.gouvernement.gov.bf/recherche/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=321&cHash=ededa6336466be2dee3c17b1

Relaxation of social isolation
Queensland, Australia

With a rate of 6 deaths since the beginning of the pandemic, as of May 2, residents of the state will be able to leave home for non-essential reasons. This includes participating in leisure activities up to 50km away from their homes. Citizens must also keep their distance and join with just one person outside their “isolation bubble” when leaving home. Residential visits are restricted to 2 people at a time.

References:

Gradual relaxation of isolation measures
Cyprus

From May 4, Cyprus began the first phase of its gradual relaxation of isolation measures. In this first phase, the construction and relative sectors (minus the large department stores), the public (it is the responsibility of each minister to determine how the return will be made) and education (starting on the 11th day) will function again of May). The second phase begins on May 21.

References:

Relaxation of the phase isolation
Monaco

On April 28, thanks to the stabilization of the progress of the disease in the country, the Ministers of State, Interior, Health and Economy announced the beginning of the first phase of relaxation of isolation from May 4. From that day on, some services may reopen, such as beauty salons and stores, as long as they respect established health laws. Phase two will begin on May 11 and June 3.
Relaxation of social confinement measures
Portugal

As of May 4, Portugal began to relax social confinement measures. Small shops, hairdressers, car dealerships, bookstores, restaurants, cafes, etc. may reopen. However, the use of masks or visors in stores and public transport and respect for the limit on the number of people in places are mandatory.

References:

Anticipation of the review of social containment measures
Australia

After weeks of strict social confinement, Australian authorities believe the transmission of the new coronavirus has been controlled. With this in mind, Australia has decided to bring forward the date set for the review of the containment measures, which was previously set for 11 May and which will now be 8 May.

Reference:

Relaxation of social confinement measures
Vienna, Austria

The initial federal measures were removed on May 1, however, measures are still in effect, such as a minimum distance of one meter between people who do not live in the same house, the obligation to wear masks in public places. Restaurants, bars and cafes, etc. can only operate under a delivery regime until May 15, as well as religious events.

Reference:

Start of the second phase of the deconfinition plan
Switzerland

The second phase of the deflation plan is scheduled to start on May 11th. Cafes, restaurants, shops, schools, sports centers, museums and libraries will be allowed to
reopen, provided they comply with strict hygiene rules. In addition, entry to the border will be facilitated in order to allow family reunification and the examination of applications for entry or residence by EU or EFTA citizens will be re-carried out.

Reference:
https://www.swissinfo.ch/por/sociedade/coronav%C3%ADrus_epidemia-se-espalha-pela-su%C3%AD%C3%A7a/45592270

First phase of the reopening plan
Spain

As of May 4, Spain started the first phase of the country's reopening plan. Small shops, barber shops, hairdressers, hotels, tourist accommodation, etc. they were able to serve customers with previously scheduled hours. Restaurants are now able to offer take-out food. The phases of the reopening plan are contained in the "Transition plan to a new normality".

Reference:

Gradual relaxation of isolation measures
Israel

As of May 7, citizens will be able to leave more than 100 meters from their homes, meetings of up to 20 people will be allowed, as well as marriages of up to 50 people, although dancing is prohibited to maintain social distance. Kindergartens and daycare centers will open on Sunday (May 9), while sports and leisure facilities will gradually reopen until mid-June.

Reference:

Guidance for relaxation of restrictions
United Kingdom

On May 10, Minister Boris Johnson announced the relaxation plan, always stressing all the care that must be maintained, and even reinforced, by the population during this period. The first phase started on May 11 and, for those who cannot work from home, it counts on the return to the work environment and the reopening of parks, provided that only people with whom they share the house are in the company.

Reference:
9. Other Actions

In addition to assuming more robust attitudes towards traditional public services, governments have adopted special measures to face the pandemic. These measures range from the creation of special committees to combat COVID-19, to the adoption of new operating standards for urban and commercial institutions, special training for servers, waste management, digitization of services, and special operations of security and prevention agencies.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Construction of recycled public furniture
Vadodara, India (Smart City Expo World Congress - 2019 Report)

The municipal government of the Indian city has developed a project called Street Furniture Camp that builds furniture for use in public spaces from objects collected on roads, parks and others.

Reference:

Electronic catalog of georeferenced products and services (review)
Cuenca, Ecuador

Mi barrio is a virtual shopping platform that allows you to search for products and services free of charge and georeferenced on the city map. This virtual catalog aims to facilitate purchases by citizens, giving preference to services that require little or no displacement, in order to reduce the chances of contamination and especially to strengthen small businesses.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/sites/default/files/documents/2020-05/101030206_1448781768666035_1101862336391564832_o.jpg
http://mibarrio.cuenca.gob.ec/

Flexibility of visa regulations
Saudi Arabia

The Saudi government has announced that the Iqamas, a work visa, expiring between March and June, can be extended for up to three months free of charge. In addition, workers may be reimbursed for the visa that was in effect during the period of border closure.
Residence permit extension
Vietnam

The Immigration Department has determined that those who entered the country before March will have their temporary residence visas extended until June 30. Foreigners who entered the territory after March and remained on a tourist visa or are citizens of countries that do not require a visa are also included in the same extension period.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Development of sustainable waste system
Taipei, Taiwan

The government has created a technological system of sustainable waste, iTrash, in which smart dumps that collect, collect and recycle waste will be available 24 hours a day on the streets. The system notifies the public cleaning service automatically, optimizing its activities.

Reference:
https://smartcity.taipei/project/30

Labyrinth park that guarantees distance between pedestrians
Austria

Parc de la Distance, a speculative proposal by Austrian design studio Precht, consists of a public park made from a 1.5m wide labyrinthine network of hedges. The layout provides 20-minute walking routes that can be crossed entirely while staying away from others, thanks to the gates that indicate when paths are busy.

Reference:

Installing robots to inform citizens
Singapore
The government of Singapore installed robots in the city parks, Spots, to inform and remind passers-by of social distance measures, keeping these spaces safe for use. The robots have cameras to calculate the number of visitors to these locations.


**Establishment of a support line for immigrants**
Tokyo, Japan

The Tokyo government has established, on the coronavirus helpline, an additional number for non-Japanese citizens to take advantage of these services as well.


**Application for data collection with help from the community**
Nairobi, Kenya

CommuniSense is a prototype application to be implemented in Nairobi, which aims to include the community in the data collection process and makes visible the sensors installed in the city to users. So you can share your views on the project and subscribe to be notified of the next public hearing on the subject.


**Sewage monitoring**
United States

Remote sewage monitoring systems, which assess wastewater at all types of treatment plants, can be used to investigate whether and where certain diseases are growing among the city’s populations. It is a non-invasive way of measuring the existence of viruses in communities.


**Crowdsourcing platform subsidizes public policies**
Turin, Italy

A crowdsourcing platform called “Torino Come Stai?” (Turin, how are you?). Still in development, the site promotes a small survey with its visitors. Anonymous responses
will be used to view data on the Turin citizen’s general outlook on the outbreak and to identify points where specific actions need to be taken.

Reference:
https://www.torinocomestai.org

Program for submitting solutions and services
Turin, Italy

The public-private initiative “Torino City Love” seeks to attract partners to the city that offer services free of charge to assist the population and local businesses. Areas of interest include work and school, health and digital services.

Reference:
https://www.intelligentcitieschallenge.eu/torino-city-love
https://www.torinocitylab.it/en/submit-to/challenge/torino-city-love

Intelligence and automation in the fight against COVID-19
Guangzhou, China

Chinese company XAG has created drones that are being used in urban cleaning services to disinfect public spaces. These smart devices can protect operators from unnecessary exposure to viruses and disinfectants. It is possible to automatically disinfect a wider region more safely, in addition to targeting a specific area to start spraying on site.

Reference:

Delivery application compiles food safety data
South Africa

GreenFingers Mobile is combining aggregate food supplies with growing demand in South African communities. Families can be digitally registered in the system and track food coupons. In addition, the platform makes it possible to measure the need for food in a community at any time.

Reference:

Democratization of the internet through Wi-Fi Drive-in
Washington, United States
In order to prevent low-income people from stopping to study and look for work, the state of Washington provided free and temporary access to the internet for those who do not have broadband service at home. Thus, with the concern of avoiding crowds, Wi-Fi points are found in parking lots, so that it is possible to use it in different vehicles simultaneously, Drive-in style.

Reference:
https://www.seattle.gov/mayor/covid-19#internetaccesscomputers

**Bus as a mobile internet connection point**  
Indiana, United States

Twenty buses, which were unused, were transformed into mobile internet connection points. The measure aims to enable students to have access to the internet to continue their learning process during quarantine online.

Reference:
https://www.citylab.com/equity/2020/03/coronavirus-online-schools-homework-internet-access-homework/608116/

**Coronavirus Control Panel**  
Tel Aviv, Israel

The city’s Computer and Information Technology department has developed a control panel with numbers of patients, suspects, deaths, etc. in order to guide government measures in crisis management.

Reference:

**Public benches with dividers**  
Milan, Italy

The Milanese architect, Antonio Lanzillo, designed public benches equipped with partitions in the form of acrylic “shields”.

Reference:

**Authorization of voting online or by post**  
Russia
A law has been passed by the Russian government to allow votes for the president’s constitutional amendments to be made remotely by post or e-mail.

Reference:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/05/13/russia-to-allow-remote-voting-for-putins-constitutional-amendments-a702

**Digital platform for company creation**
**Abomey-Calavi and Porto-Novo, Benin**

A digital platform was made available for the creation of companies. Through it, all formalities can be completed in just two hours. UNCTAD considers the initiative to be one of the five best creation systems 100% online.

Reference:

**Challenges of modernizing properties and creating inclusive communities**
**The Hague, Netherlands - Smart City Expo World Congress - 2018 Report**

One of the urban challenges is the creation of affordable housing, hampered by increased spending on housing rentals, for example. Housing policies must take into account demographic changes and localities as a whole, as well as the economic diversity of the respective areas.

Reference:
https://media.firabcn.es/content/S078018/docs/Report_SCEWC18.pdf

**Creation of an epidemiological crisis committee**
**Suriname**

An epidemiological crisis committee was created in the country to prevent the spread of the virus. The committee will report its actions and findings to the Ministry of Health.

Reference:

**Compulsory use of masks**
**Germany; Czech republic; Slovakia; Austria**

Although the use of masks is not as effective as the frequent hand hygiene to reduce contagion by COVID-19, these countries resorted to the mandatory use of masks by the population in public transport and while shopping. In a state in northern Germany, those who cough on public transport and are without a mask will be charged a $27 fine.
South American presidents reject the Brazilian government’s stance
Argentina, Chile and Ecuador

Argentine President Alberto Fernández reported that the position adopted by Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro represents a risk for the region. The heads of state of Chile and Ecuador announced measures to reinforce the borders with Brazil and share the same position as the Argentine government, that the federal administration of Brazil is minimizing the severity of the pandemic.

Reference:

United Nations peacekeeping support
Central African Rep

Minusca (United Nations Integrated Multidimensional Mission for the Stabilization of the Central African Republic) will support the government in combating the spread of the new coronavirus. Maintaining its responsibilities to protect the civilian population and ensuring the implementation of peace agreements, the mission will also be responsible for improving access to water, donation of hygiene products and information campaigns on COVID-19.

Reference:

Distribution of masks
Batman, Turkey

Batman County has provided around 53,000 masks a week for its population. Local authorities distribute the masks daily in different parts of the city to better serve everyone while social isolation continues.

Reference:

Disinfection of spaces
Çankaya, Turkey
Employees in the pest control area were assigned to disinfect public spaces, pharmacies and taxi stands, without ceasing the actions that were already underway before COVID-19. Approximately 80 tons of diluted disinfectant products have already been used in 5,141 points in the city.

Reference:

Venues for wedding celebrations and civil partnerships
Luxembourg

The government approved a derogation allowing the civil registrar to be able to celebrate weddings in public spaces other than the city hall. The organization of wedding ceremonies in the city hall, with a maximum of 20 people, was causing problems due to the insufficient size of the place and the crowding of people.

Reference:

Street disinfection
Kabul, Afghanistan

The municipality of Kabul organized a task force for the disinfection of streets and places with a high flow of people. Disinfections are carried out by employees and fire trucks. There are already 14 dead in the city and more than 400 confirmed cases in the Afghan capital. The country is still in the initial stage of contamination.

References:
https://km.gov.af/3441/%D8%AF-%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%84-%DA%9A%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%DB%8D-%D8%AF-%D8%AF%D9%88%D8%A7-%D9%BE%D8%A7%D8%B4%DB%8D-%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%8A-%DA%89%D9%84%D9%87-%D8%AC%D9%88%DA%93%D9%87-%D8%A7%D9%88-%D9%BE%D9%87-%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1-%DB%8C%D8%A6-%D9%BE%DB%8C%D9%84-%DA%A9%DA%93

New procedures for the supply of protective equipment
Latvia

The government adopted important decisions at a meeting that will facilitate the supply of medical devices and protective equipment. It will then be possible to acquire, through acquisitions organized by public persons, this equipment, for citizens who at first did not contract COVID-19 or are awaiting test results to confirm the disease.
Operation Without Mask, Without Entry
Ghana

People who walk without masks are prevented from accessing the Accra Central Business District. The operation Without Mask Without Entry is monitored by the police, which made the use of masks mandatory in public places, and is part of a set of measures adopted by the government to mitigate the spread of the new coronavirus. The number of cases in Ghana is estimated at 2,719 people infected and 18 deaths.

Support in equipment and health professionals
South Africa

A plane loaded with 200 doctors and donations of medical equipment from Cuba arrived in the South African capital to help the country fight the new Coronavirus. The doctors will be deployed in different provinces in South Africa under the supervision of the Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi. South Africa has so far recorded 4,361 cases including 86 killed by the new Coronavirus.

Postponement of regional elections
Indonesia

State and municipal elections, scheduled to take place in September, have been postponed to December 2020. According to the electoral authority, the decision was taken with a view to the possible spread of the virus in rural areas of the country, if the elections were maintained on the scheduled date. COVID-19 cases in the country have continued to increase since the beginning of April, having registered 895 deaths on May 6.

Preparation for second wave of contamination
Indonesia
The second wave national containment plan includes: 1) assessing the effectiveness of restrictions and isolations to date; 2) screening and testing for close contacts of infected patients; 3) stricter monitoring of migrant workers; 4) provide greater support to low-income families 5) create a communication center for feedbacks regarding the government’s actions in the face of the pandemic.

Reference:

Establishment of punishments for those who do not follow the containment measures
Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia’s royalty has announced that those citizens or companies that violate the measures, such as breaking the quarantine or using the mobility permit during curfews in situations not determined by the government, will be held responsible. Punishments range from a month to a year of imprisonment or payment of a fine up to approximately $27,000.

Reference:
https://www.arabnews.com/node/1670091/saudi-arabia

Sanitary preventive measures for customs transit
Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

A document delivery protocol will be applied by electronic mail instead of physical documents, as previously, for customs transit between borders, avoiding physical contact.

Reference:
https://www.eluniverso.com/noticias/2020/05/06/nota/7833222/paises-can-prevencion-sanitaria-operaciones-aduaneras

Decentralization of the sale of food products
São Tomé and Príncipe

The fair for the sale of food products, which took place in a specific location on the island, will be decentralized and divided between different locations to avoid agglomerations. The division will be made by districts and only buyers with masks and who respect the distances informed on the site will be served.

Reference:
Port closure
South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

The port of Grytviken will be closed to visitors until August 2020. The measure aims to reduce agglomerations, since the port is a place of great tourist visit due to its museum and history of whaling. Preparations for the next fishing season continue with home office workers. Physical visits are restricted and should only take place when necessary.

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## Public Actions and Services

### All actions mapped up to 9th Edition

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X = action added in the 9th edition
X = action added in the 8th edition
X = action mapped in editions
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

The global pandemic of the new coronavirus will cause asymmetric impacts on the most vulnerable groups of the population. In other words, social and economic impacts will be more intensely felt by the portion of the population that is in a vulnerable situation. Elderly, homeless, self-employed and informal workers, and people with lower income, especially residents of slums and peripheries, are some of the segments that tend to experience more intense difficulties in this period and therefore require greater support from the State in tackling the pandemic.

In 2010, the elderly represented more than 20.5 million people in Brazil. This means that at least 10% of the Brazilian population falls within the risk group due to the most serious effects of the disease and, consequently, require greater preventive care.

Social detachment, on the other hand, is not a possible option for thousands of families without significant financial sacrifices and poor quality of life. The high population density and the sharing of houses with few rooms are realities that prevent the recommended practice of detachment. According to the 2010 Census, 11.4 million people - about 6% of the population - lived in subnormal agglomerations in Brazil.

Workers without a formal contract correspond to 38 million Brazilians, equivalent to 40% of the market, of which about 10 million depend on trade to survive. This means that a significant portion of the Brazilian population does not have access to labor benefits, unemployment insurance and social protection, being significantly more vulnerable to the economic crisis resulting from the reduction in consumption resulting from quarantine.

The regular supply of drinking water, sewage treatment and solid waste management are not yet universal services. According to PNAD 2015, 27.5% of urban households in Brazil did not yet have the three basic sanitation services that year. Nor is access to basic hygiene products accessible to thousands of people. Therefore, chronic problems with urban infrastructure and social inequality will act as catalysts for virus contamination in the country.

Even more critical is the situation of the street population, which is estimated to be over 100 thousand people in Brazil. In a context of high risk of contamination, it becomes even more urgent to supply housing units, even if temporary, to protect this segment from contamination by COVID-19.

Despite the change in demographic data from one country to another, all governments have faced, to a greater or lesser extent, the challenge of protecting their most sensitive population segments from contagion. And, for this reason, there is a movement of countries, states and municipalities around the world in order to put in practice support actions aimed at specific groups of the population.
The social assistance measures identified in this study can be divided into three main fronts: assistance measures for the homeless population, financial and fiscal assistance to reinforce the basic income of needy families and special care in elderly care centers. These three fronts unfold in several actions, such as providing shelters for people living on the streets, distributing food baskets to needy families, suspending electricity and water in case of default, providing supplementary basic income of an emergency nature, among other initiatives described below.

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Special Protection for the Elderly</th>
<th>Gender-specific actions</th>
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X = number of shares per country, added in the 5th edition

1. **Aid to Homeless People**

The most frequent actions with regard to homeless people involve an increase in the number of available shelters and, consequently, vacancies, in addition to the intensification of sanitary measures such as the provision of bathing equipment and hand hygiene points. Hotel and gym rooms have been allocated to house these populations. Suspension of eviction actions and easing of tax payments are also measures adopted to prevent the increase in the number of homeless people.

**Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)**

**Strategy to combat contamination during the summer**
Seul, South Korea

Specific measures have been developed to prevent the heat wave and summer recreational activities from increasing the number of people infected with COVID-19. Thus, daily disinfection efforts will be concentrated in areas with a greater presence of vulnerable populations, such as shelters, hostels and places with people on the streets.

Reference:
http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-announces-comprehensive-summer-measures-centered-around-response/?cat=29

**Opening of shelter for homeless people**
Manila, Philippines
The government opened a new shelter for homeless people on the indoor “San Andreas” sports ground in the city of Manila. As a measure of protection for citizens in vulnerable situations, the court was divided into individual cubicles separated by protective screens.

References:
http://manila.gov.ph/2020/04/shelter-for-the-homeless
https://borgenproject.org/10-facts-about-poverty-in-manila/

2. Special Protection for the Elderly

In view of the measures related to the elderly population, one of the pandemic risk groups, the main concern is their isolation. Nursing homes and hospitals have already banned regular visits, leaving the discretion of the managers of these institutions to allow specific visits. Another measure was the establishment of a time interval for the elderly to perform basic services - such as shopping at pharmacies and supermarkets - to avoid contact with other people.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Assistance and mapping social vulnerability
Rosario, Argentina

Considering the greater vulnerability of elderly people to the COVID-19 pandemic, a mapping of their location in the city is being developed. In this sense, when knowing the distribution of elderly people in the city, a voluntary supermarket delivery service is provided to these people, in addition to monitoring by phone their physical and mental health during confinement.

Reference:
https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanzamos-en-la-elaboracion-de-mapas-para-municipios

Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)

Home haircuts for people over 65
Eyupsultan, Turkey

Having already decreed the reopening of beauty salons in the municipality to prevent the vulnerable population from taking risks when leaving home, the Secretariat of Social Services offered barber services at home to the elderly male population. Professionals should wear protective clothing and masks and disinfect the materials for each person served.

Reference:
Assistance to citizens over 65
Tel Aviv, Israel

The city is locating elderly people who live alone, have limited mobility or other limitations and are identifying addresses and phone numbers. The Social Services Administration will keep in touch with them daily, being on hand to help, sending food, medicine and other basic necessities.

Reference:

Protection measures for nursing home residents
Salzburg, Austria

The state of Salzburg aims to have all people living in the 75 nursing homes across the city tested within four to five weeks. Residents, caregivers and other staff, in addition to hospital staff, will be assessed. The intention is to provide greater care to the elderly who need all types of care, and to ensure that they are not sick.

Reference:

Support for nursing homes
Poland

According to the Minister of Family, Labor and Social Policy, the Polish government has been financially supporting asylums, providing hygiene products (masks, gloves, etc.), having allocated an additional amount of 20 million Polish zloty (about 26 million reais) to assist the current activity of nursing homes.

Reference:

3. Financial Assistance to the Population

In the midst of a crisis situation, it is important that the population, especially those in a vulnerable situation, receive assistance, since they are the first and most impacted by the economic and social consequences of COVID-19. With this in mind, several countries are implementing or expanding programs to support the poorest population, such as emergency minimum income, financial assistance to those in situations of vulnerability, expansion of financial assistance programs in order to embark a larger number of people, among others. measures.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)
Assistance for vulnerable populations
Burkina Faso

To help the most vulnerable families to face the crisis, 43,000 people will receive 20,000 Fcfa (200 reais) per month, for 3 months. The choice is based on income level, family size, number of meals per day, people with physical disabilities and everyone who has had COVID-19 and needs assistance.

Reference:
http://lefaso.net/spip.php?article97060

Allowance for unemployed
South Africa

The government announced the payment of social assistance in the amount of R350 (rand) per month, equivalent to about US$ 18, to the unemployed who are not receiving other government subsidies. Aid requests can be made through electronic channels, email, SMS and WhatsApp.

Reference:

Centralization of solidarity funds
Cameroon

The Cameroonian Minister for Territorial Administration called for the closure of company funds in the fight against the new coronavirus. The decision is based on the need, according to the government member, to follow the financial contribution guidelines established by the president, Paul Biya. For this, the government has a special fund with an initial value of approximately US$ 1.62 million and which has already received an additional amount of over one million euros.

Reference:

Financial aid to sex workers
Japan

Japanese sex workers were allowed to apply to receive financial aid from the government’s $ 990 billion macroeconomic government package. Thus, prostitution agencies receive government subsidies to support mothers affected by closed schools, in addition to professionals being able to apply individually to receive money due to loss of income.
Distribution of food baskets in schools
Buenos Aires, Argentina

In order to guarantee quality food to students during the period of pandemic and social isolation, basic food baskets are being distributed to 1,200 schools in the city every two weeks.

Reference:
https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/jefaturadegabinete/noticias/nuevas-medidas-educativas-del-gobierno-porteno-una-mesa-de-ayuda-y-apoyo

Distribution of emergency payments
Pakistan

The poorest part of Pakistan has been suffering from social isolation measures as a result of COVID-19, so the country’s government has developed a $ 900 million program to make emergency cash payments to approximately 12 million families. Each family will receive $ 75, the equivalent to survive for four months.

Reference:
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/using-cash-payments-protect-poor-pakistan/

Distribution of food baskets for motorcycle taxi drivers
Salvador, Brazil

Between April 29 and May 6, around 1,300 food baskets for accredited motorcycle taxi drivers were distributed by the Salvador City Hall. Delivery took place in a staggered manner so that there was no agglomeration. To receive the benefit, it was enough to present a license or badge, together with an identification document.

Reference:

4. Gender Specific Measures

The socioeconomic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the implementation of some measures to combat the disease, in particular social isolation, which induces citizens to stay at home, tend to increase cases of domestic violence against women. In view of this scenario, several actions have been taken in order to reduce this situation, such as the creation of reporting applications, the distribution of
newsletters, the opening of telephone hotlines, the introduction of protective measures, among others.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Strategy to address and prevent domestic violence**  
**Bogota, Colombia**

The “Espacios Seguros” strategy is an alliance between 630 stores, pharmacies and supermarkets to prevent and address cases of domestic violence. Women can contact the person in charge at the store who will initiate the necessary procedures in the specific situation.

Reference:  

**Shared housing for victims of domestic violence**  
**Madrid, Spain**

The City has opened a new emergency shelter to house women victims of domestic violence who need protection in the context of the pandemic caused by COVID-19. There are three houses with fifteen spaces for women and children, where social support tasks are carried out to promote their recovery in the process of change and improvement. Women are attended by a social worker and a social educator.

Reference:  

**Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)**

**Seminar on women’s participation in peace processes during COVID-19**  
**Norway**

The Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs invited experts on women’s participation and leadership in peacebuilding and conflict prevention for a dialogue on challenges and opportunities for women’s participation in peace processes in times of the pandemic. The public was able to send questions before and during the event, which was held on May 6.

Reference:
Partnership with UNDP to mitigate domestic violence  
Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Since the quarantine was established in March in Uzbekistan, the numbers of domestic violence have increased. Accordingly, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), in a project with the country’s central government, developed leaflets that will be distributed in pharmacies with information necessary to assist victims.

Reference:  

Tool for requesting help in case of domestic violence  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Mandatory confinement has aggravated situations of gender and domestic violence. Buenos Aires started making the city’s WhatsApp, Boti, available for requesting help in a safe and accessible way. To receive instructions, the person must send the message “Domestic violence” through the tool to receive the necessary instructions.

Reference:  
https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/laciudad/noticias/la-ciudad-habilito-su-linea-de-whatsapp-para-la-contencion-de-victimas-de

5. Other Actions

Despite the implementation of mandatory social distancing in several countries, it is important that other social services are maintained, such as assisting victims of domestic violence, pregnant women, among others. Measures related to other specific groups were also adopted and/or reinforced.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Volunteer program  
New York, United States

NYC Service leads the Volunteer Task Force Coordination to centralize efforts during the pandemic. The task force supports organizations in need of volunteers to provide critical services, such as delivering food to vulnerable citizens. In addition to identifying opportunities that residents can support, with the understanding that everyone’s health is the priority.

Reference:
Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)

**Life insurance for healthcare professionals**

**Ethiopia**

A life insurance agreement has been signed between the Ministry of Health and Ethiopian Insurance Corporation for the protection of healthcare professionals. Physicians working in quarantine facilities, laboratories and intervention teams are priorities.

Reference:  

**Food distribution for students**

**United States**

Schools in different districts are organizing to distribute food to students in vulnerable situations. The action takes place in open spaces, following the guidelines of social distance, in which students or families just receive food and leave.

Reference:  

**Environmental and food protection**

**Tel Aviv, Israel**

The Municipality’s Environmental Protection and Sustainability Authority has encouraged the preparation of food at home during the pandemic. In addition, farming kits are being sent to encourage citizens living in homes to produce their own food.

Reference:  

**Care for stray animals**

**Tel Aviv, Israel**

Inspectors from the Department of Veterinary Services and NGO volunteers are ensuring that these animals are fed. Food is purchased and supplied by the municipality.

Reference:  

**Provision of food and medicines**

**British Virgin Islands**
Food and medicines will be provided for all vulnerable families. Distribution will be by district and people in need should call a number to be answered. The government made $2 million available for this action, which aims to prioritize the health and safety of the population during the crisis.

Reference:
https://bvi.gov.vg/media-centre/special-arrangements-during-new-7-day-curfew-announced

Distribution of basic food baskets
Morocco

As a way to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, King Mohamed VI gave instructions for the ‘Ramadan 1441’ operation that will distribute basic food baskets to 600,000 families considered to be in a vulnerable situation. For the purchase of food and logistics for the operation, 85 million Moroccan dirhams are being invested, equivalent to approximately US $8.5 million.

Reference:

Assistance packages for people with disabilities
Belgrade, Serbia

In Belgrade, assistance packages were delivered to various categories during the state of emergency, mainly people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities. According to the deputy mayor, more than 2000 packages have already been delivered. People over 65 with pensions below 30 thousand RSD (about 1630 reais) will also receive.

Reference:

Meals for vulnerable population during religious celebration
Etimesgut, Yenimahalle Sincan and Gölbaş, Turkey

Some municipalities in Ankara, in addition to the donation of basic food baskets, are preparing and delivering traditional meals to the vulnerable population affected by the economic crisis during the Ramadan period, Islamic celebration. Public kitchens, which served before the crisis, currently prepare more than 24,000 dishes daily and distribute them to homes in needy communities and to the homeless population of the city.

References:
http://www.yenimahalle.bel.tr/Haber/gezici-iftar-araci-yemek-dagitimi-yapacak/52187
Guarantee of death benefits in service for families of professionals
United Kingdom

According to the Department of Health and Social Care, families of health and care professionals on the frontline of England will benefit from a life insurance scheme during the pandemic. If the worker dies by COVID-19, the families will receive about 400 thousand reais. This scheme will cover frontline employees and social workers.

Reference:

Food assistance for the population
Senegal

To help the most vulnerable families to better deal with the health crisis, the government of Senegal, through the Force COVID-19 response program, launched a food aid distribution plan on April 28. The distributed package consists of essential products such as rice, soap, sugar, oil, pasta and a value of 65,000 Fcfa (629 reais).

Reference:

Distribution of community masks
Cape Verde

In order to make masks available to the low-income population registered in the Single Social Registry and the elderly, the Cape Verdean government hired companies to make masks in series. The masks are included in the basic baskets that the government distributes. In addition, specific masks are distributed to healthcare professionals.

Reference:
https://www.governo.cv/ulisses-correia-e-silva-assegura-que-pessoas-de-baixa-renda-vao-ter-mascaras-comunitarias-gratuitamente/

Partnership with USAID to support IDPs
Afghanistan

More than $ 18 million went to Afghanistan to assist the internally displaced population in the country in the process of detecting and treating COVID-19, as well as technical assistance to the central government bordering Iran, the most affected country in the East Medium.
Reference:

Distribution of masks to vulnerable populations
Hong Kong, China

The Hong Kong government has announced that it will distribute a total of three million disposable and reusable masks to vulnerable groups of the population, such as the elderly, financially disadvantaged citizens and homeless people.

Reference:
https://www.news.gov.hk/eng/2020/05/20200505/20200505_171511_311.html?type=category&name=covid19

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X = action added in the 9th edition
X = action added in the 8th edition
X = action mapped in editions
COMUNICATION

In a pandemics scenario it is extremely important to provide the population with truthful and qualified information about the contagion and the care that must be taken in order to prevent it.

The number of campaigns multiplies each day with the aim of informing and raising awareness among society about the behavior of the virus, the importance of adhering to preventive measures, access to public services, the procedure for treating infected people, among others. However, it is necessary to ensure that the campaigns adopt efficient narratives, languages and means of communication, capable of reaching all segments of the population.

On the other hand, in an extremely connected world, information appears in all means of communication at high speed, bringing to the fore and the need to control the spread of false information about the disease, which, due to its rapid spread, ends up easily over-alarming and confusing the population.

For this reason, at the same time that the increase in the number of official campaigns to raise public awareness about the risks of coronavirus is observed all over the world, the number of measures focused on curbing the spread of false news in this regard is also growing.

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<th>Resumption Actions and Measures</th>
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X = number of initiatives by country, added in the 9th edition.

1. **Access to COVID-19 Information**

Local governments have made available, on their official websites, specific pages for information on coronavirus, with description of symptoms, data and methods of prevention and combat. Public awareness actions also continue to be widely publicized by the authorities, such as campaigns to stay at home and instructions to the most vulnerable populations.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Platform for disclosing solidarity measures**
Granollers, Spain
The “Xarxa Ciutadana” platform seeks to gather and publicize society’s initiatives to face the health crisis of COVID-19.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/initiative/community-action-platform
https://wp.granollers.cat/xarxaciutadana/

Centralization of information
Canelones, Uruguay

An official platform was developed to centralize news, recommendations and actions that have been taken in the city in relation to COVID-19. The official page has a list of recommendations, as well as the subject and link of each news item added to the site.

Reference:
http://www.imcanelones.gub.uy/es/content/covid-19

Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)

System for real-time data control
Algeria

A partnership between the Ministry of Health and the data analysis team of the startup BRENCO developed the “FAHS” application to give access to the population and raise awareness about COVID-19, as a first objective. The second objective deals with the registration by the medical team of the diagnosis of patients with possible symptoms of the disease and the sending of data to the central health system.

Reference:
https://cio-maq.com/covid19/

COVID-19 information page
Andorra

The official website of the Government of Andorra has an exclusive part for information that is updated daily on COVID-19. The page contains: data on infected people, instructions and recommendations for citizens, frequent questions, measures approved to help fight the disease, press releases, and other important information.

Reference:
https://www.govern.ad/coronavirus

British government hotsite with safe return to work information
United Kingdom
On the official website of the British government there is a hotsite with 8 guides on safe work during the COVID-19 crisis. Created by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the guides offer information to help people return to work during and after the pandemic and according to the type of activity.

Reference:  

**Chatbot for citizen information**  
Vienna, Austria

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the WienBot mobile application was updated to clarify restrictive measures in the city and general information about the new coronavirus, helping to decongest the city’s telephone hotlines.

Reference:  
https://www.intelligentcitieschallenge.eu/wienbot-interactive-messaging-service  
https://coronavirus.wien.gv.at/site/

**Application development to notify citizens**  
Bahrain

The government of Bahrain has developed an application called BeAware whose function is to notify citizens when they approach locations with high numbers of COVID-19 infections through the use of individual location.

Reference:  

**Use of drones to inform citizens (review)**  
Bahrain

Bahrain’s Ministry of Interior has determined the use of drones to provide information to citizens who are in social isolation. The drones are equipped with microphones and speakers to publicize the measures taken by the government to combat the pandemic.

Reference:  

**Platform for providing information**  
Tel Aviv, Israel

The DigiTel application works as a means of communication by the municipality and citizens. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it was updated to provide residents with updates on the latest government guidelines and most relevant activities undertaken by the city.
Measurement information page
Brussels, Belgium

A hotpage was added to the official website of the city of Brussels with all information to assist both in the fight against COVID-19, as well as to inform the population of the measures being taken, which can be accessed, or from when such a measure come into force.

Reference:

Site with information
Suriname

A website was created by the government with information on fake news and the progress of the virus in the country, tips and service contacts seeking to inform the population about the situation of the virus in the country.

Reference:
www.covid-19.sr

Informative videos in different languages
Guyana

Creation of animated informative videos, based on studies and research, on the prevention of COVID-19 in 19 languages, including indigenous languages and French sign language, so that they are accessible to the entire population. The videos are on the government website available for popular posting on social networks.

Reference:

Information page
Dominica, El Salvador, Falkland Islands

A page on their official websites with information on fake news and the progress of the virus in their countries has been added by the governments of each country. In addition to hygiene tips and health service contacts.

References:
http://dominica.gov.dm/corona
https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19#LatestUpdate
Information page
Cayman Islands

Government created a page on its website to update the population on myths and truths, inform measures, give tips and update the situation of the area in relation to COVID-19.

Reference:
https://www.exploregov.ky/coronavirus

Information page
North Macedonia

The government of North Macedonia has on its official website an exclusive page for information about COVID-19. From measures and recommendations for disease protection and prevention, government measures to help the population, frequently asked questions, breaking news, important contacts and other necessary information for Macedonians.

Reference:
https://vlada.mk/covid19#news

Information page
Caribbean

The Public Health Agency of the Caribbean countries created a page on its website to update the population on myths and truths, inform measures and update the situation in the area in relation to COVID-19.

Reference:
https://carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus

Information Center
Hungary

The Hungarian government has developed support platforms, only in Hungarian, for the population to answer questions about COVID-19 directly with infectologists by calling 06-80-277-455 and 06-80-277-456. In addition, an official website was created to update the pandemic in the country, as well as government measures to contain it, https://koronavirus.gov.hu/.

Reference:
https://hu.usembassy.gov/covid-19/
Municipality launches COVID-19 information collection site
New York, United States

To get a better picture of where potential patients and quarantined people are, the New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications launched a website to organize these collections. “NYC COVID-19 ‘helps citizens to find out about the city’s measures in relation to areas affected by the virus.

Reference:

Municipality announces data panel on COVID-19
Baltimore, United States.

The Baltimore City Data Panel set up an information tracking system to support the city’s management of service provision and emergency access to food during the coronavirus response, in addition to including the total count of cases and deaths by demographic data.

Reference:

Information session on COVID-19 for children
Finland

The government held an information session on the disease for children on April 24. In that session the first minister, the minister of education and the minister of Science and Culture attended. They answered questions that were asked by videoconference by children aged 7 to 12 years. The questions addressed in the session were collected through channels and can be replicated in schools.

Reference:
https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/article/-/asset_publisher/10616/valtioneuvoston-koronainfopannsille-perjantaina-24-4-

Foreigners service available in 25 different languages
Denmark

Thinking about the foreigners’ difficulty in understanding security measures against COVID-19, the Danish government carried out the translation of posters, posters and videos with the main information about the disease into 9 languages. In addition, the Danish Refugee Council has set up call and message centers in 25 different languages, each with its own telephone line, found on the official website.
Support channels for the population during the pandemic
Georgia

The country’s federal government has developed a network of information and support channels for the population about COVID-19. In addition to the StopCov website, where health recommendations can be found, an update from the Ministry of Health on the number of cases in the country, myths about the disease, frequently asked questions, etc., this information can also be accessed by telephone line 144 and by the official application Stop Covid.

Reference:
https://stopcov.ge/en

COVID-19 information channels
Iceland

The Icelandic government has developed a website, available in 9 different languages, where various information about the new coronavirus is disseminated. On the page you can find frequently asked questions, tips on hygiene practices to avoid contamination by the disease, areas at risk of infection, specific information for people at risk, information on quarantine, animals and isolation, among other subjects.

Reference:
https://www.covid.is/english

Online TV to publicize initiatives to combat COVID-19
Lille Metropole, France

The city of Lille Metropole launched an online TV channel to present the city’s initiatives to combat COVID-19. The channel is also used to provide support and tips for workers confined at home, as well as to share the day-to-day of the employees who still work in person in the city. The program is posted weekly on YouTube.

Reference:
https://covidnews.eurocities.eu/2020/04/22/lille-web-tv-for-city-staff/

Launch of ChatBot to bring answers about COVID-19
Niger

The Ministry of Public Health of Niger, in collaboration with Facebook Inc, and UNICEF officially launched a “ChatBot” on the social network Whatsapp. The tool allows the public to have access to reliable and up-to-date information, to receive answers to
questions and advice on COVID-19. ChatBot is free, users just need to save the number provided and send a message from WhatsApp to start the conversation.

Reference:

**Call Center to fight against misinformation**

**Ivory Coast**

The Ivory Coast Ministry of Youth Promotion and Employment, in cooperation with the telephone company MTN, has made a Call Center available to combat false information and rumors about the COVID-19 pandemic. Côte d’Ivoire currently has 1,516 confirmed cases and 18 deaths by COVID-19.

Reference:

**Site for update on the disease**

**Poland**

The Polish government, in order to facilitate access to information about the disease by the population and keep it up to date, has created an official website with several questions about the virus and how to protect itself from it. The website is available in four languages and there you can find, for example, the official hospitals that the population should look for in case of suspicion, information about travel during that period, about isolation, among other information.

Reference:
https://www.gov.pl/web/coronavirus

**Access to information programs**

**Monaco**

On the official website of the government of Monaco, it is possible to find a specific part about COVID-19. In this section, there is general information about the disease and how to protect itself from it, updates on its progress in the country, monitoring of the measures taken by the government to contain it and phone and email numbers to answer any questions. The phone reserved for this is (+377) 92055500, and works every day from 9am to 6pm.

Reference:
Official page with information, guidelines and restrictions on COVID-19
New Zealand

The New Zealand government has created an official page to inform the population about the measures, guidelines, restrictions and the situation in which the country is in relation to the disease, highlighting the current alert level. It can also be found information aimed at individuals, families, companies, workers and community groups.

References:

Communication Platform
New York, United States

New York has created an official page to update citizens about the suspension or modification of agencies and activities in the city. With daily updates, it is possible to check the progress of the construction of schools, confirm the continuity of charity programs, follow the new logistics of garbage collection or even get informed about changes in virtual religious meetings.

Reference:
https://www1.nyc.gov/nyc-resources/city-agency-service-updates.page#sca

2. Inspection of Fake News

In the midst of the pandemic, it is extremely important that the information that reaches society is true and accurate, since incorrect guidance can put the lives of many people at risk. For this reason, some countries, such as Hungary and Saudi Arabia, are creating mechanisms to ensure that the information disclosed is true, by providing severe punishments for those who spread false information about COVID-19.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Platform to deny fake news
Australia

Within the government portal, an area was designed to show fake news that is circulating about COVID-19. In addition to denying the news, links are placed at the end of each text so that people have access to official information.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)
Establishment of penalties for fake News
Saudi Arabia

The Saudi government has determined that those responsible for spreading false news on social media should be punished by up to US$ 270,000, as well as subject to imprisonment for one to five years.

Reference:
https://www.arabnews.com/node/1670091/saudi-arabia

3. Resumption Actions and Measures

Some countries have already managed to reduce the number of new cases or no longer have new cases of infected with the new Coronavirus. As a result, these countries are already adopting recovery plans in several areas. For example, New Zealand has created several informative pages, disclosing how to maintain well-being to overcome the effects of the pandemic and a specific portal where job vacancies and training will be posted to help those who are unemployed.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Welfare maintenance page
New Zealand

An official page on well-being was created, which stands out for containing information on how people can recover from the effects of the pandemic. There are 4 subtopics treated, including: a) mental health; b) how to access health care; c) Te Whare Tapa Whā platform, which deals with the four pillars of well-being, physical, mental, spiritual and family; d) prevention against domestic and sexual violence.

Reference:
https://uniteforrecovery.govt.nz/wellbeing/

Jobs and training page
New Zealand

To help the population in the professional field, a page was created where training and job opportunities are disseminated so that everyone has access. It covers some topics: a) job vacancies for people who have lost or wish to change careers; b) financial support; c) tool for financial assistance in the post COVID-19; d) training.

Reference:
https://uniteforrecovery.govt.nz/jobs-and-training/
4. Other Actions

In addition to the inspection of fake news and information about COVID-19, in times of quarantine and social isolation, it is important to show that the media can be used to bring people and generations together. Also included are measures by governments that have facilitated access to information for the population.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Call center 24 hours a day
Ryazan, Russia

On May 22, the Ministry of Labor and Regional Social Protection made available a call center that will operate 24 hours a day to assist citizens in the purchase and delivery of medicines and food, in addition to clarifying medical questions about the virus for the population. On its first day of operation, from 0:00 am to 2:00 pm, the exchange had already received 16,522 calls.

Reference:
https://www.ryazangov.ru/governmentro/covid-19/?ELEMENT_ID=1098206

Platform-assisted decision making for smart cities
Seul, South Korea

Assisting in the administration of the city in an atypical scenario, the tool known as Smart City Platform for Mayor, has assumed an important administrative role. In addition to the ability to give orders to various sectors, hold videoconferences and display over 2,000 security cameras, this platform receives and processes more than 32 million administrative data, allowing for quick and conscious decision making.

Reference:

“Show your #BXLove” campaign
Brussels, Belgium

The city of Brussels launched a new campaign called “Show your #BXLove”, seeking to bring generations together during the blockade. The idea is to ask young people to use social media to record a message for grandparents, elderly people in the neighborhood or other elderly people who are in nursing homes. The # being raised are #BXLove and #StaySafe, with messages of support, encouragement and other original ideas.

Reference:
https://www.brussels.be/show-your-bxlove-campaign_
Free Wi-Fi for the population
El Salvador

The government will make free Wi-Fi available in central locations in cities to ensure that the population can receive news from their families and access to emergency measures.

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X = action added in the 9th edition  
X = action added in the 8th edition  
X = action mapped in previous editions
CULTURE AND TOURISM

One of the biggest health crises in recent history has been spilling over into impacts far beyond public health. The preventive measure of social distancing developed, as a result, into the cancellation and postponement of events with the potential to generate crowds of people and thus enhance contagion. As a consequence, the cultural and tourism industry felt proportionately deeper impacts than other sectors of the economy and immediately.

The cultural sector employs dozens of categories of professionals in its production chain, such as artists, technicians and outsourced suppliers, of which 44% do not have a formal contract in Brazil, according to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). Also according to data from the Institute, about 5 million people worked in the Brazilian cultural sector in 2018, and the estimated losses for 2020 exceed 400 million reais. The situation is similar almost everywhere in the world.

The outbreak of the new coronavirus presents the tourism sector with great and growing challenges as well, since it is an industry that depends essentially on the interaction between people. The tourism industry has been suffering acutely from the emptying of hotels, parks and tourist spots, with the drop in the sale of travel packages and airline tickets. Such impacts stem from measures to prevent contagion, which have led to flight cancellations and border closures.

The tourism industry, which spreads its profits to several agents of the economy - ranging from large airline conglomerates and hotel chains to small enterprises such as tourism agencies, inns, restaurants, commerce, handicrafts and tourist guides - annually moves around $8.8 trillion a year. So far, a US$ 50 billion loss in world tourism is expected.

In this context, governments are called upon to help these strategic sectors for the economy and development, which are at risk of collapsing in the face of the sudden drop in demand for their services.

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<th>Country</th>
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X = number of initiatives by country, added in the 9th edition.
1. Resources for Online Cultural Festivals

Cultural workers, musicians, artists, models, photographers, are some of the categories that have been experiencing profound economic impacts resulting from the cancellation of shows, fairs and other cultural events due to health and safety measures. With this in mind, national, regional and municipal governments have been making calls for financing art and culture festivals on virtual platforms as a remedial measure.

Such measures aim to ensure that artists and cultural industry professionals have access to income and that the population, which is in a situation of social distance, has access to entertainment. Alternative platforms for accessing culture such as books, documentaries, visits to museums and digital language courses are also being made available free of charge around the world.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Street food festival maintained by home delivery**
*Avellaneda, Argentina*

The annual street food and music festival, known as *La calle del sabor*, took place through its own food *delivery* app and musical *lives*. Therefore, it was possible to promote the culture and flavor of the streets without compromising health security measures in the country.


**Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)**

**Online exhibitions and workshops**
*Villa Carlos Paz, Argentina*

The government of Villa Carlos Paz, through the Secretariat of Tourism, Culture and Sport, created a Youtube channel where everyone can enjoy the exhibitions and workshops through short videos of online classes on different topics, such as dance, writing and music.

Reference: [https://mercociudades.org/covid-19/teletrabajo/](https://mercociudades.org/covid-19/teletrabajo/)

**COVID-19 Global Content Championship**
*Seul, South Korea*
In order to encourage and unite the world population in combating the COVID-19 pandemic, the Seoul Metropolitan Government is organizing a contest open to the world public. Participants must produce videos or images that portray, in different ways, the fight against the virus. At the awards ceremony, 30 million won (approximately 25 thousand dollars) will be distributed among the 48 finalist projects.

Reference:
http://english.seoul.go.kr/global-contest-for-content-related-to-support/

Online Film Festival
Gabès, Tunisia

The city decided not to cancel the still young festival “Gabès Cinéma Fen” and held it virtually. The event, which brings together a series of films and productions from the Arab world, was a pioneer because it was the first online cinema festival in the region and was able to count on a larger number of spectators.

References:
http://www.rfi.fr/fr/culture/20200407-tunisie-gab%C3%A8s-cin%C3%A9ma-fen-premier-festival-en-ligne-monde-arabe-sami-tlili
https://www.jeuneafrique.com/928196/culture/tunisie-malgre-le-confinement-le-festival-de-cinema-de-gabes-a-bien-eu-lieu/

2. Suspension of Air and Land Travel

The worsening of the crisis resulted in a large movement of postponements and cancellations of trips by customers of tourism companies. Adding this phenomenon to the decisions of several countries on border closings and stricter migratory control, there was a significant reduction in the movement of people. Governments have adopted attitudes of support to airlines and tourism companies, which are badly affected by this context.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Temporary ban on pilgrimage of the faithful
Mecca, Saudi Arabia

In late March, the Saudi government issued a statement ordering believers to postpone plans for Hajj, the pilgrimage that Muslims must make at least once in their lives. This movement attracts about 2.5 million people over a period of ten days. With the high levels of contamination by the coronavirus, the agglomerations resulting from the pilgrimage will be postponed.

Reference:
3. Cancellation of Events

To avoid crowds of people, many public and artistic events were canceled or postponed. The damage to artists and producers is large and needs to be the subject of support measures. Meanwhile, governments have been changing the rules of public processes to encourage culture.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Event cancellation
Falkland Islands

The government canceled the on-site celebration of ANZAC Day, a date that commemorates all citizens who served in wars and conflicts. The celebration was held in a public place and received a large number of people. To avoid crowding, the memorial was broadcast on television.

Reference:
https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19#LatestUpdate

4. Resumption Actions

Many countries have already reached or are very close to reaching the peak of contagion to begin to flatten this curve. With that, some governments are already presenting action plans for the reopening of the country. With regard to culture and tourism, recovery plans have already been presented for economies that depend on tourism for sustenance and the reopening of religious temples gradually, so as not to risk a new wave of contagion of the new coronavirus.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Strategy for the tourism sector
Catalonia, Spain

Estrategia Zero is a new tourism strategy promoted by the Barcelona Deputation that aims to respond to the current needs of the sector. The areas of action contemplated are: commitment to sustainable and responsible tourism, support to the tourism sector, generation of trust through joint work between the public and the private sector, and optimization of marketing strategies.

Reference:
Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Reopening of religious temples
South Korea

Churches should follow precautions such as distance between seats and the use of masks, the limit of space occupation should not exceed 20% of their normal capacity. In February, a church in the country had more than 10,000 members diagnosed with the virus, representing half of the country’s contamination.

Reference:

Churches and religious societies to reopen in May
Austria

Churches and communities in Austria are preparing to gradually open services in consultation with the Federal Government. This opening will take place on May 15 and will take into account the applicable criteria for COVID-19 measures. Thus, the basic need of individuals for the practice of religion is ensured and it is thus carried out with responsibility, taking an extra step towards normality.

Reference:

Local economy recovery plan
Canela, Brazil

The Subcommittee on Strategic Tourism Planning developed a plan to revive the local economy after COVID-19. The plan has the objective of promoting integrated and coherent actions between tourism enterprises in order to guarantee public health. The plan aims to organize the gradual resumption of local activities, preserving jobs and helping the municipality’s legal, economic and health security.

Reference:

Security incentive seal against COVID-19
Portugal
The Tourism Council of Portugal created a certification for tourist activities considered “clean and safe” in the country. The seal of approval was created to recognize companies in the tourism sector that comply with the recommendations of the Directorate-General for Health, to prevent the spread of COVID-19. With this, the tendency is to pass more confidence to the visitors regarding the security of the destinations.

Reference:

5. Other Actions

Many countries and cities that are economically dependent on tourism are already taking steps to support the sector. Among them are the dissemination of information on good practices and financial support to the sector.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Daily distribution of books, newspapers and sudoku**
*Izmir, Turkey*

The municipality is distributing 3,730 newspapers, 2,800 books and 3,000 sudokus daily as a way of providing entertainment and information to city dwellers during the period of social disengagement.

References:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/initiative/resilience-action-plan-izmir-metropolitan-municipality

**Public library with home delivery**
*Bogota, Colombia*

In an initiative to promote culture in the midst of the pandemic, Bogotá’s network of public libraries initiated a virtually organized system of loaning, delivering and renewing books. Thus, when entering their data on the new online platform, people already registered can choose the work of interest from the catalog. The chosen book is sanitized and delivered according to safety recommendations.

Reference:
https://www.biblored.gov.co/noticias/prestamo-a-domicilio

**Subsidy program for national tourism**
*Taiwan*
The Taiwanese government has determined that, starting in July, citizens who decide to travel inland will be subsidized. Tourist groups will receive US$ 23 a night at the hotel of their choice, while individual tourists will receive US$ 40 a night. Each citizen has the right to register only once per hotel. Immigrants do not have access to the benefit.

Reference:
https://focustaiwan.tw/society/202006080013

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Digital Library
Tel Aviv, Israel

All users registered in Tel Aviv libraries will have free access to dozens of digital books.

Reference:

Encouraging gardening
Tel Aviv, Israel

People who live in buildings are being encouraged to cultivate, create and care for terraced gardens and balconies. For this, several tips and warnings about care must be provided. Subsequently, a competition will be opened with the best terraced gardens and balconies.

Reference:

White circles to ensure social distance in parks
Istanbul, Turkey

Teams from the municipality’s Parks and Gardens Department designed white circles 240 centimeters in diameter and a minimum distance of 1 meter between them, to minimize contact between visitors to the city’s green areas.

Reference:

Channel for the dissemination of good practices against COVID-19
Brazil
A space was made available on the Ministry of Tourism’s website to publicize institutional actions that have been carried out. Program representatives in each state can send information on how to fight the new coronavirus. The material is being compiled into a single website so that everyone has easy access to the information.

References:
http://www.turismo.gov.br/%C3%BAltimas-not%C3%A7%C3%A7%C3%B5es-do-states-against-the-cov...

Support measures for the tourism sector
France

The tourism sector was hit by the containment measures and, even with the gradual opening, it is estimated that the economic situation will not be favorable. Thus, the Ministry of Economy announced measures to help small and medium-sized companies, with emphasis on the cancellation of rentals in the tourism, hotels, cafes and restaurants sectors during the administrative closing period. Events and sports will be canceled.

Reference:

All actions mapped up to 9th Edition

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ECONOMY

The economic impacts of the global coronavirus pandemic can already be felt and the consequences in the coming months are expected to lead the world into an economic recession still uncertain. Thus, in order to mitigate the repercussions already felt and those that are yet to come, several countries are putting into action mainly measures of three types: financing and loans to companies to keep them functioning and to have the future capital needed to recover; consultancies and courses for micro, small and medium entrepreneurs; interruption of the requirement to pay bills, services and taxes, such as water, electricity, credit card, internet, income tax.

Several economic analysis institutions and their experts estimate that, in the short term, the impact on productive activities worldwide will be intense. This is due to the fact that most affected countries have implemented policies of social distance and even lockdown. Such measures involve the suspension of many economic activities, lasting only those that can count on home office. At the moment, the biggest concerns are in the perspective of unemployment, a significant fall in income patterns, impoverishment and closing business. Most short-term measures operate in this direction.

In addition, when thinking about the medium and long term, specialists look at the conditions to allow the resumption of supply and demand volumes prior to the crisis. Therefore, it is necessary to recover the volumes of circulation of income and consumption, the reconstruction of complex supply chains and the gradual resumption of macroeconomic activities lost in the course of the crisis. Here, there is a tendency for governments to absorb impacts instead of business through tax suspensions and pardons.

There is a strong focus on supporting the most vulnerable populations, with lower income and savings. In addition, support to SMMEs, improved access to credit, income transfers to the most impacted, salary subsidies and fiscal measures. The main trend observed is related to measures of income transfer to people impacted by measures of distance and lockdown.

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<th>Suspension and extension of deadlines and payments</th>
<th>Economic Help to Workers</th>
<th>Reduction of working hours</th>
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1. Tax Exemptions

One of the measures frequently implemented in order to reduce the economic impact on society is the exemption of certain taxes for micro, small and medium-sized companies, since these are the most vulnerable to the economic crisis that can already be felt. For individuals, tax exemptions are also granted, for example, by deducting income tax, tax on monetary donations and on imported products to help fight the coronavirus. There are also measures to suspend mortgage payments, electricity, water and gas bills, and pay salaries and holidays for tax-exempt civil servants.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Tax exemptions in the tourism sector**

**Uzbekistan**

The central government has determined that, by the end of 2020, travel agencies, hotels and the national airline of Uzbekistan are exempt from property and land use taxes, just as social taxes have been reduced to 1%.

Reference:

**Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)**

**Exemption from customs taxes**

**Lao People’s Democratic Republic**
The Lao government has determined that items imported to combat COVID-19 will be exempt from customs duties and other taxes.

Reference:

Tax exemptions for farmers
Hungary

As agriculture was the sector that suffered most from the suspension of activities due to quarantine, the country’s Ministry of Agriculture reported that, as has been done in other sectors of the economy, employers will not need, until the end of June, to pay contributions and taxes on the wages of its employees. In addition, workers are expected to pay only 4% of their health insurance.

Reference:
https://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-agriculture/news/further-significant-decisions-to-support-agriculture

2. Suspension and extension of deadlines and payments

It is important that citizens and companies, especially micro, small and medium-sized companies, have assistance, such as the suspension and extension of the payment of taxes, bills such as water, electricity, credit cards, etc. in order to reduce the impact on citizens and businesses, since many are without the possibility of working in order to support themselves.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Development of aid measures for the private sector
Saudi Arabia

The Saudi government has authorized companies to postpone the payment of a series of taxes and other government fees for up to three months. The Corporate Sustainability Program was also launched, which allocates responsibility for the Ministry of Finance to authorize loans and financing until the end of 2020.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)

Suspension of dividends
Jamaica

The Bank of Jamaica has declared that it will suspend the distribution of dividends for the rest of 2020. The purpose of the measure is to conserve the companies’ capital and ensure that they can use this amount that would be passed on to investors to absorb losses caused by the current crisis.

Reference:

Extension of tax registration dates
British Virgin Islands

The International Tax Authority has extended the delivery date of the documents to the Foreign Accounts Tax Compliance Law, as it recognizes that the current worldwide quarantine and reduced mobility moment can make it difficult to obtain the necessary documents.

Reference:

Deferred tax payment
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Knowing the financial difficulties faced by its population during the period of the health crisis, the government of the country decreed the extension of the payment period for the following fees: corporate income tax, fee for improving useful functions of forests, fee for preventing fires and personal income tax. These taxes must be paid from June 30, 2020 until the end of the year.

Reference:

Private sector support
Manama, Bahrain

The government will support the private sector by suspending tax payments for three months. The country’s citizens will also be exempt from paying electricity and water bills and, in some cases, the government will provide financial assistance to companies so that they can pay their employees’ salaries.

Reference:
https://www.moh.gov.bh/COVID19/Details/4186

Water bill reduction
Thailand

The Thai government approved a measure that proposes a 20% discount on the water bill, as well as the suspension of the payment of the first 10 cubic meters for residents of the metropolitan area of Bangkok. For the other provinces, the discount will also be valid, but the 10 cubic meter exemption will be replaced by the extension of the deadline for payment of the service fee until June 30th.

Reference:

3. Funds and Aid for the Recovery of Companies

As a way to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic in the economic area, actions aimed mainly at small and medium-sized companies are being adopted internationally. Among the measures are the provision of free consultancy and even financial compensation. Large companies are also the target of government measures, such as encouraging low-interest loans and postponing tax payments.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Emergency relief plan for companies
Gabon

The national government announced an investment of approximately R $ 2.25 billion to assist companies in difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, companies that keep their employees employed will get tax rebates from service companies and small businesses for a 50% reduction, for example.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)

Soft loan program
Andorra
The Council of Ministers approved a decree that provides certain guarantees for companies and businesses. This program, with a budget of 100 million euros (about 611 million reais) will be used in three lines of financing: refinancing of installments of credit, providing help to companies and businesses with the payment of employees and financing the adaptations of the locations following health requirements.

Reference:
https://www.govern.ad/comunicats/item/11550-el-govern-aprova-el-segon-programa-de-credits-tous-amb-una-dotacio-de-100-milions-d-euros

Antivirus Program, an employment support program
Czech Republic

The Antivirus Program created by the government, aims to help companies that need to stop their activities due to the pandemic. These companies will be reimbursed the wages of all employees, beginning at the end of May. This way they are more protected from not going bankrupt and avoiding unemployment.

Reference:

Supplementary Budget
Finland

The government has proposed a supplementary budget to facilitate the financial situation of companies and cover the costs of managing the situation in the country. In support of companies, an additional 700 million euros (about 4 billion reais) was proposed for the purchase of shares in state-owned companies. In this way, it helps companies to increase the capital of state-owned companies, strengthen them and maintain the financial position of companies that need some support.

Reference:

Expansion of loans to large companies
United Kingdom

The government revealed the details for the large business loan scheme. All companies with sales exceeding £ 45 million will be able to request support. Companies with a turnover of more than £ 250 million will be able to borrow up to £ 50 million from creditors. In addition, in order to give creditors more confidence in financing, the UK Government will provide them with an 80% guarantee on each loan.
Reinforcement measures for companies and employees
Sweden

Five measures were presented by the government to mitigate the impact of the pandemic in the country: higher ceiling for unemployment insurance benefits; extended reimbursement for people who become ill; suspension of medical certificate requirement to relieve health services; government liabilities for government subsidy costs are increased and financial support for traders who become ill.

Reference:

Expansion of financial support to small businesses
New Zealand

The New Zealand government will grant interest-free loans (if paid in one year) to small businesses impacted by the economic crisis caused by COVID-19. Assistance will be $10,000 for each company (which employs 50 or fewer full-time employees), plus $1,800 per employee. The interest rate will be 3% for a maximum term of 5 years and repayments will not be required for the first two years.

Reference:

Economic stimulus package
Solomon Islands

The Prime Minister of Solomon Islands launched on May 4 an Economic Stimulus Package. Through this Package, the Government will provide US $ 309 million to stimulate the economy and mitigate the negative economic effects of the crisis. According to the Prime Minister, it is the Government’s duty to ensure that companies and businesses that receive support provided for in the package convey the benefits to families and consumers.

Reference:
Support program for companies and employees
Montenegro

According to the Minister of Economy, the support program covers six types of subsidies and targets more than 100 thousand employees in the country and thousands of entrepreneurs, micro, small and medium companies. To preserve existing jobs, the measures aim to support 50 to 100% of each employee’s gross salary. According to the minister, it is a stabilization program to preserve jobs that we had before the pandemic.

Reference:

Support for startups in operation
Switzerland

The Federal Council approved a guarantee scheme to support startups that face liquidity problems caused by the pandemic. Government-accredited lending organizations will facilitate startups’ access to loans. In this sense, a special guarantee procedure was created: 65% of the loan guarantee is provided by the federal government and 35% by the canton or third parties designated by the canton.

Reference:

Support package for non-essential services
Hong Kong, China

The Hong Kong government has announced a package of more than a billion dollars to assist beauty salons, massage establishments and party spaces that apply for the grant. Beauty salons or massage parlors can receive from thirty to one hundred thousand dollars, according to the number of employees, while party spaces can be allocated up to 40 thousand dollars.

Reference:
https://www.news.gov.hk/eng/2020/05/20200506/20200506_173903_756.html?type=category&name=covid19

4. Economic Aid to Workers

In order to reduce the economic and social impact, several countries are creating or expanding plans to assist workers, such as, for example, the extension of unemployment insurance and other guarantees for workers, incentives to the *home office*, among many
other measures that aim to support and provide assistance to workers in the current crisis period.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Financial support for taxi drivers and independent drivers**  
Niterói, Brazil

The Program Taxi Driver Friend provides for the provision of emergency assistance to taxi drivers, school transport service providers and their assistants. These people will receive three installments in the amount of R $ 500.00 each, which were paid in April, May and June.

Reference:  

**Expansion of aid to unemployed**  
Russia

Expired in March, Russian unemployment benefits have been extended so that these citizens receive at least $ 65 a month starting in June. In addition, families with underage children will start to receive $ 43 for each child until the month of August and entrepreneurs who have closed their business will be able to receive up to $ 174 as assistance.

Reference:  

**Social support program**  
Benin

To support its population and businesses, the Benin government has mobilized a fund of 7412 billion FCFA (660 million reais). The program is divided into 3 points: support to companies, support of FCFA 4.98 billion for artisans and small business practitioners and a subsidy on electricity and water prices for all citizens.

Reference:  

**Financial aid for companies, religious and union organizations**  
Niterói, Brazil
The Citizen Company Program consists of the payment of the minimum wage, for three months, of up to 9 employees of companies, religious and union entities, who have up to 19 employees and a permit in the city. Those who join the program pledge not to reduce their number of employees until October 2020.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/initiative/programa-empresa-cidada-citizen-company-program-programa-de-empresa-ciudadana

Aid for informal workers
Vietnam

The Vietnamese government launched an assistance program for workers who lost their jobs due to the pandemic, but were unable to receive unemployment insurance or worked in an informal situation without a contract. These people can, starting in April, apply for the program to receive 43 dollars per month.

Reference:

New measures inserted (7th and 8th editions)

Extension of remuneration measure
Estonia

The government reached an agreement to extend the remuneration of employers and workers until the end of June. According to the prime minister, this measure has helped and will help to maintain jobs and people’s income, improving the situation of companies in difficulty in the current crisis.

Reference:

Aid for health workers
Brunei

The government decreed an aid of US$ 400 (R$ 2,300) to health workers in the country. The aid was intended for doctors, nurses, hospital cleaning assistants and security guards.

Reference:
Aid fund for companies and people
Ivory Coast

The government announced the aid of 10 million FCFA (100 thousand reais) to support 40,000 self-employed workers and employees and production units affected by the crisis. People and companies in the sectors of artisanal manufacturing, industrial manufacturing, commerce, livestock, fishing, hotels, catering, hygiene, beauty salons, textiles, real estate and transportation will benefit.

Reference:

Package of measures and interventions
San Marino

The government of San Marino announced measures to help families in difficulties with a minimum value of 580 euros (about 3,500 reais). This amount will increase if you have a spouse and other family members. For companies and freelancers, the time for filing the tax return and payment will be extended until August. The Government will also create an extraordinary fund to revitalize the economy.

Reference:

Measures for availability of seasonal employees
Finland

The government has decided to take measures to ensure the availability of the necessary manpower in agriculture and horticulture, the entry of seasonal foreign employees into Finland and incentives to attract domestic labor.

Reference:

Aid for autonomous farming families
Thailand

The government approved financial aid for farming families suffering from drought and recession during the pandemic period. Families that are not registered in the government database can do so online until May 15. 150 million Bahts (25 million reais) will be allocated in the emergency package.

References:
https://www.prachachat.net/economy/news-447721

Mapping financially disadvantaged artists
Thailand

The culture ministry has mapped 26,000 people in the art industry in vulnerable financial situations due to the closure of entertainment establishments and the cancellation of shows. The ministry promises that it will ensure that these people are registered and receive emergency aid of 5,000 Bahts (R$ 800.00) provided by the government.

Reference:

Support package for the tourism industry
Montenegro

According to the Prime Minister, the announcement of an economic package worth 5 million euros (about 30 million reais) in support of the tourism industry is just an intervention for the employees' salaries to be paid by the government for two months. In addition, he adds that the aid proves to be necessary, since the recovery of tourism will depend a lot on how the countries will behave and the borders will open.

Reference:

Financial support measure for payment of wages
Macedonia

Requested by many companies, an aid in the payment of wages for the months of April and May in the amount of 14,500 dinars (about 1400 reais) per worker will allow the work to continue while preserving jobs. According to the Economic Affairs Counselor of the Republic of North Macedonia, applications are in the final stages and about 12,500 have been accounted for by the IRS.
Non-refundable allowance for self-employed workers
Luxembourg

According to the proposal of the Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises, he decided to approve a project that consisted of establishing a single, fixed-rate and non-refundable financial aid. The amounts of this new aid fixed at 3,000, 3,500 and 4,000 euros (about 18 thousand reais to 25 thousand reais) vary according to the income range.

Reference:

5. Macroeconomic packages

The possibility of recession resulting from the suspension of economic activities in quarantine and social isolation contexts has provoked governmental reactions in the sense of preparing macroeconomic ballast packages for the resumption. The stimulus to the national economy as a whole has been discussed as a way to cushion the monetary, exchange rate, income and GDP impacts in a post-coronavirus scenario.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Implementation of economic stimuli
Thailand

The Thai Ministry of Finance announced a macroeconomic package aimed at boosting domestic consumption. In addition, the rural sector will be able to count on several loans totaling US $ 5.4 billion provided by the Bank for Agriculture and Rural Cooperatives.

Reference:
https://br.reuters.com/article/financialsSector/idUSL4N2DL1QX

Multisectoral emergency plan
Democratic Republic of the Congo

The national government announced an aid package for the country’s main economic sectors, especially mining. The plan has an investment of 2.6 billion dollars and consists of three axes: the maintenance of the response capacity, its reinforcement and the macroeconomic stabilization.

Reference:
http://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique/20200619-rdc-tshisekedi-annonce-plan-tr%C3%A8s-c%C3%A8teux-lutter-contre-la-crise-%C3%A9conomique

**Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)**

**Business support package**

**Martinica**

Creation of government economic measures for small businesses, including a system of administrative assistance for companies, loans from emergency government funds, easing of rules for the use of European funds and exemption from fees in health-related materials and services. The purpose is to ensure that small businesses have less spending and maintain their positive cash during the crisis.

Reference:
https://www.collectivitedemartinique.mq/covid-19-%c7%80-les-mesures-de-la-ctm-en-faveur-de-leconomie/

**Aid plan for companies and workers**

**Gabon**

Gabonese President Ali Bongo announced a package of more than 381 million euros to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis in the country. Of that amount, around 346 million euros will be allocated to companies in financial difficulty through an emergency fund. For workers, between 50% and 70% of the gross unemployed wage will be provided by the government package.

Reference:

**Addition to national emergency aid**

**Gyeonggi-do, South Korea**

In addition to national emergency aid, the municipality will provide extra help at the local level for its residents. Each family enrolled in the municipal program will receive 100,000 won (approximately R$ 400). The action cost the city the equivalent of R $ 4 billion.

Reference:
http://snvision.seongnam.go.kr/12088

**Allocation of funds to combat COVID-19**

**Ukraine**
According to a resolution made by the Cabinet of Ministers, approximately 6 billion reais will be allocated to: the provision of personal protective equipment to health units and medical care departments; purchase of goods necessary to guarantee responses to COVID-19 outbreaks; and salaries for doctors and other staff involved in implementing measures.

Reference:  

Reopening the mining sector  
South Africa

The government of South Africa, for economic reasons, deemed it necessary the reopening of the mining sector, which represents 8% of its GDP. The decision allowed surface mines to resume operating at 100% of their capacity and underground mines can only operate at 50%. Accompanying measures were taken such as the use of masks, the provision of disinfectant products and systematic testing of employees.

Reference:  

6. Reduction of working hours

The reduction of working hours is already being studied to be applied after the COVID-19 pandemic. New Zealand, for example, is studying this measure to recover from the crisis caused by the current pandemic, aiming to increase domestic tourism, one of the most affected areas.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Week with 4 working days  
New Zealand

The aim of the measure is to help the New Zealand economy recover, believing that productivity will increase. About 60% of the country’s tourism is made up of local inhabitants, so when implementing this action, there is a greater incentive for people to make more domestic trips. In addition, greater flexibility in the workday will also be encouraged, using remote hours.

Reference:  
7. Resumption Actions

Many countries are publishing action plans for recovery after the new Coronavirus pandemic. Some countries in Oceania, for example, are seeking to support those who have become unemployed and to restructure certain sectors of the economy.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Hiring for post-COVID-19 recovery**

**Guam**

The Guam Labor Department will begin hiring people for COVID-19 recovery efforts, related to cleaning, support for airport facilities, quarantines and examinations. For that, the department received US $ 1.5 million to hire about 200 people. People who have become unemployed due to the pandemic will be hired.

Reference:

**Support to the civil construction sector**

**Australia**

The HomeBuilder program was created in order to guarantee more jobs in the sector, in post-COVID-19. The program will provide all eligible buyers or residents with a US$ 25,000 grant to build a home or renovate an existing one. There are criteria for entering the program that involve the income limit, specified on the website. The project will support around 1.14 million direct and indirect jobs in the sector.

Reference:

**Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)**

**Extension of economic activities to continue opening**

**Andorra**

The government of Andorra has decreed the expansion of the list of activities that may resume its commercial operations, as long as respecting health indications. Some activities that can be opened completely or in part are: vehicle sales activities; retailing of furniture and other utensils; and the opening of activities related to hairdressing for pets.

Reference:
Reopening for non-essential services
Kazakhstan

From May 4, establishments that provide non-essential services and that carry out their activities in an area smaller than 500 m² will be able to function again until 17:00 hrs. It will also be allowed to practice outdoor sports and to resume flights with a reduced number of passengers and increased health safety measures. As of April 29, the country had recorded 25 deaths and 3,138 cases of COVID-19.

References:
https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/kazakhstan/

Diversification of the economy
Angola

In partnership with UNCTAD and the European Union, the Angolan government tries to diversify its economy through the Train For Trade II program. As a way of circumventing the effects of the devaluation of oil, the government seeks to identify promising sectors to implement policies for promotion, infrastructure improvement and business training.

References:

Release for non-essential business operations
Swaziland

It was decreed by King Mswati III to extend partial home containment measures for the functioning of the market. Establishments considered non-essential may return to operate under strict conditions of hygiene. The category of enterprises to fit the list will still be defined by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Market.

Reference:

Reopening of automotive factories
Turkey
The Turkish central government, after announcing that the restriction measures will be eased from the month of May, authorized the country’s main car factories to return to normal on 11 May.


Development Project
Kazakhstan

On May 5, a national project for job creation was announced. Vacancies will be opened in the area of social infrastructure, engineering, transport and civil construction, based on the improvement of roads, construction of schools and improvement of basic national sanitation. In total, it is estimated that 1,220,000 people will be hired from the national plan in 2020.


Resumption of activities in the industrial sector
Russia

From May 12, isolation and restriction measures will begin to be relaxed in the country. The civil construction industry will be the first to be resumed. According to the president, precautionary measures must still be followed in reopened establishments and workers in groups at risk or pregnant should not return to work.


Reopening of some trades
Thailand

With the fall in contamination cases, on May 4, the country began to relax some restrictions on mobility and isolation, allowing businesses such as pet shops, beauty salons and restaurants to resume their activities, counting on hygiene and containment precautions.

Reopening of certain commercial sectors
Singapore

From May 12, commercial sectors such as beauty salons, laundries and companies that operate on a domestic basis, such as homemade bakeries, may be reopened. The establishments must still follow precautionary measures previously established, such as the limit of people and service offerings.

Reference:

8. Other Actions

Many countries have presented comprehensive ballast packages for economic recovery in the aftermath of the crisis. In addition, there are also other intervention actions in the economy to provide better conditions for serving the populations and economic resilience in the normal return of activities.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Small fairs for the commercialization of agricultural products
Cundinamarca, Colombia

In order to support local farmers and producers, as well as reduce the flow of people at the Corabastos supply center in Bogotá, the Cundinamarca government is holding small fairs for the marketing of agricultural products from 11 associations in the municipalities of Vianí, Nocaima, Sasaima and Villeta in the city of Facatativá.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/initiative/inician-circuitos-cortos-de-comercializacion-agropecuaria-en-cundinamarca

Volunteer program for agriculture
Izma, Turkey

The municipality has created a specific volunteer program for agriculture, in which young people between 20 and 35 can volunteer to complement the necessary workforce. The goal is to reduce the cost to producers so that prices can be kept the same as before the pandemic.

References:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/initiative/resilience-action-plan-izmir-metropolitan-municipality
Response plan for farmers
Ivory Coast

The Côte d’Ivoire government delivered a check for 150.8 billion FCFA (R$ 1.344 billion) to support agricultural sectors in the face of the consequences of the pandemic. The amount will be distributed in two sectors: export and food production. On that occasion, the Agricultural Emergency program was launched, which is part of the economic, social and humanitarian support plan.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Circular economy for sustainability
European Union

A new plan by the European Commission aims to increase the useful life of products by imposing restrictions on disposable products. The aim is to ensure that products inserted in the European market are created in order to last longer, facilitating reuse, repair and recycling. Such information must be clear on the packaging, in order to facilitate consumers’ decision making.

Reference:
http://smart-cities.pt/noticias/economia-circular-planoue3103/

Strategy for using closed kitchens
Bogota, Colombia

Through the partnership with delivery platforms and applications, the “yo comparto mi cocina” strategy was launched. The objective is to assist entrepreneurs in expanding the supply and demand of their products. Restaurants with their kitchens closed can share their space. The government carries out the mapping and organizes these partnerships, enabling efficient storage and distribution of products.

Reference:

Online platform to support local commerce
Gavà, Spain

The Municipal Council developed the virtual service “Més que mai”, in which stores and restaurants can register and offer discount vouchers to customers when the quarantine is over and the establishments reopen.

Reference:
https://www.intelligentcitieschallenge.eu/mes-que-mai-comerc-de-gava-more-ever-local-trade
https://www.mesquemaigava.cat/

Call for startups projects
Antwerp, Belgium

The city selected eight companies that presented the best digital innovation projects in the context of the new coronavirus crisis, with a total contribution of approximately R$ 1.5 million available. Among the selected projects are contagion monitoring services and streaming platforms for artists.

Reference:

Economic Resilience Support Project (PARE) for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
Burkina Faso

PARE is an electronic platform to meet the demands of more than 15,000 companies affected by the pandemic and who are struggling to continue their business. The platform is a device that allows companies to expose their difficulties and needs, mainly in fiscal, financial, accounting, legal, social and operating terms.

Reference:

Local delivery system
Sungdong-gu, South Korea

The Sungdong-gu prefecture has developed a delivery system that connects consumers and local businesses through call centers and delivery services offered by the municipal government.

Reference:
Construction of smart buildings
Jinshan, China (Smart City Expo World Congress - 2018 Report)

The prefecture of Jinshan, China, has started a process of constructing smart buildings for commercial and residential purposes in order to improve the promotion of sustainability in the developing city.

Reference:

Suspension of sales and purchases of airline tickets
Argentina

In Argentina, the borders have been closed since the beginning of March and the president, Alberto Fernández, extended the compulsory and strict quarantine until May 10. In this new measure, the government restricted the sale and purchase of commercial airline tickets until the second half of this year, due to the pandemic caused by Covid-19.

Reference:
https://www.otempo.com.br/mundo/coronavirus-argentina-proibe-venda-de-passagens-aereas-comerciais-ate-setembro-1.2330276

Subsistence allowance in response to the tourism crisis
Seul, South Korea

In view of the decrease in tourist activity in the country, the Metropolitan Government of Seoul has pledged to offer, as of May, financial support to the MICE industry, responsible for planning meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions in the city. Thus, the project to cope with the industry crisis was developed to help, through a cost allowance, more than 500 companies related to the sector.

Reference:

Crisis fund for gypsies settlements
Greece

The Greek Interior Ministry announced that the government has allocated € 2.25 million to protect Roma at risk in segregated camps and settlements in Rome. To implement
the necessary measures, 98 municipalities will receive subsidies between 5,000 and 60,000 euros.

Reference:

Compensation for companies that follow containment measure
Nagoya and Aichi Municipalities, Japan

As a measure to encourage non-essential businesses in spaces over 1000 m², the local governments of Nagoya and Aichi made a compensation measure of 500,000 Yen (R $ 26,000) for entrepreneurs who kept their premises closed for at least 23 days (from April 17th to May 6th).

References:
https://www.pref.aichi.jp/site/covid19-aichi/kyoryoku2.html
http://www.city.nagoya.jp/keizai/page/0000128190.html

Disclosure of food product prices
Mehterlam, Afghanistan

The urban discipline committee negotiates with sellers in local markets every morning to ensure that prices for fruits and vegetables are fair and that there are no price abuses during the pandemic period. The list is released via Facebook daily and a communication channel is provided to report non-compliance with the agreements.

Reference:
https://pt-br.facebook.com/%D9%85%D9%87%D8%AA%D8%B1%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%85-%DA%9A%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%DB%8D-Mehterlam-Municipality-1777516622513076/

Tax refunds for small and medium-sized businesses
Swaziland

Small and medium-sized companies that are up to date with the related taxes by the end of 2019 will have a refund of 25% of the tax paid in the previous year. The refund will be made in the form of monthly installments by the national revenue agency, the Eswatini Revenue Authority.

Reference:
New online selling mechanism
Mexico City, Mexico

*Conéctate* is an application created by the Government of Mexico City for the marketing and exchange of products. Companies and people with a business can offer products and services. Customers will be able to arrange the exact time they will pick up your product in order to avoid crowding people. The app also allows the location of businesses and services close to the homes of interested parties.

Reference:

Virtual market
Tandil, Argentina

“Compra Tandil Online” is a measure created by the Secretariat for Productive Development and International Relations of the Municipality of Tandil, Argentina, to help local entrepreneurs who cannot open their stores and who do not have online sales mechanisms, to continue selling their products.

Reference:

Expansion of monetary stimuli during the pandemic
Japan

The Bank of Japan expanded the monetary stimulus and promised to buy an unlimited amount of bonds to keep borrowing costs low and try to get out of the economic crisis caused by COVID-19. The bank offered to pay an interest rate of 0.1% to institutions that use the new loan program to combat the pandemic and encourage commercial banks to increase loans to cashless companies.

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X = action added in the 9th edition  
X = action added in the 8th edition  
X = action mapped in previous editions
EDUCATION

Faced with the worst health crisis in history, several countries have been implementing measures of mandatory social distance in order to reduce the number of contaminated and control the dispersion of the new coronavirus, which causes COVID-19. As a consequence, several daily activities have been paralyzed worldwide, such as school and university activities. According to monitoring carried out by UNESCO, 1,524,648,768 students were affected, which corresponds to 81% of the world’s students. Still, the uncertainty about the end of this crisis, worries the educational institutions - and the governments - as to the proper fulfillment of the school year and what will be the impacts on the student life of millions of students. This is an even greater concern for those countries that have fragile educational systems, that have low enrollment rates, a wide disparity between the presence of girls and boys in the classrooms, among many other problems.

So, in order to lessen the impacts on student life, schools and universities around the world are transferring their classes to virtual teaching platforms. In addition, it is possible to observe global movements of cooperation between countries, international organizations and several other actors in the international system in order to develop and support schools in this transition. We can also note that several libraries, museums and newspapers around the world are providing access to their online platforms for free.

In the sphere of action of governments, there is a trend of financial support actions for distance learning infrastructures, support in school diligences with delivery of activities at home and support for health professionals who need to go to work with children in situations of social distance. In some countries, especially those that have already overcome the worst moment of the crisis, governments are structuring the gradual reopening of schools and other educational establishments, always within the scope of previously established health recommendations and guidelines.

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X = number of initiatives by country, added in the 9th edition.
1. Adaptation of School Structures

Despite the suspension of the school calendar in most schools in the countries, some actions were taken as a way to take advantage of the infrastructure of the institutions (schools, schools, daycare centers, etc.). As a result, some cities have implemented measures to take advantage of the food and meals offered by these services, in addition to caring for the children of health professionals allocated to fight the new coronavirus.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Withdrawal screen for protection and security
South Africa

In order to guarantee the return of classes and the safety of students against the new Coronavirus, transparent protective screens were produced and placed on the students’ table. This initiative made students and teachers return with confidence and safety to the classrooms, as it prevents the transmission of the virus between them.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)

Use of plastic separators in schools
Wuhan, China

In the process of returning to face-to-face classes, for only high school students, transparent plastic structures were installed that separate the desks, already separated by one meter in the classrooms, in order to prevent the transmission of saliva. (Images in the article below). As part of this effort, educational authorities also distributed disposable masks to students.

Reference:

Implementation of computerized thermometers in schools
Wuhan, China

Educational institutions in Wuhan have installed computerized thermometers for students to enter. Students must walk at a distance of one meter from each other when passing the thermometer, which, equipped with a camera, scans the temperature individually. The aim is to monitor the students’ health and, if necessary, prevent the entry of those who indicate a fever, taking them to an observation room.
Restructuring of school meals
Wuhan, China

School officials at the Chinese industrial hub have turned some classrooms into cafeterias that can hold a maximum of twenty students at lunchtime. In addition, the food started to be individualized for the students and instead of the joint distribution in the buffet model as was the previous standard.

Distance learning education
Suriname

The Ministry of Education has announced that classes will be held remotely. The students’ parents will be added to WhatsApp groups where teaching materials will be sent every day, as well as the correction the next day. There will also be lessons given by public television channels.

2. Government Support for Distance Learning

In view of the suspension of classroom activities in schools, one of the alternatives found by governments to reduce the impact of this decision is to implement distance learning platforms. The practices involve delivering activities to students’ homes as well as virtual platforms for accessing online content and exercises.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

E-soutien-scolaire digital platform for school support
Morocco

This platform was created to improve student performance in online classes during the pandemic period. It is aimed at teachers and students in elementary, secondary and pre-school education.

Reference:
https://aujourd'hui.ma/societe/soutien-scolaire-le-hcp-lance-une-nouvelle-plateforme-de-donnees-documentaire-electronique
DigiClass: The platform for review and testing
Burkina Faso

DigiClass is a startup created by young people to improve distance education for high school students. It provides review material and tests for the student to self-assess. In addition, materials from all disciplines from 6th to 12th are available. The platform is also useful for parents of students who wish to find a teacher for personalized supervision and monitoring of their children.

Reference:
https://lefaso.net/spip.php?article96605

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Distribution of electronic equipment in the remote school regime
Tel Aviv, Israel

Tel Aviv City Hall distributes 750 portable computers and more than 100 tablets to ensure that everyone can participate in distance learning. The municipal government also started to cooperate with technology companies to grant more equipment in addition to the municipal initiative.

Reference:

Distance learning platforms
Jordan

The government launched a teaching platform broadcast online and on national TV for students in public schools.

Reference:
https://darsak.gov.jo/

Support program “Escol@ em Casa”
Torres Vedras, Portugal

The city launched the extraordinary program to ensure that students without access to digital resources during the COVID-19 pandemic can access them from home. Thus, to continue with the government’s determination to continue the school year, 850 computers and 500 Internet access devices were loaned.

Reference:
Avoiding learning delay
Japan

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has made online learning content and support content available to teachers and parents to ensure that students continue to learn from home. The ministry asked each regional education council to access the platform and use the content provided. The recognition of degree advancement will be done flexibly due to the exceptional situation.

References:
https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/ikusei/gakusyushien/index_00001.htm
https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20200421-mxt_kouhou01-000004520_6.pdf

Distance learning project
Georgia

At the end of March, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport launched the Teleskola distance education project, with classes shown on television, on the First Channel, from Monday to Friday at 9 am. Classes are aimed at students of all ages and are taught according to the national school curriculum. Lesson times can be found on the official government websites and on the channel website.

Reference:
http://mes.gov.ge/content.php?id=10248&lang=eng

Distance learning for minorities
Georgia

In the first phase of the Teleskola program, classes in the Georgian language will be made available to students belonging to ethnic minorities. Subsequently, starting on April 13, classes in mathematics, environmental studies and biology will also be taught in Armenian and Azerbaijani, as well as classes in these languages and native languages. It is important to note that all classes are accompanied by sign language translation.

References:
http://mes.gov.ge/content.php?lang=eng&id=10290
http://mes.gov.ge/content.php?id=10248&lang=eng

3. Resumption Actions

Governments of countries that seem to have overcome the worst moment of the crisis caused by COVID-19 are gradually reopening schools and other educational institutions.
In general, health recommendations, such as regular hand hygiene, the use of a mask and distance between students and between them and teachers, should be followed.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**End of remote school regime**

**Malaysia**

The Malaysian government has announced that from June 24, schools in the country will reopen in a gradual process in which students taking national or international exams have priority to return to face-to-face classes.

Reference:

**Previous measures (7th and 8th editions)**

**Return to public schools**

**Australian Capital Territory (ACT), Australia**

The ACT government announced plans for a staggered return to the classroom. According to the announcement, the idea is to take students of all grades back to school by June 2. Pre-school, kindergarten and 1st, 2nd, 7th, 11th and 12th year students will be the first to return on May 18th.

Reference:

**School reopening**

**Denmark**

Denmark was the first European country to reopen its schools. Although contamination rates have been reduced considerably, care must be strictly followed. Children should wash their hands at least once an hour, they should be placed on separate tables 1.8 meters apart and, during recess, they are allowed to play only in small groups.

References:

**Resumption of classes**

**Solomon Islands**
On April 27, the government announced the resumption of classes for children over 4 years of age in most of the country. States with the highest numbers of suspected infections will keep schools closed. The reopening will be gradual, with measures of hygiene and distance between students. The closure of schools began on March 31 and the country has yet to register any deaths from the virus.

References:

Return to school
New Caledonia

Some students from the archipelago returned to classes on April 22. Since the announcement, primary schools, colleges and secondary schools have been striving to implement hygiene and distance measures within schools. Washing hands is essential before entering classrooms and students are instructed by teachers to repeat this operation five times a day.

Reference:

Back to school
Guangzhou, China

On April 27, resumption was announced in more than 500 primary and secondary schools. The mandatory use of masks and the limit of students per room are among the precautionary measures. Schools are also organizing classes on fighting and preventing pandemics.

References:
http://www.ynqb.net.cn/guoneinews/6784.html
https://www.bowtie.com.hk/blog/zh/%E6%AD%A6%E6%BC%A2%E8%82%BA%E7%82%8E-%E6%B7%B1%E5%9C%B3-%E5%BB%A3-%E6%9D%B1%E8%8E%-%E6%9D%B1%E8%8E%9E-%E4%BA%AD% E5%B1%81/

Back to school food security
Guangzhou, China

On April 27, primary and secondary education resumed their activities in the city. In order for the return to take place safely, the Municipal Food Security Secretariat is making unannounced visits to educational institutions to ensure that hygienic precautions in the preparation and distribution of meals are being implemented.
End of remote school regime
Vietnam

The closure of schools in Vietnam has ended after three months. The return to face-to-face classes takes place in a scenario in which the country has less than 300 confirmed cases, so that in order to remain containing the virus, students are required to wear masks in the rooms and have their temperature measured before entering institutions.

Reference:
http://www.gz.gov.cn/xw/zwlb/content/post_5809539.html

Back to school preventive practices guide
Japan

The Ministry of Education has formulated a guide for teachers, parents and education officials, with precautionary measures to be followed when classes are resumed. The guide gives advice on home care for parents, such as taking the student’s temperature every morning, and on care at the school for staff, such as constant cleaning and detachment.

Reference:
https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20200406-mxt_kouhou01-000006156_1.pdf

Partial reopening of schools
Japan

The Ministry of Education has proposed to the regional Education Councils the possible reopening of schools in their states and municipalities as of May, as students in the first, sixth and ninth grades are in transitional phases between schools. The ministry asks governments to take into account the severity of the virus in their regions and gives precautionary advice if they choose to reopen.

Reference:
https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/05/02/national/japan-schools-partial-reopening-coronavirus/#.XrGQpRRKqdU

School reopening planned
Singapore

The national development minister announced that the end of the remote school regime is scheduled for May 19. This process will be done gradually, bringing only small groups
to the rooms, prioritizing those who will take the national exams, and then students who depend on the school structures to complete their courses.

Reference:

School reopening
Queensland, Australia

Starting on May 11, community kindergartens will be reopened and classes will resume for students in the 1st grade of elementary school and 2nd and 3rd year of high school. The government claims that the resumption is possible due to low contamination rates in the country resulting from national compliance with containment measures. Schools will continue to take strict hygiene measures and implement outdoor classes where possible.

References:

4. Other Actions

Measures to mitigate the impacts of Covid-19 in the area of education go beyond distance learning initiatives. In this sense, governments adopted free childcare, created programs of scholarships in virology and also rethought the academic calendar, both with regard to the admission of new teachers and the possible closure in the academic year.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Virtual platform “Rosario en casa”
Rosario, Argentina

To assist its population during the confinement period, an official website with content built by the city’s inhabitants was developed. This portal, which is updated frequently, has eight different thematic areas to entertain, educate and inform its citizens on issues ranging from sustainability to music and cooking.

Reference:
https://www.rosario.gob.ar/web/rozar-en-casa

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)
### Assistance to students' parents
**Tel Aviv, Israel**

The city's educational-psychological service opened a hotline for parents to get advice and instruction on issues of relationship, parenting and education. In addition, children with special needs received tablets and creative activity kits. The “The Special Ones” page also included additional content with questions and answers, and providing professionals to assist parents.

Reference:  

### Daycare for children of essential workers
**Falkland Islands**

The Department of Education is providing daycare centers for children of essential workers. This group involves health workers, judiciary workers, water, energy and food distribution sectors, among others who could not take care of their children while schools remain closed.

Reference:  
https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19#LatestUpdate

### School closings
**Jamaica**

The government of the country through the Department of Education declared the schools closed until April 19. The purpose is to avoid agglomerations in a place with a large number of people in close proximity.

Reference:  

### 'Hackathon' of innovative solutions against COVID-19
**Taiwan**

The Taiwanese government invites people around the world to participate in the competition in search of creative and practical control solutions against COVID-19, which will take place between May 5th and 12th. Participants must submit short videos presenting an innovative solution related to combat, proposals for transition and prevention of future pandemics.

References:  
https://taiwantoday.tw/news.php?unit=2,6,10,15,18&post=174554
Children's courses and games provided by the municipality

Sincan, Turkey

The city has organized and made available a series of activities, such as games and online painting courses, for children who are out of classes due to the pandemic. According to the municipality, the initiative is for children not to distance themselves from art during isolation and to have access to safe and fun content as a way to spend time indoors.

References:
https://ekultur.sincan.bel.tr/category/tiyatrolar/cocuk-oyunlari?fbclid=IwAR34NsVjInH4kiBNqQYuAY8vRTGHJ2L7fJctuBPypfEsviLP6nCA6XbPjvZM

Monitoring of parents in their children's virtual school life

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Families with children in the public health system were inserted by the Buenos Aires government in the Connected Educational Community. The objective of this community is to connect parents and guardians with schools so that they can follow their learning process.

Reference:
https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/jefaturadegabinete/noticias/nuevas-medidas-educativas-del-gobierno-porteno-una-mesa-de-ayuda-y-apoyo

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X = action added in the 9th edition  
X = action added in the 8th edition  
X = action mapped in previous editions
MOBILITY

One of the main measures adopted to control the spreading of the coronavirus is the mandatory quarantine. As a way of encouraging people to stay at home, the rail and public transport systems of several countries are reduced or interrupted.

On the other hand, however, it is important to ensure that health professionals can reach the areas that need assistance. To this end, measures such as free public transport for these professionals are being implemented.

Mobility measures have been implemented with a focus on ease of access to health services, support for companies that have had reduced demand, suspension of services, restriction of shared modes of transport and disinfection and cleaning of trains and buses.

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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X = number of initiatives by country, added in the 9th edition.

1. **Public and Shared Transport Control**

Public transport is one of the main areas in the way of preventing and fighting coronavirus. To this end, most governments decided to adopt restrictive measures in relation to the sector, such as closing stations, limiting capacity for the number of people seated, mandatory use of masks and suspension of shared vehicle services (bicycles and scooters, for example).

**Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)**

*Board buses through all doors*
Los Angeles, Boston; United States

American cities have regulated the boarding of passengers through the back doors of buses in order to minimize contact with the driver. Others have allowed boarding through all doors, which, in addition to reducing waiting times at stops by more than 30%, speeds travel times for all passengers.

Reference:
https://www.itdp.org/2020/04/13/five-temporary-covid-measures-that-us-cities-should-make-permanent/
**Containment measures in public transport**

Ankara, Turkey

In addition to the disinfection of buses on a routine basis, the local government also guaranteed the supply of alcohol to passengers when entering the transport. A new seating arrangement was also made, so that travelers follow the minimum distance from placing tapes on interchanged seats so that they cannot be occupied.


**Mandatory use of masks for transport users**

Spain

The Spanish Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda established, as of May 3, the mandatory use of facial masks for all users of public and collective transport, both in land transport, such as sea and air. The masks must be covering the nose and mouth to avoid the chance of transmission of the COVID-19.


**Reduction of lines in public transport**

Seychelles

In order to ensure compliance with restrictive mobility measures, the national Health Department has announced that there will be a decrease in bus lines according to the number of people in essential services that need public transport. The measure has police support for monitoring.


**Prohibition of transit to Conakry**

Guinea-Conacri

The Guinean government has decided to expand emergency health measures. The new rules established for the movement of goods transport leaving the capital inland are: Minimum 3 passengers for vehicles carrying food, a test of COVID-19 before the trip, establishment of test centers on the highways. The government says that anyone who does not respect the rules will be fined.

Reference:

2. Control of the movement of people

The advancement of isolation and social distance measures has brought new attitudes towards the movement of people. Many governments have taken mild measures and, in the face of disrespect for these measures, such actions have increased. Restrictive stances on the movement of people include immigration measures and also those that affect nationals.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

State of Emergency and curfew
Saint Kitts And Nevis

The local government declared a State of Emergency in the country and implemented curfews. Hours vary each week, but tend to stay from 7 pm to 6 am, and 24 hours on weekends.

Reference:
https://www.stkittstourism.kn/travel-advisory-update

Temporary curfew
Granada

A curfew from April 20 until 7 am on April 27 was declared by the local government. During that time, all people must stay inside their own homes. The population will be able to leave home on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:00 am to 7:00 pm. The purpose of the measure is to decrease movement and contact between people.

Reference:

Curfew
Cayman Islands

Government decreed curfew from Monday to Saturday, from 5:00 am to 7:00 pm and from 7:00 pm and from Saturday until 5:00 am the following Monday. The curfew works during the 24 hours of Sunday.

Reference:
https://www.exploregov.ky/coronavirus-curfew

Curfew
British Virgin Islands

The Premier declared a 7-day curfew between April 19 and 26. As an exception to the measure, bakeries, farms and water companies, financial services, commercial fishermen and supermarkets are allowed to deliver.

Reference:
https://bvi.gov.vg/media-centre/special-arrangements-during-new-7-day-curfew-announced

Travel restricted to a radius of 10km
Malaysia

From the 1st of April, the movement of people to purchase essential goods is restricted to 10 km away from the citizens’ homes. The country's armed forces monitor the movement of people using drones and patrols.

References:

Monitoring by drones and helicopters
Ordu and Van, Turkey

In addition to street inspections, the police department in both provinces used drones and, in Van, even helicopters, to monitor non-compliance with the isolation measures imposed in early March. The measures to restrict mobility in the country were directed at the population at risk, such as the elderly and people with pre-existing diseases.

References:

Extended mobility restrictions
Dubai, UAE

The Dubai government has increased restrictions on the movement of people and suspended the subway service for 24 hours over a period of two weeks, which can be expanded. Citizens will only be allowed to leave home in urgent circumstances or if they work in the services still functioning in the city.

Reference:
Local isolation accompanied by sanctions
Khartoum, Sudan

Under the decree of Prime Minister Faisal Mohamed Salih, the state of Khartoum has been placed on closed borders, with transit permitted only in specific cases regulated by the government. Vehicle owners who violate the measure will have their licenses revoked.

Reference:

Suspension of works and home office
Seychelles

The national health department ordered the stoppage of all services in the construction industry as a way to contain the flow of workers on the streets. Workers in services considered non-essential must perform their activities in the home office. The measures went into effect on April 9 and are initially valid for 21 days.

Reference:

Mobility bans due to Ramadan
Indonesia

Indonesia being the Asian country with the largest number of Muslims, the government banned travel during the religious period of Ramadan. For this, public transport linking the main cities of the country was stopped until May 31, and the use of private vehicles was prevented. In order to ensure that these measures are implemented, the army was called to the streets.

Reference:

Use of drones and helicopters to ensure isolation
Moscow, Russia

The Russian government, with the country approaching 200,000 cases, determined the use of drones and helicopters during the May holidays in the Moscow metropolitan region. The aim is to identify violations of isolation in order to punish those responsible.
3. Resumption Actions

Faced with successful scenarios to combat the pandemic caused by the new coronavirus, some countries, such as Finland, have relaxed measures to restrict movement in certain regions and during special situations and events.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Discounts when using public transport
Auckland, New Zealand

City buses and trains will have a reduced price for users who use between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6:30 pm on working days. The discount will be 30% and the idea is to reduce crowding, encouraging people who have greater flexibility in their routine to use transportation at that time. In addition, it will be possible to reduce the fleet, which increased during the pandemic.

Reference:
https://www.times.co.nz/news/auckland-transport-discounts-for-travelling-during-the-day/

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

New metro operating rules
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Since May 20, the subway has resumed operation, now with limited hours from 7 am to 9 pm. Outside these hours, the wagons will undergo a disinfection process. Everyone is required to wear masks and in addition, capacity will be reduced for the safety of everyone’s health.

Reference:

Interstate travel allowed again
Cambodia

Although the country implemented a measure to ban travel between states on April 10, on the 16th of the same month the measure was suspended. Only the capital, Phnom Penh, keeps the entry and exit restrictions, which is linked to the high number of contaminations in the region.

References:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/05/07/coronavirus-in-russia-the-latest-news-may-7-a69117
https://www.csis.org/programs/southeast-asia-program/southeast-asia-covid-19-tracker-0#Cambodia

**International travel allowed for certain citizens**

**Russia**

Citizens of dual nationality or who have a legitimate document of residence in another state are allowed to leave Russian territory, even with the borders remaining closed as a restriction measure in the midst of the outbreak of COVID-19.

Reference:

**Easing mobility control**

**Indonesia**

The central government has established new legislation, the Order for Conditional Movement Control, which eases previous regulations, allowing, for example, that up to four people from the same family can be in a private vehicle.

Reference:

**Resumption of transport for essential trips**

**Indonesia**

From May 7, the locomotion of people via air, sea and train will be resumed in the areas that had decreed the lockdown. The resumption will be only for essential trips, such as transporting health professionals. The new measure contradicts the previous decision to ban the transport of people in these facilities until the beginning of June to the 34 most affected provinces in the country.

References:

4. **Other Actions**

   **New measures inserted (9th Edition)**
Safety plan for those who use the bicycle as a means of transport
Bogota, Colombia

In order to make the use of bicycles as a means of transport safer, the City Hall, in partnership with the Police, is strengthening the plan “En Bogotá la Bici nos mueve con Seguridad”. The plan aims to achieve better policing in the city, as well as the improvement of information and communication channels with citizens.

Reference:

Program to transform public roads into outdoor spaces
San Diego, United States

The “Slow Streets” program encourages road closures to create new safe spaces for pedestrians and cyclists. The objective is to ensure social distance and reduce the crowding of people on sidewalks, parks, beaches, etc.

Reference:

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Transport program for healthcare professionals
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

The Integrated Transport Center announced the launch of a service called Abu Dhabi Healthcare Link that offers free transportation to healthcare professionals. The program is activated by application and operates according to demand, serving different professionals and institutions.

Reference:
https://dot.gov.ae/en/Public-Transport/Buses/Healthcare#publications_e=0

Mobility Application
Helsinki, Finland

The city has a mobility application, called Whim, which was one of the world’s first platforms aimed at integrating multimodal transport, whether public or private. This platform facilitates payment, as well as ensuring greater security, accessibility and ease of use for the city’s transport system.

Reference:
Digital driver’s license
Louisiana, United States

Through the VerifyYou app, users can digitally authenticate their driver’s license with the state’s Department of Motor Vehicles. The digital driver’s license increases convenience for citizens, as well as reducing document fraud.

Reference:

Monitoring through a map system
Tel Aviv, Israel

A map application, GIS, is an interactive platform that shows city locations by categories. With the current crisis, it has been updated to establish a 100-meter perimeter from each user’s home, in accordance with the maximum travel distance established by the municipal government.

Reference:

Development of sustainable chassis for trucks
Barcelona, Spain (Smart City Expo World Congress - 2019 Report)

In partnership with the European Regional Development Fund, the Spanish headquarters of the company FCC Environment developed a model of electric chassis powered by batteries, traditionally used for trucks, however it can be used to compose other forms of public transport. This product is part of a project to develop a fully electric vehicle that emits less pollutants.

Reference:

Developments in a public cable car network
La Paz, Bolivia - Smart City Expo World Congress - 2019 Report

The government of La Paz, Bolivia, developed the largest public transport system by cable car in the world, covering the entire capital of the country and part of the metropolitan region with its ten lines.

Reference:
http://www.miteleferico.bo/

Mandatory use of masks for public movement
Granada

The use of masks that cover the mouth and nose is mandatory at the entrance of any establishment. Mandatory is also for car journeys with more than one person. In case of medical emergency use is not mandatory.

Reference:

Implementation of new cycle paths
Peru

To decongest public transport and contain the spread of the new coronavirus, the Minister of Transport and Communication announced that new cycle paths will be implemented. There are about 250 km of bike paths in the country, but not all are connected, mainly in popular neighborhoods. With this, the idea is to connect them so that everyone has access and avoid crowds in public transport.

Reference:

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## All actions mapped up to 9th Edition

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- **X** = action added in the 9th edition
- **X** = action added in the 8th edition
- **X** = action mapped in editions
HEALTH

The speed with which the new coronavirus spreads around the world, requires that health measures are implemented quickly and effectively in order to guarantee the safety and health of all people. To this end, several countries are implementing mandatory quarantine as a way to reduce the number of infected people, as well as measures that seek to encourage the medical sector and enable it to be able to serve those in need. This involves making investments so that industries in the health sector can increase their production, as well as using stadiums, gyms and other public places for temporary medical care. Efforts have also been made to treat victims of the virus in several countries.

However, health services need to pay close attention to populations at risk, the capacities of hospitals, the availability of medical care supplies and the risks of infection in hospital environments. In the various mapped actions, great effort can be noted in improving diagnoses for data qualification and correct care, action protocols with sick people, protection for the elderly, technological care solutions and multilevel mobilizations to reinforce care capacity.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Field Hospitals</th>
<th>Testing and Examination Actions</th>
<th>Psychological Health Care</th>
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X = number of initiatives by country, added in the 9th edition.

1. Field Hospitals

One of the most recent news in the health sector is the setting up of field hospitals. The experience of Italy and China with hospitalizations and deaths resulting from the coronavirus spurred movements from several countries to create these hospitals and this phenomenon has been observed worldwide.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**
A field hospital for better care  
Uganda

For a better care of the new registered cases, the authorities made available a field hospital of 40,000 beds in the Namboole Stadium. The president encouraged people, saying that to prevent the virus from spreading they should be more careful and stay at home.

Reference:
https://www.bbc.com/afrique/region-52995244

Field hospital to attend new cases of COVID-19  
Lunda-Norte, Angola

A field hospital equipped with a laboratory, X-ray equipment, air conditioning, fans and beds was delivered. Its installation is part of the strategy of installing health units to face the pandemic in the country. This hospital allows the treatment of patients with mild pathologies, asymptomatic and intensive care, for logistics, administration, laboratory and X-ray area.

Reference:
http://jornaldeangola.sapo.ao/sociedade/concluida-montagem-do-hospital-de-campanha-na-lunda-norte

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Temporary hospital for the care of migrants  
Matamoros, Mexico

The Global Response Management group, in agreement with the Mexican government, will assist migrants in a field hospital in the city of Matamoros that borders the United States. The hospital has 20 beds.

Reference:

Construction of a specialized hospital  
Astana, Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan’s capital, Astana, has won a hospital specializing in the treatment of COVID-19, built in record time, equipped with 200 beds, modern respirators and devices to ensure the safety of professionals.
Febrile emergency hospitals
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Febrile emergency hospitals were built so that patients with suspected COVID-19 do not mix with other hospital patients. All units are equipped with preventive means for personal health care and operate 7 days a week. Patients will have their vital signs evaluated, in addition to physical respiratory examination. As a result, they will be referred for appropriate treatment.

Reference:

2. Tests and Exams

The search for more accurate and faster data on virus transmission has also motivated efforts to sophisticate exams and tests, with public-private partnerships, investments in technology and direct public funding.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Availability of COVID-19 test results online
Bahrain

As part of the Public Coronavirus Combat Awareness Campaign, the government of Bahrain will make the results of the disease tests available online for citizens to check theirs and the numbers for the country as a whole.

Reference:
https://www.moh.gov.bh/CovidResults

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

T3 strategy to fight the pandemic
Surat, India

The city adopted the Track, Test and Treat strategy, originally launched by WHO in the fight against malaria, as a plan for rapid crisis management. The initiatives consist of the development of an online system for tracking the outbreaks of the disease, a
telephone line for assistance, a special garbage collection system, quick cleaning of areas with confirmed cases and distribution of PPE’s.

Reference:
https://www.who.int/malaria/publications/atoz/test_treat_track_brochure.pdf?ua=1

Tests for COVID-19 for Roma communities
Slovakia

According to the 2011 Slovak census, it is estimated that around 100,000 people are part of the Roma community in the country. Thinking of the individuals in this group who had returned from abroad, the government announced that it would conduct tests for COVID-19 in this community, with the support of military doctors, from April 3 to April 9. The aim would be to detect new cases of the disease as soon as possible and implement isolation.

Reference:

Start of tests for vaccine against COVID-19
United Kingdom

The United Kingdom began, on April 23, to carry out human tests for a possible vaccine against the new coronavirus. Vaccine development and testing are being carried out by the Jenner Institute at the University of Oxford. The vaccine is made from a harmless chimpanzee virus, ChAdOx1. The vaccines for this virus have already been applied to 320 people, and it is very tolerable and safe.

Reference:

Delivery of sanitary materials by Chinese foundation
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Alibaba foundation, owned by Chinese businessman Jack Ma, delivered 108 tonnes of supplies to the Ethiopian capital to combat the spread of the new coronavirus in the country. 1.1 million test kits for the detection of COVID-19, six million masks and 60 protective clothing were delivered, to be distributed in the rest of the country.

Reference:
Mass testing
Andorra

Andorra, with one of the highest death rates from the disease in the world, announced the plan to try to test its population twice. People will do the tests inside their cars. They arrive at a parking lot, the Stop Labs, where a blood sample will be collected. If so, the person will be subjected to the PCR exam to find out if isolation is necessary. After 15 days everyone will be tested again.

Reference:
https://g1.globo.com/mundo/blog/sandra-cohen/post/2020/05/07/entenda-como-funciona-a-estrategia-de-andorra-para-tornar-se-o-primeiro-parents-to-test-all-their-residents-against-the-new-coronavirus.qhtml

Tests for COVID-19 will be focused
China

China will focus the tests on high-risk groups, such as people in infected areas or who have symptoms, so large-scale testing will not be done. For this, the accuracy of the tests must be improved and more laboratories must be created. People can also order tests, especially those who experience a high density of people on the way to work and those who may not have symptoms.

Reference:

3. Remote medical care

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Remote landline survey
Cuenca, Ecuador

In order to guarantee remote service to those who do not have access to the internet, Test COVID-19 IVR is being carried out through the fixed telephone network. In this way, citizens measure their level of risk of contracting the virus and, according to their level, appropriate recommendations are given. Citizens with medium and high levels are attended by doctors over the telephone line and, if necessary, the PCR exam is scheduled.

Reference:
Daily monitoring of suspected and confirmed cases
Sao Leopoldo, Brazil

The Home Isolation Monitoring Center monitors daily, through telephone calls and, when necessary, active search, the suspected and confirmed cases of the new coronavirus in the municipality. This monitoring is carried out with all patients with confirmed diagnosis and those under investigation.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Changes in healthcare services
Falkland Islands

Measures to decrease non-emergency medical care were implemented with the suspension of dental and routine care. In addition, primary care and pharmaceutical care will be done over the phone. The measures are aimed at increasing the availability of doctors and avoiding the use of places where there would be an easy proliferation of the virus.

Reference:
https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19#LatestUpdate

Telemedicine for severe cases
Mexico City, Mexico

People who have been detected as possible serious cases of COVID-19 through the online questionnaire or text message are immediately directed to a video call with a medical team in order to answer a second questionnaire to confirm and detect other symptoms. In case of need, the team will request the transfer of the person to a health center.

Reference:
https://mercociudades.org/covid-19/teletrabajo/

Telephone support
Mexico City, Mexico

People who have symptoms of COVID-19 should send a message to a specific number to receive care and referrals from doctors via their cell phone.
Case detection by WhatsApp
Buenos Aires, Argentina

The Buenos Aires government added a new function to the city chat, Boti, in order to detect possible cases of COVID-19 via WhatsApp. Citizens can select the option “¿Tengo coronavirus?” and begin to answer a series of questions prepared with the Ministry of Health. Boti assigns potential carriers a personalized chat with a health operator, who will provide the necessary guidance.

Reference:
https://mercociudades.org/covid-19/teletrabajo/

Telephone assistance program for the elderly
Santiago de Chile, Chile

The city of Santiago de Chile created the assistance program for the elderly to be able to access the services of the municipal health network by telephone. This measure covers the services of medication, vaccination, testing and medical care at home, emotional care, health guidance and home delivery of the Complementary Food Program for the Elderly.

Reference:
https://www.munistgo.cl/stgo-te-cuida/

Positive performance of the public health system
Costa Rica

The Basic Comprehensive Health Care Teams (Ebais) guarantee in Costa Rica a solid health system with more than a thousand health centers spread across the country, with doctors, nurses, technical assistants and pharmacists. To contain Covid-19, health professionals go to the patients’ homes and monitor, daily, the process of recovery and non-spread of the virus in the region.

Reference:
https://www.munistgo.cl/stgo-te-cuida/
4. Service Reinforcement Measures

A series of novelties were also mapped in the approach and reinforcement of care, with concerns about the mental health of people in isolation or quarantine, new technologies for the production of medical equipment, international exchange of knowledge and experiences, and partnerships between government and private health.

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Municipality calls Cuban doctors to work in Basic Health Units (UBS)
Campinas, Brazil

To help the municipality’s medical team in the fight against the coronavirus, the City of Campinas announced that 8 Cuban doctors were summoned through the Mais Médicos Program, despite the suspension of the program by the federal government. The doctors in question were already enrolled in the federal government program and remained in Brazil after the end of the partnership with Cuba.

Reference:

Medical control centers
El Salvador

Mobile medical control centers were installed on the country’s streets and roads. In them, doctors will inform and examine the temperature of the population.

Reference:
https://covid19.gob.sv/26-03-2020-garantizando-la-salud-de-quienes-pasan-el-proceso-de-cuarentena/

Call by doctors
Mexico

The Department of Health is calling nurses and doctors for Intensive Care, Urgency, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Infectious Diseases and Anesthesiology.

Reference:
https://twitter.com/SSalud_mx/status/1252431864750538752?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwtcam
p%5Etweetembed%7Ctwtterm%5E1252431864750538752&ref_url=https%320%2F%220202F5e9d30fe22601d46048b460f.html
https://www.marca.com/claro-mx/trending/2020/04/20/5e9d30fe22601d46048b460f.html
Restructuring of the Health Care System
Swaziland

The Prime Minister, Mandvulo Dlamini, announced reinforcement measures to increase the capacity of the laboratories in the city of Mbabane and in the district of Lubombo. The measures include: training of additional employees, establishment of continuous reports of results and distribution of test equipment throughout the country according to strategic forecasts of need.

Reference:

New care centers for the least infected
Dakar, Senegal

From Thursday, May 7, patients with less infected COVID-19 located in Dakar, the capital of Senegal, receive guidance in three new care centers that each have 400 beds. It is a measure to automatically admit patients with or without symptoms of Coronavirus and to free hospitals that are becoming saturated.

Reference:
https://fr.africanews.com/2020/05/07/coronavirus-face-au-risque-de-saturation-le-senegal-ouvre-de-nouveaux-centres/

5. International Cooperation

In view of the need to join efforts to combat the Covid-19 pandemic, several governments have mobilized to receive patients from other infected countries. In addition, there was the support of immigrant and refugee doctors and the sending of medical supplies and health professionals to the most affected regions.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Equipment aid for neighboring countries
Morocco

Aid for 15 African countries was offered by the Moroccan authorities. This action is part of a set of initiatives to strengthen its relations with its neighbors and share experiences and good practices, as all products and equipment were made by Moroccan companies. This aid consists of masks, visors, charlottes, dresses, hydroalcoholic gel and medicines.

Reference:
Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Aid for water supply project (review)
Bosnia Herzegovina

The Council of Ministers has designated a proposal between Bosnia and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development which refers to an investment of EUR 1.9 million (about R$ 12 million) to assist in the Gradacac Water Supply Project. The purpose of this cooperation is to expand the existing water supply network in the municipality of Gradačac.

Reference:

Shipping tons of medical supplies
China, Croatia

China has allocated about 86 tonnes of medical protective equipment for the Croatian healthcare system and other services to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Respirators, test kits, face masks and visors were donated from several Chinese companies.

Reference:

Donation of protective materials against COVID-19 (review)
Ethiopia

For a better response to the crisis, Qatar sent protection kits and medicines to the Ethiopian government. According to the Ethiopian authorities, this aid strengthens relations between the two countries and from a health point of view, aid is very important as Ethiopia is currently facing difficulties in the health sector.

Reference:

President appeals to the World Health Organization after the increase in cases in the country
Ecuador
Ecuadorian President Lenín Moreno contacted the WHO Director-General for the institution to prioritize the country in sending resources to combat the pandemic. In response to the president, the director of the institution granted the request.

Reference:

International aid from the US government
United States

In order to contain the advancement of the new coronavirus, US President Donald Trump offered assistance to South American countries (Bolivia and Paraguay). After the statement by the American, the president of Paraguay, Mario Abdo Benítez, said that the US government will donate respirators and other health equipment.

Reference:

Romania’s support for Moldovan citizens
Moldava, Romania

Romania has announced the granting of an aid package to the Republic of Moldova to assist them in the effort to combat COVID-19 and to demonstrate their commitment to consistent actions for the benefit of Moldovans. The aid package consists of a team of Romanian doctors and nurses who will volunteer to help in Moldova and also a series of donations of protective equipment and other necessary medical supplies.

Reference:

Support in equipment and health professionals
South Africa

A plane loaded with 200 doctors and donations of medical equipment from Cuba arrived in the South African capital to help the country fight the new Coronavirus. The doctors will be deployed in different provinces in South Africa under the supervision of the Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi. South Africa has so far recorded 4,361 cases including 86 killed by the new Coronavirus.

Reference:
https://www.bbc.com/afrique/region-52429048
Belgium's support for the fight against the new Coronavirus

Benin

To strengthen its cooperative relations, the government of Belgium has made its aid available to Benin in the fight against COVID-19. Two ambulances were sent to the Ministry of Health. Ambulances took the necessary equipment, mainly oxygen and respirators, to treat people with COVID-19.

Reference:

6. Psychological Health Care

Psychological health care must also be reinforced in a time of health crisis that has required the application of isolation measures, routine changes and brought many uncertainties. The WHO warned that the risk of contamination and uncertainties can generate or aggravate conditions of pre-existing mental problems, which is why countries have adopted specific health measures in this regard.

New measures inserted (9th Edition)

Expansion of psychological assistance services

Philippines

The Philippine National Center for Medical Health developed the Telemental Health Response, which consists of a platform that offers therapy sessions and other psychological treatments via the internet.

Reference:

“Stress Total Struggle Movement” campaign

Beşiktaş, Turkey

The Mayor launched this campaign and established an anti-stress center at the Digital Public Health Center with specialized psychologists, which aims to minimize the long-term damage of the epidemic. In this way, citizens will be able to schedule time to meet with specialist clinical psychologists online or in person (in parks).

References:
Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

**Offering free psychological help lines**

**Beijing, China**

Beijing City Hall has developed four free phone lines to provide psychological assistance to Chinese citizens who are not in the country. This initiative is attentive to the damage caused by the pandemic to the mental health of these individuals, even if they do not reside in China.

Reference:
https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202003/25/WS5e7b0bb5a310128217281f1e.html

**Free psychological assistance**

**Falkland Islands**

The government made seven days of free psychological care available to its citizens. Those interested should contact the number provided on the government website and the service will be provided by professionals in the field through instant messaging.

Reference:
https://fig.gov.fk/covid-19#LatestUpdate

**Psychosocial assistance program for parents and children**

**Athens, Greece**

The municipality of Athens and the SOS children’s villages of Greece, in the unprecedented conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and confinement at home, have created a psychosocial support program that is exclusively concerned with parents and children and begins with telephone line operation. The idea is to help maintain the balance and emotional health of the whole family and, above all, eliminate or prevent incidents of violence.

Reference:
http://www.cityofathens.gr/node/34763

7. **Resumption actions**

Most of the countries that have already overcome the peak of the pandemic have adopted measures to resume their normal activities, even if gradually. In the health area, these measures are still identified with the control and screening of the population, although in some cases, as in Italy, for example, scientists have made efforts to better understand
the new coronavirus in search of more effective treatments or even aiming development of a vaccine.

**Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)**

**Ministry of Health announces safe return plan**
**Chile**

With almost 13,000 cases of coronavirus, the Chilean Ministry of Health has announced a plan for a safe and gradual return to work and educational activities in the country. The measure aims to prevent the health crisis from becoming a long-term social and economic crisis.

Reference:

**8. Other Actions**

Investments in research for effective treatment, improvement of prevention mechanisms, care protocols and health strengthening measures are also being adopted by governments around the world.

**New measures inserted (9th Edition)**

**Distribution of masks**
**Izmir, Turkey**

Through the “Maskmatic” application, which is similar to automatic vending machines, citizens using their transport cards can access hygiene packs containing four masks and 100 ml of disinfectants. These machines are located at metro and bus stations.

References:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/initiative/resilience-action-plan-izmir-metropolitan-municipality

**Launch of benefits program for families of health professionals**
**Philippines**

The Philippine Department of Health distributed checks as reparations to the families of health professionals who died as a result of COVID-19 or who contracted it at work. This benefit is the result of the Heal as One Act, a law that provides compensation for
professionals and their families who come into contact with the disease, whose value varies between 1.995 to 19.945 dollars.

Reference:

Development of a physical activity program in isolation
Philippines

In cooperation with the Philippine Sports Commission, the country’s Department of Health launched a project to promote physical exercise, even in quarantine. The initiative consists of national educational campaigns that encourage and exemplify physical activities that can be done at home through videos posted on the agencies’ Facebook page.

Reference:

Development of pharmaceutical delivery service
Bahrain

The Bahrain Ministry of Health has launched an online service for scheduling medical appointments, in addition to the purchase and delivery of medicines prescribed by the medical staff at the country’s main hospital, so there is no need to form queues. The program does not include controlled medications.

Reference:
https://www.moh.gov.bh/eServices/Pharmacy

Previous measures (7th and 8th Edition)

Smart Card and integrated to the Health database
Taipei, Taiwan

Citizens on national health insurance have access to a smart card, capable of integrating individual medical records into a government database. Thus, people who regularly need prescription drugs can validate obtaining these by passing their card through their own reading mechanisms, avoiding return to the hospital and, consequently, possible contamination.

Reference:
Digitization of community health services
Shenzhen, China

The Shenzhen government launched an online chat program, 社康通, so that citizens can have easier access to community health services. Citizens who schedule their appointments through the app will have preference for service at clinics.

Reference:

Use of 3D printers in the manufacture of face protection
Antalya, Turkey

The municipal government, through the Training Center in Technology and Robotic Coding, is using two 3D printers to make masks and displays that, in a few days’ work, have already provided equipment to hundreds of professionals.

Reference:
https://www.intelligentcitieschallenge.eu/3d-printing-face-shieldsvisors

Artificial intelligence assists healthcare professionals
Singapore

Bot MD is an artificial intelligence assistant that empowers healthcare professionals with free instant access to evidence-based clinical information about COVID-19 in their native language. Medical staff can identify symptoms, locate the nearest test facility, and more.

Reference:
https://www.botmd.io/en/

Digital health solutions developed with popular participation
The Hague, Netherlands - Smart City Expo World Congress - 2018 Report

The Hague City Hall, in the Netherlands, developed digital solutions - such as co-creation and business acceleration - for municipal health from popular consultations held in spaces called Living Labs, where 150 elderly citizens contributed to this service.
Distribution of masks
São Tomé and Príncipe

Focusing on the ‘widespread use of masks’ to prevent the disease, more than 60,000 masks will be distributed free of charge to the most vulnerable population by the local government. The measure is taken together with the mandatory use of masks on public roads.

Reference:

Virtual sports platform
Lima, Peru

Through the Department of Sports and Recreation, the government of Lima launched the virtual space “Lima Sports On-line” so that citizens can continue their sports activities at home. Classes are given live through the Lima Sports Facebook page. Interested persons can register to obtain the schedule of activities and digital materials.

Reference:
https://mercociudades.org/covid-19/teletrabajo/

Control of home health professionals
Bahamas

Professionals who are making home visits to provide medical, therapeutic or other assistance to patients, should report certain information to the area’s medical center and undergo infection control training. The measure also counts for professionals working in nursing homes and other similar establishments.

Reference:

Ban on hospital visits
Dominica

The Ministry of Health has banned visits to the Dominica-China Friendship hospital. The purpose of the measure is to prevent people receiving treatment by COVID-19 from contaminating visitors. Relatives of patients will be able to leave essential supplies with hospital officials.
Encouraging personal hygiene
Montserrat

Population was encouraged by the government to practice personal hygiene measures such as cough etiquette and hand washing. Social distance was also encouraged. People with symptoms of the disease should immediately report their symptoms to the local hospital over the phone.

Reference:

Digital production of facial protectors
Djibouti

The Djibouti government has joined the manufacture of 3D printed face shields as one of the measures in response to the pandemic. The digital training space is funded by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and provides training for young people at risk. The center had been halted since the containment order, however, it has become an effective alternative to the critical shortage of protective equipment.

Reference:

Prohibition of the sale of alcohol
Namibia

Under presidential decree, the government prohibited the sale of alcoholic beverages during the lockdown period. Offenders are subject to a fine of up to N$ 2000 (equivalent to approximately US$ 100) and imprisonment of up to 6 months.

Reference:

Exit permission for physical activity
Namibia

The president authorized people to leave the house to practice physical activities, with the exception that civilians do not join groups of more than three people.
Physical exercises for confined students
Japan

The Japanese Ministry of Sport has made videos of physical exercises and dances available for students in confinement due to the pandemic on its official website “NHK for school”. The Ministry also made available a specific category for children in early childhood (3 to 8 years old).

References:
https://www.mext.go.jp/sports/jsa_00021.html
https://www.mext.go.jp/sports/b_menu/sports/mcatetop03/list/1396909.html
https://www.mext.go.jp/sports/b_menu/sports/mcatetop03/1371874.htm

National production of gel alcohol
Gabon

The African country is producing its own hydroalcoholic gel to reduce dependence on importing the product. The expectation is that production will reach the amount of twenty thousand units every eight hours of work at the “La Santé Pharmaceutique” factory, located about 20km from the capital, Libreville.

Reference:

Disinfection using airplanes
Santa Cruz, Chile

The municipality of Santa Cruz carried out an aerial operation to disinfect the city center, using organic disinfectant. The operation was carried out and funded by the company Aero Santa Cruz Fumigaciones.

Reference:

Compensation for infected doctors
St. Petersburg, Russia

The St. Petersburg city government has determined that doctors who are infected with COVID-19 will receive approximately U$ 4,000 to U$ 13,000. But they will only receive
this amount after investigations have been conducted by a committee of experts that indicates the degree of responsibility of these professionals, such as the violation of sanitary measures.

Reference:

Internet prevention
Medellín, Colombia

The Municipality of Medellín created the application “Medellín me cuida”, a platform on which citizens register to generate a database. Based on this information, health authorities can discriminate areas with cases of COVID-19 and concentrate massive testing on these areas.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/es/node/735

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X = action mapped in previous editions
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANISMS

The role of international organizations becomes even more relevant in the current crisis scenario, since, in addition to producing and disseminating reliable information about the profusion of the disease, they are able to mobilize people, entities and governments from around the world for cooperation to develop a common strategy to fight the virus, controlling its spread and minimizing the resulting social, economic and political impacts.

The macro-coordination of efforts, the issuing of newsletters regarding the geographical distribution of the virus, the dissemination of effective treatments, the exchange of experiences, fundraising and the connection of the international scientific community with public policy makers are also examples of the valuable performance of International Organizations in this context.

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1. International Organizations

United Nations General Secretariat

“We are facing a global health crisis unlike any in 75 years in the history of United Nations, that is spreading human suffering, infecting the global economy and appending people’s lives. A global recession of record size is almost certain. The international labor organization has just reported that workers around the world could lose up to three trillion and four billion dollars in income by the end of this year. It is, above all, a human crisis that requires solidarity. Our human family is stressed and the social fabric is being torn apart. People are suffering, sick and frightened, and current responses at the country level will not address the global scale and complexity of the crisis.

It is a moment that demands coordinated, decisive and innovative political actions from the main economies of the world. We must recognize that the poorest and most vulnerable, and especially women, will be the most affected. I welcome the G20’s decision to convene an emergency summit next week to respond to the epic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and look forward to participating.

My central message is clear: we are in an unprecedented situation and the normal rules no longer apply. We cannot use the usual tools at such unusual times. The creativity of the response must correspond to the unique nature of the crisis and the magnitude of the response must correspond to its scale. Our world faces a common enemy. We are at war with a virus. Covid-19 is killing people, as well as attacking the real economy at its core - trade, supply chains, companies, jobs. Entire countries and cities are blocked.
Borders are closing. Companies are struggling to stay open and families are simply struggling to stay alive.

But in managing this crisis, we also have a unique opportunity. If done well, we can direct recovery towards a more sustainable and inclusive path. But poorly coordinated policies run the risk of halting - or even worsening - inequalities that are already unsustainable, reversing development gains and poverty reduction achieved with much effort.

I call on world leaders to come together and offer an urgent and coordinated response to this global crisis. I see three critical areas of action: first, addressing the health emergency. Many countries have exceeded the capacity to treat mild cases even in specialized health facilities, with many unable to respond to the great needs of the elderly. Even in the richest countries, we see health systems writhing under pressure. The health expenditures must be increased immediately to meet urgent needs and rising demand - expanding testing, strengthening facilities, supporting healthcare professionals and ensuring adequate supplies with full respect for human rights and without stigma.

It has been proven that the virus can be contained. It must be contained. If we let the virus spread like wildfire, especially in the most vulnerable regions of the world, it will kill millions of people. We need to move away immediately from the situation in which each country is adopting its own health strategies towards one that guarantees, with total transparency, a coordinated global response, including helping countries less prepared to face the crisis.

Governments must give the greatest support to the multilateral effort to fight the virus, led by WHO, whose calls must be fully answered. The health catastrophe makes it clear that we are as strong as the weakest health system. Global solidarity is not just a moral imperative, it is in everyone’s interest.

Second, we must focus on social impact and economic response and recovery. Unlike the 2008 financial crisis, injecting capital into the financial sector alone is not the answer. This is not a banking crisis - in fact, banks must be part of the solution. And it is not a common shock to supply and demand; it is a shock to society as a whole. The liquidity of the financial system must be guaranteed, and banks must use their resilience to support their customers. But let’s not forget that this is, essentially, a human crisis.

More fundamentally, we need to focus on people - low-wage workers, small and medium-sized enterprises, the most vulnerable. This means wage support, insurance, social protection, bankruptcy prevention and job loss. It also means designing fiscal and monetary responses to ensure that the burden does not fall on those who can least afford to pay. Recovery must not come on the back of the poorest - and we cannot create a legion of new poor. We need to put resources directly in people’s hands. Several countries are adopting social protection initiatives, such as cash transfers and universal income. We need to take it to the next level to ensure that support reaches those who are totally dependent on the informal economy and in the least responsive countries. Remittances are a lifeline in the developing world, and especially now. Countries have
already pledged to reduce remittance rates to 3%, far below current average levels. The crisis requires us to move forward, getting as close to zero as possible.

In addition, G20 leaders took steps to protect their own citizens and economies by waiving interest payments. We must apply this same logic to the most vulnerable countries in our global village and alleviate the debt burden. In all aspects, we need a commitment to ensure adequate financial facilities to support countries in difficulty. The IMF, the World Bank and other international financial institutions play a key role. The private sector’s investment is essential in the search for creative investment opportunities and job protection. We must refrain from the temptation to resort to protectionism. It is time to dismantle trade barriers and reestablish supply chains.

Looking at the bigger picture, societal disruptions are having a profound impact. We must address the effects of this crisis on women. The women of the world are disproportionately carrying the burden at home and in the economy in general. Children are also paying a heavy price. Today, more than 800 million children are out of school - many of whom depend on the school to provide their only meal. We need to ensure that all children have access to food and equal access to learning - filling the digital divide and reducing the cost of connectivity.

As people’s lives are disrupted, isolated and upset, we must prevent this pandemic from turning into a mental health crisis, and young people will be at greater risk. The world needs to continue with central support for programs for the most vulnerable, including humanitarian and refugee response plans coordinated by the UN. Humanitarian needs must not be sacrificed.

Third, and finally, we have a responsibility to “recover better”. The 2008 financial crisis clearly demonstrated that countries with a robust social protection system suffered less and recovered more quickly from their impact. We need to ensure that lessons are learned and that this crisis is a turning point for preparing for health emergencies and for investing in critical 21st century public services and the effective delivery of global public goods.

We have a framework for action - the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. We must keep our promises to people and the planet. The United Nations - and our global network of country offices will support all governments to ensure that the global economy and the people we serve come out of this crisis stronger. This is the logic of action of the decade to achieve sustainable development goals. More than ever before, we need solidarity, hope and political will to overcome this crisis together.

Thank you.

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations

Domestic violence and COVID-19
“The COVID-19 pandemic is causing enormous human suffering and economic devastation worldwide.

I recently called for an immediate global ceasefire so that we can focus on our fight against the pandemic.

I called for an end to the violence everywhere, immediately.

But violence is not limited to the battlefield. For many women and girls, the greatest threat lies precisely in what should be the safest of places: their own homes.

So today I make a new appeal for peace at home - and in homes - around the world. We know that quarantines and confinements are essential to suppress COVID-19. But they can put many women at the mercy of their abusive partners.

In the past few weeks, as economic and social pressures and fear have increased, we have seen a horrible increase in domestic violence on a global level. In some countries, the number of women calling support services has doubled.

In addition, health professionals and the police are overworked and understaffed. Local support groups are either paralyzed or low on funds. Some shelters for victims of domestic violence are closed, others are full.

I call on all governments to make prevention and compensation measures in the event of violence against women an essential part of their national response plans to COVID-19.

This means increasing investment in support services online and in civil society organizations. Ensure that judicial systems continue to bring aggressors to justice. Install emergency alert systems in pharmacies, supermarkets and grocery stores. Consider victim shelters to be an essential service. And create safe ways for women to seek support, without alerting aggressors.

Respect for women’s rights and freedoms is essential in building strong and resilient societies.

Together, we can and must avoid violence everywhere, from war zones to homes, as we work to win COVID-19.”

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations

Reference: 
https://www.dw.com/pt-br/onu-apela-por-prote%C3%A7%C3%A3o-a-mulheres-durante-isolamento/a-53040483

Financial recourse to vulnerable countries
Considering the most efficient way to resume activities in the world, the UN and its partners have mobilized more than 6 billion dollars for the initiative to combat COVID-19 in low and middle income countries. The measure focuses on the long-term recovery, since it seeks to prevent a new process of spreading the virus between countries, as well as its side effects.

Reference:

**Different impacts on different segments of society**

Digital technologies have become a positive facilitator in this crisis, facilitating business continuity, connecting people more than ever and helping them maintain good mental health. However, according to the International Telecommunication Union, an estimated 3.6 billion people are still offline, with the majority of disconnected people living in the least developed countries. Women make up 70% of the global health workforce, which puts them at greater risk of infection. In addition, just as services, including the rule of law, health and shelters, are focused on dealing with the pandemic, there has been an increase in reports of domestic violence. These are just two of several examples of how the pandemic is impacting segments of society in different ways. This means that the approaches and measures taken by the states have to be adjusted according to the needs presented by each of these groups.

Reference:

**OHCHR - United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

OHCHR drew attention to care for the most unprotected people in the COVID-19 crisis, especially for people with disabilities.

Many of them require personal monitoring for daily activities (such as eating, bathing), which requires physical contact, as opposed to isolation recommendations.

OHCHR then emphasizes that many of these people feel left behind by their own governments, even though most of them are also in the risk group for COVID-19. The organization therefore reaffirms special rights and care directed at this group, such as:

- additional protective measures must be taken to ensure that follow-up does not pose additional risks to the health of the disabled during the crisis;
- people with physical disabilities have the right to reasonable accommodation that allows them to reduce the need for follow-up;
• Accompanying persons and/or family members must also be provided with accommodation to guarantee support for the disabled during the period.
• Disabled people must be allowed to work from home.
• Financial support for both the disabled person and their companion must be guaranteed when in a situation of greater vulnerability and economic difficulty.

Regarding the disabled living in institutions, prisons and psychiatric facilities, the procedure must be to adapt restrictions and health protection means, which must be less invasive. This is because the restriction to contact with relatives and friends leaves them more unprotected in the face of the possibilities of abuse and neglect by these institutions.

Virus prevention campaigns must be accessible to everyone. Moreover, governments must ensure that this information is also available in sign language, easy to understand language and in popular access routes [text messages, relay service and accessible digital technologies].

Disabled people’s organizations should be consulted and involved in the process of developing preventive measures for COVID-19.

Reference:

COVID-19 and the Human Rights Dimension

The South American office of OHCHR launched a special website on the outbreak of COVID-19 and its impacts on the fundamental rights of all people. According to OHCHR, COVID-19 is a test for individuals, societies, governments and communities. It is the moment of solidarity and cooperation to combat the virus and mitigate the effects of the measures adopted to stop its spread. Respect for human rights in all areas, including economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights, will be fundamental to the success of public health responses to the pandemic.

Reference:

Amazon Indians and the COVID-19 pandemic

The UN Office of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights express alarm over the infections and deaths by COVID-19, which affect indigenous peoples in the Amazon. In addition, the lack of access to reliable health information, hospital infrastructure and access to health services adapted to the needs of the indigenous people make the situation of the peoples of the Amazon during the pandemic even more difficult and worrying.

Reference:
UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Response Plan

UNHCR seeks a US$ 225 million fund to respond to the outbreak of the coronavirus. This budget will cover the Organization’s additional needs for the next nine months. The Response Plan includes the provision of laboratory equipment essential for testing the virus and medical supplies for treating people, in addition to the installation of hand washing and hygiene stations in camps and settlements.

The organization pointed out was the establishment of air bridges and transportation centers in Africa, Asia and Latin America for the displacement of humanitarian workers and supply to where they will be most needed.

References:

Distribution of hygiene kits

In Brazil, UNHCR is distributing hygiene kits to the most vulnerable populations in Boa Vista and Manaus. The kits consist of bleach, washing powder, toilet paper and other personal and collective hygiene items.

Reference:
https://www.acnur.org/portugues/2020/03/20/coronavirus-no-brasil-o-que-estamos-fazendo-para-proteger-refugiados/

Information sharing platform

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees created the Help platform in order to provide reliable and useful information on local protection and integration in Brazil. The information is shared in five languages, Portuguese, English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Reference:
https://help.unhcr.org/brazil/#_qa=2.263320523.675561252.15849667731193555750.1584966773

Supplies shipping
UNHCR sent about 4.4 tonnes of essential supplies to Iran, such as masks, gloves and medicines. This action aims to help the country’s health system, which is weakened by the large number of refugees who are served by the same service, which has been further aggravated by the increase in cases of COVID-19 and patients who need to be treated urgently. More equipment is scheduled to ship.

Reference:

**ECLAC - Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean**

According to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Alicia Bárcena, the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) will have devastating effects on the world economy, certainly more intense and different from those suffered during the period of the global financial crisis 2008-2009. The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will not be oblivious, as they will be impacted in many ways, both on the supply and demand side, whether by disrupting production chains - which will seriously affect world trade - and the loss of income and profits due to rising unemployment and greater difficulties in meeting debt obligations.

She recalled that the region grew at an estimated rate of just 0.1% in 2019 and that the Commission’s latest forecasts, made in December, predicted 1.3% growth for 2020. However, “the projections were revised and fell significantly in the current scenario,” she said. She explained that ECLAC is currently estimating a contraction of -1.8% of the regional gross domestic product, which could lead to an increase in unemployment in the region by ten percentage points. This would take the number of people in poverty in the region to rise from 185 to 220 million, out of a total of 620 million inhabitants; while people in extreme poverty can increase from 67.4 to 90 million.

Reference:

**Economic impacts of the Coronavirus**

According to ECLAC, the main economic impacts of the health crisis will be: a drop in exports, tourism services and the interruption of global value chains; imports of parts and intermediate goods, especially in the case of auto parts, appliances, electronic and pharmaceutical products; drop in commodity prices; and investor risk aversion.

Reference:
How to prevent the health crisis from turning into a food crisis

The effects of the global health crisis can already be felt in food systems. The increased vulnerability of workers has increased and local food prices are rising more than the prices of other products in the basic basket, according to consumer price indices. Thus, in the words of ECLAC’s Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena, “the great task that lies ahead is to prevent the health crisis from becoming a food crisis. For this, we propose to complement the Basic Emergency Income (IBE) with the delivery of a Bonus Against Hunger (BCH)”. Thus, ECLAC, together with FAO, presented a joint report entitled: How to prevent the COVID-19 crisis from turning into a food crisis Urgent actions against hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean, in which they propose urgent actions to face the increase in hunger caused by the pandemic in the countries of the region.

Some of the proposed measures are:

- Strengthen school feeding programs to ensure that children and adolescents are fed.
- Support the food assistance initiatives of civil society organizations.
- Financial support (credit and productive subsidies) for agricultural companies, oriented mainly towards family farming.
- Adjust health and care protocols in food production and transportation and in wholesale and retail markets.
- Expand and guarantee the functioning of support programs for the production of self-consumption.
- Guarantee financing, technical assistance and access to inputs and labor for artisanal farmers and fishermen.
- Establish agile public-private consultation and coordination mechanisms among all actors in the food system.
- Prevent wholesale and retail markets and agro-industries from closing or slowing down their operations.
- Continue with policies that have kept the world food trade open, particularly by avoiding protectionist measures that increase food prices.

References:

The work environment in Latin America and the Caribbean in face of COVID-19

ECLAC and the ILO presented a joint publication entitled Coyuntura laboral en América Latina y el Caribe. Work in pandemic times: challenges against coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in which they analyze the challenges of work after the pandemic. The organizations emphasize that the crisis would cause 11.5 million new unemployed in Latin America and the Caribbean, jeopardizing the growth and development achieved in the last decades in the region. In addition to providing estimates on labor market dynamics in recent months, the report explores some of the policies implemented by countries to protect formal employment, preserve workers’ income in the formal and informal economy, and protect the productive sector, as well as possible paths and
actions to be taken to ensure a 'new normal' that is also a 'better normal' than the one before the pandemic.

References:

IACHR - Inter-American Commission of Human Rights

The IACHR has established a Coordination and Response Room (SACRO COVID-19) that operates a strategy already initiated by the commission to monitor the human rights impacts of vulnerable populations and groups in the context of the new coronavirus pandemic. The Commission urges states to address the serious situation of persons deprived of their liberty in the region and to adopt urgent measures to guarantee the health and integrity of this population, its citizens and their families, as well as to guarantee dignified and adequate conditions of detention in detention centers of deprivation of liberty in accordance with inter-American human rights standards. The commission urges states to reduce the overcrowding of detention centers as a measure to contain the pandemic.

References:

Inter-American Recommendation Monitoring System (SIMORE)

Online tool that systematizes the recommendations made by the IACHR. Its operation puts in place an important accountability, transparency and participation mechanism. Its operation makes the follow-up process of recommendations in the region more democratic, since it promotes greater participation of the actors that integrate the system. Inter-American SIMORE provides access to recommendations issued by the Commission, mainly related to the topic of protection of human rights in the Americas during the pandemic.

Reference:

CPSC - Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries

COVID 360 Information Center

The Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa (IHMT-NOVA) created the COVID 360/IHMT/NOVA/CPLP Information Center with the objective of gathering scientific content in Portuguese on this pandemic. These contents are published on the IHMT / NOVA website, also aiming to foster interaction with
technicians and specialists from the Portuguese-speaking space, especially from PALOP (African Countries of Portuguese Official Language), provide tools to support contingency plans and provide updated scientific information. IHMT/NOVA has already created an information platform supported by four thematic groups in the clinical, epidemiology, virology and biosafety areas to collect scientific material related to the pandemic caused by the SARS-COV-2 virus.

Reference:
https://www.ihmt.unl.pt/centro-de-informacao-covid-360/

**FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**

In view of the social distance measures implemented around the world, the production and distribution chains of products are being paralyzed or at least slowing down, which will impact the distribution of food around the world, may lead to a decrease in supply and consequent to price increases. FAO emphasizes that the WHO recommendations, especially social isolation, are crucial for combating Covid-19, ensuring the safety and health of citizens. However, in order to lessen the impacts of these measures on food production, distribution and supply chains, it recommends the following measures to States:

- Expansion and improvement of emergency food assistance and social protection programs, in order to reduce the impacts on society, especially on the most vulnerable, while they stay in their homes in order to follow the determination of social distance;
- Support for small farmers so they can increase their productivity and the commercialization of inputs also through digital marketing platforms;
- Keeping food value chains alive by focusing on key logistical bottlenecks;
- Address trade and tax policies to keep global trade going;
- Manage macroeconomic ramifications.

Following these recommendations, it is believed that international cooperation between States will be one of the main factors responsible for mitigating the impacts of the coronavirus health crisis, COVID-19, on food distribution around the world.

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Reference:

FAO is working in collaboration with WHO and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) to identify potential animal hosts for this virus and to reduce spillover events for humans. At this time, however, the greatest risk of spreading COVID-19 is through human-to-human transmission.

Monitoring and sharing information

FAO is monitoring and sharing information about the disease situation through its emergency prevention systems and its experts advise on prevention and control measures to support veterinary services.

Coordinating actions with partners

FAO is coordinating animal prevention, preparation and detection activities, in contact with WHO and OIE, using the One Health approach. One Health’s vision is a unifying force to protect human and animal health, reduce the threat of disease and ensure a safe food supply through effective and responsible management of natural resources. FAO activated a group that brings together global, regional and national experts to discuss the situation and ensure coordinated activities and awareness.

Intensification of preparation

The Joint FAO and the Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture are working, through their network of veterinary diagnostic laboratories in 64 countries, to ensure readiness to quickly detect SARS-CoV-2 (the virus) in animals, as well as carrying out a complete surveillance of the circulation of the virus in the environment. This includes providing emergency diagnostic kits and training courses for veterinary specialists and doctors from Africa and Asia. The training will cover scientific knowledge and practical experience using nuclear technologies as part of the outbreak response.
FAO is providing equipment and highlighting experts to support ongoing investigations and agricultural livelihood assessments in their efforts to inform a response to alleviate the effects of the epidemic.

Although COVID-19 is not known as a foodborne disease, the usual good practices in relation to animal management and good food hygiene throughout the food chain are essential for public health and will help in the prevention and control of infectious diseases.

Reference:

G20
Extraordinary summit - Declaration on COVID-19

“The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic is a powerful reminder of our interconnectedness and vulnerabilities. The virus respects no borders. The fight against this pandemic requires a global response with a spirit of solidarity, which is transparent, robust, coordinated, large-scale and based on science. We are strongly committed to presenting a united front against this common threat.

We are deeply saddened by the tragic loss of life and the suffering faced by people around the world. Facing the pandemic and its interconnected impacts in the areas of health, social and economic is our absolute priority. We express our gratitude and support to all frontline health workers as we continue to fight the pandemic.

The G20 is committed to do whatever it takes to overcome the pandemic, along with the World Health Organization (WHO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank Group (WBG), United Nations (UN), and other international organizations, working within their existing mandates. We are determined to spare no effort, individual or collective, to:

- Protect lives;
- Safeguard people’s jobs and income;
- Restore confidence, preserve financial stability, reactivate growth and recover stronger;
- Minimize disruptions in trade and global supply chains;
- Provide assistance to all countries in need of assistance;
- Coordinate on public health and financial measures.

Fight against the pandemic

We commit to take all necessary health measures and seek to ensure adequate financing to contain the pandemic and protect people, especially the most vulnerable. We will share timely and transparent information; exchange epidemiological and clinical data; share materials necessary for research and development; and strengthen health systems globally, including through supporting the full implementation of the WHO
International Health Regulations (IHR 2005). We will expand manufacturing capacity to meet the growing needs for medical supplies and ensure that such supplies are made available at affordable prices in a broad and equitable manner, where they are most needed and as quickly as possible. We stress the importance of responsible communication to the public during this global health crisis. We task our Health Ministers to meet as needed to share national best practices and develop a set of G20 urgent actions on jointly combating the pandemic by their ministerial meeting in April.

We fully support and commit to further strengthen the WHO’s mandate in coordinating the international fight against the pandemic, including the protection of front-line health workers, delivery of medical supplies, especially diagnostic tools, treatments, medicines, and vaccines. We acknowledge the necessity of urgent short-term actions to step up the global efforts to fight the COVID-19 crisis. We will quickly work together and with stakeholders to close the financing gap in the WHO Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan. We also commit to voluntarily providing immediate resources to the WHO COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund, the Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation Coalition (CEPI) and GAVI, the Global Alliance for Vaccines. We call upon all countries, international organizations, the private sector, philanthropies, and individuals to contribute to these efforts.

To safeguard the future, we commit to strengthen national, regional, and global capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks by substantially increasing our epidemic preparedness spending. This will increase the protection of everyone, especially vulnerable groups that are disproportionately affected by infectious diseases. We further commit to work together to increase research and development funding for vaccines and medicines, leverage digital technologies, and strengthen scientific international cooperation. We will bolster our coordination, including with the private sector, towards rapid development, manufacturing and distribution of diagnostics, antiviral medicines, and vaccines, adhering to the objectives of efficacy, safety, equity, accessibility, and affordability.

We ask the WHO, in cooperation with relevant organizations, to assess gaps in pandemic preparedness and report results to a joint meeting of Finance and Health Ministers in the coming months, with a view to establish a global initiative on pandemic preparedness and response. This initiative will capitalize on existing programs to align priorities in global preparedness and act as a universal, efficient, sustained funding and coordination platform to accelerate the development and delivery of vaccines, diagnostics and treatments.

Safeguarding the Global Economy

We commit to do whatever it takes and to use all available policy tools to minimize the economic and social damage from the pandemic, restore global growth, maintain market stability, and strengthen resilience.

We are currently taking immediate and vigorous measures to support our economies; protect workers, companies - especially micro, small and medium-sized companies -
and the sectors most affected; and supporting the vulnerable with adequate social protection. We are injecting more than 4.8 trillion dollars into the global economy, as part of specific economic and fiscal measures and guarantee schemes to combat the social, economic and financial impacts of the pandemic.

We will continue to manage bold and large-scale fiscal support. Collective G20 action will amplify its impact, ensure coherence, and harness synergies. The magnitude and scope of this response will get the global economy back on its feet and set a strong basis for the protection of jobs and the recovery of growth. We request that our finance ministers and central bank governors regularly order themselves to develop an action plan coordinated by the G20 in response to COVID-19 and work closely with international organizations to quickly provide appropriate international financial assistance.

We support the extraordinary measures taken by central banks consistent with their mandates. Central Banks acted to support the flow of credit to families and companies; promote financial stability; and increase liquidity in global markets. We welcome the extension of swap lines that our central banks have undertaken. We also support regulatory and supervisory measures taken to ensure that the financial system continues to support the economy and welcome the coordination of such measures announced by the Financial Stability Council (FSB).

We also welcome the steps taken by the IMF and the WBG to support countries in need using all instruments to the fullest extent as part of a coordinated global response and ask them to regularly update the G20 on the impacts of the pandemic, their response, and policy recommendations. We will continue to respond to the debt vulnerability risks arising from the pandemic in low-income countries. We also ask the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to monitor the pandemic’s impact on employment.

Responding to international trade disruptions

Bearing in mind the needs of our citizens, we will work to ensure the cross-border flow of vital medical supplies, essential agricultural products and other goods and services and will work to resolve disruptions in global supply chains, to support the health and well-being of all people.

We commit to continue working together to facilitate international trade and coordinate responses in ways that avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade. Emergency measures to protect health will be specific, proportionate, transparent and temporary. We task our Trade Ministers to assess the impact of the pandemic on trade.

We reiterate our goal to realize a free, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, predictable and stable trade and investment environment, and to keep our markets open.

Enhancing global cooperation
We will work quickly and decisively with international organizations on the front lines, especially WHO, the IMF, the World Bank and multilateral and regional development banks, to adopt a robust, coherent, coordinated and rapid financial package and to address any gaps in their policy instruments. We stand ready to strengthen the global financial safety nets. We call on all of these organizations to further intensify the coordination of their actions, including with the private sector, to support emerging and developing countries that face shocks arising from COVID-19 in the areas of health, economic and social.

We are deeply concerned about the serious risks faced by all countries, particularly developing and relatively less developed countries, notably in Africa and small island states, where health systems and economies may be less able to cope with the challenge as well as the special risk that refugees and displaced persons face. We will strengthen capacity building and technical assistance, especially to at-risk communities. We are ready to mobilize financing for development and humanitarian assistance.

We task our top officials to coordinate closely in support of the global efforts to counter the pandemic’s impacts, including through proportionate border management measures in accordance with national regulations and to provide assistance where necessary to repatriate citizens.

We value the efforts to safeguard our people’s health through the postponement of major public events, in particular the decision by the International Olympic Committee to reschedule the Olympic Games to a date no later than summer 2021. We commend Japan’s determination to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 in their complete form as a symbol of human resilience.

We are ready to react promptly and take any further action that may be necessary. We express our readiness to convene again as the situation requires. Global action, solidarity and international cooperation are more than ever necessary to address this pandemic. We are confident that, working closely together, we will overcome this. We will protect human life, restore global economic stability, and lay out solid foundations for strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth”.

Reference:

OECD - Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Recommendations on cooperation during the pandemic

The OECD has produced extensive material on urgent responses that must be taken at the international, national and sub-national levels, in the face of the public health crisis
and its subsequent economic shock. The Organization recommends that governments ensure greater international cooperation in their responses to health challenges, that they advance in joint policies and that Central Banks launch bold actions in financial regulation and supervision, seeking to restore confidence in their countries.

The platform launched by the OECD provides several good political practices in countries around the world, as well as analytical documents formulated by the Organization on the impacts of coronavirus in cross-cutting areas. In addition, the platform has real-time data on the coronavirus.

Reference:

OECD perspectives on the global economy

OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría, released the latest OECD estimates, showing that the blockade will directly affect sectors that represent up to a third of GDP in major economies. For each month of contention, there will be a loss of 2 percentage points in the annual GDP growth. The tourism sector alone faces a drop in production of up to 70%. Many economies will fall into recession. This is inevitable, as we need to continue fighting the pandemic and, at the same time, increase efforts to restore economic normality as quickly as possible.

“The high costs that public health measures are imposing today are necessary to avoid far more tragic consequences and even worse impacts on our economies tomorrow,” said Gurría, in his G20 summit. “Millions of deaths and collapsing health systems will decimate us financially and as a society, therefore, delaying this epidemic and saving human lives should be the first priority for governments.”

“Our analysis further reinforces the need for clearer actions to absorb the shock, and a more coordinated response from governments to maintain a lifeline for people and a private sector that will emerge in a very fragile state when the health crisis passes.”

Mr. Gurría welcomed the outcome of the G20 Virtual Summit, organized by the Saudi Presidency, and the determination shown by group members to use all resources to support people and small and medium-sized enterprises. In his statement, Gurría drew on his recent call for a “global Marshall Plan”; to combat the effects of the pandemic. To “inoculate” the economies of current and future shocks, he urged G20 leaders to act immediately, to:

- Recapitalize health and epidemiological systems;
- Mobilize all macroeconomic levers: monetary, fiscal and structural policies;
- Lift existing trade restrictions, especially on much-needed medical supplies;
- Provide support to vulnerable developing and low-income countries;
- Share and implement best practices to support workers and all individuals, employees and the unemployed - especially the most vulnerable;
• Keep companies on the move, especially small and medium-sized companies, with special support packages in the most affected sectors, such as tourism.

Mr. Gurría emphasized that the implications for annual GDP growth will ultimately depend on many factors, including the magnitude and duration of national stops, the extent of reduced demand for goods and services in other parts of the economy and the speed with which significant fiscal aspects and monetary support come into effect.

Reference:

Report on health in Latin America and the Caribbean

According to a report by the OECD and the World Bank, *Latin America and the Caribbean 2020*, health spending in Latin America and the Caribbean was about $1,000 per person in 2017, just a part of that spent in OECD countries (adjusted purchasing power). At the same time, health systems’ capacity is also considerably lower, including the ability to provide access to services of good quality to the most vulnerable groups.

The Latin American and Caribbean region has an average of 2 doctors per 1,000 inhabitants and most countries are well below the OECD average of 3.5. The average number of hospital beds in LAC is 2.1 per 1,000 population, that is less than half of the OECD average of 4.7. In addition, according to data collected shortly before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were only an average of 9.1 beds in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) per 100,000 inhabitants in 13 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, well below the average of 12 ICU beds per 100,000 inhabitants found in OECD countries. The report highlights that the misallocation of health spending is slowing, if not stopping, progress towards universal health in Latin America and the Caribbean. For example, weak information systems are a major deterrent. In 22 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, an average of 10% of all deaths are never reported in public mortality databases. This means a reliable picture of population health is often missing. According to the Global Corruption Barometer, 42% of respondents in 12 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean considered that there were problems with corruption in the sector of governance, financing and service provision, making it difficult to efficiently direct resources to where they are most needed.

The report also highlights that the quality of prevention and immunization services is low. Twelve out of the 33 LAC countries fall short of attaining the minimum immunisation levels recommended by the WHO to prevent the spread of diphteria, tetanus and pertussis (90% of the target population) and 21 out of 33 fail to meet this target for measles (95% of the target population). This indicates the difficulties that countries are likely to have in making a future COVID-19 vaccine available for the whole population.

The publication identifies the main critical risk factors for health problems in Latin America and the Caribbean. Eight percent of children under the age of 5 and 28% of adolescents are overweight. This figure increases to over 53% among adult men and to more than 61% among adult women. Obesity increases the risk of chronic disease, and can also lead to complications and death in patients infected by COVID-19. Moreover, nearly one in four men and close to one in ten women aged 15 and above smoke daily. Smoking rates among children aged between 13 and 15 years old are 15% for boys and
12% for girls. Although average alcohol consumption in Latin America and the Caribbean is lower than in the OECD, it increased by 3% between 2010 and 2016. Almost 35% and 22% of road traffic accidents among men and women, respectively, can be attributed to alcohol consumption. In light of the above, Latin America and the Caribbean have fragile health systems that need to spend more and better on health in order to face health emergencies efficiently, such as COVID-19.

References:

OAS - Organization of American States

"Friends, colleagues.

Health is an instrumental public order, unlike any other for the right to life.

The preservation of this right is essential to preserve public order.

Today, in the face of the crisis caused by COVID-19, or Coronavirus, it is essential to ensure that our societies exist as such due to the capacity for organization, integration and integration, in order to achieve subsequent levels of development and well-being. This organizational capacity is our main weapon against the virus. Considering that these societies were built on a fundamental respect for the rules towards the objectives of essential respect for human rights, our conditions of access to rights give a sense of respect for public order. It is essential to appeal to our best organizational conditions to continue our work, keeping in mind that social distance is crucial, as well as, in many cases, isolation, and that it matters little.

In this context, it is essential to serve and care for people: this is always the fundamental priority of politics. To defeat the virus, more respirators are needed; more tests are needed; that these tests are carried out more quickly; it is essential that all forms of communication in networks are used by public institutions, to give the greatest certainty when isolating sources of contagion; to support and assist the population, all early warning systems used for various types of emergencies, whether child abduction or natural disasters, must be supporting the fight against this pandemic.

Emphasis should be placed on the vulnerable population, which needs special support, because their condition makes them weaker to face the situation. Who suffers from inequality: gender inequality and access to economic and social rights. The need to strengthen assistance systems, strengthen the fight against domestic violence and social protection networks of all kinds. The measures of isolation and confinement at home once again bring situations of violence experienced by women in this space to international reflection.
Our fundamental enemies are irresponsibility, cowardice, the lack of a spirit of solidarity. The lack of transparency, at any level, is a fundamental enemy: whoever feels bad and hides it, or who falsifies the health situation in their country.

Each has to keep the house in order, be it the most humble, even the community, the city and the State, each has to assume his duty and responsibility. And stick to it. Each must comply with the rules. Each person must act as if he is infected by the virus and, in this sense, take care of everyone else, his family, his community, his city, his country. Each person has responsibilities to assume in this present pandemic. Each must assume and fulfill his duty.

The world does not require inaction, it requires action, but controlled action that is functional to the collective sense and the needs of everyone's right to health. We are free people. We are free individuals, so our responsibility comes from ourselves. We are democratic countries, so we need the strength of fully functioning democratic institutions. The coordinating bodies must be strengthened. Good practices and bad practices must be evaluated correctly, with no margin for error. Today we must all work together. We have to transform our priorities, the OAS cannot be the same in these times. We need to modernize our procedures to continue making collective decisions. The technology must be on our side. It is necessary to increase international cooperation and, therefore, we must take our jobs where we are. I assume this new period at the head of the OAS, in complex pandemic times, renewing my commitment to you, each one of you who works for this Organization. I understand the difficulties that Covid presents, personally and in the family, the uncertainties and the members, but we must be strengthened, and with the clarity that this General Secretariat contemplates these needs in each of the decisions that are due to be taken.

Today, more than ever, the Region requires a current OAS, with clarity and the capacity to lead processes and, above all, capable of understanding people's rights in new contexts and supporting States to guarantee and respect them. What will only be possible with the tenacious work of each person in the Organization. It is essential to continue operating. Our political systems will suffer and our social tissues will suffer, but we cannot leave this situation neither less democratic nor our people with less rights. It is essential that the world continues to function. Food, medicine, technology, more and less must be produced; services must be provided: medical treatment, security, financial services are all more, not less, necessary; measures must be taken, be they community, national, regional and global. These works cannot be suspended because the people depend on them. Prevention depends on it, taking care of people depends on it. You cannot suspend work indiscriminately, but the necessary suspensions, depending on people's health, due to the way they are carried out. This leads us to the need to change our ways of producing, working and consuming. They depend on the measures we take, they depend on the courses of action and the cooperation we have.
There is no self-sufficiency, either at the level of countries or at the level of individuals. Public officials must be the first to assume the collective responsibilities they do for the welfare of others, whether in accordance with the rule or in accordance with our duties.

The most vulnerable countries must be the most supported internationally; new conditions for financial support and trade in goods and services should be implemented by the international community.

Thanks to everyone.”

Luis Almagro
OAS Secretary General

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https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ec6

Suggestions

The leaders of the organizations that make up the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG) agreed on Friday, April 3, on the need to coordinate efforts to provide support in the areas of crisis preparedness, mitigation and recovery. In a video conference convened by the Chair of the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG), the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) met to discuss coordinated and joint responses to the pandemic of COVID-19. They also agreed that multilateralism and international cooperation are essential today to face the crisis.

PAHO reiterated the need to identify, isolate and care for patients from the beginning, with optimized care for infected patients. It is absolutely relevant to communicate critical information about events and risks to all communities and to combat any misinformation. The organization also stressed that, in the absence of sufficient RT-PCR testing, many countries are using or purchasing other types of laboratory kits, including rapid test kits. In general, these rapid tests can be used to detect COVID-19, but should not be to rule out cases. The severe shortage of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is putting a greater number of health professionals at risk, especially in countries with more fragile health systems and in those with a large increase in cases.

Another major challenge is the low availability of respiratory equipment to treat critically ill patients and the lack of health professionals in some countries. International travel restrictions are affecting the delivery of drugs to treat COVID-19 and other diseases, laboratory kits, PPE, vaccines and other supplies.

The situation of women was especially considered by the multilateral organizations gathered, as they are most vulnerable to this crisis. Their employment levels have been severely affected because they are the majority of the workforce in the most affected
sectors, psychological tensions, stress and violence have multiplied against women due to quarantined health needs at home. Affirmative support measures are needed.

The situation of migrants was also analyzed, as they are among the most vulnerable groups, because they are the first to become unemployed and refuge centers generally do not have an adequate structure to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The development of regional protocols to allow the passage of agricultural products and measures to stimulate intra-regional trade was suggested. Special emphasis is needed on food security in order to avoid scarcity, price increases and cases of social violence.

Specifically, multilateral organizations have recommended the adoption of the following measures:

- Emergency support
- Strengthening health systems
- Mitigation of economic effects
- Flexibility in the use of financial resources
- Support for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and protection of employment and income
- Support for populations that are disproportionately affected by the crisis, including women employed in sectors most affected and migrant
- Support to Caribbean countries, which will be doubly affected, as well as to highly indebted low and middle income countries.

Reference:

Post COVID-19: OAS Portal for Consultations, Forums and Repository

The pandemic shows that our health depends on the health of others and that the health of others depends on our health. There is no individual solution to the health, economic and social crisis; the solution must be collective. In order to think about the post-pandemic world, the OAS General Secretariat created the Portal “More rights after the pandemic: OAS Portal for Consultations, Forums, and Repository”. This tool aims to open the debate for the peoples of the Americas on how countries and societies can contribute to the construction of the future to come.

Anyone interested can propose ideas and comment on ideas proposed by others. The General Secretariat of OAS will feed the debate with contributions from international experts. The final proposal is that the best ideas and proposals can become real projects, whether on the part of States, civil society or the organization itself.

References:
https://www.oas.org/ext/en/main/covid-19/home/who-we-are
IOM - International Organization for Migration

Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan

IOM developed a “Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan” with the objective of contributing to preparedness and responsiveness to COVID-19. The Plan seeks to address the humanitarian and development needs of vulnerable populations, such as migrants and internally displaced persons, impacted by the coronavirus.

Some actions included in the Plan are to support the transnational awareness of communities; data collection and participatory mapping exercises to identify areas and mobility corridors that are at high risk; support to regional, national and local authorities in the development of a response plan to guarantee the continuation of services for those internally displaced; establishment of a review and response fund to support requests for vulnerable migrants, including screening, budgeting, planning and service provision.

Reference:
https://www.iom.int/iom-responds-covid-19

ILO - International Labor Organization

The ILO has announced a series of tips and recommendations to workers regarding the Coronavirus crisis. The measures target both employees and employers.

What can employees do?

- Efficient social dialogue at all levels is essential for quick and effective action.
- Worker organizations can play an important role in participating in decision-making and political responses to the crisis in COVID-19. They can contribute to the prevention and protection of workers by providing reliable information. Workers’ organizations can promote solidarity and non-discrimination against workers and sick people.
- As COVID-19 spreads mainly through respiratory droplets, good hygiene practices in the workplace are essential, for example, regular hand washing, using disinfectant for hands and surface.
- Avoid touching your face, cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing. If you feel bad, isolate yourself and seek medical assistance.
- Encourage responsible behavior, cooperate with response measures and remain calm.

What can employers do?

- Monitor the guidance provided by national and local authorities, including on work arrangements, and communicate critical information to the workforce.
- Assess the potential risks of business interruption.
• Review or develop a business continuity plan that is consistent with guidelines offered by national and local authorities to increase business resilience and support workers and their families.

• Identify and mitigate the risks to workers and other people connected to the workplace resulting from exposure to COVID-19.

• Promote hygiene in the workplace and apply the principles of social distance in the workplace; evaluate the commercial responsibility for the remuneration of workers, particularly in sectors with high exposure to COVID-19 related to work.

• Seek advice and support from employers and business organizations that can channel concerns to the government and define policy measures that are conducive to business resilience and sustainability

Reference:

WTO - World Trade Organization

The General Manager of the WTO, Roberto Azevêdo, pointed out that in the face of this global challenge, it is necessary to establish measures regarding public health and the economy. He indicated that the priority now must be to protect the health and safety of people against COVID-19. On March 16, G7 leaders agreed to support global trade and investment and do whatever is necessary to ensure a strong global response through closer cooperation and improved coordination.

In addition to these measures, the GM also pointed out that maintaining open flows of trade and investment will be essential to protect jobs, prevent the supply chain from breaking and ensure that vital products do not become inaccessible to consumers. When the recovery process begins, trade will play a key role in economic growth, while countries enjoy each other’s growth, economies recover faster by acting together, added the Director-General. Finally, he praised the G7 declaration for its emphasis on cooperation to combat the virus, from data sharing and access to medical equipment to efforts to develop treatments and vaccines.

Reference:
https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news20_e/dgra_17mar20_e.htm

Updates on current trade

The WTO has dedicated part of its website to providing up-to-date information on trade, such as relevant notifications from members of the Organization, the impact of the virus on export and import and how WTO activities have been affected. A list has been compiled by the Secretariat, an informal report on the situation and an attempt to provide transparency around trade and related measures in the current context.

References:
https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid19_e.htm
https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/covid_measures_e.pdf
WHO - World Health Organization

In view of the dispersion of the coronavirus around the world and the classification of the World Health Organization (WHO) of the situation as a pandemic, it is important that everyone look for ways to protect themselves. To that end, WHO has released a list of precautions that can be taken to reduce the risk of contamination:

- Wash your hands frequently and use alcohol gel, especially after coughing or sneezing, and in the following specific situations:
  - When taking care of the sick;
  - Before, during and after preparing food;
  - Before eating;
  - After going to the bathroom;
  - When hands are visibly dirty;
  - After dealing with animals or animal waste;

Keep a distance of one meter between you and someone else who is coughing or sneezing;

Avoid close contact when coughing, sneezing or having a fever;

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth;

Practice respiratory hygiene: cover your mouth and nose with a bent elbow or handkerchief when coughing or sneezing. Then throw the handkerchief away as soon as possible;

If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, contact a doctor so that you can be directed to the appropriate place to receive proper medical care;

If you feel unwell, avoid going out and seeking appropriate medical attention;

If you are 60 or older and/or have any cardiovascular disease, respiratory condition and diabetes, take precautions to avoid areas or places with people who may be sick;

If you experience coughing, sneezing, fever and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and report your recent travel history;

Avoid traveling if you are experiencing any of the symptoms presented above;

If you choose to use a mask, cover your mouth and nose, and avoid touching the mask;

Immediately after use, discard the single-use mask and wash your hands after removing it.

In case of travel to critical locations in the last 14 days, stay at home, especially if you start to feel bad, even if they are mild symptoms like headache and runny nose, until recovery. In case of fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical treatment promptly.

Reference:

Covid-19: WHO releases guide to mental health care during pandemic

The consequences of the new coronavirus pandemic are causing psychological pressure and stress in much of the affected population. The uncertainties caused by COVID-19, the risks of contamination and the obligation of social isolation can aggravate or generate mental problems, according to the WHO. For this reason, WHO recommended special mental health care.

General population:

- Do not refer to people with the disease as “covid-19 cases” or “victims”, “covid-19 families”, “sick people” etc. It is important to separate the person and his or her identity from the virus itself to reduce stigma.

- Reduce reading or contact with news that can cause anxiety or stress. Search for information only from reliable sources. Look for information and updates once or twice a day to avoid “unnecessary bombardment” of information. A constant flood of news about the outbreak can lead anyone to anxiety and stress.

- Support others by helping them in their time of need. Assistance at this time can help who receives the support and who gives the support.

- Create opportunities to expand positive and useful stories and positive images of people in your area who have had COVID-19.

- Pay homage and appreciate the work of caregivers and health workers who are supporting those affected by the new coronavirus in your region. Recognize their role in saving lives and keeping everyone safe.

Health workers:

- Take care of you. Try to use methods to deal with the situation such as taking breaks and resting between your work shifts and even taking a moment off the expedient. Also pay attention to your foods to maintain a healthy diet, exercise and stay in touch with family and friends.

- Avoid erroneous ways of dealing with stress such as the use of tobacco, alcohol or other drugs. In the long run, they worsen your physical and mental well-being.

- Stay connected with your loved ones. Virtual contact is a possible way. Look for your colleagues, your supervisors and trusted people for this social support. You may find that your friends are having similar experiences and going through the same as you.

- Find out and get informed about support for people with COVID-19 and the resources they need so that they can bridge and contact links, or other means.
This is crucial for those who need psychological or mental health support. The stigma associated with mental problems can cause stress.

Team leaders and supervisors in health posts:

- Keep all personnel safe from chronic stress and poor mental health so that they can do their job better.
- Ensure quality and reliable information for all staff on the team. Rotate personnel from the most stressful to the least stressful areas. Put less experienced employees to work with more experienced ones.
- Those workers who have to go to the communities, must go in pairs.
- Start, encourage and monitor work breaks. Implement flexible tables for staff who are directly affected or have a family member impacted by stress or any trauma.
- If you are in a leadership position at a health facility, make access possible and ensure that employees can use psychosocial and mental support services.
- Manage patients’ mental health and neurological complaints such as delirium, psychosis, severe anxiety and depression, in the areas of emergency or general practice.

Child caregivers:

- Help children to express their fears and anxieties in a positive way. Creative activity, games and drawings can help.
- Keep children close to their parents and family if it is safe for them. Avoid separating them. If a child has to be removed from his or her parents or guardians, ensure that he or she will be cared for by another source such as social workers or equivalent and check the child’s situation regularly. Furthermore, make sure that during the time of separation, contact with parents or guardians is made twice a day by video calls or in another way appropriate to the child’s age.
- Keep family routines whenever possible and create new ones especially with children at home. Think of playful and educational activities to do with them. Whenever possible, encourage children to continue playing and socializing with others, even if only in the family because of the social distance at the moment.
- Talk honestly and age-appropriate to your children about covid-19. Talking about your concerns can help lower children’s anxiety.

Elderly, caregivers and people with health problems:

- Offer emotional support to the elderly through family networks or health workers.
• Share simple facts about what is happening with clear information about risk reduction and infections in words understandable to those with barriers to understanding. It may be useful to put the information in writing or in paintings and figures. Involve the family and other support networks in providing news and preventive measures such as hand washing.

• Be prepared and informed in advance of how to get help, how to call a taxi, have food delivered at home or ask for medical help. And provide medication for two weeks, if necessary.

• Learn simple physical exercises to do at home every day during isolation and quarantine so as not to reduce mobility.

• Maintain regular routines and tasks whenever possible and create new ones in a different environment. Among them daily activities, cleaning, singing, paintings and others.

People in isolation:

• Stay in touch and maintain your network of friends and acquaintances. Even if isolated, try your best to keep your routine and create new ones. If health officials have recommended physical distance to contain the outbreak, you can maintain digital proximity with e-mails, social networks, phone, teleconferences, etc.

• During this period of stress, be aware of your inner feelings and demands. Get involved in healthy activities and relax. Constant exercise, regular sleep and a balanced diet help. Keep everything in perspective.

• A constant flood of news about the outbreak can lead anyone to anxiety and stress. Follow reliable news and avoid rumors and "fake news" that will only cause more discomfort and unpleasantness.

Reference:

Update on the COVID-19 strategy

On April 14, 2020, WHO published a document entitled "COVID-19Strategy Update", which aims to guide the public health response at national and subnational levels. This is an update of the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan 1, which was published on February 3, 2020. The document presents practical guidelines for the strategic actions of the government and society, which can be adapted according to national and subnational specificities and capabilities.

The overall strategic objectives are:

• Mobilization of all sectors and communities to ensure that all spheres of government and society take ownership and participate in the response and
prevention of cases through hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and physical distance at the individual level;

- Control of sporadic cases and implementation of measures to prevent community transmission, quickly locating and isolating all cases, providing them with proper care and tracking, quarantining and supporting all people who have had contact with those infected;

- Suppress community transmission by means of infection control and prevention measures appropriate to the context, measures of physical distance at the population level and appropriate and proportional restrictions on non-essential domestic and international travel;

- Reduce mortality by providing adequate clinical care to people affected by COVID-19, ensuring the continuity of essential social and health services and protecting frontline workers and vulnerable populations;

- Develop safe and effective vaccines and therapies that can be delivered on a scale and are accessible based on needs;

Every country should be implementing a comprehensive set of measures, calibrated to their capacity and context, to slow down transmission and reduce mortality associated with COVID-19, ultimately with the aim of reaching and/or maintaining a steady state of low-level or no transmission. Appropriate strategies at the national level and subnational level must balance measures that address the direct mortality attributable to COVID-19, the indirect mortality caused by the overwhelming of health systems and the interruption of other essential health and social services, and the acute and long-term detrimental effects on health and wellbeing of the socioeconomic consequences of certain response measures. For many countries and subnational authorities and communities, managing a controlled and deliberate transition from a scenario of community transmission to a sustainable, steady state of low-level or no transmission is, at present, the best-case outcome in the short and medium term in the absence of a safe and effective vaccine.

For the relaxation of the social isolation measures adopted in order to mitigate the community transmission of the new coronavirus, the WHO has listed six criteria that must be followed. They are as follows:

1. COVID-19 transmission must be controlled at a level of sporadic cases and groupings of cases, all from contacts or known imports, while the incidence of new cases must be maintained at a level that the health system can manage with care capacity substantial clinical reserve.

2. There must be sufficient health systems and public health capacities to allow the treatment of serious cases as well as the detection and isolation of all cases, regardless of severity and origin:
   a. Detection: suspected cases should be detected quickly after the onset of symptoms;
b. Testing: all suspected cases should have results within 24 hours of identification and sampling, and there should be sufficient capacity to check for virus-free status in recovered patients;

c. Isolation: all confirmed cases must be effectively isolated (in hospitals and/or homes designated for mild and moderate cases, or at home with sufficient support if such homes are not available) immediately and until they are no longer infectious;

d. Quarantine: all close contacts could be traced, quarantined and monitored for 14 days, whether in specialized accommodation or self-quarantine. Monitoring and support can be done through a combination of visits from community volunteers, phone calls or messages;

3. Outbreak risks in highly vulnerable environments should be minimized, which requires that all major drivers and/or amplifiers of the COVID-19 transmission have been identified, with appropriate measures to minimize the risk of new outbreaks and nosocomial transmission (for example, appropriate prevention and infection control, including screening and provision of personal protective equipment in healthcare facilities and residential care facilities).

4. Preventive measures in the workplace should be established to reduce risk, including the appropriate guidelines and capabilities to promote and allow standard measures to prevent COVID-19 in terms of physical distance, hand washing, respiratory etiquette and, potentially, monitoring temperature.

5. Risks of imported cases must be managed through an analysis of the likely origin and routes of imports, and measures must be in place to quickly detect and manage suspected cases among travelers (including the ability to quarantine individuals arriving from areas with community transmission).

6. Communities are fully engaged and understand that the transition entails a major shift, from detecting and treating only serious cases to detecting and isolating all cases, that behavioural prevention measures must be maintained, and that all individuals have key roles in enabling and in some cases implementing new control measures.

Reference:

WTO - World Tourism Organization

The tourism sector, more than any other economic activity with a social impact, is based on interaction between people. The WTO has been cooperating with WHO in order to implement ways to minimize unnecessary impacts on travel and international trade. In addition, it is seeking to emphasize the importance of the sector, especially in the development of economic measures to deal with the crisis.

Reference:
Responses to the effects caused on tourism by COVID-19

The tourism value chain affects all parts of society, making it unique in promoting solidarity, collaboration and concrete action across borders and also positioned to drive forward a future recovery. It must be in a position to drive forward a future recovery again. Considering this, the WTO brought together the Global Crisis Committee, in partnership with the WTO, to deal with the economic sector most affected by COVID-19.

The Organization requires political recognition and cooperation between Ministries, involving the public and private sectors and against the background of broader action plans of financial institutions and regional bodies.

In this sense, the organization has launched a set of recommendations that call for urgent support to the sector at a global level. The recommendations are the first outcome of the World Tourism Crisis Committee, made up of the WTO with high-level representatives of tourism and the United Nations system. In total, the new guide provides 23 recommendations divided into three main areas:

- **Crisis management and impact mitigation:** The main recommendations refer to maintaining employment, supporting self-employed workers, ensuring liquidity, promoting skills development and reviewing taxes, fees and regulations related to travel and tourism. The recommendations take into account the likelihood of an economic recession. Given that tourism employs many people, it will be a sector that will suffer a severe setback, with millions of jobs threatened, especially jobs occupied by women and young people, in addition to marginalized groups.

- **Providing stimuli and accelerating recovery:** This set of recommendations emphasizes the importance of providing financial stimuli, with favorable tax policies, lifting travel restrictions as soon as the health emergency allows, easing the visa regime, promoting marketing now trusted by consumer, among other measures, to accelerate recovery. The Recommendations also call for tourism to be highlighted in national recovery policies and action plans.

- **Prepare for tomorrow:** emphasizing tourism’s exceptional capacity to lead growth at the local and national levels, the Recommendations call for more attention to tourism’s contribution to the Sustainable Development Agenda and to strengthening resilience, learning from the lessons of the current crisis. The Recommendations ask governments and private sector actors to develop preparedness plans and use this opportunity to make the transition to the circular economy.

References:
Challenge of startups against coronavirus impacts

With the objective of stimulating solutions for tourism through measures of health, economy and destination management, the World Tourism Organization (OMT) and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the global challenge for startups and entrepreneurs of the Healing tourism Solutions For Turismo Challenge. The mission is to seek solutions to reduce the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic in the sector, through technology and innovative initiatives for sustainable development in a crisis situation.

References:
http://www.turismo.gov.br/%C3%BAltimas-not%C3%ADcias/13434-organiza%C3%A7%C3%B5es-mundiais-do-turismo-e-da-sa%C3%BAde-lan%C3%A7am-challenge-of-startups-to-mitigate-impacts-of-corona% C3% ADrus.html
https://www.unwto.org/healing-solutions-tourism-challenge

UN Women

Recommendations for helping women

UN Women Brazil launched the document “Gender and COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean: gender dimensions in the response”, highlighting the specific impacts of the pandemic on women, drawing attention to issues related to financial autonomy, access to services and the increase in domestic violence.

The increased risk of violence against women was highlighted, especially domestic violence due to greater family life. Victims may face additional obstacles to escape violent situations or access protection orders and / or essential services due to factors such as restrictions on quarantined movement.

The Organization emphasizes the importance of including women in all phases of decision-making, ensuring that the immediate needs of women are met. Among the recommendations, the guarantee of access to sexual and reproductive health services, including prenatal and postnatal care, is also included; promoting women’s empowerment and economic recovery; continuity of essential services against domestic violence, but with new ways of providing services in the current context.

Reference:
PAHO - PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

In an interview with the press on April 14, 2020, the director of the Pan American Health Organization (WHO), Carissa F. Etienne, said measures of social detachment are giving our societies a chance to prepare and respond to the pandemic of COVID-19 and that any attempt to transition to more flexible measures should be taken with extreme caution. These transition decisions should always be informed by disease transmission patterns, COVID-19 tests and the ability to track contacts, availability of hospital beds and other objective criteria.

According to the organization, COVID-19 has not yet reached full force in our region, mainly in Latin America and the Caribbean, but it is expected to intensify in the coming weeks. The increase in hospitalizations and deaths seen in some countries shows us how quickly the situation can change in others. Many countries in the region have implemented measures of social distance across the community that allow health services to operate within their capacity. According to PAHO, this is encouraging, but it must be sustained over a period of time to be effective.

It should be noted that social distance needs to be accompanied by comprehensive support measures to ensure that the most vulnerable can fulfill without serious risks to their livelihoods. These social support measures will require adequate national and local logistical capacity to guarantee the delivery of medicines, tests, food and other supplies to the populations.

The director also recognizes that the implementation of measures to prevent COVID-19, such as social detachment, may seem disturbing. However, if they are not implemented, the risk of prolonging the crisis will be very high. In addition, the precipitous interruption of the recommended social distance may lead to a second wave of COVID-19 cases, which will result in greater long-term socioeconomic uncertainty in the Americas region. Science and solidarity should guide the implementation of the necessary interventions, considering that they must adapt to the specificities of each environment. This is the only way, in PAHO’s view, to safely return to normal.

Reference:

UN-Habitat - United Nations Human Settlements Programme

UN Habitat has published a file with its main messages to the international community regarding the pandemic. In general, the message addresses:

- The recognition that the pandemic tends to reach the most vulnerable populations, most of whom live in areas of periphery and precarious
urbanization. The organization asks for special attention to the characteristics of population density in these regions, which reflect in the urban dynamics and in the public transportation.

- The clarification that authorities in general should support local governments as a priority.
- The recommendation to train communities to recognize signs of infection and for other preventive actions, such as isolation and quarantine.
- Recognition of the strong economic impact that can befall the most vulnerable populations, affecting their food security and housing.
- The recommendation to train communities to recognize signs of infection and other actions to prevent the spread of the virus, such as isolation and quarantine.
- The provision of UN-Habitat services for the development of innovative and sustainable strategies for the reorganization of post-crisis urban life.

Reference:
https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/03/covid19_key_messages_eng_1.pdf

**UNDP — United Nations Development Programme**

WhatsApp, in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, launched the WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Center. The platform provides a simple guide for health workers, educators, community leaders, organized civil society, local governments and entrepreneurs related to communications via WhatsApp. The center will also provide general tips and reliable sources of information for users of the application. The recommendations will offer a quick guide on how small groups can make the most of WhatsApp functions and UNDP will distribute it to those who coordinate local efforts.

The recommendations will offer a quick guide on how small groups can make the most of WhatsApp functions and UNDP will distribute it to those who coordinate local efforts. In addition, WhatsApp is working in partnership with WHO and UNICEF to promote hotlines to users around the world. These hotlines will provide reliable information that will be listed in the WhatsApp Coronavirus Information Center.

Reference:

**UNEP - United Nations Environment Program**

UNEP conducted an analysis between the coronavirus and the need to address threats to ecosystems and wildlife, including information that degraded habitats can encourage faster evolutionary processes and disease diversification, because pathogens spread more easily.
Another correlation made by the Organization is between the epidemic and waste management, because this is an essential public service to minimize possible impacts secondary to health and the environment. Effective biomedical waste management requires proper identification, collection, separation, storage, transportation, treatment and disposal, as well as disinfection, protection and training of employees.


Reference:

**UNCTAD - UN Conference on Trade and Development**

**Impacts on trade and development**

UNCTAD analyzes the crisis caused by the coronavirus, requiring in addition to macroeconomic measures, a series of corrective policies and institutional reforms that will reduce the chances of an economic collapse. However, governments must give a clear signal that public debt concerns are secondary to public health issues, and that inequalities must be a central part of the policy response in both the short and long term.

An analysis was made of the impact of the coronavirus on the IDE. The decreasing curve will be from -5% to -15%, if compared with the forecasts for the years 2020 and 2021. The impact will be concentrated in the countries hardest hit by the disease, with negative demand shocks. The economic impact of supply chain disruptions will affect investment prospects in all countries. The industries most affected will be automotive (-44%), airlines (-42%) and the energy and basic inputs industries (-13%).

References:

**UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**

**Recommendations for governments**

Due to the current scenario, UNESCO disseminates daily information about the coronavirus, stating that it is present to support Member States. The Organization recognizes that taking immediate containment measures, while causing social isolation
for millions of students, was a positive action. UNESCO’s suggestion is to rethink education and expand distance learning, making the educational system more resilient, open and innovative. In addition, it calls for the attention of the entire international community to vulnerable students who depend on school services for their nutrition and security, in such a way that this group is properly supported. The Organization recognizes that taking immediate containment measures, while causing social isolation for millions of students, was a positive action. UNESCO’s suggestion is to rethink education and expand distance learning, making the educational system more resilient, open and innovative. In addition, it calls for the attention of the entire international community to vulnerable students who depend on school services for their nutrition and security, in such a way that this group is properly supported.

With regard to the cultural sector, the recommendation is that government officials consider the inclusion of economic protection for artists and everyone who works in the medium, because artistic, literary, cinematographic expressions, etc. are havens and comfort right now.

Digital platforms are available to everyone during the period of social isolation, such as the World Digital Library, Culture Portal, Culture Speaks and Knowledge Management Tools in the Cultural Sector.

Reference:
https://en.unesco.org/fieldoffice/santiago/articles/unesco-is-present

Coalition to ensure that learning never stops: #LearningNever Stops

In order to respond quickly and adequately to the educational crisis caused by COVID-19, which has left more than 1.5 billion students out of class, UNESCO has formed a coalition that unites multilateral partners, such as the ILO, UNHCR, WHO, FAO, Asian Development Bank; the private sector, such as Microsoft, GSMA, Google, Facebook, Zoom; philanthropic and non-profit organizations such as Khan Academy, Dubai Cares, Sesame Street, etc.; as well as media companies like BBC World Service. The objective is to develop and provide digital tools, education management solutions and mobilize resources so that countries can guarantee quality distance education to students.

Reference:

International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030

The International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030, a global network of more than 90 countries and 50 international and regional organizations, including the UN and which has the secretariat hosted by UNESCO, has opened a Call for Teacher Action to ensure that teachers are protected, supported and recognized during the crisis. The
Task Force calls on governments, education providers and funders - public and private - and all relevant partners to seek to preserve teachers' jobs and salaries; prioritize the health, safety and well-being of teachers and students; inclusion of teachers in the development of responses to education within the COVID-19 scenario; provide adequate professional support, as well as training for teachers; ensure that equity is at the heart of the education response. By following these points it will be possible to ensure that students receive quality classes and that no children or teachers are left behind. It opened a Call to Action for Teachers to ensure that the class is protected, supported and recognized during the crisis. The Task Force calls on governments, education providers and funders - public and private - and all relevant partners to seek to preserve teachers’ jobs and salaries; prioritize the health, safety and well-being of teachers and students; inclusion of teachers in the development of responses to education within the COVID-19 scenario; provide adequate professional support, as well as training for teachers; ensure that equity is at the heart of the education response. By following these points it will be possible to ensure that students receive quality classes and that no children or teachers are left behind.

Reference:

Workgroup

Given that half of the world’s students are out of class, UNESCO has created a working group to provide advice and technical assistance to governments that are offering distance education. In addition, the organization is holding periodic virtual meetings with education ministers from around the world to share experience and identify what are the most urgent needs.

Reference:

European Union

Coming out of the crisis through environmental principles

The newly created European Alliance for a Green Recovery believes that the fight against climate change should be the main focus of the European Union to get out of the economic crisis caused by COVID-19. It is believed that the necessary transition towards the development of a more sustainable economy and life with the capacity to quickly create jobs and improve the quality of life for European citizens.

Reference:
UNICEF - United Nations Children’s Fund

UNICEF has made recommendations to keep students, teachers and staff safe at school and to reduce the spread of the disease. They are as follows:

• Students, teachers and staff who are sick or with symptoms should not go to school;
• Schools should reinforce regular hand washing with clean water and soap, use of alcohol gel or disinfectants, and, at a minimum, daily cleaning and disinfection of school environments and surfaces.
• Schools must have water supply, sanitation facilities and appropriate places for waste disposal and must follow cleaning and decontamination procedures;
• Schools should promote social distance (expression used to define certain actions taken to reduce the spread of very contagious diseases, which include limiting meetings and crowds of people).

In the case of absences, sick leave or temporary closure of the school, support continued access to quality education, which may include:

• Distance learning tools;
• Reading activities and exercises for home studies;
• Transmission of radio, television or media programs with academic content;
• Daily or weekly monitoring of students, by designated teachers;
• Review or development of accelerated learning strategies;

Reference:

2. Funds and Development Agencies

World Bank

World Bank response to COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean

On April 2, the World Bank launched the first batch of specific projects for Latin America and the Caribbean, approved by the institution’s Board of Directors. Support for the region at this time is US $ 95 million for four countries (Argentina, Ecuador, Paraguay and Haiti). An additional $ 170 million was disbursed after adjusting for ongoing operations in several countries. These projects will allow countries to minimize loss of life, strengthen health systems and disease surveillance, mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic, and work with partners and the private sector to address supply chain issues and deliveries.

Additional responses include: release of Deferred Disbursement Credit (CAT DDOs) for the Dominican Republic and Panama; restructuring of the existing health project in...
Bolivia. CAT DDO is a type of conditional loan, which requires a previously determined trigger (for example, disaster reaching a certain area, with a certain population) to be disbursed.


Financing of health systems, and micro, medium and small companies

The World Bank and IFC approved a US$ 14 billion accelerated financing package to assist companies and countries in the effort to prevent, detect and respond to COVID-19. The World Bank package aims to strengthen countries' national health systems and IFC aims to finance micro, small and medium-sized companies so that they can continue to pay their bills and continue to operate and to companies in the health sector or who are connected to that sector.


Measures to protect the tourism sector

In order to mitigate the negative effects of the new coronavirus on tourism, the World Bank has published several suggested actions for governments and private companies. Among the actions, are the generation of alternative revenues, the reduction of the loss of revenues (renouncing the markdown charge and encouraging customers to postpone instead of canceling), the reduction of the tax burden and the supply of liquidity (extending credit lines or working capital).


Managing the impacts of COVID-19 on educational systems

Although closing schools is a logical solution to reinforce social distance in communities, prolonged closing tends to have a disproportionately negative impact on the most vulnerable students. The World Bank proposes the creation of plans, which may include the introduction of exam protocols in schools, the implementation of hygiene practice campaigns, the imposition of school closures, the provision of distance learning and the use of closed schools for emergency purposes. As the emergency phase dissipates, communities can move into "recovery" mode, with governments implementing policies and measures to make up for lost time.
Incentives for financial recovery

According to the organization, when the health crisis is resolved, many families will have their savings exhausted and/or large debts, making it necessary to save more and consume less. Likewise, companies and financial institutions will need to rebuild their balance sheets and be less able to invest. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect that aggregate demand will remain depressed for a long period after the end of the pandemic.

This will be the moment of a stimulus aimed at financial and economic recovery. Government actions will be critical to ensuring a quick return to a healthy economic situation, which, depending on the context, may include tax cuts and reforms, cash transfers and subsidies and higher investments in specific sectors or projects. Thus, there is a strong case for a large component of public spending in a stimulus package.

These actions will have lasting effects on the economic system. Even if investments have the same benefits in the short term, some options will be better for promoting long-term sustainable growth and poverty reduction. Thinking about the future, therefore, the urgent focus on short-term needs should not ignore opportunities to achieve other long-term goals (and avoid making long-term goals even more challenging).

Long-term opportunities

The World Bank emphasizes the need to decarbonize the world economy and the long-term benefits of doing so. The choices to be made on stimulus packages will affect the ability to achieve this goal, creating risks, but also opportunities. For example, the tax reform component of stimulus packages can create new tax rates on fuel, energy or carbon and different incentives to reduce carbon emissions. The recent drop in global oil prices offers an opportunity to review the subsidies currently in place in many countries and redirect these resources towards more efficient ways of reducing poverty or boosting growth, as the fossil fuel transition progresses.

A wide range of investments can increase short-term job creation and income and generate long-term sustainability and growth benefits. Examples include energy efficiency for existing buildings; renewable energy production; preservation or restoration of natural areas that provide ecosystem services and resilience to floods, droughts and hurricanes; the remediation of polluted land; investments in water treatment and sanitation; or sustainable transportation infrastructure, ranging from cycle paths to metro systems.

Although the stimulus may only be needed in the future, now is the time to identify the best possible package, developing projects and policies that support them. For those who focus on the threat of what climate change poses to hard-won development gains
around the world, this crisis has a sense of foreboding. If we are strategic in the way we project policy responses, we can achieve short and long-term results that benefit national and global interests. Planning for this, however, must begin immediately. If we get it right, the response to COVID-19 can not only minimize the pain and suffering now, but it can also create the foundation for a greener, safer and more prosperous future.

Reference:

IDB - Inter-American Development Bank

Economic consequences of the new coronavirus

The BID is assessing the economic consequences of the epidemic in its member countries and contemplating alternatives to offer resources that help them to mitigate the medium and long-term effects. Under the technical leadership of the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization, the BID will continue to coordinate actions with its member countries and other multilateral institutions to ensure an adequate response to the epidemic.

Impact panel of the new coronavirus

The IDB has created a panel that monitors the impact of the new coronavirus in Latin America and the Caribbean in real time. According to the institution, the rapidly developing crisis caused by the pandemic of COVID-19 represents a historic challenge for the world and for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition to the health risks it poses, the pandemic can reduce income and eliminate jobs for millions of people. Although it is difficult to predict what the impact will be in the medium and long term, it is necessary that each region develop quick and innovative solutions to overcome the effects of this virus in the social, economic and fiscal spheres.

In addition to financial support, IDB member countries also have the knowledge and technical advice that is provided by the Bank to help design and implement effective public policies. For this reason, with the support of the Board of Directors and several experts, the IDB created the “Coronavirus impact panel: the effects of social distance measures”.

References:

Behavioral economics helps combat COVID-19
The IDB published a document entitled "The economics of behavior can help combat coronavirus", available at the reference link. Bearing in mind that social distance and quarantines can have side effects, such as panic, weight gain, lack of physical exercise, depression and the abuse of dangerous substances, the tools of the economy must be taken into account behavior that have proven effective in the past to mitigate the effects of the current pandemic. In this way, the document presented describes the behavioral biases that people may experience during the crisis, summarizes some recommendations on how to overcome them and offers a detailed application of the principles of behavioral economics to desired behaviors during this pandemic.

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Reference:

IMF - International Monetary Fund

“I am grateful to the Saudi presidency for calling this extraordinary summit - so that we can align ourselves as a global community to protect people’s lives and protect the world economy. We forecast a contraction in global production in 2020 and a recovery in 2021. The depth of the contraction and the speed of recovery depend on the speed of containment of the pandemic and on how strong and coordinated our monetary and fiscal policy actions are.

You, G20 leaders, have already taken extraordinary steps to save lives and protect your economies.

Tax support targeted at vulnerable families and large and small businesses is particularly critical, so that they can stay afloat and get back to work quickly. Otherwise, it will take years to overcome the effects of bankruptcies and widespread layoffs.
This support will accelerate the eventual recovery and put us in a better position to face challenges such as excessive debt and interruption of trade flows.

It is essential to recognize the importance of supporting emerging markets and developing economies to overcome the weight of the crisis and help restore growth. They are particularly affected by a combination of a health crisis, a sudden stop in the world economy, capital flight to safety and - for some - a sharp drop in commodity prices. These countries are the main focus of our attention. We have a considerable financial capacity of US$ 1 trillion to defend them, working closely with the World Bank and other International Financial Institutions (IFIs). The challenge, however, is enormous:

An exceptionally large number of countries simultaneously require emergency funding from the IMF.

Emerging markets are drastically affected by high capital outflows and severe shortages of foreign exchange liquidity

Many low-income countries enter this crisis under a high debt burden.

We must act on an equal footing with the magnitude of the challenge. For us at the IMF, this means working with you to make our responses to crises even stronger. For that, we ask for your support to:

Doubling our emergency financing capacity.

Increase global liquidity through a considerable allocation of SDRs (special drawing right), as we did successfully during the 2009 global crisis and expanding the use of swap facilities in the Fund.

Support the actions of official bilateral creditors to alleviate the debt burden of our poorest members during periods of global crisis.

We will overcome this crisis together. Together, we will prepare the ground for a faster and stronger recovery. 

Kristalina Georgieva
Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund

Reference:

Emergency financing to countries

The IMF discloses ways that it can help countries deal with the economic effects of the coronavirus. Among the measures, the existence of emergency financing to serve the health area, the debt relief of the poorest and most vulnerable countries, the expansion of existing programs, the creation of new financing agreements and the development of capabilities aimed at developing technical assistance and training activities.
Debt relief for the poorest countries

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank issued a declaration to the G20 countries, urging official bilateral creditors to suspend debt payments from IDA countries that request tolerance. This will help these countries to face the challenges imposed by the coronavirus outbreak, as well as guarantee time for an assessment of the impacts of the crisis.

Reference:

Economic policy tracker

On March 24, 2020, the International Monetary Fund created an economic policy tracker that summarizes the main economic responses (fiscal, monetary/macro-financial and exchange rate/balance of payments) that governments are adopting to limit human impact and of the COVID-19 pandemic. The tracker includes the G-20 economies and the European Union / Euro Area.

Reference:

Saving lives versus saving the economy: a false dilemma

IMF Administrative Director Kristalina Georgieva and WHO Secretary General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, published an article about the difficult choice between saving lives or saving jobs. In fact, it is a false dilemma in that controlling the spread of the virus is a prerequisite for saving economies.

This is what brings the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) together - WHO exists to protect people’s health and is the one who should dictate priorities in this area; the IMF exists to protect the health of the world economy, advise on economic priorities and provide loans.

The leaders of these organizations call on government officials, especially in emerging countries, to recognize that protecting public health and helping people get back to work are inseparable goals.

Reference:
The evolution of the health crisis and the fate of the global economy are inextricably linked. Fighting the pandemic is a necessary condition for economic recovery. For this reason, WHO and the IMF are working together and with other international organizations to help countries meet their most basic needs.

Reference:
https://www.imf.org/pt/News/Articles/2020/04/03/vs-some-say-there-is-a-trade-off-save-lives-or-save-jobs-this-is-a-false-dilemma

**NBD - The New BRICS Development Bank**

**Emergency Assistance Program**

The NBD Board of Directors approves a loan of RMB 7 billion (about $986 billion) from the emergency assistance program for China to fight the COVID-19 epidemic. It is the NBD’s first emergency assistance project in response to an epidemic in its member countries and also the Bank’s largest loan to date. This budget will finance urgent and unexpected public health expenditures.

Reference:

**International City Networks**

**AL-LAS and Metropolis**

The Euro-Latin American Alliance networks of cooperation between cities and Metropolis created the “Cities For Global Health” platform, which, until the close of this edition of the Reference Repository of Good International Practices, has 332 initiatives from 79 cities in 29 countries. Since the virus spreads regardless of administrative boundaries, territorial scales or climatic conditions, affecting millions of individuals simultaneously in different ways, it leads us to overcome management barriers as well. In metropolitan spaces, the collaboration of cities and central peripheries and the incorporation of metropolitan governance can make a huge difference to ensure that the quality of life is no longer threatened in fragile scenarios and that no one is left behind.

Collaboration between administrations at different levels is essential to deal with this crisis. Seeking to promote collective responses and facilitate decision makers’ access to first-hand experiences on how urban areas around the world can cope with similar situations, local and regional governments of all sizes around the world are invited to share on the platform:

sizes from around the world are invited to share on the platform:
● Initiatives (plans, strategies, policies) designed specifically as a reaction to the outbreak of COVID-19;
● Initiatives designed to address other health emergencies, such as health crises or epidemics.

Reference:
https://www.citiesforglobalhealth.org/

**Webinar on replanning cooperation and international action by local governments**

In view of the intensification of social inequality in a pandemic context, the vices sustained by the current management model of our society have brought even more consequences. For this reason, a Webinar was organized with the participation of four specialists to assist local governments in building a perspective of decentralized and integrated cooperation that puts people’s lives first.

Reference:
https://proyectoallas.net/2020/04/22/ciclo-de-debates-sobre-el-covid-19-y-la-cooperacion-descentralizada/

**CGLU - United Cities and Local Governments**

**Online learning program between local governments**

The UCLG network, together with UN-Habitat and Metrópoles, has developed a virtual initiative to share information and experiences among local governments. Through the “Live Learning Experience” program, groups involved in the local government of network cities can learn from each other, while contributing to the construction of an active online community and the dissemination and development of new accessible information.

Reference:

**Discussion of the peace agenda in the post COVID-19 era**

In view of the general increase in violence and social inequality caused by the current context of crisis, the Live Learning Experience initiative presented a roundtable on the restructuring of peace. Thus, the priority of establishing positive peace was established, that is, peace based on economic development, equal access, health, education and culture.

Reference:

**Educating Cities**

**Inclusion of the youth perspective in good practices**
Given the extraordinary current situation of life and its impact on the quality of life of children and adolescents, the Educating Cities network has developed a series of good practices. In defense of the approach, the importance of coexistence and learning in society for the cognitive development of young people is expressed.

Reference:

C40

Knowledge Hub

In order to bring proven ways of working, experimental policies and access to colleagues to municipal authorities that can help them accelerate solutions in the management of the COVID-19 crisis, the C40 network has made available its Knowledge Hub. The platform consists of a curated collection of media and resources on topics relevant to the mayors’ teams and departments, such as waste, food, buildings, transportation, public involvement, etc. The network continues to disseminate updates relevant to the city and summarize practical advice from sharing knowledge from city to city in the C40 community. In the medium and long term, they will support cities in the search for a better recovery towards a sustainable and climate-safe future.

Reference:

Global task force for restructuring

The municipal governments involved with the C40 city network decided, in a joint strategy, to face the issue of economic and social recovery without aiming at the return to the previous status quo. In order to build a fairer, healthier and more equitable future, 9 guiding principles of these task forces have been developed in local governments.

Reference:
https://www.c40.org/other/covid-task-force

Global Resilient Cities Network

Sharing knowledge to respond with resilience

The program “Sharing knowledge to respond with resilience”, from the Global Resilient Cities Network, has the support of the Rockefeller Foundation and the World Bank. Weekly, online seminars are held with the purpose of sharing information between cities so that they can prepare a response to the rapid pandemic of COVID-19.
The topics covered by the seminars are: “Inclusive approaches to combat COVID-19 in informal settlements”, “Holistic Resilience in Action”, “Rapid response and adaptation in times of crisis”, “Leveraging technology to respond to the new coronavirus and create urban resilience "and" Government responses and continuity ". The seminars are available at the reference link.

Reference:

Frontline cities

Leveraging its network of 98 cities, representing more than 220 million people worldwide, the Global Resilient Cities Network’s "Cities at the Front" campaign allows communication between cities to spread knowledge and best resilience practices, thus reducing the impact of the new coronavirus. Through this program, GRCN offers real-time support, consultancy and tools for cities, inside and outside its network, as many face common challenges, such as overburdened public health systems and the closure of businesses, transportation and public life. In addition, the campaign also allows for the sharing of vital data and knowledge among members, encouraging a faster and more efficient response to the pandemic and potentially reducing the impact on the most vulnerable.

Reference:

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability -, through an exclusive page of subjects on local actions to combat COVID-19, has been working to collect information and resources that can be used for the network as a whole and also for its member cities. Thus, in order to inspire the work of local governments, the network has available several resources related to the new coronavirus, such as the following regional initiatives:

- Compilation of a list of events and conferences affected by the pandemic and which are relevant to the network. The work has been updated regularly based on the most recent information available and provides information on cancellations, postponements and the use of online methods. Access here.
- Development of webinars for the series of webinars on stories of city resilience and with the presence of several leaders and officers involved in this theme. The initiative addresses topics such as disaster responses, aid distribution, vulnerable populations, governance and jurisdictional skills in the context of the new coronavirus crisis. Access the first webinar here.
Construction of regional articles that compile ideas and initial adjustments that network members are adapting in the area of health and sustainability and how the pandemic has affected this work. Access the articles here and here.

Use of the hashtag #RadarICLEI_Covid19 in publications made by ICLEI South America on its social networks. The publications address national and international references to inform, inspire and support the actions of local government officials.

Development of a resource page by ICLEI Africa collecting a variety of personalized information for African cities and local governments. Access here.

Reference:

Sharing transportation alternatives.

In view of the need to keep cities supplied and functional during the COVID-19 pandemic, ICLEI has developed a collection of information regarding the responses, actions and perspectives of urban transport in the cities of the network. In this way, to assist local governments around the world, an official page has been developed on which updates on promising mobility innovations are constantly made available.

Reference:
https://ecomobility.org/covid19-transport-resources/

Daring Cities 2020, the virtual forum for Urban leaders

With the aim of guiding urban leaders towards sustainable development, after COVID-19, the ICLEI network will organize the global forum Daring Cities 2020. During the 7th and 28th of October, this virtual forum will be responsible for providing an inclusive and centralizing information environment for specialists and decision makers. Thus, avoiding exclusions, the lectures and discussions will take place in different languages and times.

Reference:
https://daringcities.org/

Mercocities

Cooperation webinar and sharing measures and information

Three webinars were held, which provided an exchange of information between local governments and academia, to facilitate policy exchange and regional cooperation in a pandemic context. Thus, it was possible to integrate policies in southern Latin America and avoid intensifying their vulnerability in the face of uncertainty and anxiety.
Metropolis

Fostering debate between local governments

In order to improve risk management and the resilience of cities during the pandemic, the Metrópolis city network will promote, on May 12, a debate on the role of decentralized cooperation in the COVID-19 scenario. With the round table format, the initiative will facilitate the exchange of experiences and the sharing of information between governments and local leaders.

Reference:
https://www.metropolis.org/agenda/debates-covid-and-decentralized-cooperation-2nd-seminar

Emergency Governance Initiative for Cities and Regions

The Metropolis city network initiated, in partnership with the CGLU network and LSE Cities, the management analysis project and implications of the pandemic crisis in the cities. In this sense, the joint initiative aims to contribute to providing insights on how to develop urban or territorial responses to complex emergencies, which include the practice of governance.

References:
http://www.lse.ac.uk/cities/news/20.06.05-Emergency-Governance-Initiative
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