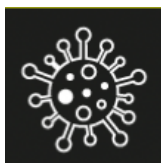


MUNICIPAL SECRETARIAT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
SUBSECRETARIAT FOR STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS AND AFFAIRS  
**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE**

# REPOSITORY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL GOOD PRACTICES



**IN RESPONSE TO**

**CORONAVIRUS • COVID-19**

VOLUME I  
3rd Edition  
March 30, 2020



**PREFEITURA  
BELO HORIZONTE**

**GOVERNANDO PARA QUEM PRECISA**



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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 deaths and 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. It is necessary to protect the life and health of the population, in the first place, paying attention to the other impacts that the 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. 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 initially points to initiatives in the following areas: Public Actions and Services, Social Assistance, Communication, Culture, Tourism, Economy, Education, Mobility and Health. In this 3rd Edition all actions mapped between March 18th and 27th are concentrated, including 1st and 2nd Edition of RRBPI-19.

Qualitative analyzes were added on the measures presented by the other governments, in a new classification of themes and sub-themes for better indexing of the document, pointing out trends to qualify and subsidize the decision-making process of managers in facing the crisis. Quantitative analyzes are also presented, bringing graphs, tables and updated data on the spread of the new coronavirus in the world, in Brazil, in Minas Gerais and Belo Horizonte, in addition to a matrix of the frequency of initiatives in the world, by thematic area.

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.

International Good Practice Repository - Quantitative Assessment			
3rd Edition	Theme	Actions	Countries
	Social Assistance	39	14
	Communication	10	8
	Culture and Tourism	30	26
	Economy	60	24
	Education	10	8
	Mobility	19	12
	Health	17	10
	Public Actions and Services	37	22
	International Organizations	15	N/D
	<b>Total</b>	<b>237</b>	
	Quantitative Data		
Edition	Government Initiatives	Countries	IO Recommendations
1st	42	17	10
2nd	109	27	11
3rd	222	52	15

# STATISTICAL DATA

## World

Infected	Recovered	Fatalities
734,360	152,871	35,071

Data obtained and updated on: 03/30/2020 at 12:29h

Source: <https://www.bing.com/covid>

Note: The link above presents a statistical map that compiles data from CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA), World Health Organization, ECDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Europe) and other relevant global references.

## Brazil

Infected	Recovered	Fatalities
4,526	6	136

Data obtained and updated on: 03/30/2020 at 12:29h

Source: <https://www.bing.com/covid>

Note: The link above presents a statistical map that compiles data from CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA), World Health Organization, ECDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Europe) and other relevant global references.

## Minas Gerais

Suspects	Infected	Recovered	Fatalities under investigation	Fatalities
29,724	261	N/D	23	1

Data obtained and updated on: 03/30/2020 at 12:29h

Source:

[https://www.saude.mg.gov.br/images/noticias\\_e\\_eventos/000\\_2020/Boletins\\_Corona/Boletim\\_Epidemiologico\\_COVID-19\\_MG\\_30.03.2020.pdf](https://www.saude.mg.gov.br/images/noticias_e_eventos/000_2020/Boletins_Corona/Boletim_Epidemiologico_COVID-19_MG_30.03.2020.pdf)

## Belo Horizonte

Infected	Recovered	Fatalities
163	N/D	0

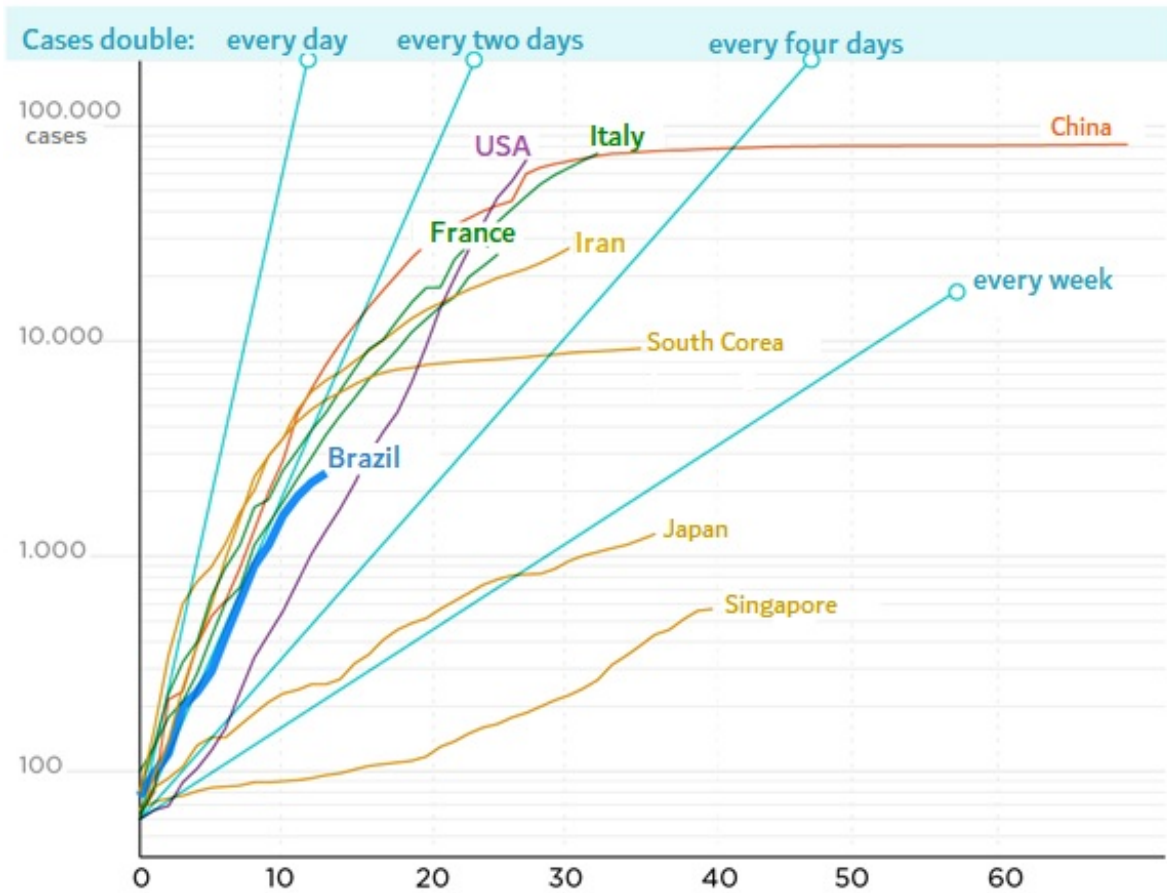
Data obtained and updated on: 03/30/2020 at 12:29h

Source:

[https://www.saude.mg.gov.br/images/noticias\\_e\\_eventos/000\\_2020/Boletins\\_Corona/Boletim\\_Epidemiologico\\_COVID-19\\_MG\\_30.03.2020.pdf](https://www.saude.mg.gov.br/images/noticias_e_eventos/000_2020/Boletins_Corona/Boletim_Epidemiologico_COVID-19_MG_30.03.2020.pdf)

### Confirmed cases by country after the 60th case

Cumulative on a logarithmic scale



Source: Nexo Jornal - Coronavirus Bulletin. 03/26/2020



# INTERNATIONAL GOOD PRACTICES

## PUBLIC ACTIONS AND SERVICES

Local governments are called upon to take a leading role in responding and managing 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 in the face of the need for changes in functioning, or in the face of 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 places maintenance of essential services.

Country	Quarantine and Isolation	Funerals and Burials	Closing places with crowds of people	Curfew	Digital Services	Trade Operation Guidelines	Task force	Garbage collection Recycling of Infected Waste	Others actions
Germany			X		X				
Argentina	X		X		X	X			
Brazil					X				
Canada						X			
Chile	X		X		X				
Colombia	X		X	X	X	X			
South Korea			X		X				
Côte d'Ivoire	X								
Spain	X		X		X			X	
United States		XX	X		X	X	X		
France		XX	XX		XX	XX		X	
Iraq			X						
Israel		X							
Italy	XX	X		X					
Japan	X								
Mozambique	X								
New Zealand		X							
United Kingdom							X		
Democratic Republic of the Congo	X								



Russia	xx								
Singapore									x
Taiwan									x

x = number of initiatives by country

### 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.

#### New measures inserted (3rd Edition)

##### Government reinforces measures to protect itself against COVID-19

###### Mozambique

Mozambique has yet to register any cases of the new Coronavirus so far. However, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the president urged the population to remain at home and follow health recommendations to avoid possible infection. In addition, the president has taken protective measures that hinder the entry and exit of the country.

Reference:

<https://www.portaldogoverno.gov.mz/eng/Imprensa/COVID19/Governo-reforca-medidas-para-proteger-o-pais-do-COVID-19>

##### State of emergency to contain Coronavirus progress

###### Côte d'Ivoire

President Alassane Ouattara declared a state of emergency and the confinement of nine regions in Côte d'Ivoire after the evolution of COVID-19 cases in the country. It also determined the increase in industrial production in the health area.

Reference:

<http://www.gouv.ci/actualite-article.php?recordID=10978>

##### State of emergency to contain Coronavirus progress

###### Democratic Republic of Congo (RDC)

The DRC president declared a state of emergency for 30 days. The decree limits the movement of people, closes the country's borders, schools and universities, and prohibits religious cults. He also created a special committee for COVID-19, which will

clarify the Executive's decisions and measures in crisis management. Economic measures will be taken to prevent the depletion of food stocks.

**Reference:**

<https://www.primature.cd/public/2020/03/25/mesures-dapplication-de-letat-durgence-sanitaire/>

## **Curfew and isolation measures**

### **Italy**

In late February, the government decreed a "curfew" in 11 cities, 10 of them in the Lombardy region. Whoever needs to leave or enter the isolated areas must sign a document explaining the reason for the trip. The police can check the veracity of the information. At Milan's central station, the Army has established controls to verify documentation for all travelers.

**References:**

<http://www.anci.lombardia.it/dettaglio-circolari/202034135-emergenza-coronavirus-15-indicazioni-per-l%E2%80%99effettuazione-dell%E2%80%99isolamento-domiciliare/>

<https://brasil.elpais.com/internacional/2020-03-09/italia-amplia-as-medidas-de-isolamento-a-todo-o-pais-para-frear-o-coronavirus.html>

<https://www.gazetadopovo.com.br/republica/coronavirus-italia-isolamento/>

<https://epoca.globo.com/coronavirus-milao-vira-cidade-fantasma-depois-de-casos-confirmados-da-doenca-na-italia-24271224>

## **Suspension of movement of persons**

### **Italy**

The country's prime minister has suspended the movement of people throughout the territory. Italians should leave home only in cases of medical or family emergency. Anyone who disobeys the quarantine rules is subject to three months in prison and a fine. In Rome, the Coliseum closed its doors on March 9. The Vatican announced the closure of the Basilica and St. Peter's Square, in principle, until April 3.

**Reference:**

<https://twnews.it/it-news/coronavirus-italia-sui-social-la-campagna-iorestoacasa-da-giuliano-sangiorgi-a-fiorello>

## **Seclusion during weekends**

### **Tokyo, Japan**

Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike urged the population to stay home during the weekends to try to contain the increase in new cases in the country. The action took place after confirming the growth in the number of cases per day in the country.

Reference:

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/03/25/national/science-health/tokyo-logs-40-coronavirus-cases/#.XnyrplhKhPY>

## **Quarentena hospitalar e proibição de visitas**

**Moscow, Russia**

In order to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Moscow city government has determined that any individual who is suspected of having a coronavirus will be placed in hospital quarantine. In addition, all visits to patients in hospitals and public nursing homes are prohibited.

Reference:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/03/17/russias-anti-coronavirus-measures-a69632>  
<https://www.sobyanin.ru/koronavirus-ogranichitelnye-mery-16-03-2020>

## **Quarantine**

**Taiwan, Colombia, Italy, Spain, Argentina, Chile, Russia, Japan, Hong Kong**

As a health measure with the objective of reducing the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), several countries are establishing mandatory quarantine, especially those who are either at risk or who have the virus. Individuals who fail to comply with the determination will be subject to the payment of a fine.

Reference:

<https://canaltech.com.br/saude/saiba-como-taiwan-consegiu-parar-o-coronavirus-usando-tecnologia-161834/>  
<https://noticias.uol.com.br/ultimas-noticias/afp/2020/03/21/colombia-entrara-em-isolamento-geral-obrigatorio-devido-a-covid-19.htm>  
<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/03/17/russias-anti-coronavirus-measures-a69632>

## **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

### **Curfew**

**Department of Cundinamarca, Colombia**

Since the 17th of March, a curfew has been instituted in Cundinamarca that covers the 116 municipalities in the department between 9:00 pm and 5:00 am.

Reference:

<https://www.eltiempo.com/bogota/el-gobernador-de-cundinamarca-decreta-toque-de-queda-en-los-municipios-473712>

## **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

10

at funerals and burials - usually up to 20 people - and there are even cases of restricted access to families.

## **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

### **Restriction of Funerals and Closed Burials**

#### **New Zealand**

The New Zealand Government initiated a total quarantine in the country, preventing any funeral services during the period, in addition to other measures. Burials must be carried out by companies or competent authorities without giving access to families.

#### **Reference**

[https://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=3&objectid=12319759](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=12319759)

### **Israeli Ministry of Health to Offer Equipment, Training and Burial Facilities for COVID-19 Victims**

#### **Israel**

The Israeli government is expected to provide special equipment, training and facilities for funeral directors to perform traditional rituals of preparation and burial in accordance with Jewish customs. The measures include the use of special clothing and burial with a special plastic. Funerals follow with an audience, but participants are not allowed to approach or touch the bodies.

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/burial-society-gears-up-for-covid-19-funerals-as-health-officials-lay-out-rules/>

### **Italy Introduces Suspension of Funeral Services and Special Procedures for the Treatment of Bodies of Victims of COVID-19.**

#### **Italy**

In Italy bodies are sealed and isolated immediately after death and funerals can only be conducted in the presence of one or two family members. As a protective measure, funeral directors are required to wear protective equipment during all procedures.

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-52031539>

### **Funeral Homes in the USA Offer Online Funerals**

#### **United States**

The US has directed all funeral homes across the country to offer online funeral services for victims of COVID-19. The goal is to avoid crowds and still allow relatives

and friends to pay their last respects. Only funeral directors and health professionals can access the bodies of victims of the virus and funeral services and burials can only be attended by closest relatives.

Reference:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/23/tech/funeral-livestreams-coronavirus/index.html>

## **Funeral ceremonies**

### **Paris, France**

As of March 18, under the instructions of the City Hall of Paris, ceremonies with a maximum of 20 people are allowed in closed spaces and outdoors in cemeteries.

Reference:

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#continue-de-service-et-gestion-de-la-crise>

## **Improvised Morgues for Coronavirus Deaths**

### **New York, United States**

New York Hospital designed an improvised morgue, including tents and refrigerated trucks. The same is being set up for the probable need to increase the number of autopsies.

Reference:

[https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-03-25-20-intl-hnk/h\\_523cc719e1aec327cf35ef8bcac12496](https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-03-25-20-intl-hnk/h_523cc719e1aec327cf35ef8bcac12496)

## **3. Closing Places with Crowds**

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.

### **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

#### **Closing places with crowds of people**

##### **Iraq**

Schools, universities, shopping centers and other places that may have a large number of people are closed in the country.

Reference:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-travel-restrictions-border-shutdowns-country-200318091505922.html>

## France

The country has decreed the closure of "non-essential" public places. Food markets, pharmacies, gas stations, banks and press offices will remain open. Open municipal services are summarized in essential activities such as: garbage collection, security, support for the elderly, maternal and child protection (PMI), municipal health centers, funeral services, etc.

### Reference:

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672>

## Berlin, Germany; Paris, France; Colombia

The Mayor of Berlin ordered the closure of all bars, pubs and nightclubs in the city until 04/30/2020. Paris also closed all the city's libraries, conservatories, Fine Arts workshops, municipal museums, swimming pools, gyms, stadiums, sports parks and municipal gardens. Colombia has also ordered the closure of bars, clubs and casinos.

### References:

<https://www.berlin.de/en/news/coronavirus/6108988-6098215-bars-pubs-clubs-will-be-closed.en.html>

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#continuite-de-service-et-gestion-de-la-crise>

<https://id.presidencia.gov.co/>

## Restrictive measures to minimize contact

### Seoul, South Korea

Seoul's sports and cultural facilities have been temporarily closed. Emergency measures were put in place to minimize close contact between citizens (public transport system at different times and restrictions on assemblies), closure of multi-purpose facilities (ie, social assistance centers, daycare centers, as well as cultural facilities) to limit the voluntary movement.

### References:

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-launches-seven-preemptive-countermeasures-in-response/>

## Special guidelines for markets

### France

The food markets remain open, however with guidelines such as: minimum distance between customers in purchases and one meter between each customer in the queues, recommendation not to touch the goods and to disperse the shopping period throughout the week, to avoid the overcrowding in the markets on weekends.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#continuite-de-service-et-gestion-de-la-crise>

## **Event cancellations**

### **Italy**

All public meetings, sporting events (such as football matches), funerals and weddings have been canceled. Schools and universities will not have classes until at least April 3 and cinemas are closed. Bars and restaurants can only be open until 6pm.

**Reference:**

[https://www.corriere.it/tecnologia/20\\_marzo\\_09/coronavirus-parte-campagna-social-iorestoacasa-l-appello-fermare-contagio-9799162e-61dd-11ea-9897-5c6f48cf812d.shtm](https://www.corriere.it/tecnologia/20_marzo_09/coronavirus-parte-campagna-social-iorestoacasa-l-appello-fermare-contagio-9799162e-61dd-11ea-9897-5c6f48cf812d.shtm)  
<https://headtopics.com/it/coronavirus-sui-social-la-campagna-iorestoacasa-11752867>

## **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

### **Change in the operation of bars and restaurants**

#### **Buenos Aires, Argentina**

The bars and restaurants of Buenos Aires may continue to operate, however with restrictions on the number of people. A seat must be provided for each of the customers, and they are not allowed to remain standing.

**Reference:**

<https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/salud/noticias/coronavirus-la-ciudad-anuncio-medidas-para-el-transporte-publico-trabajadores>

### **Measures for the operation of shopping malls, food courts and other spaces with the potential for crowding people.**

#### **Argentina, Chile and the United States**

As a way of containing the pandemic, some countries are already reducing the services offered in shopping centers, being limited only to delivery and withdrawal, in the case of restaurants, and essential services for supply, such as supermarkets, banks, pharmacies, etc. Bowling alleys, clubs, sports centers, game rooms, cinemas, theaters, cultural centers and ballrooms will be closed.

**Reference:**

<https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/salud/noticias/coronavirus-la-ciudad-anuncio-medidas-para-el-transporte-publico-trabajadores>  
<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>  
<https://www.timestelegram.com/news/20200318/coronavirus-cuomo-to-close-indoor-malls-thursday/1>  
<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

## **Notary services**

### **Paris, France**

Notaries remain open only for registration of birth, paternity recognition and death. No other services are possible at this time.

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672>

## **Government takes control of regional and local police**

### **Spain**

The government will take control of all regional and local police in the country. The Armed Forces are on standby, should it be necessary to use them. The warning measures establish the closure of schools and non-essential companies, sporting and cultural events and leisure facilities. The restriction of movement of people was also established and access to beaches, parks and city squares was prohibited.

#### **References:**

<https://www.mscbs.gob.es/gabinete/notasPrensa.do?id=4784>

<https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2020/03/15/>

## **4. Other Measures**

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 agencies. and prevention.

### **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

## **Task forces in cities**

### **Japan**

The Japanese government established the creation of a task force in response to the increase in the number of cases infected with the new coronavirus per day (45). The task force will have the support of specialists so that they can make the best decisions to curb the spread of the disease. It also guarantees that all city halls will be free to implement their own measures.

#### **References:**

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/03/26/national/science-health/japan-coronavirus-task-force/#.XnyiLYhKhPY>

[https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20200326\\_44/](https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20200326_44/)



## **Reduction in commercial operation**

### **United States**

The country has drastically reduced its business hours. The State of New Jersey has suggested that residents stay in their homes, mainly between 8 pm and 5 am.

#### **Reference:**

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/17/us/states-measures-coronavirus-spread/index.html>

## **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

## **Correct recycling of infected waste during quarantine**

### **Madrid, Spain**

The Madrid City Council reminds residents how to recycle correctly during the coronavirus isolation period. The procedures are different in homes where there are infected people and in those without infection.

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/El-Ayuntamiento/Medidas-especiales-por-el-coronavirus-SARS-CoV-2/Noticias-del-Ayuntamiento-de-Madrid/El-Ayuntamiento-recuerda-como-reciclar-correctamente-durante-el-estado-de-alarma/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=b6d170695d7e0710VgnVCM1000001d4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=db3bbc18998c0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD>

## **Garbage collection**

### **Perpignan, France**

An increase in collection will be made at sensitive points: health establishments, clinics and nursing homes. Community recycling centers are closed until further notice.

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.francebleu.fr/infos/sante-sciences/coronavirus-les-dernieres-mesures-de-la-ville-de-perpignan-1584450144>

## **Digital Services**

### **Belo Horizonte, Brazil**

Belo Horizonte City Hall expands access and information on the online services platform. There are 300 services made available by PBH on digital channels for easy access to the population. The channels are the PBH portal or the mobile APP.

#### **Reference:**

<https://globoplay.globo.com/v/8413235/>

## **Task force to assist local governments**

### **United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom has launched a task force that brings together experts from different fields - such as resilience, public health and social assistance, etc. - to assist the Local Resilience Forums (LRF) in dealing with the pandemic. The task force will analyze the LRF's responsiveness to colds and flu, discuss how to assist people in vulnerable conditions and how to integrate them into the health system.

#### Reference:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/taskforce-to-bolster-local-response-to-coronavirus>

## **Instruction to municipal service providers**

### **Toronto, Canada**

Toronto City Hall staff and other service providers were instructed to stay home if they are ill, and if they experience symptoms of acute respiratory illness to seek medical attention. In addition, sick leave has been relaxed to allow employees to stay at home to care for sick relatives. Personal hygiene measures were also carried out.

#### Reference:

<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/8ecd-GeneralInfection-Prevention-and-Control-Practice-and-Disinfection-Guidance-forCommercial-or-Residential-Buildings.pdf>

## **National Guard in aid to resupply supermarkets**

### **Arizona, United States**

The Arizona National Guard is mobilized to help supply supermarkets. The Guard is delivering food and warehouse supplies to local supermarkets using military vehicles to transport the goods. There will be 700 citizen soldiers and airmen deployed.

#### Reference:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/23/us/arizona-national-guard-grocery-stores/index.html>

## **Restrictions on visits to prisons**

### **Colombia**

Prison visits were suspended indefinitely in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) within the prison system.

#### Reference:

<https://id.presidencia.gov.co/>

## **Entrance to public buildings subject to temperature measurement**

### **Taiwan**

Public buildings in Taiwan allow visitors and users to enter only after a temperature measurement. In case of fever, the citizen is referred for treatment.

**Reference:**

<https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/what-taiwan-can-teach-world-fighting-coronavirus-n1153826>

**Individual accountability for unsafe conduct**

**Singapore**

Singapore has adopted a measure of individual accountability for unsafe/adverse conduct to government regulations, decisive and unhesitating action by government officials - in particular the president and the minister of health.

**Reference:**

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/singapore-response-contained-coronavirus-covid19-outbreak/>

# 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.

Country	Financial Aid to the Population	Special actions for the elderly	Helping Street People	Gender-specific actions	Shelters	Suspensions and extensions of terms and payments	Financial assistance to the population
Germany	X						
Saudi Arabia							X
Argentina	XX	X		X			X
Australia	X	X					
Brazil	XXX					X	
Canada			XXXX		X		
Chile							X
Colombia				X	X	X	
South Korea	XX						X
Slovenia							X
Spain		X	XXX		X	X	
United States	XXX		XXXXXX		XXX	X	X
France		X	XXX		XX	X	
Italy	XX		X		XX	X	X
Japan							X
Norway						X	
New Zealand	X						
Senegal	X						
Taiwan	X						X

x = number of initiatives by country

## 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.

### New measures inserted (3rd Edition)

**Opening of shelters during the day****Milan, Italy**

Seventeen dormitories for homeless people, administered by the city hall, started to open in Milan during the day. In each unit, the meal is guaranteed and sanitizing gel is distributed.

**References:**

<https://www.comune.milano.it/-/coronavirus.-alloggi-comunali-per-i-cittadini-in-quarantena-e-proroga-dei-pagamenti-per-le-case-popolari?fbclid=IwAR0i7X5kHyh0b5oTD-PveI4oCt1MoKDLQH9MVpwKN7P1VyZPTRqL1bjKSBM>  
<https://www.terra.com.br/vida-e-estilo/saude/vou-acabar-e-morrendo-de-fome-e-nao-de-coronavirus-a-vida-dos-sem-teto-em-milao,98303187373aa259f2207eed9cae48fcc27u2uxs.html>  
<http://www.milanotoday.it/attualita/coronavirus-aiuti-senzatetto.html>

**Assistance for people at risk****California, United States**

The state is providing assistance to people at risk of COVID-19 infection, including the provision of supplies for the prevention and installation of washing stations. Spaces that can accommodate unprotected people are being identified. In these shelters, the infected must be immediately isolated from the non-infected, in addition to providing an adequate structure for personal care.

**Reference:**

[https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/covid19\\_guidelines.pdf](https://www.bcsb.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/covid19_guidelines.pdf)  
[https://files.hudexchange.info/public/resources/documents/Specific-Considerations-for-Public-Health-Authorities-to-Limit-Infection-Risk-Among-People-Experiencing-Homelessness.pdf?utm\\_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm\\_campaign=8b1f3959f9-Infectious\\_Disease\\_Guidance\\_Homeless\\_3.9.20&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_f32b935a5f-8b1f3959f9-195](https://files.hudexchange.info/public/resources/documents/Specific-Considerations-for-Public-Health-Authorities-to-Limit-Infection-Risk-Among-People-Experiencing-Homelessness.pdf?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=8b1f3959f9-Infectious_Disease_Guidance_Homeless_3.9.20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-8b1f3959f9-195)

**Shelter measures****New York, United States**

Shelters take the measure to keep residents informed about how to protect themselves through written materials, videos and training, in addition to instructing frequent hygiene, restricting visits to people with respiratory symptoms and performing screening at all shelters. In addition, more than 550 people were trained to educate the population about COVID-19.

**Reference:**

<https://ny.curbed.com/2020/3/13/21178079/coronavirus-nyc-homeless-services-COVID-19>

**Shelter guidance protocol****Colombia**

The Secretariat for Social Integration issued a protocol with guidelines for providing services to homeless people. All services related to this group will continue to operate according to the recommendations, such as the intensification of hygiene measures in all centers.

**Reference:**

<https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/integracion-social/atencion-habitantes-de-calle-durante-alerta-amarilla-coronavirus>  
 |||UNTRANSLATED CONTENT START|||[http://old.integracionsocial.gov.co/anexos/documentos/2020documentos/17032020\\_Protocolo%20COVID-19%20Habitante%20de%20Calle.pdf](http://old.integracionsocial.gov.co/anexos/documentos/2020documentos/17032020_Protocolo%20COVID-19%20Habitante%20de%20Calle.pdf)|||UNTRANSLATED CONTENT END|||

**Safety protocol****Madrid, Spain**

The city has launched a safety protocol for homeless shelters, suspending some activities and intensifying the monitoring by the health team of the most vulnerable users. In the event of a suspected case of COVID-19 infection, the user will be isolated and health services must be notified to make an assessment. Telephone numbers were made available for this notification.

**Reference:**

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/El-Ayuntamiento/Medidas-especiales-por-el-coronavirus-SARS-CoV-2/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextchannel=2f7abc18998c0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD>

**Opening of shelters****Paris, France; Italy**

In France and Italy, housing and shelter for citizens and families with children has been opened. In France, municipal school canteens will prepare daily meals in support of humanitarian associations. In addition, throughout the health crisis, all municipal toilets will remain open.

**References:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#personnes-sans-abri>  
<https://www.comune.milano.it/-/coronavirus.-alloggi-comunali-per-i-cittadini-in-quarantena-e-proroga-dei-pagamenti-per-le-case-popolari?fbclid=IwAR0i7X5kHyh0b5oTD-Pvel4oCt1MoKDLQH9MVpwKN7P1VyZPTRqL1bjKSBM>  
<https://www.terra.com.br/vida-e-estilo/saude/vou-acabar-e-morrendo-de-fome-e-nao-de-coronavirus-a-vida-dos-sem-teto-em-milao,98303187373aa259f2207eed9cae48fcc27u2uxs.html>  
<http://www.milanotoday.it/attualita/coronavirus-aiuti-senzatetto.html>

**San Francisco fights the virus by providing homes for homeless people.**

San Francisco, USA

The City of San Francisco, California, rented several trailers and hotel rooms to house its more than 8,000 homeless people during the isolation policy. The objective is to prevent the circulation of the virus among this population, which would overburden the city's health system.

Reference:

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-23/san-francisco-fights-coronavirus-by-finding-the-homeless-a-home?utm\\_source=twitter&cmpid%3D=socialflow-twitter-politics&utm\\_campaign=socialflow-organic&utm\\_content=politics&utm\\_medium=social](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-23/san-francisco-fights-coronavirus-by-finding-the-homeless-a-home?utm_source=twitter&cmpid%3D=socialflow-twitter-politics&utm_campaign=socialflow-organic&utm_content=politics&utm_medium=social)

**Hand washing stations for homeless people**

San Diego, United States

The health agency (HHSA) announced that handwashing stations have been set up throughout the city to help homeless people with hygiene and prevent the spread of the disease. Outreach teams were sent to places of greater inequality to report on COVID-19 and provide hygiene kits. HHSA has also sent nurses to shelters to perform tests.

Reference:

<https://www.10news.com/news/local-news/county-places-handwashing-stations-to-combat-spread-of-COVID-19-among-homeless>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Homeless population**

United States

The state of California is one of the most active in measures aimed at homeless people, having decreed the use of hotel rooms to house them during the quarantine period (only in Oakland, 400 rooms in two hotels in the city were intended for populations of street). Hand washing stations are also being installed in cities across the United States, with soap and alcohol gel.

Reference:

<https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/488016-cities-worry-about-homeless-populations-as-coronavirus-surges>

**Isolation Center for homeless people**

Paris, France

Paris will open its first isolation center for homeless people who are contaminated but who do not need to be hospitalized. The idea is to expand these centers to all regions of France. The extension of the winter period (with the largest number of vacancies) until



May 31 was also announced. There was also the opening of a gymnasium - of the 14 planned - to house the homeless and the use of hotel rooms as shelters.

**Reference:**

<https://www.rtl.fr/actu/politique/coronavirus-quelles-mesures-pour-protger-les-sans-abris-7800273741>

**Transfer of asylum seekers to isolation in hotels and pensions**

**Madrid, Spain**

The City of Madrid will transfer asylum seekers and homeless people without symptoms of coronavirus to hotels and pensions in the capital, where they can carry out the isolation ordered by the government. People with symptoms will be transferred to the emergency center for asylum seekers and to a homeless center, where they will receive adequate medical care.

**Reference:**

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/El-Ayuntamiento/Medidas-especiales-por-el-coronavirus-SARS-CoV-2/Noticias-del-Ayuntamiento-de-Madrid/El-Ayuntamiento-habilita-un-hotel-y-una-pension-para-protger-del-coronavirus-a-los-solicitantes-de-asilo-y-personas-sin-hogar/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=43ba25d3421e0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=db3bbc0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD>

**Atenção a pessoas em situação de rua**

**Toronto, Canada**

Toronto homeless citizens identified as positive for COVID-19 and those awaiting test results will not be included in the regular shelter system. They will receive isolated accommodation in designated places for treatment and quarantine.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-info-for-specific-audiences/infection-prevention-and-control-guide-for-homelessness-service-settings/>

**Fund for shelters**

**Toronto, Canada**

The Toronto Housing, Support and Housing Administration will provide an additional fund to support increased cleanliness and shelter supplies for homeless people.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-info-for-specific-audiences/infection-prevention-and-control-guide-for-homelessness-service-settings/>

**2. Special Protection for the Elderly**

The main trend regarding the elderly population, one of the pandemic risk groups, 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 (3rd Edition)**

#### **Military disinfect 500 nursing homes in Spain**

##### **Spain**

As a measure to control the spread of COVID-19, Spain's chief of staff announced that more than 500 nursing homes in the country have been disinfected by the military since the pandemic began.

**Reference:**

<https://www.noticiasominuto.com/mundo/1442007/covid-19-militares-desinfetam-500-lares-de-idosos-em-espanha>

### **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

#### **Visits to the elderly and people with disabilities**

##### **Paris, France**

In view of the new recommendations, visits are suspended at the nursing homes of the city of Paris. Only exceptional visits, treated on a case-by-case basis by the establishment's director, will be authorized. Employees redoubled their attention to their elders, both from a medical point of view and in the proposed activities to compensate for the lack of regular visits.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672>

#### **Special shopping hours for the elderly**

##### **Australia**

Australian supermarkets have reserved special opening hours for exclusive service to the elderly, avoiding contact of these most vulnerable populations with other people.

**Reference:**

<https://www.france24.com/en/20200317-elderly-hour-australian-supermarkets-open-just-for-older-shoppers>

#### **Limitation of risk group dispersion**

##### **Argentina**

In order to limit the spread in the workplace, it was ordered that pregnant women, individuals over the age of 60 and other people in the risk group be exempted from attending their workplaces.

**Reference:**

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

**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.

**New measures inserted (3rd Edition)****Aid for low-income population****Seoul, South Korea**

Seoul will provide up to \$ 400 to low-income families. The Seoul Metropolitan Government has decided to implement 'Emergency Financial Support' to effectively help citizens affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. In all, a budget of US \$ 264 million available will be applied to the aid.

**Reference:**

<https://www.facebook.com/seoulcitykorea/videos/2382921751999886/>

**Senegalese government creates Force-Covid-19 Fund to promote social actions****Senegal**

The President of the Republic of Senegal declared a state of emergency across Senegal's territory in the face of the advancement of COVID-19. In addition, the president created the Force-Covid-19 fund, which will allocate billions of Senegalese francs to combat and social action. It will also disburse 50 billion for purchases of dietary supplements.

**Reference:**

<https://www.sec.gouv.sn/actualit%C3%A9/message-de-sem-le-pr%C3%A9sident-de-la-r%C3%A9publique-macky-sall-d%C3%A9claration-d%E2%80%99%C3%A9tat-d%E2%80%99urgence-dans>

**With paralyzed classes, Belo Horizonte offers basic food baskets to families with children enrolled in the municipal network****Belo Horizonte, Brazil**

Families with children enrolled in the public system will receive food baskets. The objective is to keep access to food hampered due to the interruption of classes and the consequent failure to provide school lunches.

**Reference:**

<https://www.hojeemdia.com.br/horizontes/sem-aulas-pbh-troca-merenda-escolar-por-cestas-basicas-veja-quem-terá-direito-ao-benefício-1.779783>

**Basic emergency income, a proposal of solidarity to face chaos****Brazil**

More than 50 civil society organizations have joined together in favor of the immediate implementation of a Basic Emergency Income focused on the 77 million most vulnerable Brazilians. It predicts an income of 300 reais per individual for at least 6 months.

**Reference:**

<https://brasil.elpais.com/opinion/2020-03-23/renda-basica-de-emergencia-uma-proposta-de-solidariedade-para-enfrentar-o-caos.html>

**Agreement in SP prevents power cut and exemption from collection of needy families****São Paulo, Brazil**

The government of São Paulo and the electric energy concessionaires reached an agreement to exempt from charging and prevent the cut of energy supply to needy families until July 30.

**Reference:**

<https://noticias.uol.com.br/saude/ultimas-noticias/redacao/2020/03/24/acordo-em-sp-impede-corte-de-luz-e-isencao-de-cobranca-de-familias-carentes.htm>

**Support to individuals and families****Australia**

The Australian government is providing financial assistance to Australians, which includes income support for individuals, temporary early retirement, reduced social security rates, among others.

**Reference:**

<https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus/households>

**Community groups and social sector services****New Zealand**

Extra funding is being provided to community groups and social sector services to ensure that they can continue to provide essential support to communities while the rest of the people stay at home to prevent the spread of the virus.

**Reference:**

<https://covid19.govt.nz/latest-updates/community-groups-and-social-sector-services-receive-extra-funding-for-essential-services/>

**Purchase of items critical to combat COVID-19 and food distribution****Italy**

The entity “Projeto Arca” urgently purchased several items critical to the fight against COVID-19 in Milan, Rome and Naples. The Milan Red Cross, in coordination with the Municipality of Milan and the network of local associations, has been distributing food, providing basic medical assistance and psychological support.

**References:**

<https://www.comune.milano.it/-/coronavirus.-alloggi-comunali-per-i-cittadini-in-quarantena-e-proroga-dei-pagamenti-per-le-case-popolari?fbclid=IwAR0i7X5kHyh0b5oTD-Pvel4oCt1MoKDLQH9MVpwKN7P1VyZPTRqL1bjKSBM>  
<https://www.terra.com.br/vida-e-estilo/saude/vou-acabar-e-morrendo-de-fome-e-nao-de-coronavirus-a-vida-dos-sem-teto-em-milao,98303187373aa259f2207eed9cae48fcc27u2uxs.html>  
<http://www.milanotoday.it/attualita/coronavirus-aiuti-senzatetto.html>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Suspension of evictions****Seattle, United States**

Homeowners cannot file new eviction requests and existing ones cannot be executed in order to ensure that the largest number of people can remain in their homes. Cities like Miami, Baltimore, New Orleans and Nashville have also suspended eviction orders during the crisis to ensure that new families do not become homeless.

**Reference:**

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/16/us/cities-suspend-evictions-coronavirus-trnd/index.html>

**Financial aid to citizens****Seattle, United States**

Seattle (USA) is providing \$ 800 vouchers to more than 6,000 families to help them buy food, cleaning supplies and other household goods at Safeway supermarkets. The total amount of the program is US \$ 5 million and will benefit families that receive support from child support programs and assistance programs for obtaining food.

**Reference:**

<https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/accessibility/488300-what-other-cities-can-learn-from-coronavirus-us-ground>

**Mutual Aid Fund****Milan, Italy**

Milan City Hall has established a Mutual Aid Fund to assist people most affected by the Coronavirus crisis. The fund starts with a budget of three million euros approved by the

city and is open to donations from citizens, companies and associations that want to contribute.

Reference:

<https://www.comune.milano.it/fondomutuosoccorso>

### **Financing Assistance**

#### **Taiwan**

In order to lessen the impact on citizens' quality of life and make it possible for them to stay in their homes, the Taiwanese government is providing financial assistance to those who cannot do their homework and thus encouraging them to stay in their homes. They also offer assistance to those unable to work due to illness.

Reference:

<https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/opiniaio/2020/03/combater-a-COVID-19-e-possivel-e-ja-foi-feito.shtml>

### **Distribution of supplies to the population**

#### **California, United States**

The State of California is providing prevention supplies to the vulnerable population, such as alcohol-based hand sanitizers, handkerchiefs and wastebaskets.

Reference:

[https://www.bcsd.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/covid19\\_guidelines.pdf](https://www.bcsd.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/covid19_guidelines.pdf)

### **Financial assistance and one-off payments for social assistance groups**

#### **Argentina**

In order to guarantee everyone access to food, the Argentine government will distribute Food Cards by post. An extraordinary bonus will reach more than 9 million people. In addition, the government announced one-off payments for people with child and social assistance and for retirees.

Reference:

<https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/salud/noticias/coronavirus-la-ciudad-anuncio-medidas-para-el-transporte-publico-trabajadores>  
<http://www.fiems.com.br/noticias/argentina-anuncia-medidas-para-combater-efeitos-economicos-do-coronavirus/31137>

### **Infant feeding**

#### **Argentina**

In order to ensure that countless children who depend on the food provided by schools to have access to their only meal of the day, schools in Argentina will therefore remain open.

**Reference:**

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

**Easier access to labor benefits****Germany**

The German parliament passed a law to improve labor benefit regulations for a limited period due to the coronavirus crisis. The new law allows all employees, including temporary workers, who have left work as a result of the coronavirus crisis, to have easier access to labor benefits in order to partially compensate for income losses.

**Reference:**

<https://www2.staffingindustry.com/eng/Editorial/Daily-News/Germany-Parliament-to-introduce-law-allowing-temporary-workers-easier-access-to-work-benefits-amid-coronavirus-crisis-53128>

**Classification as disaster zones****South Korea**

It is the first time that South Korea has declared a region a disaster zone due to an infectious disease. With this status, the government can subsidize up to 50% of catering expenses and exempt residents from taxes and payments for public services.

**Reference:**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-southkorea-cases/south-korea-designates-regions-hit-hardest-by-coronavirus-as-disaster-zones-idUSKBN21201S>

**4. Other Assistances**

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 foreigners, such as extending the visa period, were also adopted.

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Welfare Services****Canada**

As a safety measure, all child care centers in the city of Toronto were closed, as well as child care in private households offered by *Toronto Home Child Care* were suspended indefinitely due to COVID-19. Charges to families have also been suspended, however emergencies will continue to be answered.

**Reference:**

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2020/03/13/coronavirus-live-updates-futures-market-point-to-positive-start-for-us-stocks.html>

**Complaints against mistreatment****Argentina**

In Argentina, public numbers 107 and 147 are available to receive calls about abuse or cases of mistreatment of women, children, the elderly and vulnerable people.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/COVID-19/affected-city-services/>

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

**Protective measures for women are maintained****Bogota, Colombia**

The twenty houses of Igualdade de Opportunities and Casa de Todos in are already closed. However, all the teams continue to reinforce legal and psychosocial assistance services. The service to prevent violence against women is maintained by telephone and WhatsApp number 24 hours a day.

**Reference:**

[https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/declaraciones-de-claudia-lopez-sobre-avance-del-coronavirus-en-bogota?fbclid=IwAR0g\\_lKIMXD3Ptm13N6RGKptqYFz6o02c-Hh5daRt\\_QX\\_b-qkkJ7pV5N1S4](https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/declaraciones-de-claudia-lopez-sobre-avance-del-coronavirus-en-bogota?fbclid=IwAR0g_lKIMXD3Ptm13N6RGKptqYFz6o02c-Hh5daRt_QX_b-qkkJ7pV5N1S4)

**Assistance to the vulnerable****Paris, France**

The 15 maternal and child protection centers will remain open, as will the City Planning and Family Education Center and the Maternal Protection Center, which remain mobilized for awareness interventions with the most vulnerable public. The City of Paris provides a continually updated list of centers that remain open during the crisis.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#continuete-de-service-et-gestion-de-la-crise>

**Extension of validity of residence documents****France**

The validity of residence documents for foreigners in a regular situation, such as asylum seekers or holders of a residence permit, will be extended for three months due to complications related to the coronavirus, announced Monday, March 16, at the City Hall of Paris.

**Reference:**

<https://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/coronavirus-la-validite-des-documents-de-sejour-des-etrangers-rallongee-20200316>



# COMMUNICATION

In a pandemic 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 the need to control the spread of false information about the disease, which, due to its rapid spread, ends up easily over-alarmed 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.

Country	Access to COVID-19 information	Inspection of fake news
Canada	XX	
Colombia	X	
South Korea	X	
United Arab Emirates	X	
United States	X	
India		X
Italy	XX	
New Zealand	X	
United Kingdom		X

x = number of initiatives by country

## 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 (3rd Edition)

#### Services application

##### United Arab Emirates

Smart Dubai insisted that community members, companies and government entities trust smart services with the “#Stay\_In\_Weve\_Got\_You\_Covered” campaign. The recommendation is that they use the DubaiNow application, which can be used at home, avoiding unnecessary direct contact. The application offers 116 services from 33 entities in 10 categories.

Reference:

[http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus\\_updates](http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus_updates)

#### Emergency Contacts

##### Milan, Italy

People over the age of 65 and people at risk can call a specific telephone contact from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Saturday, to receive information about the various aid initiatives, in their home districts and across the city from Milan.

Reference:

<https://blogdadacidanania.com.br/2020/03/italia-tem-dificuldade-em-atender-todos-infectados/>

#### Social Distancing Campaigns

##### South Korea, Italy

Several governments have been creating measures to promote social distance and awareness. Through short sentences, the message is emphasized in various areas of the social and routine life of the citizens of these countries. In South Korea, the message is “*Hold up! Let’s Take a Break from Social Life*” while in Italy, *#iorestoacasa*.

References:

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/hold-up-lets-take-a-break-from-social-life/>

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-runs-drive-thru-coronavirus-testing-stations-for-faster-detection-of-the-infectors/>

<http://www.seoul.go.kr/coronaV/coronaStatus.do?tab=4>

[https://www.corriere.it/tecnologia/20\\_marzo\\_09/coronavirus-parte-campagna-social-iorestoacasa-l-appello-fermare-contagio-9799162e-61dd-11ea-9897-5c6f48cf812d.shtm](https://www.corriere.it/tecnologia/20_marzo_09/coronavirus-parte-campagna-social-iorestoacasa-l-appello-fermare-contagio-9799162e-61dd-11ea-9897-5c6f48cf812d.shtm)

**Government hotline****New Zealand**

The New Zealand government created the website <https://covid19.govt.nz/> as a quick and effective way to find help and advice on the COVID-19 situation. In addition, they also created a free government helpline, whose phones are on the website.

**Reference:**

<https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/financial-support/>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Information on actions related to COVID-19****Toronto, Canada**

The Toronto City Hall has created a specific page within its website for the dissemination of information on actions and information related to COVID-19 in order to expand access to the entire population of the city. In addition, the portal has information related to when and how people should go to the screening center.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-health-advice/>

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-health-advice/covid-19-assessment-centres/>

**Official information and measures released on COVID-19****Toronto, Canada**

The Health Coordinator makes official statements through the press and through public letters to the population. In a letter dated March 17, the measure of social distance was reinforced. In addition, a direct contact telephone line was created for questions involving the coronavirus.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-health-advice/covid-19-assessment-centres/>

[https://www.toronto.ca/home/media-room/news-releases-media-](https://www.toronto.ca/home/media-room/news-releases-media-advisories/?datemin=01/07/2020&type=Public%20Health&nrkey=1BC9D5B5342EB7108525852E0075B213)

[advisories/?datemin=01/07/2020&type=Public%20Health&nrkey=1BC9D5B5342EB7108525852E0075B213](https://www.toronto.ca/home/media-room/news-releases-media-advisories/?datemin=01/07/2020&type=Public%20Health&nrkey=1BC9D5B5342EB7108525852E0075B213)

**Communication action: #YoMeQuedoEnCasa****Colombia**

Colombians are sharing the hashtags *#YoMeQuedoEnCasa*, in order to make everyone aware of staying in their homes as a measure of protection for themselves and the people around them.

**Reference:**

<https://id.presidencia.gov.co/>

**Awareness among the vulnerable population****New York, United States**

550 workers were trained to educate the vulnerable population about coronavirus symptoms (COVID-19) and what the procedure should be in case they have symptoms.

Reference:

<https://ny.curbed.com/2020/3/13/21178079/coronavirus-nyc-homeless-services-covid-19>

## 2. Supervision 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, countries like the United Kingdom and India are creating mechanisms to ensure that the information disclosed is true, such as the requirement that the information be reviewed by health agencies before its publication, in line with social networks like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, among others, that seek to remove or at least reduce the spread of inaccurate or false information.

### Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)

#### Measures against fake news

New Delhi, India

No individual or legal entity may use printed or electronic media to disseminate information about COVID-19 without prior permission from the Department of Health and Family Welfare of the New Delhi government. This prevents the spread of rumors or unauthenticated or false information about COVID-19. If someone is found practicing this activity, they will be subject to a fine.

Reference:

<http://discomm.delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/c05a8d804d883d25974cf7982ee7a5c7/NED+Act.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&lmod=-754584952&CACHEID=c05a8d804d883d25974cf7982ee7a5c7>

#### Measures against the spread of false news

United Kingdom

The Department for International Development (DFID) is directing £ 500,000 to some information networks and the Humanitarian-to-Humanitarian (H2H) network, a company experienced in measures against the spread of disinformation during epidemics. The company will work with BBC Media Action and Internews to create verifiable information in several languages.

Reference:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-tackle-global-spread-of-coronavirus-fake-news>

# CULTURE AND TOURISM

The biggest health crisis 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 \$ 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.

Country	Online cultural festivals	Suspension of Air and Land Travel	Event cancellation	Closing borders
Brazil	XXX	X		X
United States				
France	X	X		
Argentina		X		X
United Kingdom				
Germany		XX		X
China				
Italy		X	X	X
North Korea				
South Korea				
Japan		XXX	X	X
Australia				
Canada			X	
India				X
Spain		X		X
Colombia		XXX	X	X
Taiwan				
Norway	XXX			
United Arab Emirates		X		XX
Slovenia				
Chile		X	X	
Hong Kong				
Russia		XX		X
Paraguay		X		X
Portugal		X		X
Singapore				X
Dem. Republic of the Congo				X
Angola				X
Bangladesh				X
Jordan				X
Kazakhstan				X
Kuwait				X
Lebanon				X
Cambodia				X
Pakistan		X		
Sri Lanka		X		
Austria		X		
Hungary		X		

x = number of initiatives by country

## 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, cultural shows, fairs and other cultural events due to health and safety measures. With this in mind, countries, states and cities have been making calls to finance 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 (3rd Edition)**

#### **Public Call for Art and Culture**

##### **Mogi das Cruzes, Brazil**

The Mogi das Cruzes Culture and Tourism Secretariat opened a public call for the Virtual Art Exhibition, aimed at local artists and professionals in the art and culture segment. The City Hall's objective is to hire those who are financially dependent on cultural activities, for a period of three months, as a way of supporting the challenges faced as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

#### **Reference:**

<https://g1.globo.com/sp/mogi-das-cruzes-suzano/noticia/2020/03/21/mogi-das-cruzes-abre-chamamento-publico-para-ajuda-de-custo-aos-artists-during-isolation.ghtml>

#### **French Institute Releases Free Access to Culturethèque**

##### **France**

The French Institute, affiliated with the French Alliance and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has granted access to its online library of content on French culture and society. Culturethèque *has* a collection of more than 920 novels, 83 hours of French courses, 9000 days of music and 1424 documentaries. Registration must take place until April 14th and free access is valid until May 30th.

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.culturetheque.com/exploitation/BR/offre-speciale.aspx>

#### **Online shows**

##### **Norway**

Several shows had to be canceled due to illness, so in order to support the artists, several *livestreams* will be made by the artists from their respective homes. All concerts will be free, but the public has the option to make donations to help artists get through this phase.

Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/615519919290299/>

<https://www.facebook.com/brakkesyke2020/>

### **Virtual tourism**

#### **Bergen, Norway**

The program offers a livestream visit to the main tourist spots in the city, including Mount Fløyen. This is all so that people who have to stay in social isolation can have a “vacation feeling”. Another program that goes through a tourist spot is the *live* at the city's aquarium.

Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/floyen.no>

<https://www.facebook.com/visitbergenofficial/>

<https://www.facebook.com/brakkesyke2020/>

### **Online culinary program**

#### **Bergen, Norway**

In 2019 a gastronomic competition was opened which, after COVID-19, had to undergo some changes. With that, the 12 chefs who were already on the program were asked to sign two dishes each. The recipes will be filmed and some will be available to the public. The intention of the project is to keep chefs inspired and make people interested in gastronomy during the quarantine period.

Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/CreativecityBergen/>

## **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

### **Media outlets organize online festivals of artists.**

#### **Brazil**

To alleviate the lack of leisure caused by social isolation, a condition to curb the spread of the coronavirus, O GLOBO will debut this Friday, March 20, 2020, the first edition of the #tamojunto online festival. There will be 32 live pocket shows, until Sunday, with *live* broadcasts of MPB names. In the list, renowned artists, such as Martinho da Villa and Adriana Calcanhotto.

Reference:



[https://oglobo.globo.com/podcast/shows-de-artistas-consagrados-em-casa-desfrute-do-festival-tamojunto-24316802?utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_campaign=0%20Globo](https://oglobo.globo.com/podcast/shows-de-artistas-consagrados-em-casa-desfrute-do-festival-tamojunto-24316802?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=0%20Globo)

### **Cultural notices with internet presentations**

#### **Brazil**

The governor of Maranhão, Flávio Dino, announced that the state will launch an announcement for artists to promote their presentations online with a view to canceling cultural events and aiming at the movement of the sector.

#### **Reference:**

<https://revistaforum.com.br/coronavirus/flavio-dino-anuncia-edital-para-shows-de-artistas-pela-internet-durante-crise-do-coronavirus/>

### **Event evaluation**

#### **Canada**

In the medium and long term event planning phase, public authorities and event organizers must analyze the risk of events with crowds of people. The Canadian Public Health Agency recommends conducting a risk assessment and has provided a table with criteria to assist.

#### **References:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/8ecd-GeneralInfection-Prevention-and-Control-Practice-and-Disinfection-Guidance-forCommercial-or-Residential-Buildings.pdf>

## **2. Closing Borders and Suspending Events and Activities**

Among the main measures related to the tourism sector are restrictions on the entry of foreigners and, consequently, the suspension of activities aimed at tourism and leisure. One of the actions that drew the most attention was the postponement of the Tokyo Olympics to 2021, one of the main world events and which would count on the participation of a considerable number of people. Visa issues and other documentation related to the entry of foreigners in the countries also underwent changes in the face of the global pandemic of the new coronavirus.

### **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

#### **Tokyo Olympics postponed**

##### **Japan**

Because of the illness, the Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzō Abe, asked the International Olympic Committee to postpone the event, which would take place on July 24, 2020 in Tokyo. The Committee accepted and the competition was postponed to 2021.

#### **Reference:**

<https://g1.globo.com/mundo/noticia/2020/03/24/primeiro-ministro-do-japao-pede-para-adiar-olimpiadas-por-um-ano.ghtml>

### **Event cancellation**

#### **Chile, Colombia**

Following the recommendation of WHO, Chile prohibited the holding of all events with more than 200 people for two weeks, such as ExpoMin, Lollapalooza, Fidae, among others. Colombia has also taken steps in this direction, such as the closure of the Monserrate path.

#### **References:**

<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>

[https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/declaraciones-de-claudia-lopez-sobreavance-del-coronavirus-en-](https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/declaraciones-de-claudia-lopez-sobreavance-del-coronavirus-en-bogota?fbclid=IwAR0g_IKIMXD3Ptm13N6RGKptqYFz6o02cHh5daRt_QX_b-qkkJ7pV5N1S4;)

[bogota?fbclid=IwAR0g\\_IKIMXD3Ptm13N6RGKptqYFz6o02cHh5daRt\\_QX\\_b-qkkJ7pV5N1S4;](https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/declaraciones-de-claudia-lopez-sobreavance-del-coronavirus-en-bogota?fbclid=IwAR0g_IKIMXD3Ptm13N6RGKptqYFz6o02cHh5daRt_QX_b-qkkJ7pV5N1S4;)

### **Change in the issuance of visas**

#### **United Arab Emirates**

The country has prevented entry of residence visa holders for a renewable period of two weeks, starting on Thursday, March 19. In addition, work and arrival visas are not being issued. Anyone entering the country must be quarantined for 14 days. Companies, schools, churches, academia and parks were also closed.

#### **References:**

[http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus\\_updates](http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus_updates)

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/18/coronavirus-uae-bans-citizens-from-traveling-mandates-14-day-quarantine-for-entrants.html>

### **Closing borders**

#### **United Arab Emirates**

The government banned citizens from going abroad until further notice. In addition, Arab residents outside the country are advised to contact the United Arab Emirates diplomatic mission in their respective host countries to obtain all necessary support to facilitate their return to the country.

#### **References:**

[http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus\\_updates](http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus_updates)

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/18/coronavirus-uae-bans-citizens-from-traveling-mandates-14-day-quarantine-for-entrants.html>

### **Angola**

Until last Friday, Angola had not registered a single case of coronavirus, even so the president of the republic decreed the closure of the borders. After registering some cases, it decreed a state of emergency, reducing the freedom of movement and group of people in public places.

**Reference:**

<http://www.rfi.fr/en/angola/20200319-covid-19-angola-encerra-fronteiras>

**Singapore**

Visitors who have traveled to France, Germany, Italy and Spain in the past 14 years will not be able to enter or transit the country. Singaporean residents who have been to these countries in the past 14 days are required to remain at home for 14 days.

**Bangladesh**

Suspension of flights to Europe, except the United Kingdom, from March 16 to March 31.

**Cambodia**

Travelers from Italy, Spain, Germany, France, Iran and the United States have been banned from entering the country since March 17.

**India**

It banned all international flights for a week from March 22. The country has also suspended the granting of visas to citizens of France, Spain, Germany, Italy, China, Iran, Japan and South Korea.

**Japan**

It banned the entry of tourists who have been to China, Italy or Iran in the 14 years prior to their arrival in the country.

**Jordan**

It has barred land traffic from visitors to Iraq. It prohibited travel to Lebanon and Syria. It prohibited the entry of passengers from France, Germany and Spain.

**Kazakhstan**

It banned tourists from entering. Only citizens, diplomats and government guests can enter.

**Kuwait**

Government has banned all domestic and international commercial flights to the country.

**Lebanon**

Suspension of flights from Italy, Iran, South Korea and China.

**References:**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-travel-restrictions-border-shutdowns-country-200318091505922.html>

<https://id.presidencia.gov.co/>

## **Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Colombia**

These countries have suspended all international flights for variable periods that can be extended.

### **References:**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-travel-restrictions-border-shutdowns-country-200318091505922.html>

<https://id.presidencia.gov.co/>

## **Suspension of air and rail travel (Europe)**

### **Austria**

Train travel from Italy, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia is suspended from March 15 to April 3. Flights to and from Belgium, Germany, Hungary and Greece are also suspended indefinitely from March 22.

### **France**

For fifteen days, starting on March 17th, all travel within French territory will be banned. In addition, from April 18, the country will temporarily control the land borders with Germany, Switzerland, Belgium and Spain. The entry of goods into the country will be authorized as long as it is compatible with the requirements of protection of public health.

### **Germany**

For an indefinite period, starting on March 16, there will be control of the country's land borders with Austria, Switzerland, France, Luxembourg and Denmark. Travelers who are showing symptoms of Coronavirus will not be able to leave or enter Germany.

### **Hungary**

For an indefinite period, starting on March 11, Hungary suspended flights from Italy. Subsequently, on March 17, also indefinitely, the country declared that only Hungarian citizens will be able to enter the country. The restriction applies to air, road, sea and rail travel.

### **Reference:**

[https://ec.europa.eu/transport/coronavirus-response\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/transport/coronavirus-response_en)

## **Suspension of tourist activities**

### **United Arab Emirates**

The Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi instructed all tour operators in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi to immediately suspend, until further notice, the services and activities of all sea cruises, desert camps, safaris and floating restaurants.

### **References:**

[http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus\\_updates](http://wam.ae/en/category/coronavirus_updates)

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/18/coronavirus-uae-bans-citizens-from-traveling-mandates-14-day-quarantine-for-entrants.html>

### **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

#### **Travel restrictions and visa cancellations**

##### **Japan**

The Japanese government imposed entry restrictions on travelers from China and South Korea, including Japanese citizens. All of these must remain in their homes or hotels for 14 days after their arrival in Japan. Flights from these countries will be restricted to two airports and passenger transport by ships has been suspended. Visas issued to China and South Korea will be considered invalid.

##### **Reference:**

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/japan-takes-additional-measures-to-fight-coronavirus-outbreak/>

#### **Travel restrictions**

##### **Japan, Chile, Russia, Colombia**

As a security measure, several governments are restricting the entry of people of origin from countries considered critical (China, South Korea, Japan, Iran, Italy, Spain, Germany, France, Argentina, Peru and Bolivia). All travelers from these countries are instructed to stay in their homes or hotels for 14 days after arriving in the country. Passenger entry by sea has also been suspended by several countries.

##### **References:**

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/japan-takes-additional-measures-to-fight-coronavirus-outbreak/>

<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/03/17/russias-anti-coronavirus-measures-a69632>

#### **Closing borders**

##### **Russia, Colombia, Italy, Germany, Spain, Japan, Brazil, Paraguay, Portugal, Argentina**

Several countries have closed their borders to the entry of nationals and foreigners as a safety and health measure aiming at reducing the dispersion of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

##### **References:**

<https://noticias.uol.com.br/ultimas-noticias/afp/2020/03/16/russia-fecha-fronteiras-por-coronavirus.htm>

<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>

<https://saude.estadao.com.br/noticias/geral,mais-de-40-paises-fecham-fronteiras-por-causa-do-coronavirus,70003235944>

<https://noticias.uol.com.br/internacional/ultimas-noticias/2020/03/15/alemanha-fecha-fronteiras-contr-pandemia-de-coronavirus.htm>

<https://noticias.uol.com.br/internacional/ultimas-noticias/2020/03/15/coronavirus-portugal-e-espanha-fecham-fronteiras-para-turismo-e-lazer.htm>

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

# 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 teleworking. 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.

Country	Economic Aid to Workers	Tax Exemptions	Suspension and Extension of Deadlines and Payments	Reduction of working hours	Corporate Recovery Funds
Brazil		xxx	x		x
United States	x	xx		x	xxxx
France	x	xxxx		x	xxxxx
Argentina		x			x
United Kingdom		xxx			x
Germany	xx			x	xx
China	xx	xx			x
Italy	x	xxxx		x	x
North Korea					
South Korea	x	x			x
Japan	x	x			xxx
Australia	x	x			xxx
Canada	x	x			
India	x				
Spain	x	xxx			xxx
Colombia		x			x
Taiwan					
Norway					x
Saudi Arabia		x			x
United Arab Emirates					xxx
Slovenia		x			x
Russia	x				
New Zealand	x				x
El Salvador		x			
Uruguay			x		
Tunisia			x		

x = number of initiatives by country

## 1. Tax Exemptions and Reductions

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 (3rd Edition)****Funding sources****Toronto, Canada**

Tax subsidies as well as emergency response will continue.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/affected-city-services/>

**Preparation of defenses****El Salvador**

El Salvador's Finance Minister Nelson Fuentes announced measures to limit the economic impact of people and companies affected by the pandemic. For a period of three months, those affected will be exempt from payments for electricity, water, mortgages and personal loans, credit cards, telephones, cable and internet, among other services.

**Reference:**

<https://jornalggn.com.br/economia-de-guerra/economia-de-guerra-sem-casos-de-virus-el-salvador-prepara-suas-defesas/>

**Exemption from taxes on imports of items to combat COVID-19 and deduction of taxes on donations****China**

Imports of medicines, medical supplies and other vehicles used to fight the pathogen, all exempt from taxes. Customs is processing all of these imports as a priority. People can claim a full tax deduction on cash and donated goods to defeat the coronavirus.

**Reference:**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-economy-policy-fac/factbox-the-economic-remedies-for-the-coronavirus-idUSKBN2121C4>

**Taxes reduction****United Kingdom**

There were decisions to reduce or freeze beer and wine taxes.

**References:**

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/11/investing/bank-of-england-rate-cut-coronavirus/index.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-support-for-employees-benefit-claimants-and-businesses>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/11/uk-government-announces-12-billion-pounds-to-tackle-coronavirus-in-2020-budget.html>

**Reduction of Interest Rate****United Kingdom**

The Bank of England said it would cut its main interest rate by half a percentage point to 0.25%, which will help keep businesses in business and people in jobs and help prevent a temporary outage from causing more lasting economic damage.

**References:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-support-for-employees-benefit-claimants-and-businesses>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/11/uk-government-announces-12-billion-pounds-to-tackle-coronavirus-in-2020-budget.html>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Investments, tax exemptions and social benefits****Australia**

The Australian government immediately announced an investment package of 0.5% of national GDP, including A\$ 25,000 in tax breaks for various businesses over the course of 6 months, plus A\$ 750 bonus for social security beneficiaries and veterans.

**Reference:**

<https://thenewdaily.com.au/news/coronavirus/2020/03/12/who-qualifies-coronavirus-handout/>

**Tax measures to combat the outbreak****Hubei, China**

Doctors engaged in fighting the coronavirus in Hubei will receive their salaries and subsidies exempt from taxes and paid holidays. The import of medicines, medical supplies and other items critical to the fight against the virus will be tax-free, as well as donations of money and items aimed at coping with this outbreak. In addition, companies that produce masks will receive government subsidies.

**Reference:**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/taxnotes/2020/03/02/coronavirus-and-chinas-tax-response/#4301dc47b1ed>

**Consumption tax cut to combat coronavirus impact****Japan**

Japanese parliamentarians have proposed the temporary elimination of 10% consumption taxes, as well as the inclusion of a supplementary budget of 30 trillion yen to face the impact on the economic growth of the health crisis.

**Reference:**

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/03/17/business/economy-business/tax-cut-japan-combat-covid-19/#.XnoeidNKhQJ>

**Reduction of social contributions****France, Italy, United States**

The United States proposed a temporary reduction in social contributions so that workers' net profit after taxes and withholding would be higher. In France, measures such as the phased payment of corporate social contributions have been adopted. These measures imply more money for citizens, in order to make it easier to face the difficulties of the pandemic.

**Reference:**

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/16/tax-deadlines-are-likely-to-change-heres-what-you-need-to-know.html>

**Tax exemption for companies in the most affected sectors****Argentina**

The Argentine government announced tax exemption measures for companies in the most affected sectors, such as tourism, the strengthening of unemployment insurance and the Productive Recovery Program (Repro). The program aims to mitigate layoffs across the country.

**Reference:**

<https://www.sunoresearch.com.br/noticias/coronavirus-argentina-anuncia-medidas-para-conter-impacto/>

**€ 2 billion stimulus packages for savings****Slovenia**

The Slovenian government has presented the “corona package”, whose intention is to prevent unemployment and keep society functioning in general. Among the measures, it is worth highlighting the financing for companies that need to temporarily dismiss their employees, full coverage of the state's two months of social contributions; suspension of payment of corporate income tax, etc.

**Reference:**

<https://www.total-slovenia-news.com/politics/5922-covid-19-slovenia>  
<https://english.sta.si/2743840/govt-announces-eur-2bn-stimulus-package-for-economy>

**New Economic Plan****Saudi Arabia**

The Monetary Authority of Saudi Arabia reported that it has prepared a package of 50 billion yuan (\$ 13.32 billion) to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) deal

with the economic impacts of the coronavirus. The measure aims to grant six months deferrals to companies in bank payments, concessional financing, etc.

Reference:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/15/coronavirus-uae-saudi-central-banks-roll-out-40-billion-stimulus-for-virus-hit-economies.html>

### **£ 18 billion spending package to contain the impacts of coronavirus on the economy United Kingdom**

The UK government will spend billions of pounds to limit the impact of coronavirus on the British economy. The amount will be allocated to support the labor market, for the health system. In addition, there will be a fiscal easing of 18 billion pounds to support the UK economy.

Reference:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/11/uk-government-announces-12-billion-pounds-to-tackle-coronavirus-in-2020-budget.html>

## **2. Suspensions and Extensions 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 (3rd Edition)**

#### **Uruguay announces economic measures to combat coronavirus**

##### **Uruguay**

The country's president announced measures to reduce the economic, health and social impacts of the pandemic. Among them, the postponement of payment of taxes and Social Security, the increase of low interest credit lines at Banco da República and loans for small and medium-sized companies.

Reference:

<https://www.hojeemdia.com.br/primeiro-plano/uruguai-anuncia-medidas-econ%C3%B4micas-para-combater-coronav%C3%A9rus-1.779220>

#### **Tunisia's measures to help the economy**

##### **Tunisia**

The government will release 800 million euros to minimize the impact of the health crisis on the country's economy. Water, electricity and telephone cannot be counted

during the crisis even with unpaid bills. In addition, credit payments have been postponed.

Reference:

<http://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique/20200322-tunisie-mesures-soutien-economie-covid-coronavirus>

### **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

#### **Tax measures for merchants affected by closure**

**Belo Horizonte, Brazil**

Aiming at maintaining jobs and minimizing the financial impacts of the health crisis, the mayor of the city signed a decree that brings measures to support and stimulate the economic activity of the capital, such as the extension of the expiration date of municipal taxes and fees for establishments. with the potential to cause crowds of people.

Reference:

<https://prefeitura.pbh.gov.br/noticias/decreto-institui-medidas-fiscais-para-comerciantes-de-bh-afetados-por-fechamento>

#### **Suspension of charging for electricity, water and gas bills**

**France**

The President of France, Emmanuel Macron, announced measures that make up the economic efforts during the general quarantine before COVID-19. Among these measures, Macron decreed the suspension of the collection of electricity, water and gas bills in the country, including for companies.

Reference:

<https://www.poder360.com.br/internacional/franca-impoe-quarentena-geral-e-suspende-cobranca-de-contas-de-luz-agua-e-gas/>

#### **Suspension of incubator's rental fee**

**Bordeaux, France**

In support of companies located in incubators of companies managed by the city, rents were suspended.

Reference:

<http://www.bordeaux.fr/pgPresStand8.psml? nfpb=true& pageLabel=pgPresStand8&classofcontent=presentationStandard&id=140986>

#### **Moratorium on payment of rent for EMVS apartments**

**Madrid, Spain**

The Madrid City Council today agreed to establish a moratorium on the payment of rent for the apartments of the Municipal Housing and Land Company. The measure aims to

alleviate the economic consequences of the coronavirus health crisis, especially in the most vulnerable groups. Almost 6,000 families will benefit from the approved measure.

**Reference:**

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/El-Ayuntamiento/Medidas-especiales-por-el-coronavirus-SARS-CoV-2/Noticias-del-Ayuntamiento-de-Madrid/El-Ayuntamiento-establecera-una-moratoria-del-pago-del-alquiler-de-los-pisos-de-la-EMVS/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=de566f427d1f0710VgnVCM1000001d4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=db3bbc18998c0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD>

**Suspension of mortgage payments**

**Italy; Spain**

The measure allows to freeze the payment of mortgage loans to everyone who lost their job or was temporarily fired from their companies due to the pandemic. The term of the moratorium can be up to 18 months and, when payments are resumed, they will continue under the same conditions they had before the interruption.

**Reference:**

<https://in.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-italy-mortgages/payments-on-mortgages-to-be-suspended-across-italy-after-coronavirus-outbreak-idINR1N2A900G>

**New deadlines for payments in the tax calendar**

**Colombia**

The country's president confirmed that there will be special deadlines for the payment of the tax contribution. The tourism and aviation sector received special deadlines for the payment of the VAT declaration for the first half of this year and for the income and supplements for the 2019 taxable year. In addition, health and aviation supplies will temporarily have lower tariffs.

**Reference:**

<https://www.elcolombiano.com/negocios/economia/gobierno-anuncio-medidas-economicas-frente-al-coronavirus-PF12608711>

**Tax deferral**

**Spain, Italy and the United States**

The governments of these countries have decided to postpone the payment of taxes related to various services in order to minimize the economic impacts caused by COVID-19 on different sectors and individuals.

**Reference:**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/16/tax-deadlines-are-likely-to-change-heres-what-you-need-to-know.html>

### 3. Corporate Recovery Funds

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 (3rd Edition)

#### **Application of surpluses on the allocation of resources to actions to combat COVID-10** Madrid, Spain

The City of Madrid has asked the nation's government to modify the Stability Law to introduce new cases of application of surpluses. Only then will Madrid be able to urgently allocate more than 420 million euros to actions to combat the coronavirus pandemic and mitigate the economic consequences.

#### References:

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-51859984>

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Actualidad/Noticias/El-Ayuntamiento-pide-al-Gobierno-poder-emplear-420-millones-en-medidas-economicas-y-sociales/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=31a905dc5b2f0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRd>

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Actualidad/Noticias/El-Ayuntamiento-establecera-una-moratoria-del-pago-del-alquiler-de-los-pisos-de-la-EMVS/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=de566f427d1f0710VgnVCM1000001d4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRd>

#### **Economic measures package against the effects of COVID-19** Madrid, Spain

The Madrid City Council requests a week to finance the emergency economic measures with a fee for the remaining treasury, so that it no longer has as a preferred objective the early repayment of the debt provided for in Article 32 of the Stability Law, since the local entity has complied the obligations to third parties that the law provided, as is the case in Madrid.

#### References:

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-51859984>

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Actualidad/Noticias/El-Ayuntamiento-pide-al-Gobierno-poder-emplear-420-millones-en-medidas-economicas-y-sociales/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=31a905dc5b2f0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRd>

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Actualidad/Noticias/El-Ayuntamiento-establecera-una-moratoria-del-pago-del-alquiler-de-los-pisos-de-la->

[EMVS/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=de566f427d1f0710VgnVCM1000001d4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRd](https://www.emvs.com/?vgnnextfmt=default&vgnnextoid=de566f427d1f0710VgnVCM1000001d4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRd)

## France

President Macron also announced that he will make a package of measures to support French companies, through bank loans of up to \$ 300 billion.

### Reference:

[https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2020/03/16/coronavirus-le-gouvernement-va-creer-un-fond-de-soutien-pour-les-petits-commercants\\_6033305\\_3234.htm](https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2020/03/16/coronavirus-le-gouvernement-va-creer-un-fond-de-soutien-pour-les-petits-commercants_6033305_3234.htm)

## Japan

Japan has released a second package of measures worth \$ 4 billion in spending to address the consequences of the coronavirus outbreak, focusing on supporting small and medium-sized businesses. To help finance the package, the government will use the rest of this fiscal year's budget reserve of around 270 billion yen, said Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

### Reference:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/10/japan-unveils-4-billion-coronavirus-package-but-not-yet-planning-extra-budget.html>

## Support for small businesses

### Japan

Japan will increase its special financing for small and medium-sized businesses affected by the virus to 1.6 trillion yen, up from about 500 billion yen previously announced, Abe said. Spain has established a six-month moratorium on payments to investors and midsize companies and self-employed workers.

### Reference:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/10/japan-unveils-4-billion-coronavirus-package-but-not-yet-planning-extra-budget.html>

## Small Business Loans

### Massachusetts, United States

Governor Charlie Baker said the state would offer emergency loans of up to \$ 75,000 to small businesses affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The \$ 10 million small business recovery loan fund will make loans available immediately to companies with fewer than 50 full-time or part-time employees, including non-profit organizations.

### Reference:

<https://www.wbur.org/bostonmix/2020/03/16/mass-offering-small-business-recovery-loans-affected-by-coronavirus-measures>



## **Financial aid to countries affected by the economic crisis**

### **West Africa**

The central bank of the 8 member countries of the West African Monetary Union (UMOA) decreed an increase of 340 billion CFA francs per week in economies. This measure aims to avoid a decrease in finances in the face of the crisis.

#### **Reference:**

<http://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique/20200323-coronavirus-continent-africain-lundi-23-mars>

### **Loan support**

#### **United Kingdom; China**

The Bank of England has launched measures to support loans, allowing banks to borrow from the Bank of England at a rate very close to the main interest rate for up to four years. Beijing has cut several key rates, including the basic lending rate, and has asked banks to grant cheap loans and payment exemptions to companies most exposed to the crisis.

#### **References:**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-economy-policy-fac/factbox-the-economic-remedies-for-the-coronavirus-idUSKBN2121C4>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/taxnotes/2020/03/02/coronavirus-and-chinas-tax-response/#5a772eff7b1e>

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/11/investing/bank-of-england-rate-cut-coronavirus/index.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-support-for-employees-benefit-claimants-and-businesses>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/11/uk-government-announces-12-billion-pounds-to-tackle-coronavirus-in-2020-budget.html>

## **German government approves € 800 billion package to support the corona crisis**

### **Germany**

Germany has approved a € 800 billion package to combat the likely economic recession that will follow the coronavirus crisis. The fund consists of guarantees, aid to companies, loans with a State guarantee. In addition, the amount includes financing social expenditures and to provide liquidity for self-employed workers.

#### **Reference:**

[https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-23/germany-approves-800-billion-package-to-counter-virus-impact?utm\\_campaign=socialflow-organic&cmpid%3D=socialflow-twitter-politics&utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_content=politics](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-23/germany-approves-800-billion-package-to-counter-virus-impact?utm_campaign=socialflow-organic&cmpid%3D=socialflow-twitter-politics&utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_content=politics)

**Online courses and consultancy****Brazil**

Sebrae is offering consultancy and online courses in order to assist small businesses in facing the impacts of the coronavirus.

Reference:

<https://sistemasebrae.e-consultar.com.br/consultorioonline/>

**Economic Response to Coronavirus****Australia**

The Australian government has announced a second set of economic responses that, combined with previous actions, total \$ 189 billion, representing 9.7% of annual GDP. These actions provide support to affected workers, companies and the community in general, and support for the flow of credit.

Reference:

<https://treasury.gov.au/coronavirus>

**Financial aids****New Zealand**

In response to COVID-19, the government is taking action to support the economy with a \$ 12.1 billion support package.

Reference:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/financial-support/>

**Aid for small businesses****South Korea**

Depending on the number of family members, a benefit can be gained in the form of prepaid cards or coupons that can be used locally and will be given to families, as well as small-scale entrepreneurs and part-time workers with a median income of less than 100%. Seoul expects about 1.2 million low-income families to receive financial aid.

Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/seoulcitykorea/videos/2382921751999886/>

**Stimulus plans****United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia**

The central banks of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia, the two largest Arab economies, have announced stimulus plans worth \$ 40 billion combined to alleviate the impact of the coronavirus outbreak in their respective countries.

**Reference:**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/15/coronavirus-uae-saudi-central-banks-roll-out-40-billion-stimulus-for-virus-hit-economies.html>

**Banking measures****United Arab Emirates**

The country's central bank has said it will provide 50 billion dirhams through zero-cost secured loans to all banks operating in the country, while another 50 billion will be released from creditors' capital buffers. Other measures include a 15 to 25% reduction in the number of capital banks that they must retain for loans to SMEs and better conditions for property buyers.

**Reference:**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/15/coronavirus-uae-saudi-central-banks-roll-out-40-billion-stimulus-for-virus-hit-economies.html>

**Stimulus Package****Australia**

The government's economic response addresses the economic impacts of the coronavirus outbreak. This is designed to support trust, employment and business continuity. Aiming to support business, investment, help small businesses manage short-term cash flow challenges, provide targeted support to individuals and assistance to the most severely affected communities and regions.

**Reference:**

[https://treasury.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-03/Overview  
Economic Response to the Coronavirus.pdf](https://treasury.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-03/Overview_Economic_Response_to_the_Coronavirus.pdf)

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Business support platform****Paris, France**

The Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ile-de-France created a "CCI Urgence Entreprise" telephone platform to help companies free of charge, in order to provide information on the implementation of telework, reduction of working hours, etc.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672>

**Moratorium on Commercial Evictions**

Seattle, USA

The mayor of the city plans to put in place a moratorium on the commercial evictions of small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Reference:

<https://thehill.com/changing-america/respect/accessibility/488300-what-other-cities-can-learn-from-coronavirus-us-ground>

**Support for small and medium-sized enterprises**

Tokyo, Japan

The Tokyo government will make business consultancy available to small and medium-sized businesses affected by the new Coronavirus at no cost. For these companies, loans will be offered to pay for equipment and software that will allow them to do distance work for their employees in the amount of a maximum of 2.5 million yen (approximately R\$ 115,000).

Reference:

<https://stopcovid19.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/worker>

**Business Aid Package**

Brisbane, Australia

Brisbane Mayor Adrian Schrinner announced a US\$ 7.9 million business aid package that will allow Brisbane City Hall to waive all charges, fees, council rent and business permit fees, as well as rental rates for community organizations. The measure is already in force and will continue until June 30, with the possibility of extension.

Reference:

<https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/transcription-of-brisbanes-lord-mayor-announcing-business-relief-package>

**Business support package**

Norway

The country will offer companies at least NOK 100 billion in financing in the form of loan guarantees and bond issues to support the economy during the pandemic. The package was divided into 50 billion loan guarantees for small and medium-sized businesses seeking bank loans. The other 50 billion in the form of government guarantees for large companies that issue corporate bonds.

Reference:

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-norway-primeminist/norway-offers-firms-10-billion-as-coronavirus-shakes-economy-idUSKBN212146>

### **Implementation of a help plan for companies with revenues below one million per year**

France

The government has promised traders that it will invest a billion euros a month to help 450,000 independent companies that make less than a million dollars a year. This fund will be complemented by the State, by the regions, and also by an appeal that the government must launch with large companies.

Reference:

[https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2020/03/16/coronavirus-le-gouvernement-va-creer-un-fond-de-soutien-pour-les-petits-commerçants\\_6033305\\_3234.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2020/03/16/coronavirus-le-gouvernement-va-creer-un-fond-de-soutien-pour-les-petits-commerçants_6033305_3234.html)

### **Compensation to companies that need to close**

France

A global compensation of 1,500 euros, whose frequency of payment has not yet been defined, should be granted to companies that need to close or register a drop of at least 70% in turnover.

Reference:

[https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2020/03/16/coronavirus-le-gouvernement-va-creer-un-fond-de-soutien-pour-les-petits-commerçants\\_6033305\\_3234.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2020/03/16/coronavirus-le-gouvernement-va-creer-un-fond-de-soutien-pour-les-petits-commerçants_6033305_3234.html)

### **Aid to SMEs and self-employed workers**

Spain

Spain has established a six-month moratorium on paying taxes to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and self-employed workers, with a discount on In addition, the country has established a specific financing line to meet the liquidity needs of these companies and self-employed workers in the tourism sector and other affected sectors.

Reference:

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-51859984>

### **Provision of commercial loans with more comprehensive terms**

Germany, Argentina, European Central Bank, Spain, United States, France and Italy

Several countries and banks have adopted more comprehensive loan lines as a protective measure against the effects of the pandemic, with higher financing or lower interest rates.

References:

<https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/mercado/2020/03/coronavirus-faz-alemanha-abandonar-austeridade-depois-de-6-superavits-seguidos.shtml>

<https://exame.abril.com.br/economia/fed-adota-novas-medidas-agressivas-para-combater-impacto-do-coronavirus/>

<https://www.istoedinheiro.com.br/governo-da-franca-vai-oferecer-ajuda-a-empresas-afetadas-por-coronavirus/>

<https://exame.abril.com.br/economia/espanha-garantira-ate-e-100-bi-em-emprestimos-a-empresas-por-coronavirus/>

<https://www.sunoresearch.com.br/noticias/coronavirus-argentina-anuncia-medidas-para-conter-impacto/>

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-economy-policy-fac/factbox-the-economic-remedies-for-the-coronavirus-idUSKBN2121C4>

## **Support to banks and companies**

### **United Arab Emirates**

The United Arab Emirates regulator plans to support banks and companies in the country, where the outbreak is affecting major economic sectors, such as tourism and transportation, with an economic plan of 100 billion dirham (\$ 27 billion).

#### **Reference:**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/15/coronavirus-uae-saudi-central-banks-roll-out-40-billion-stimulus-for-virus-hit-economies.html>

## **4. Economic Aid to Workers**

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. workers in the current crisis period.

### **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

#### **Wage subsidy scheme**

##### **New Zealand**

Wage subsidies will be available to all employers who are significantly impacted by COVID-19. The scheme will be open to individual and self-employed merchants and all companies that experience a 30% drop in revenue in any month between January and June 2020 compared to the previous year.

#### **Reference:**

<https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/financial-support/>

**Tax package****India**

Due to current circumstances, the Indian government has presented a tax package worth USD 22.26 billion. This package will be targeted to help people affected by the pandemic, whether economically or in health.

**Reference:**

[https://www.em.com.br/app/noticia/economia/2020/03/26/internas\\_economia,1132616/india-apresenta-pacote-fiscal-de-us-22-26-bilhoes-contr-coronavirus.shtml](https://www.em.com.br/app/noticia/economia/2020/03/26/internas_economia,1132616/india-apresenta-pacote-fiscal-de-us-22-26-bilhoes-contr-coronavirus.shtml)

**Assistance to workers****Germany**

A new law has been established which means that all employees, including temporary workers, who have left work as a result of the coronavirus crisis, will have easier access to short-term work benefits.

Temporary workers may receive short-term benefits for a limited time .

**Reference:**

<https://www2.staffingindustry.com/eng/Editorial/Daily-News/Germany-Parliament-to-introduce-law-allowing-temporary-workers-easier-access-to-work-benefits-amid-coronavirus-crisis-53128>

**Benefits for workers temporarily dismissed****Spain**

The Spanish government plans to grant unemployment benefits to workers laid off temporarily as part of its measures to mitigate the economic effects of the coronavirus epidemic, according to a draft document prepared by the Ministry of Labor.

**Reference:**

<https://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Actualidad/Noticias/El-Ayuntamiento-pide-al-Gobierno-poder-emplear-420-millones-en-medidas-economicas-y-sociales/?vgnextfmt=default&vgnextoid=31a905dc5b2f0710VgnVCM2000001f4a900aRCRD&vgnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRd>

**Anti-crisis fund****Russia**

The government created a 300 billion ruble (\$ 4.05 billion) anti-crisis fund to support Russian citizens and the Russian economy. The Government will compensate quarantined citizens, including freelancers and self-employed workers, for the loss of income. Another measure is to allocate funds from the federal budget for unemployment payments and advance payment of pensions and other public benefits.

**Reference:**

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/03/17/russias-anti-coronavirus-measures-a69632>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Emergency financial support for the unemployed****Seoul, South Korea**

The government of the country will provide emergency financial aid to young part-time unemployed residents of the city (aged 19 to 34) who lost their jobs after January 20. The creation of 2,700 jobs in the public sector was also announced, 1,000 of which were destined to disinfect 350 traditional markets so that customers can resume consumption and move the economy.

**Reference:**

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-to-provide-financial-support-for-young-part-time/>  
<http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-attempts-to-minimize-local-economic-damage-caused-by-covid-19/>

**Financial and administrative support for provincial governments****China**

The Financial Stability and Development Committee (FSDC), which coordinates the activities of financial regulators and the central bank, opened eight new offices at the provincial level, in an attempt to better coordinate virus response efforts on behalf of the Council of State, office of the China.

**Reference:**

<https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3075775/coronavirus-china-moves-shore-lending-cash-strapped-firms-new>

**Financing for the reduction of working hours****Germany, France, United States and Italy**

Some countries have approved plans that aim to support companies and workers who need to reduce the number of hours worked, either for health reasons or for family reasons.

**Reference:**

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo/noticias-51859984>

**Task Force of Support and Economic and Recovery****Toronto, Canada**

Toronto Mayor establishes Support and Stimulation Task Force to support businesses, workers and residents. This task force will allow the city to better respond to the evolving challenges of COVID-19 with its partners in government, businesses and non-profit organizations.



**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/economic-support-recovery/>

**Economic measures to combat the COVID-19 outbreak****Beijing, China**

China has allocated 110.5 billion yuan (\$ 15.9 billion) to fight the epidemic. Beijing increases support for funding for regions affected by the virus. The Central Bank cut several key rates, including the benchmark loan rate, and urged banks to grant cheap loans and payment exemptions to companies affected by the outbreak.

**Reference:**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-economy-policy-fac/factbox-the-economic-remedies-for-the-coronavirus-idUSKBN2121C4>

**Economic Response to Coronavirus****Australia**

The Australian Government has published series of measures announced as cash flow assistance to affected companies. These measures will help companies manage the resulting cash flow challenges in order to retain employees.

**Reference:**

<https://treasury.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-03/Overview-Economic-Response-to-the-Coronavirus.pdf>

**Measures for workers affected by the closure of schools.****Japan**

The Prime Minister announced a second package of measures to support those affected by the government's decision to close schools in late February. Subsidies will be provided for those who work without regular employment contracts and those who are forced to take time off work to care for schoolchildren who are no longer able to attend school.

**Reference:**

<https://saude.estadao.com.br/noticias/geral,japao-assusta-pais-ao-pedir-fechamento-escolas-por-medo-do-coronavirus,70003213125>

# 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.

Countries	Adaptation of School Structures	Government Support for Distance Learning
Argentina		x
Canada		x
Chile	x	x
China		x
Colombia		x
France	xxxx	x
Hong Kong		x
Japan		x

x = number of initiatives by country

## 1. 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 (3rd Edition)

#### Closure of schools and psychopedagogical adaptation centers

Paris, France

Throughout France, educational institutions are closed to minimize the risk of epidemics. These closure measures also apply to all municipal facilities that host children: daycare centers, multiple care centers, kindergartens, daycare centers for families and libraries. Psychopedagogical adaptation centers (CAPP) are closed indefinitely. Classes go virtual.

Reference:

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#etablissements-de-la-petite-enfance-ecoles-et-colleges>

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/du-soutien-scolaire-gratuit-en-ligne-avec-les-bibliotheques-de-la-ville-de-paris-7664>

### Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)

#### E-learning

China and Hong Kong

A national distance learning system for children in the country has been implemented, including free access to education applications and transmission of regular classes on State TV programming.

Reference:

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/policy/article/3050940/schools-remaining-closed-during-coronavirus-outbreak-china-launches>

#### Language study platform

Buenos Aires, Argentina

The city hall provided an English language study platform for each of the students in order to maintain the habit of continuing contact with the language.

Reference:

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

#### Definition of the "Learn at home" strategy

Bogota, Colombia

This strategy has two alternatives for students: (a) physical resources: support materials and activities that students should do will be delivered and, every week, families will return the material to receive new activities; (b) virtual resources: all material will be accessed virtually, following teachers' guidelines for carrying out activities.

**Reference:**

<https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/asi-funciona-estrategia-aprende-en-casa?fbclid=IwAR2jERtNZ50h3WTSX7V0tTsepxRZ8Qm-gT8Y4yA6G53WfIElpSKheCAzY>

**Suspension of face-to-face classes in schools**

**Buenos Aires, Argentina; Canada; Japan; Colombia; Chile**

As a measure of medical security, several countries have canceled face-to-face classes and have chosen to either set up school recess or use distance learning platforms in order to continue the school calendar.

**Reference:**

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/coronavirus/medidas-gobierno>

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2020/03/13/coronavirus-live-updates-futures-market-point-to-positive-start-for-us-stocks.html>

<https://saude.estadao.com.br/noticias/geral,japao-assusta-pais-ao-pedir-fechamento-escolas-por-medo-do-coronavirus,70003213125>

<https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/asi-funciona-estrategia-aprende-en-casa?fbclid=IwAR2jERtNZ50h3WTSX7V0tTsepxRZ8Qm-gT8Y4yA6G53WfIElpSKheCAzY>

<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>

## **2. Adaptations 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 (3rd Edition)**

#### **Fighting food insecurity and waste**

**Paris, France**

The action to combat food insecurity and waste was reinforced, offering solidarity associations to recover all fresh food available in municipal daycare centers.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#etablissements-de-la-petite-enfance-ecoles-et-colleges>

#### **Vacancies to accommodate children of those engaged against coronavirus**

**Paris, France**

The city offered 2,300 vacancies in 30 daycare centers with coverage in each district and close to hospitals, to accommodate the children of parents requested in the fight against the coronavirus.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672#etablissements-de-la-petite-enfance-ecoles-et-colleges>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

**Creches e escolas receberão filhos de profissionais da saúde**  
Marseille, France

Six municipal daycare centers will be available for health and sanitation professionals to leave their children throughout the day due to the need for work and the closure of other school institutions.

**Reference:**

<https://www.marseille.fr/education/actualites/maj-accueil-des-enfants-des-personnels-soignants>

**Educational action plan**  
Chile

The government (a) implemented an influenza vaccination campaign for all students; (b) maintained the food service for affected students and those who need it; (c) developed mechanisms in case coronavirus-related diagnoses are needed; (d) committed to Ethical Changes in schools to accompany minors who, due to the conditions of their families and homes, need this.

**Reference:**

<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>

**Reception of children of health professionals**  
Paris, France

Paris, aiming that each person essential in the fight against the spread of the coronavirus can go to work, made available means to receive children whose parents are health professionals or personnel essential to the health system. The city offered 2,300 vacancies in 30 daycare centers with coverage in each district and close to hospitals, to accommodate the children of parents requested in the fight against the coronavirus.

**Reference:**

<https://www.paris.fr/pages/coronavirus-les-mesures-prises-par-la-ville-7672>

# 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 easy 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.

Country	Street parking clearance	Control of people on the street	Public and shared transport control
Argentina	X		XXX
Canada			XX
Chile			X
Colombia		X	X
North Korea		X	X
South Korea			X
Spain	X		XXX
United States			XX
France	X		XX
Italy			X
Japan		XX	
Russia			X

x = number of initiatives by country

## 1. Street Parking Release

The action taken in countries in Europe and South America allows the free parking of vehicles on city roads where there was a need for payment such as public parking lots. The measure is not valid for prohibited parking spaces. Rules for loading and unloading have also been relaxed with the increase in areas and the time allowed in hospital areas.

## Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)

### Street parking cleared

Bordeaux, France

Bordeaux residents are now able to park on city streets for free during the off-peak period. However, parking in a prohibited place remains controlled and punished by the municipal police.

Reference:

[http://www.bordeaux.fr/ebx/pgPresStand8.psm1?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=pgPresStand8&classofcontent=presentationStandard&id=141077](http://www.bordeaux.fr/ebx/pgPresStand8.psm1?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=pgPresStand8&classofcontent=presentationStandard&id=141077)

### Urban mobility

Barcelona, Spain

Green area and blue area: The use of regulated parking spaces in the city will not be sanctioned as long as the alarm status is in effect;

Priority professional loading and unloading: Food distribution vehicles can park near supermarkets and markets in similar conditions at night.

Reference:

[https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/es/flexibilitat-fiscal-para-garantizar-la-liquidez-a-familias-autonomos-y-empresas\\_930242.html](https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/es/flexibilitat-fiscal-para-garantizar-la-liquidez-a-familias-autonomos-y-empresas_930242.html)

### Free street parking

Buenos Aires, Argentina

The city of Buenos Aires has announced the release of free street parking, in addition to free tolls in the metropolitan area. Regarding the loading and unloading of food and pharmaceutical products, the areas were expanded and the time restrictions were eliminated. According to the Secretary of Transport and Public Works, taxi drivers will be able to operate normally to assist in urban mobility.

Reference:

<https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/vicejefatura/noticias/la-ciudad-comunico-como-es-el-dispositivo-de-seguridad-y-el-funcionamiento-del>

### Parking changed to Sunday rules

Buenos Aires, Argentina

The city has expanded the proposal for parking on streets and in prohibited places from Monday to Friday from 7 am to 9 pm, so that it is released and follows the model of parking released on Sundays. In addition, those charged will be free.

Reference:

<https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/salud/noticias/coronavirus-la-ciudad-anuncio-medidas-para-el-transporte-publico-trabajadores>

## 2. 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 ).

### New measures inserted (3rd Edition)

#### **SNCF guarantees free train travels**

##### France

The French railway company announced that train travels throughout the country were free of charge to healthcare workers. The objective is to increase the access of these people to areas that need assistance.

##### Reference:

<https://www.otempo.com.br/mundo/para-facilitar-os-atendimentos-viagens-de-trens-serao-gratuitas-na-franca-1.2314845>

#### **Travelers will receive refunds for train station tickets**

##### United Kingdom

The British government will assume the refund of season tickets for users of the railway system who stay at home. This measure is part of a sector aid package that includes the temporary suspension of operating fees.

##### Reference:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-52002272>

#### **Limitation and reduction of the frequency of metropolitan transport**

##### Spain

Public transport does not close, but those from one city to another will have limited frequency, to reduce movement. Transport operators will reduce the total supply of operations by at least 50%.

##### Reference:

<https://www.mscbs.gob.es/gabinete/notasPrensa.do?id=478>

#### **Suspension of public transport and presentation of documents for circulation**

##### Milan, Italy; Paris, France

The circulation of public transport has been suspended in some areas of the Italian city. In Paris, internal displacement was prohibited except in specific cases subject to a certificate to take with you.



**References:**

<https://www.comune.milano.it/aree-tematiche/mobilita/area-c>

<https://www.interieur.gouv.fr/fr/Actualites/L-actu-du-Ministere/Attestation-de-deplacement-derogatoire-et-justificatif-de-deplacement-professionnel>

**Partial closure of the subway system**

London, UK

It was announced this Thursday 03/19/2020 the partial closure of the city's subway system as a measure to contain the new coronavirus pandemic. Of the total of 270 tube stations in London, 40 stations will be closed indefinitely. In addition, night service will be suspended during weekends. Buses and trains in circulation have also decreased their circulation.

**Reference:**

<https://veja.abril.com.br/mundo/londres-fecha-parcialmente-metro-para-evitar-disseminacao-do-coronavirus/>

**Mass disinfection**

South Korea

After hearing of cases and outbreaks in specific public buildings, the Seoul government immediately closes the site and orders all residents to be immediately quarantined. After the situation, it installs temperature measurement tents for residents of the region where the building is located.

**Reference:**

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-enforces-concentrated-disinfection-due-to-mass-covid-19-outbreak/?cat=29>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Restrictions on the use of public transport**

Pyongyang, North Korea

North Koreans using public transport are required to wear masks and hand sanitizer before boarding trains, subways, buses and taxis. In addition, the government has instructed people to check their temperatures before using public transport for long-distance travels, and if they experience suspicious symptoms, they should be prevented from boarding.

**Reference:**

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/nkorea-imposes-intensified-measures-to-stem-covid-19/1771770>

**Suspension of bicycle sharing service**

**Barcelona, Spain**

Users of the bicycle sharing system will no longer be able to use them and those who are using will have to return them to the stations, with the service being totally suspended. It has been determined that the subscription of users is extended as long as the suspension lasts as a prevention due to the spread of COVID-19.

**Reference:**

[https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/es/nuevas-medidas-relacionadas-con-la-movilidad-de-la-ciudadania\\_930124.html](https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/es/nuevas-medidas-relacionadas-con-la-movilidad-de-la-ciudadania_930124.html)

**Strengthening the public transport system at peak times****Barcelona, Spain**

The metro and buses of Transportes Metropolitanos de Barcelona (TMB) suffer a drop in passengers between 75% and 80%, however, demand during rush hour showed a concentration of people. Given this demand, TMB will increase all possible offers on the busiest lines in this time interval and is studying the possibility of controlling access to some stations, if there occur crowds at specific times.

**Reference:**

[https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/es/nuevas-medidas-relacionadas-con-la-movilidad-de-la-ciudadania\\_930124.html](https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/es/nuevas-medidas-relacionadas-con-la-movilidad-de-la-ciudadania_930124.html)

**Prohibition of the sale of land transport tickets by drivers****Moscow, Russia**

In order to prevent land transport drivers (buses, trolleybuses, trams and electric buses) from being contaminated by COVI-19, the mayor of Moscow prohibited the sale of tickets by drivers of these means of transport.

**Reference:**

<https://www.sobyanin.ru/koronavirus-ogranichitelnye-mery-16-03-2020>

**Maintenance of the public transport system****Chile; Toronto, Canada**

The Chilean and Canadian public transport systems will continue to function normally in order to guarantee the mobility of the citizens of the countries, but adopting more stringent sanitation measures, such as disinfecting the subway, buses, etc. The system will maintain regular operation mainly during peak hours.

**Reference:**

<https://www.gob.cl/coronavirus/plandeaccion/>  
<https://globalnews.ca/news/6649109/coronavirus-public-transit/>

**Cleaning and awareness actions in the public transport system****Bogota, Colombia**

Bogotá's public transport system (Transmilenio) has not been paralyzed, but the cleaning and disinfection process has been reinforced by a specialized cleaning team. In addition, some pedagogical actions were developed at stations and portals promoting protection and assistance measures, as well as providing a kit with masks and gloves for users with visible flu symptoms.

Reference:

<https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/movilidad/transmilenio/transmilenio-coronavirus>

### **Modified subway operation**

#### **Buenos Aires, Argentina**

In Buenos Aires, the Secretary of Transport and Public Works, Juan José Mendez, defined that the metro will work only with the main stations, the combined stations of the lines, some transfer stations and some stations close to the health centers. The requirement is that they are only seated passengers.

Reference:

<https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/salud/noticias/coronavirus-la-ciudad-anuncio-medidas-para-el-transporte-publico-trabajadores>

### **Suspension of some transport services**

#### **Argentina**

In the context of preventive actions against the spread of COVID-19, the Ministry of Transport of the Nation ordered the suspension of domestic flights and long-distance train and bus services. On buses and trains, only seated passengers can travel.

Reference:

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>

### **Fully functioning transport system**

#### **New York, United States**

So far, the governor and the mayor intend to keep the entire transportation system in operation, including the subway, even though at restricted times.

Reference:

<https://oglobo.globo.com/sociedade/nova-york-se-torna-epicentro-mais-recente-da-covid-19-concentra-5-dos-casos-no-mundo-24323353>

# 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.

Country	Remote medical care	International cooperation	Measures to Reinforce Customer Service
South Africa		x	
Germany	x		x
Argentina			x
Brazil			x
Canada			xx
Colombia	x		
South Korea	x		xx
Spain			x
United States	x	x	x
United Kingdom	xx		x

x = number of initiatives by country

## 1. Remote Medical Care

As a way of both relieving the capacity of health systems and reducing the possibilities of contagion, some governments have adopted remote medical services, such as answering by phone and registering bed requests via the internet.

### **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

#### **Indication for people who have symptoms of COVID-19**

##### **Bogota, Colombia**

People with symptoms of COVID-19 should call line 123 before going to the emergency room. In this way, congestion in the health system is avoided and helps to ensure that strictly necessary cases are attended to. In addition, initial home care for patients infected with coronavirus will be prioritized and the drugs will be delivered at home.

##### **References:**

<https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/coronavirus-recomendaciones-para-evitar-su-propagacion-en-bogota>

<https://bogota.gov.co/mi-ciudad/salud/coronavirus/coronavirus-plan-de-atencion-medica-en-bogota>

#### **Procedure for actions when suspecting COVID-19 infection**

##### **Berlin, Germany**

It has been decided that Berliners who suspect they have been infected should call the Health Department of the Berlin Senate or their doctor. The line runs from 8am to 8pm. Recommendations for further action will be given in the contact. On-site testing will only be performed if there are justified suspicions with symptoms. Doctors decide whether a diagnosis makes sense after an appointment.

##### **References:**

<https://www.berlin.de/en/news/coronavirus/6100254-6098215-coronavirus-examination-centres-in-berli.en.html>

### **Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)**

#### **Online medical consultations**

##### **United Kingdom**

In the United Kingdom, the national strategy was one of transparency and honesty. Minister Boris Johnson was one of the first to speak frankly about the seriousness of the crisis to his citizens and initiated measures of social distance that include online medical consultations.

##### **Reference:**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51730686>

**Online registration for intensive care beds****Germany**

The German Interdisciplinary Association for Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine (DIVI), the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) and the German Hospital Society (DKG) have activated an online intensive care register where doctors from all clinics in Germany can consult the capabilities, in order to guarantee the regional coordination of the intensive care beds and, therefore, the ideal care for patients with COVID-19.

**Reference:**

<https://www.rbb24.de/politik/thema/2020/coronavirus/beitraege/berlin-krankenhaus-corona-messegelaende.html>

**Telephone medical consultations****United States and United Kingdom**

US and UK officials predict that hospitals will be able to postpone non-urgent procedures and offer telephone consultations whenever possible.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-health-advice/covid-19-practicing-physical-distancing/>

<https://www.bbc.com/portuguese/internacional-51662539>

**2. International Cooperation**

A pandemic makes it necessary for countries, international organizations and other actors on the international scene to cooperate in order to develop more efficient responses and measures to control the spread, treatment and prevention of the coronavirus.

**New measures inserted (3rd Edition)****South Africa asks the Red Cross for help****South Africa**

After the rise of cases of Coronavirus in South Africa, the Minister of Health declared at a conference that he requested the help of the Red Cross to work together to combat the spread of the virus in the country.

**Reference:**

<https://www.noticiasominuto.com/mundo/1438158/covid-19-africa-do-sul-sobe-casos-para-202-e-pede-ajuda-a-cruz-vermelha>

### 3. Measures to Reinforce Service

All over the world, the ability to provide health services has been challenged by the sheer volume of sick people seeking help. Reinforcement measures are essential so that services do not collapse and more people recover from the disease.

#### **New measures inserted (3rd Edition)**

#### **Strategy package for hospitals to face COVID-19**

##### **South Korea**

The South Korean government has defined a package of strategies for public and private hospitals aimed at combating COVID-19. The measures are based on the identification of the first infected, the definition of health centers and hospitals to deal with the outbreak, and the encouragement of public-private cooperation, as well as the construction of a communication system containing useful information about the new coronavirus.

##### **References:**

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/handling-of-the-novel-coronavirus-outbreak/?cat=46>

#### **Nationalization of hospitals**

##### **Spain**

Spain has nationalized all hospitals as long as the epidemic lasts. The measure was taken to try to stop the spread of the new coronavirus and ensure that the population is able to receive adequate medical care.

##### **References:**

<https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2020/03/15/>

#### **Establishment of examination and research centers**

##### **Berlin, Germany**

Six coronavirus research and examination centers were set up in the city, separate from the treatment units and the rest of the health system.

##### **References:**

<https://www.berlin.de/en/news/coronavirus/6100254-6098215-coronavirus-examination-centres-in-berli.en.html>

**Inmates will manufacture 22,000 protective masks daily****Brazil**

About 200 inmates from 20 prison units in Minas Gerais will manufacture protective masks against the new coronavirus. The materials can be used by the population, hospitals, nursing homes and security forces.

Reference:

<https://www.whojeemdia.com.br/horizontes/presos-mineiros-v%C3%A3o-fabricar-dia-22-mil-m%C3%A1scaras-de-prote%C3%A7%C3%A3o-contr-a-coronav%C3%ADrus-1.780202>

**Army Calls for Help for Retired Health Professionals****United States**

The US Army is looking for retired doctors who want to volunteer to support the efforts of the demands caused by Covid-19. The call was made to retired career doctors in 8 specialties: critical care agent, anesthesiologist, nurse anesthetist, intensive care nurse, nurse, breathing specialist and doctor.

Reference:

<https://edition.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-03-25-20-intl-hnk/index.html>

**Transport of infected suspects****South Korea**

Teams fighting fires and disasters in Seoul are being relocated to transport patients with severe symptoms of COVID-19 to hospitals. Seoul metropolitan fire and disaster headquarters officials emphasize that anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, including high fever and cough, should call 1339 for consultation.

References:

<http://english.seoul.go.kr/seoul-operates-emergency-medical-services-for-covid-19/>  
<http://www.seoul.go.kr/coronaV/coronaStatus.do?tab=4>

**Previous measures (1st and 2nd Edition)****Mass testing via drive-thru****South Korea; New York, United States**

South Korea has implemented a mass testing system with logistical innovations such as drive-thru test stations. In New York, the first mobile drive-thru test center opened in a Staten Island parking lot, the first being administered by the state in New York City. Tests are free for New Yorkers when requested by a healthcare professional.



**Reference:**

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/02/asia/coronavirus-drive-through-south-korea-hnk-intl/index.html>

<https://www.businessinsider.com/how-to-get-a-coronavirus-test-in-new-york-city-2020-3>

**Call for retired doctors, cancellation of elective surgeries****United Kingdom**

The government invested in information and awareness campaigns for the population. The UK's "Battle Plan" foresees the integration of retired medical professionals into the service lines and the cancellation of elective surgeries in all hospitals.

**Reference:**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51730686>

**Operation of critical public health services****Toronto, Canada**

Public health services, infectious disease monitoring and the city's COVID-19 Response Committee continue to function normally, this being an emergency management office. In addition, the City of Toronto's Department of Public Health has declared a System that allows for the deployment of resources and sustained capacity to respond to new occurrences of COVID-19.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-health-advice/covid-19-assessment-centres/>

**Creation of measures to relieve pressure on hospitals****Toronto, Canada**

In order to rapidly expand screening and relieve pressures in the hospital's emergency departments, several dedicated assessment centers for COVID-19 have been established in Toronto.

**Reference:**

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-health-advice/covid-19-assessment-centres/>

**Recommendation for service****Argentina**

The Argentine government's recommendation is that health facilities should be sought only if they have symptoms of the disease, such as dry cough and fever.

**Reference:**

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/coronavirus-COVID-19>



## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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.

### **United Nations Secretary General - António Guterres**

*"We are facing a global health crisis unlike any in 75 years in the history of united nations one 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**

## **G20 - 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 combatting 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 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:

<http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/pt-BR/notas-a-imprensa/21469-cupula-extraordinaria-dos-lideres-do-g20-declaracao-sobre-covid-19>

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

OHCHR issued an opinion in which it raises the question of who would be the unprotected people in the COVID-19 crisis. The Office turns its attention to the disabled, reinforcing that many of them need personal monitoring for daily activities (such as eating, bathing, among others) that lead to physical contact, which would be the opposite to the official 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. Some possible measures are then raised:

- Governments must take additional protective measures for this group, ensuring that it continues with the necessary monitoring during the crisis, without risking its health.
- These people have the right to reasonable accommodation that allows them to reduce the need for follow-up.
- They must be allowed to work from home.
- Accompanying persons and / or family members must also be provided with accommodation to guarantee support for the disabled during the period.
- Access to financial support that ensures that both the disabled and their companion do not enter 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.

Restricting contact with relatives and friends leaves them unprotected against any type of abuse and negligent act by these institutions.

Virus prevention campaigns must be accessible to everyone. 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:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25725&LangID=E>

## **UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

### **Distribution of hygiene kits**

UNHCR in Brazil 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 protection and local integration in Brazil, the information is shared in five languages, Portuguese, English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Reference:

[https://help.unhcr.org/brazil/#\\_ga=2.263320523.675561252.1584966773-1193555750.1584966773](https://help.unhcr.org/brazil/#_ga=2.263320523.675561252.1584966773-1193555750.1584966773)

### **Supplies shipping**

UNHCR has sent Iran about 4.4 tonnes of essential supplies, such as masks, gloves and medicines, to assist the health system of the country, which is weakened by the large number of refugees who are served by the same service, and has become even

worse. with the increase in cases of COVID-19 and patients who need urgent care. More equipment is scheduled to ship.

Reference:

<https://nacoesunidas.org/covid-19-agencia-da-onu-para-refugiados-envia-4-toneladas-de-ajuda-humanitaria-ao-ira/>

## WORLD BANK

### **Financing of health systems, and micro, medium and small companies**

The World Bank and IFC approved a \$ 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.

Reference:

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/03/17/world-bank-group-increases-covid-19-response-to-14-billion-to-help-sustain-economies-protect-jobs>

### **Measures to protect the tourism sector**

World Bank.

The World Bank has published several actions for governments and private companies to take, in order to mitigate the negative effects of the new coronavirus on tourism. 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).

Reference:

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/we-cant-travel-we-can-take-measures-preserve-jobs-tourism-industry>

### **Managing the impacts of COVID-19 on educational systems**

World Bank

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.

Reference:

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/education/managing-impact-covid-19-education-systems-around-world-how-countries-are-preparing>

## **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:

<https://www.cepal.org/es/comunicados/covid-19-tendra-graves-efectos-la-economia-mundial-impactara-paises-america-latina>

## **FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**

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:**

<http://www.fao.org/2019-ncov/en/>

## **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:**

<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/03/26/pr20108-remarks-by-imf-managing-director-during-an-extraordinary-g20-leaders-summit>

## **Emergency financing to countries**

The IMF discloses ways that it can help countries deal with the economic effects of the coronavirus. Therefore, through emergency financing to serve the health area, debt relief for the poorest and most vulnerable countries, increase of existing programs,

new financing agreements and capacity building, working to develop technical assistance and training activities .

**Reference:**

<https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2020/02/28/how-the-imf-can-help-countries-address-the-economic-impact-of-coronavirus/coronavirus-infographic>

**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:**

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/statement/2020/03/25/joint-statement-from-the-world-bank-group-and-the-international-monetary-fund-regarding-a-call-to-action-on-the-debt-of-ida-countries>

**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. More countries will be added soon.

**Reference:**

<https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19>

## ILO - International Labor Organization

The ILO has announced a series of tips and recommendations to workers regarding the Coronavirus crisis. The measures are aimed at 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 unwell and withdraw, seek medical attention.
- 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:

<https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/coronavirus/lang--en/index.htm>

## 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](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news20_e/dgra_17mar20_e.htm)

## WHO - World Health Organization

In view of the dispersion of the coronavirus around the world and the statement by the World Health Organization (WHO) that the situation is classified 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 hand 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 bad, avoid going out and seek appropriate medical attention;
- If you are 60 or older and / or have cardiovascular disease, respiratory condition and diabetes, take precautions such as avoiding areas or places where you interact 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, dispose of the single-use mask and wash your hands after removing it.
- If you have traveled to some of the critical locations in the past 14 days, stay home, especially if you start to feel bad, even if they are mild symptoms such as headache and runny nose, until recovery. If you develop fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical treatment promptly.



**Reference:**

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/>

## **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.

**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. Search for information  
Look for information and updates once or twice a day to avoid “unnecessary bombardment” of information. The flood of news about an outbreak can cause anyone to worry.
- Support others by helping them in their time of need. Assistance to others in times of need can help those who receive support as well as those who give help.
- 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 as doing breaks and rest between your work shifts and even take a moment during office hour. 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 form of contact. 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 maintain 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:

<https://news.un.org/pt/story/2020/03/1707792>

## Information platform

The WHO created a channel, through Whatsapp, to answer questions and inform about the evolution of COVID-19 and the necessary care to contain the spread of the disease.

Reference:

<https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/equilibrioesaude/2020/03/oms-cria-canal-no-whatsapp-para-informar-avanco-e-tirar-duvidas-sobre-coronavirus.shtml>

## 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 virus 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 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](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:

<https://www.br.undp.org/content/brazil/pt/home/presscenter/articles/2019/covid-19--oms--unicef-e-pnud-fecham-parceria-com-whatsapp-para-l.html>

## **UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation**

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. UNESCO will also launch a World Coalition for Education COVID-19, which will bring together international organizations, multilateral associates and the private sector to help countries implement distance learning systems.

Reference:

<https://pt.unesco.org/news/unesco-lanca-coalisao-mundial-acelerar-implantacao-solucoes-aprendizagem-distancia>

## 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:

<https://www.unicef.org/brazil/media/7386/file/principais-mensagens-acoes-prevencao-covid19-escolas.pdf>

### Distribution of hygiene products

UNICEF, together with the cosmetics company Granado, are taking action on behalf of the most vulnerable and at-risk families. Galleries of liquid soap are being distributed in slums across the state of Rio de Janeiro to help protect against COVID-19.

**Reference:**

<https://nacoesunidas.org/unicef-e-granado-doam-galoes-de-sabonete-liquido-a-moradores-de-favelas-do-rio/>

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