



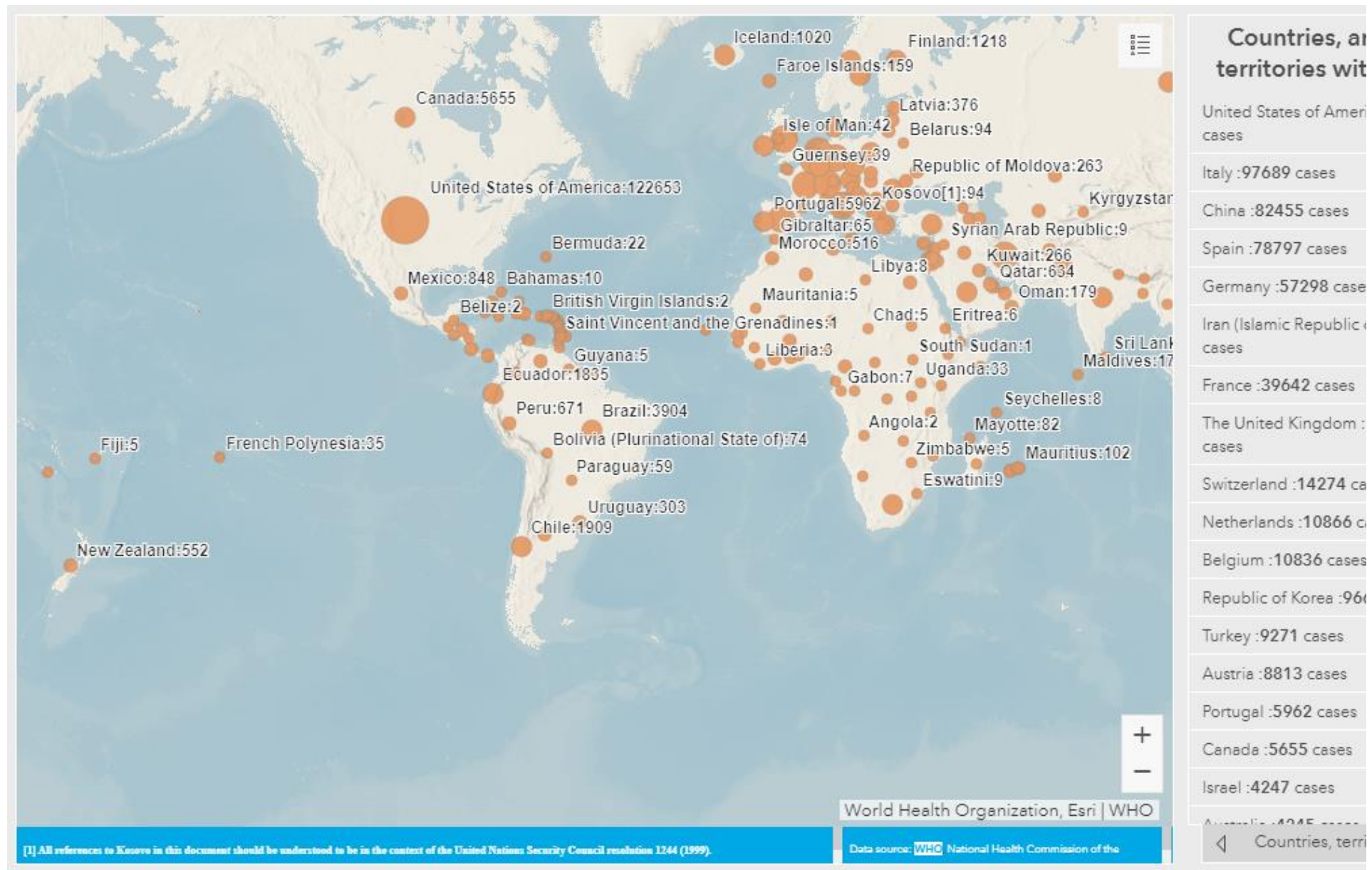
COVID-19: Socioeconomic Impact on Africa -Health, Economy and Planning-

Knowledge & Innovation Branch
ERSKI, External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge and Innovation Division

Nairobi, April 7th, 2020

COVID-19: Global Impacts

COVID-19*: A Global Crisis



*Cases as of 25th March 2020.

Source: WHO/ESRI / WHO Dashboard <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeee1b9125cd>

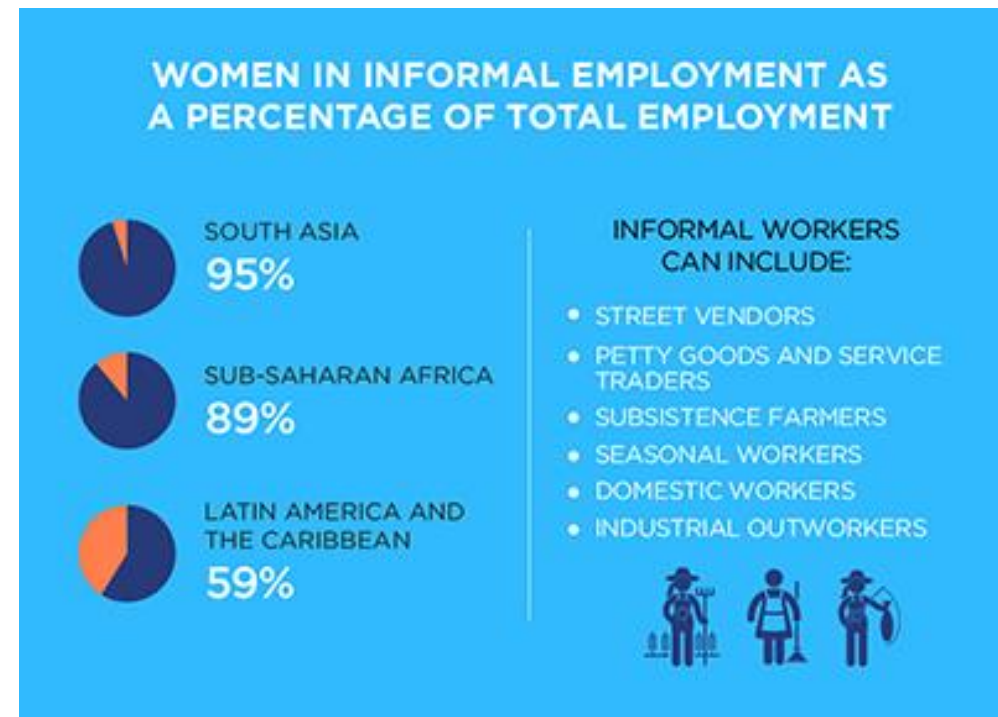
Global Covid-19 Effects on Women 1/2

1. Gender balance in healthcare workers

- Women are a disproportionate part of the health workforce and as primary caregivers to children, the elderly, and the ill

2. Health implication

- Women might experience less access to health services than men due to marginalization
- The pandemic has disrupted women's access to sexual and reproductive health facilities and gender-based violence services.
- Women stayed away from medical facilities due to quarantine restrictions or misconceptions about virus transmission, and were forced instead into riskier home births.



Source: UNWOMEN

Global Covid-19 Effects on Women 2/2

3. Political participation

- Women are not included in decision making processes for outbreak preparedness and response. There is inadequate women's representation in national and global COVID-19 policy spaces.

4. Social support

- The COVID-19 pandemic could have serious consequences for women's health and safety. During this period of partial or full isolation/quarantine, women find are exposed to more domestic violence and this confinement often results in increase of abuse
- The stay at home policies for school aged children will lead to more burden to women as primary care takers at home

5. Employment and income

- Women are more likely to be engaged in the informal sector and be hardest hit economically by COVID-19
- Women's jobs are considered a lower priority in a heterosexual relationship when disruptions come. Due to school closures and household isolation, women are more likely to move from paid jobs to unpaid ones, meaning taking care of children and household responsibilities
- Women are more vulnerable to unemployment. Once losing their jobs, some women's lifetime earnings will never recover. It could also exacerbate existing financial inequality between men and women.

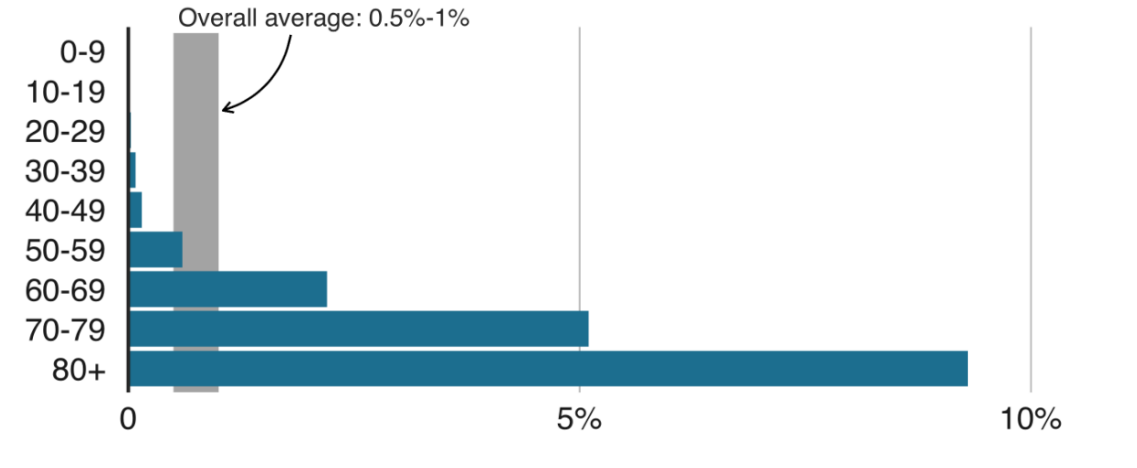
Global Covid-19 Effects on Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities (Preferred Language) 1/2

1. Physical health

- Evidence for COVID-19 shows older persons are the most vulnerable group with higher fatality rate
- Older Persons and people living with disabilities (PLWD) might be at increased risk of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 infection or severe disease because of existing comorbidities, and might face additional barriers to health care during the pandemic.
- People with disabilities (PWD) and older persons are most vulnerable to the impact of low quality or inaccessible health-care services due to physical and financial constraints.

Death rates depend on age group

Estimated proportion of deaths among infections



Source: BBC, from Imperial College London

Global Covid-19 Effects on Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities (Preferred Language) 2/2

2. Mental health

- Previous social and community services for older persons and PLWD may be disrupted. Social disconnection puts older adults at greater risk of depression and anxiety.
- May have difficulty caring for themselves and depend on family or caregivers. Travel ban prevents family reunion and may reduce the likelihoods of family members to provide timely care and support
- PLWDs may face challenges in access to information and communication in accessible and disability inclusive ways e.g. sign language or braille needs

3. Insufficient information

- Older persons and PLWD might have inequities in access to public health messaging due to lack of access to digital media channels and new technologies.

4. Social Inclusion

- Health-care personnel are not well trained on disability inclusion and service delivery for PLWD.

Global Covid-19 Effects on Children 1/2

1. Education

- Where distance or e-learning mechanisms are attempted, they will not reach all children and youth – those without internet access or adult supervision will be disadvantaged.
- Even when schools reopen, children will be returning to only 53 per cent of schools having basic hygiene services (defined as having a handwashing facility with water and soap available)

2. Nutrition

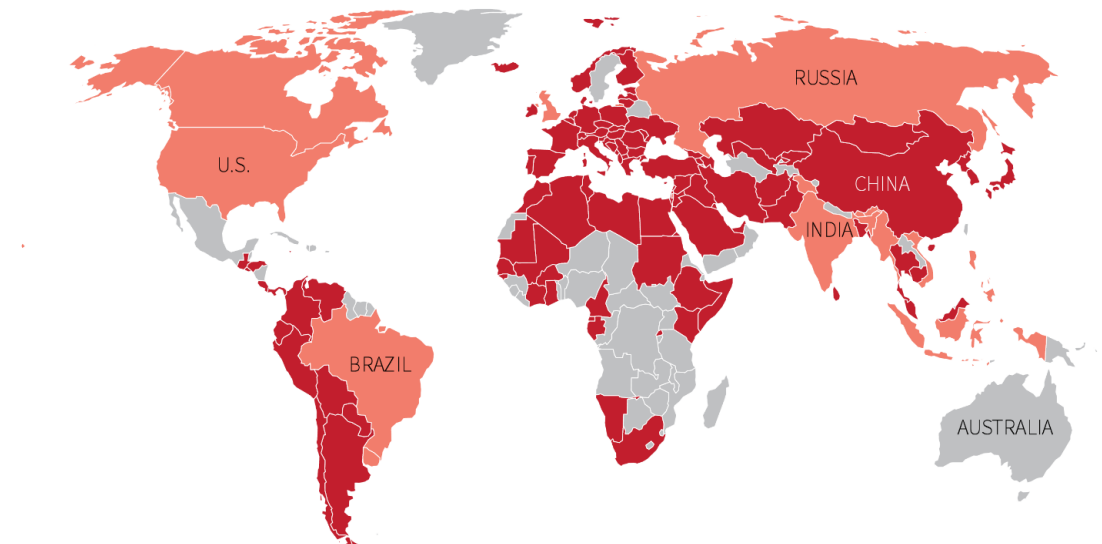
- As schools close, school lunches and other support services are no longer available for the poorest children who risk further malnourishment.

3. Immunization

- Due to the delay, suspension and disruption of immunization services, child mortality from preventable diseases will increase especially in remote and underprivilege areas

COUNTRIES CLOSING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

■ All schools ■ Some schools ■ No policy announced



Note: data as of March 18 2020

Source: Reuters, with data from UNESCO

Global Covid-19 Effects on Children 2/2

4. Violence, abuse and neglect

- As communities are disrupted, children already at risk of violence, exploitation and abuse will find themselves even more vulnerable.

5. Access to public information

- Younger children might not have access to or might find it difficult to understand publicly available information on COVID-19

6. Household incomes

- Loss of household incomes for the poor and vulnerable (including migrant workers) affects the financial capacity of parents and caregivers to access the basic services that are essential to meeting children's needs.
- Prolonged periods of school closure and movement restrictions may lead to emotional unrest and anxieties in the short term and a loss of human capital in the long run

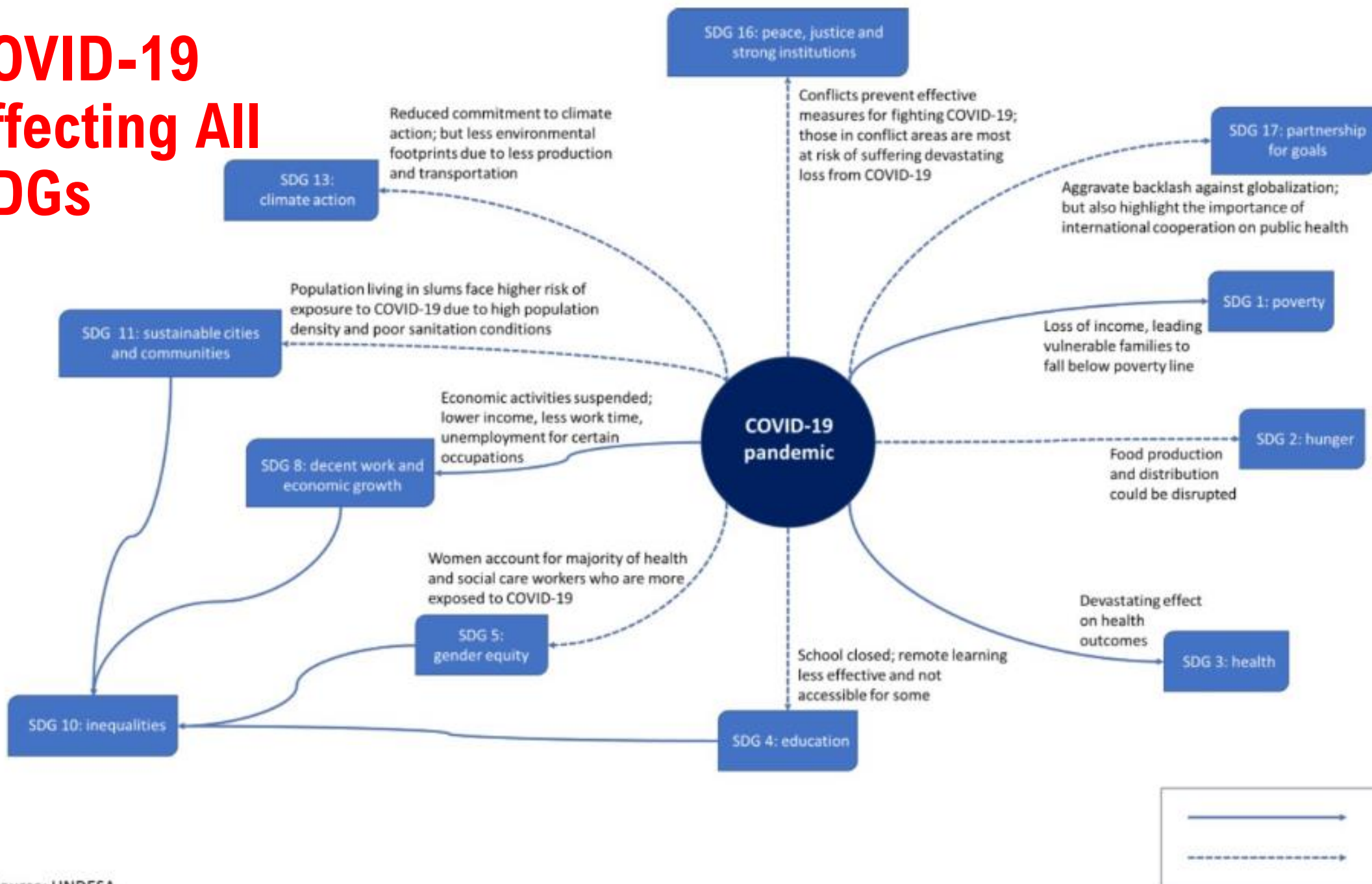
Global Economic Effects of COVID-19

- Before the outbreak, the global economy already exhibited a underlying vulnerabilities.

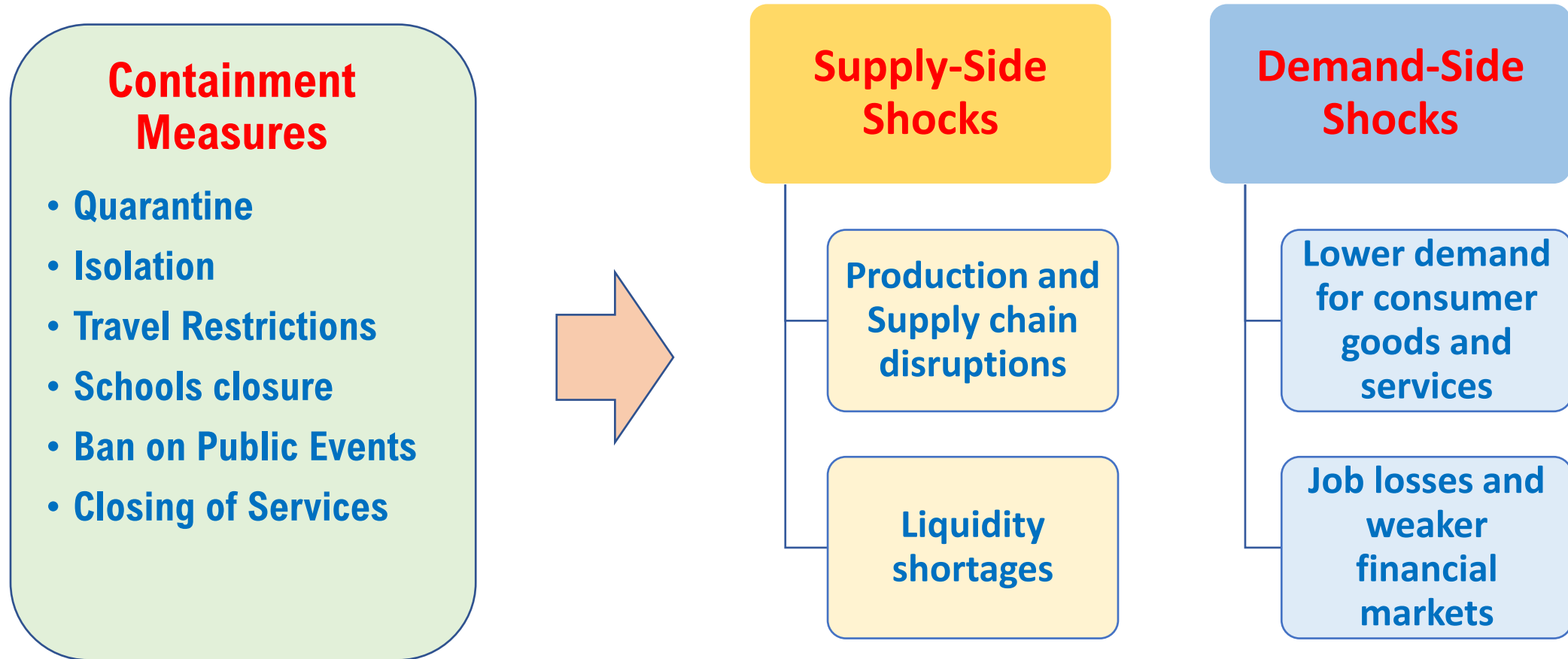
These include:

- high levels of debt
 - trade tensions between major economies
 - gaps in income, wealth and job stability in many countries
- The world is more globalized today than during some previous pandemics:
 - China is more integrated in the global economy now than during SARS episode in 2003
→ COVID-19 spreads more rapidly and has bigger effect on the world economy
 - Combined with the COVID-19 outbreak, there was recently a slump in oil prices

COVID-19 Affecting All SDGs



COVID-19: Supply-Side and Demand-Side Shocks

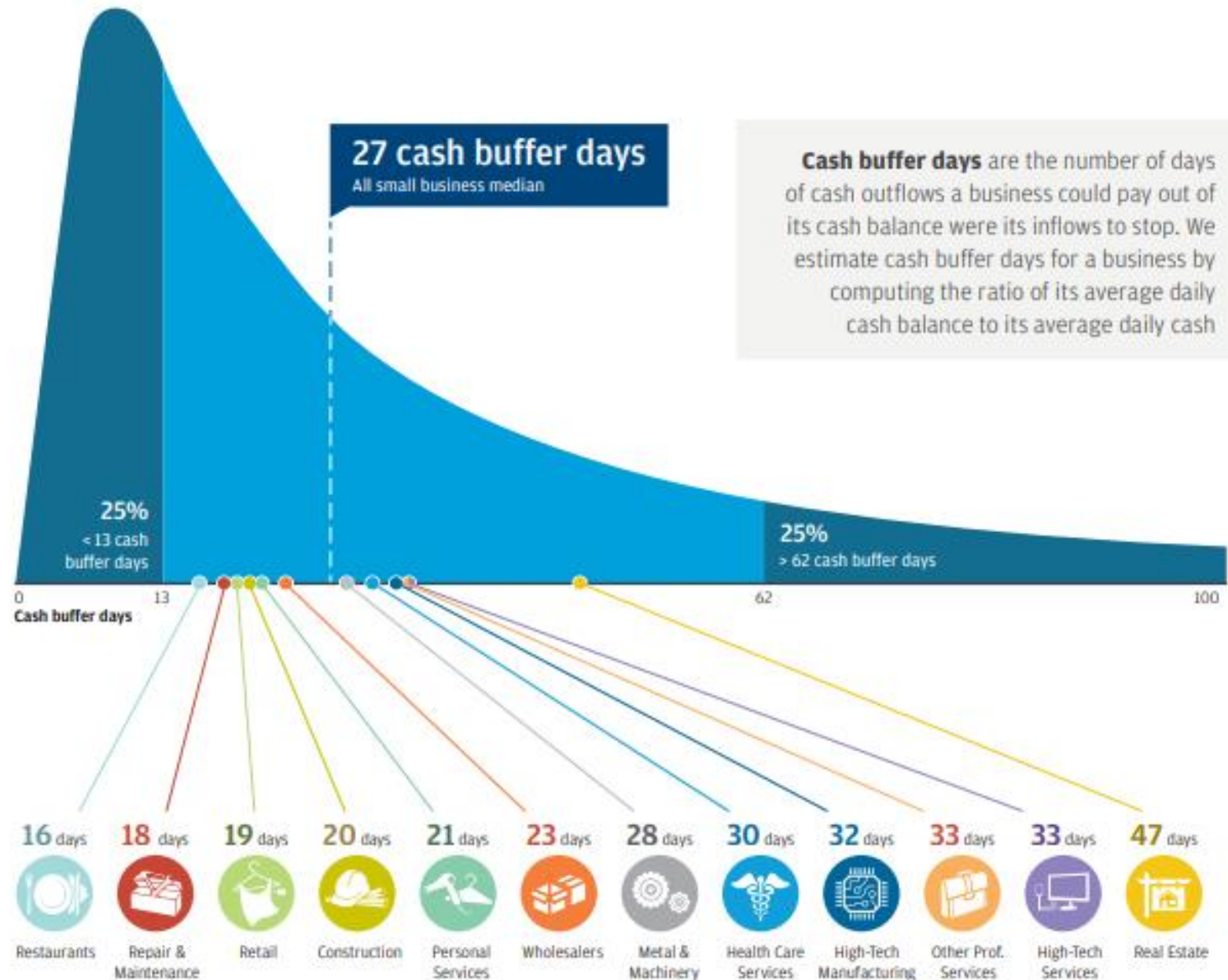


Lockdown Effects

Globally, most of the small and medium firms (SMEs) have less than one-month cash-flow to stay in business.

In low and middle-income countries, SMEs are under even harder pressure

Large firms have capacity to resist, but need to monitor the threshold to minimize jobs loss.

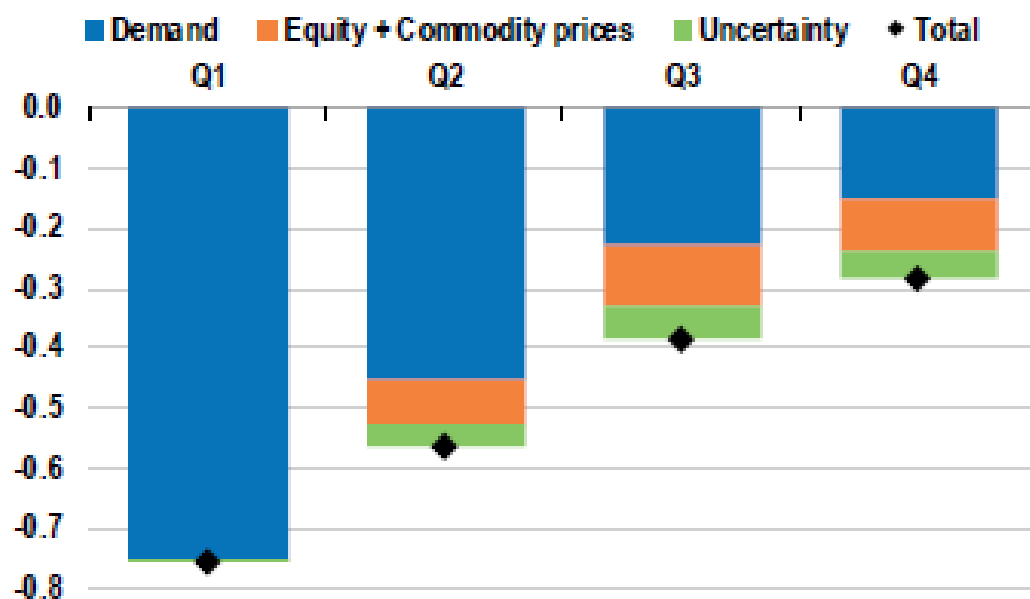


COVID-19: Global Contained/Downside Scenario

Contained outbreak scenario

World GDP in 2020

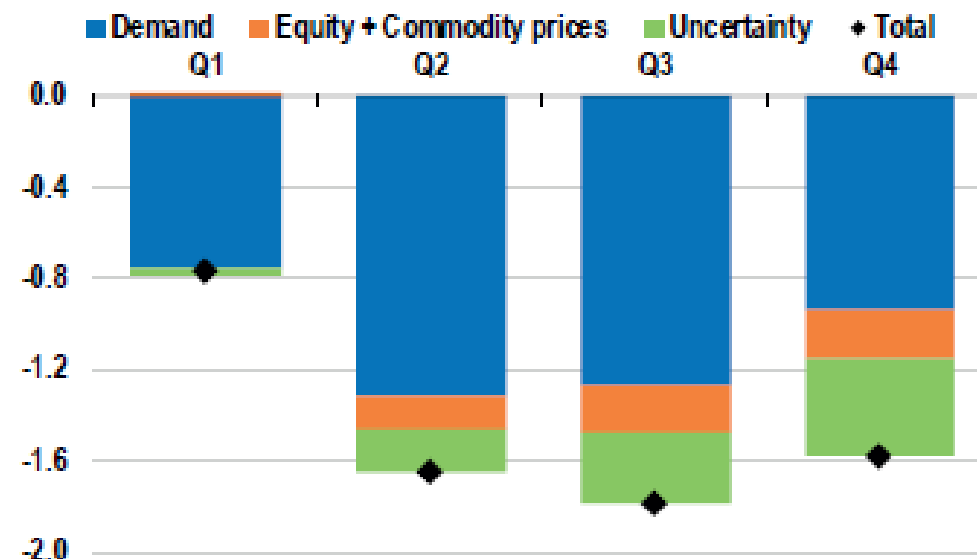
% difference from baseline and contributions in % pts



Downside scenario

World GDP in 2020

% difference from baseline and contributions in % pts



Economic Effects of COVID-19: Global Estimations

Estimations on Economic Effects of COVID-19 in 2020: GDP Growth and Percentage Point Difference from Baseline Under Different Scenarios.

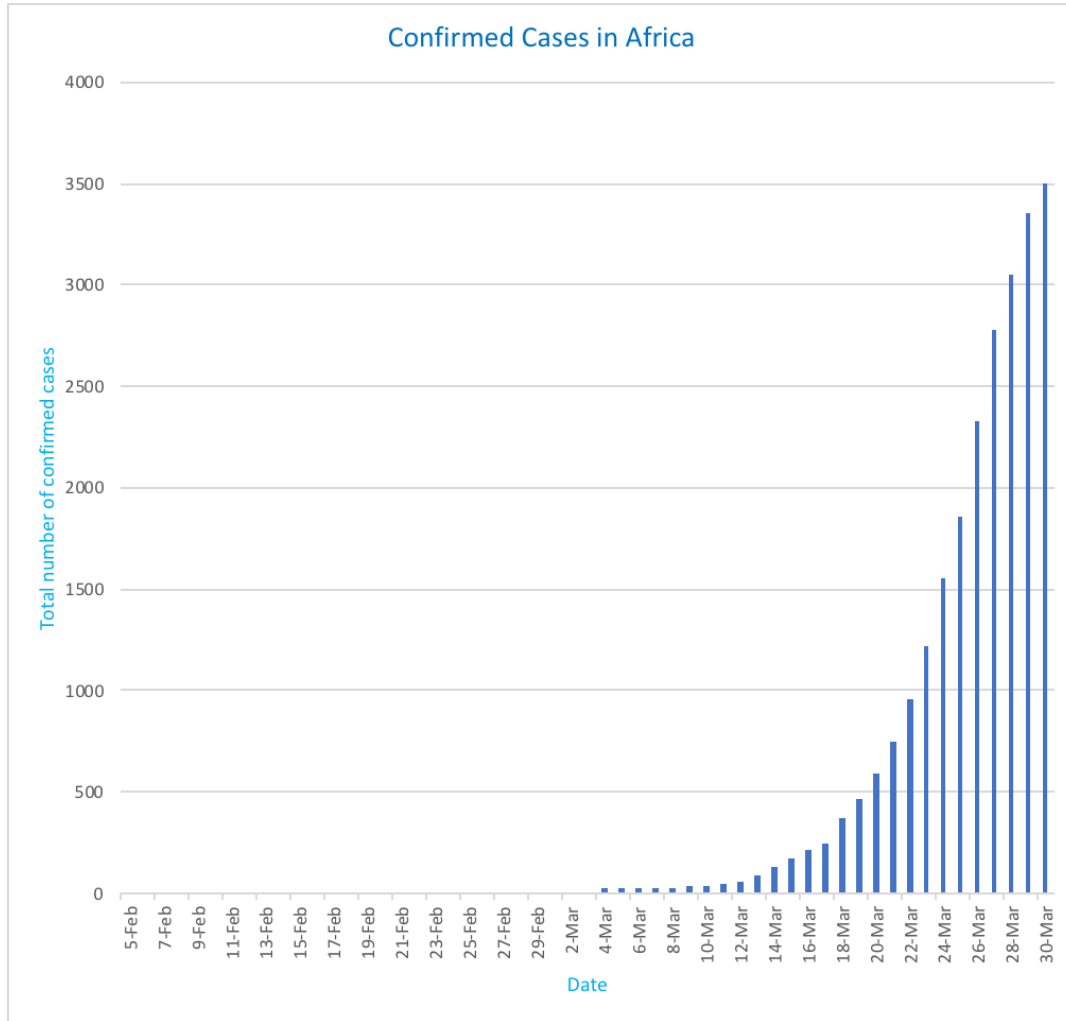
	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development OECD (Global)*1	Brookings Institute (for SS African Economies)*2	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Growth in Africa*3	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) Growth in LAC*4	Asian Development Bank (ADB) Growth in Asia Pacific*5
Baseline	2.9%	3.59 %	3.2 %		
COVID-19 Low-impact	2.4 % (-0.5)	2.5 % (-1.09)	1.8 % (-1.4)	-1.8 %	China: -0.32 Developing Asia (excl. China): -0.17
COVID-19 High-impact	1.4 % (-1.5)	1.5 % (-2.09)			China: -1.7 Developing Asia (excl. China): -0.46

Estimations are being updated continuously. On 30th of March the OECD announced that in major economies they estimate a loss of 2 percentage points in annual GDP growth for each month of containment

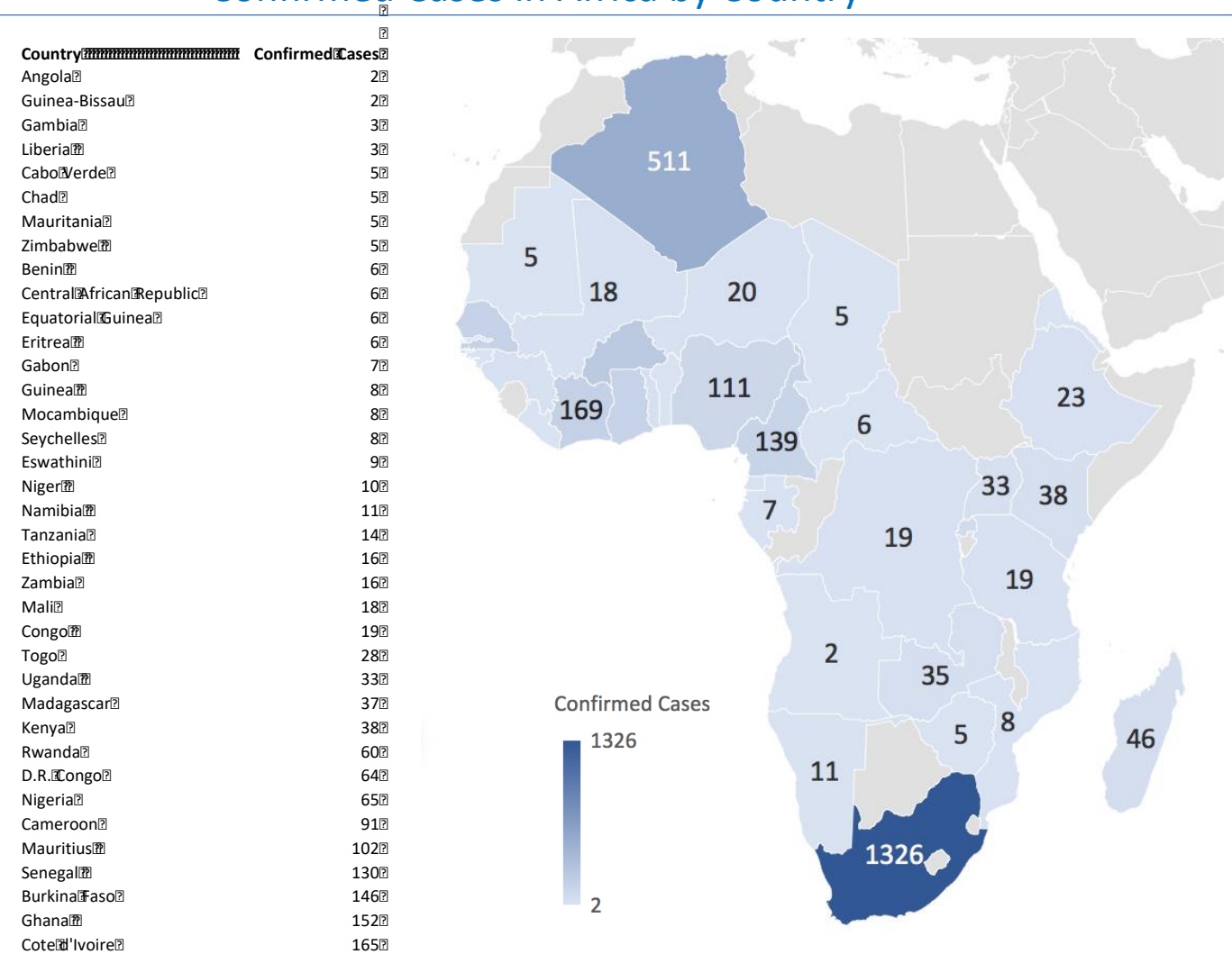
COVID-19: Impacts on Africa

COVID-19: Confirmed Cases in Africa (As of 31 March 2020)

Confirmed Cases in Africa by Date

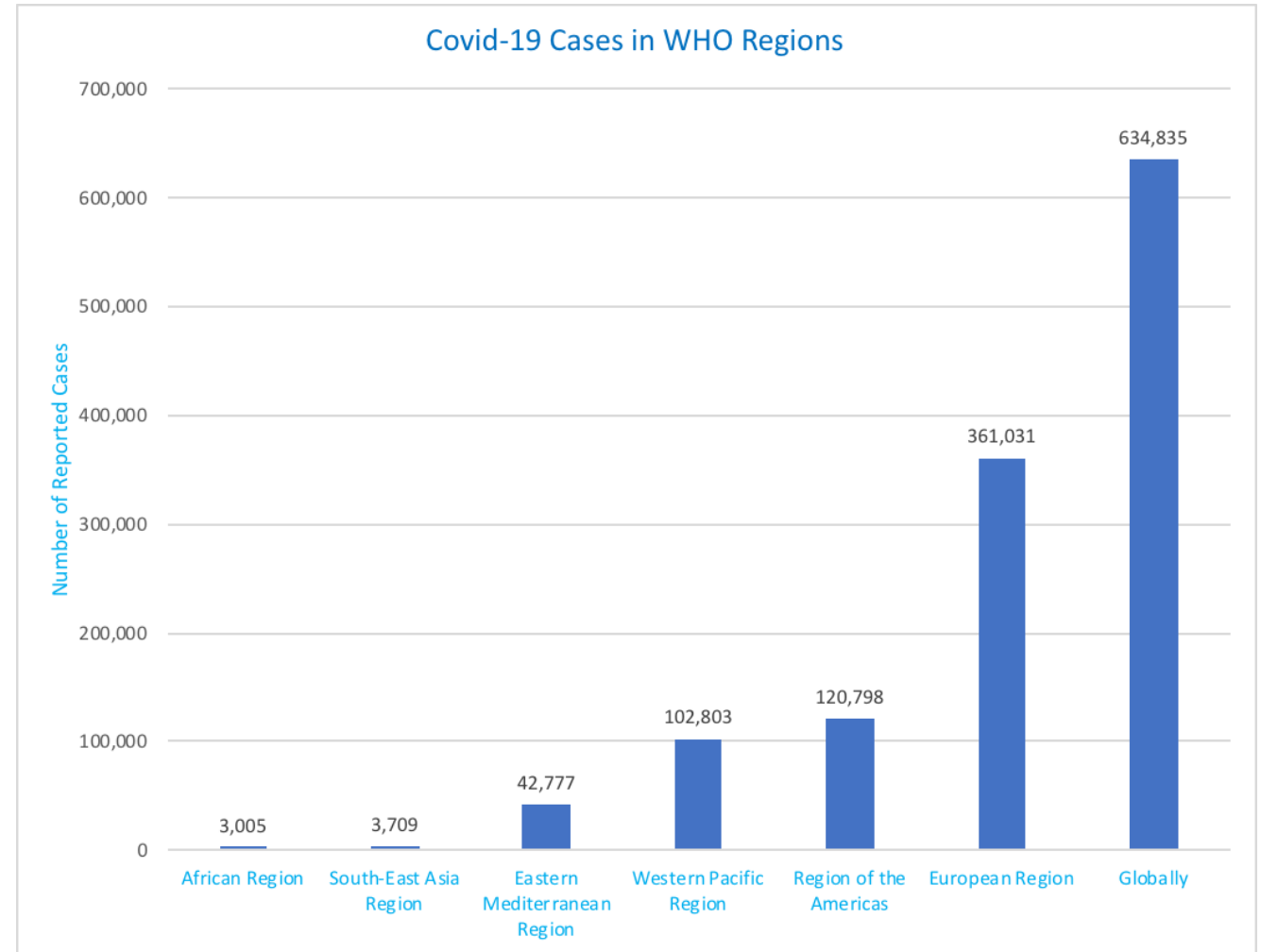


Confirmed Cases in Africa by Country



Covid-19 in Africa

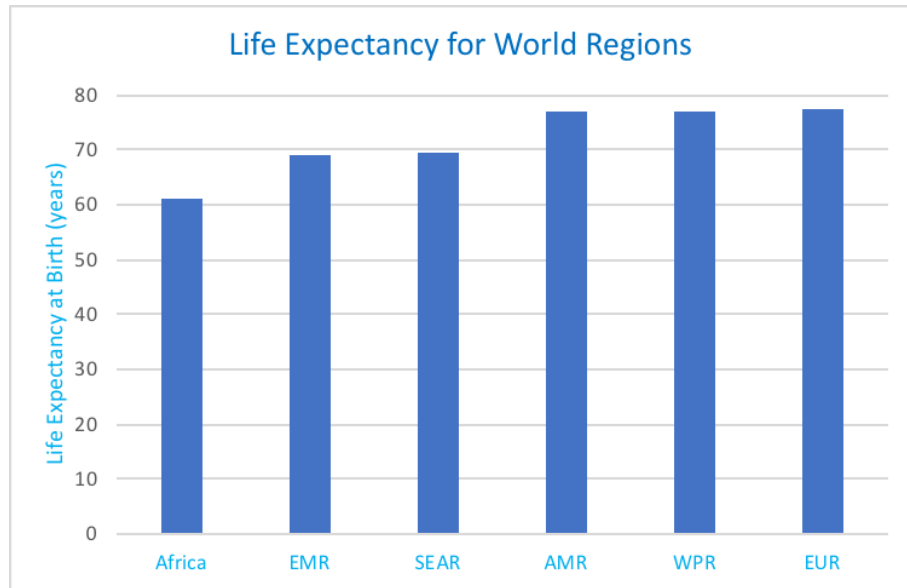
- Africa as a region still has comparatively few cases of Covid-19
- Only two countries in the WHO African region could test for Covid-19 at the start of the outbreak
- As of 30th March, all forty-seven countries in the WHO African region can test for COVID-19
- The *extent* to which countries can test and treat Covid-19 is however dependent on health care systems



Source: <https://www.afro.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus-covid-19>

Africa: Health at a Glance

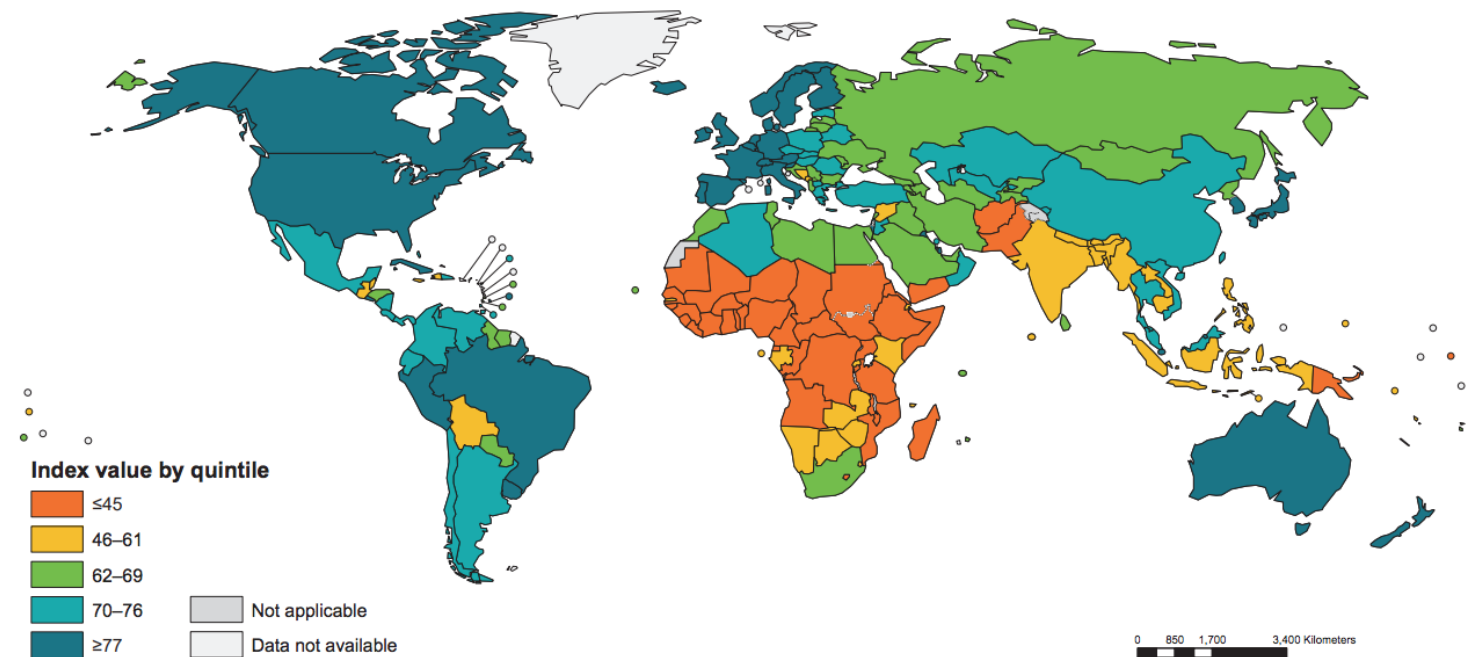
- Life expectancy and universal health coverage are lower in Africa than the rest of the world
- Resilience is low in African health care systems



Regions follow WHO classifications:

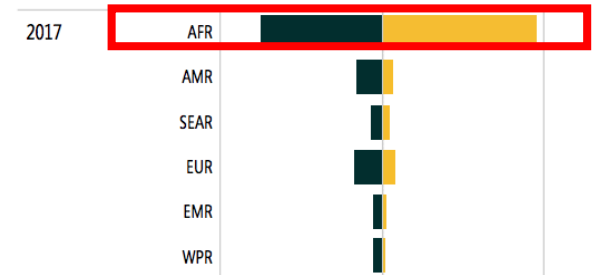
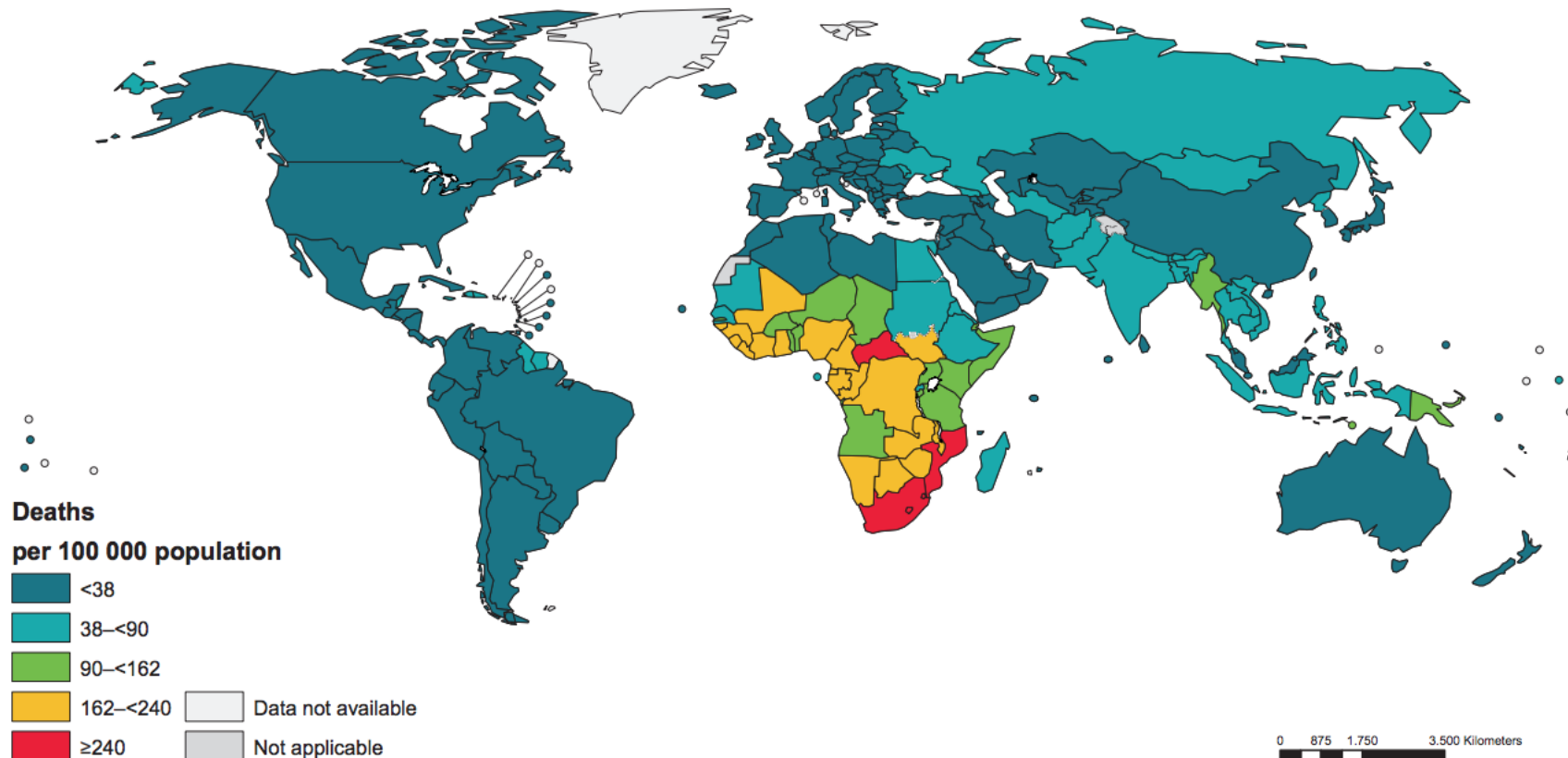
- Africa
- EMR: Eastern Mediterranean Region
- SEAR: South-East Asia Region
- AMR: Region of the Americas
- WPR: Western Pacific Region
- EUR: European Region

Universal Health Coverage index by country (2015)

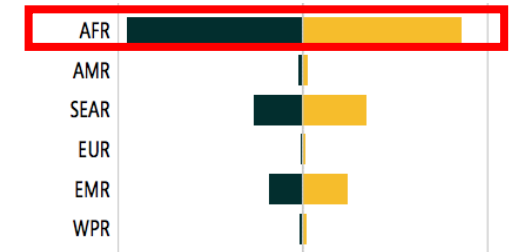


Diseases Affect Africa Harder

Deaths per 100 000 Population from Infectious Diseases Covered by SDG Target 3.3 (2016)



New HIV Infections (2017)



Mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH services (2016)

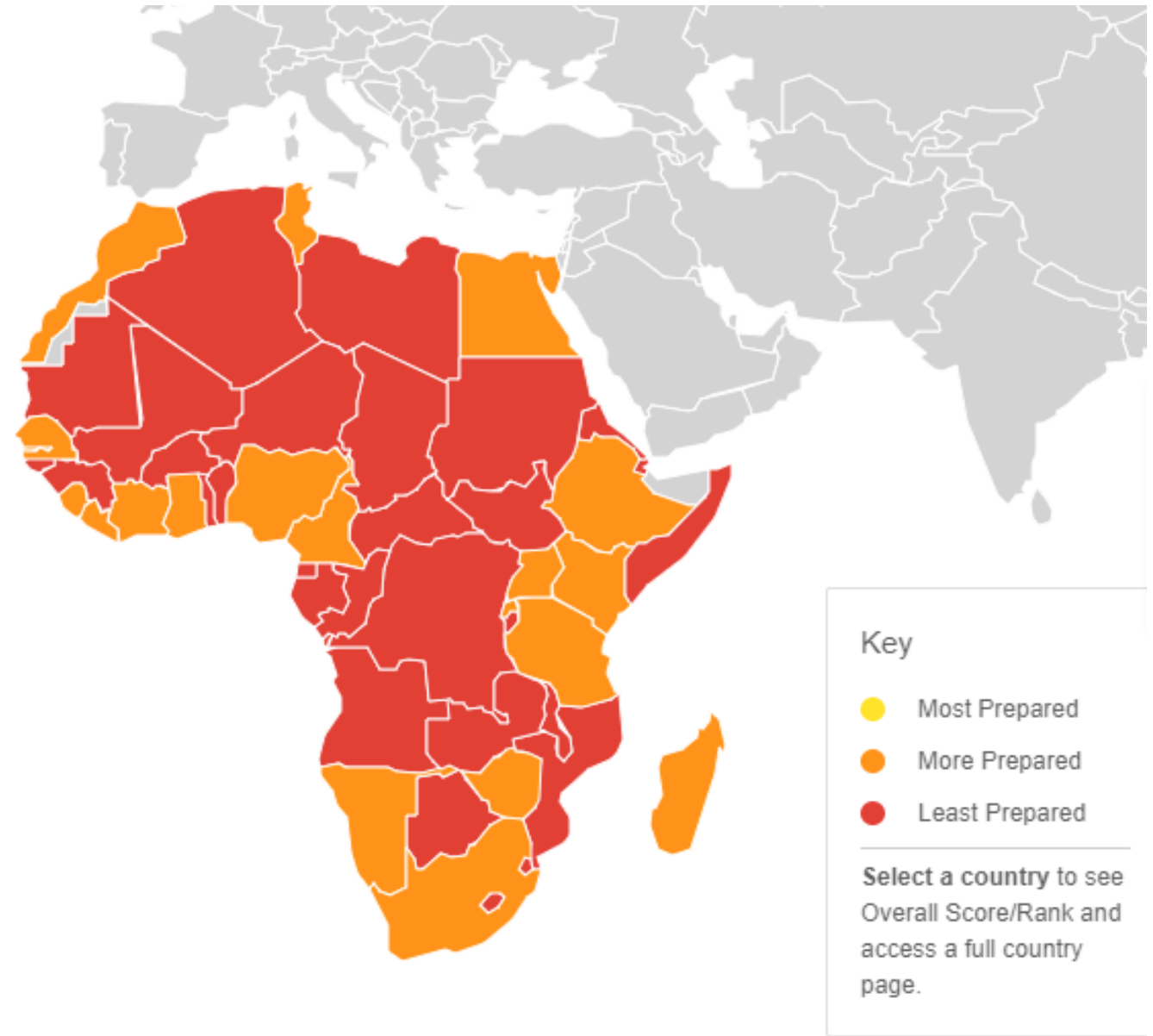
TARGET 3.3: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

INDICATORS

- 3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations
- 3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 1000 population
- 3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1000 population
- 3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100 000 population
- 3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases

Africa: Global Health Security Index / GHS Index

The average overall GHS Index score is 40.2 out of a possible 100. While high-income countries report an average score of 51.9, the Index shows that collectively, international preparedness for epidemics and pandemics remains very weak



GHS: <https://www.ghsindex.org/>

Major Public Health Risks in Africa

- Lower respiratory conditions and HIV represent the top two cause of both morbidity and mortality
- These can both increase the deadliness of Covid-19 in Africa
- Several other of these major public health risks have a strong relation to Covid-19

Morbidity cause					Mortality cause				
DALYs lost per 100 000 population					Crude death rate per 100 000 population				
2015 Rank	Condition	2015	2000	% change	2015 Rank	Condition	2015	2000	% change
1	Lower respiratory infections	6 546	11 360	-42.4	1	Lower respiratory infections	101.8	157.7	-35
2	HIV/AIDS	4 637	11 016	-57.9	2	HIV/AIDS	76.8	179.0	-57
3	Diarrhoeal diseases	4 497	10 336	-56.5	3	Diarrhoeal diseases	65.0	136.3	-52
4	Malaria	3 600	10 665	-66.2	4	Stroke	45.6	47.2	-3
5	Preterm birth complications	3 215	4 890	-34.3	5	Ischaemic heart disease	44.5	45.5	-2
6	Birth asphyxia and trauma	3 070	5 091	-39.7	6	Tuberculosis	44.0	58.1	-24
7	Congenital anomalies	2 006	2 162	-7.2	7	Malaria	40.8	118.8	-66
8	Tuberculosis	1 875	2 429	-22.8	8	Preterm birth complications	34.7	53.0	-34
9	Road injury	1 664	1 679	-0.9	9	Birth asphyxia and trauma	32.5	54.6	-41
10	Neonatal sepsis/ infections	1 616	2 175	-25.7	10	Road injury	27.2	26.8	1
Total		32 726	61 803	29,077	Average		51.29	87.7	36.41

Source: <https://www.afro.who.int/>

COVID-19: Measures in Africa (1/3) (As of 30 March 2020)

	ALG	ANG	BEN	BKF	CBV	CMR	CAR	CHD	CNG	CID	DRC	EGY	EQG	ERT	ESW	ETH	GBN	GMB
Movement																		
Restrictions on domestic transportation					X					X	X							
Travel restrictions on foreign travels	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Border closures				X				X					X			X	X	X
Health																		
Mandatory quarantine for travellers and suspected/confirmed cases	X	X	X		X			X	X					X	X	X		
National State of Emergency										X	X							X
Economy																		
Fiscal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Monetary and Macro-Financial	X		X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X
Exchange Rate and Balance of Payments	X																	
Labor																		
Working from home advisories	X											X						
Temporary paid leave	X																	
Education and Social Measures																		
Closure of learning institutions	X			X		X		X	X	X	X				X	X	X	
Restrictions/Ban on public gatherings (churches, etc.) and Social Distancing	X		X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Curfew	X			X						X							X	
Actions Taken	10	3	5	7	4	4	2	7	5	8	7	5	5	3	6	6	7	5
Source: Policy Responses to Covid-19, IMF																		
https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19																		

COVID-19: Measures in Africa (2/3) (As of 30 March 2020)

	GH	GNE	GNB	KE	LSTH	LBR	LBY	MDG	MLW	MALI	MRTN	MRTS	MRC	MZB	NMB	NGR	NG	RW
Movement																		
Restrictions on domestic transportation			X	X				X			X	X						X
Travel restrictions on foreign travels	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Border closures	X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X				X		X
Health																		
Mandatory quarantine for travellers and suspected/confirmed cases	X			X	X		X	X	X				X	X				
National State of Emergency					X			X					X		X			
Economy																		
Fiscal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Monetary and Macro-Financial	X			X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Exchange Rate and Balance of Payments								X				X	X	X			X	X
Labor																		
Working from home advisories				X													X	X
Temporary paid leave																		
Education and Social Measures																		
Closure of learning institutions	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Restrictions/Ban on public gatherings (churches, etc.) and Social Distancing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Curfew	X						X	X			X	X						
Actions Taken	8	5	6	9	6	3	6	11	4	6	8	9	8	7	6	6	7	9
Source: Policy Responses to Covid-19, IMF																		
https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19																		

COVID-19: Measures in Africa (3/3) (As of 30 March 2020)

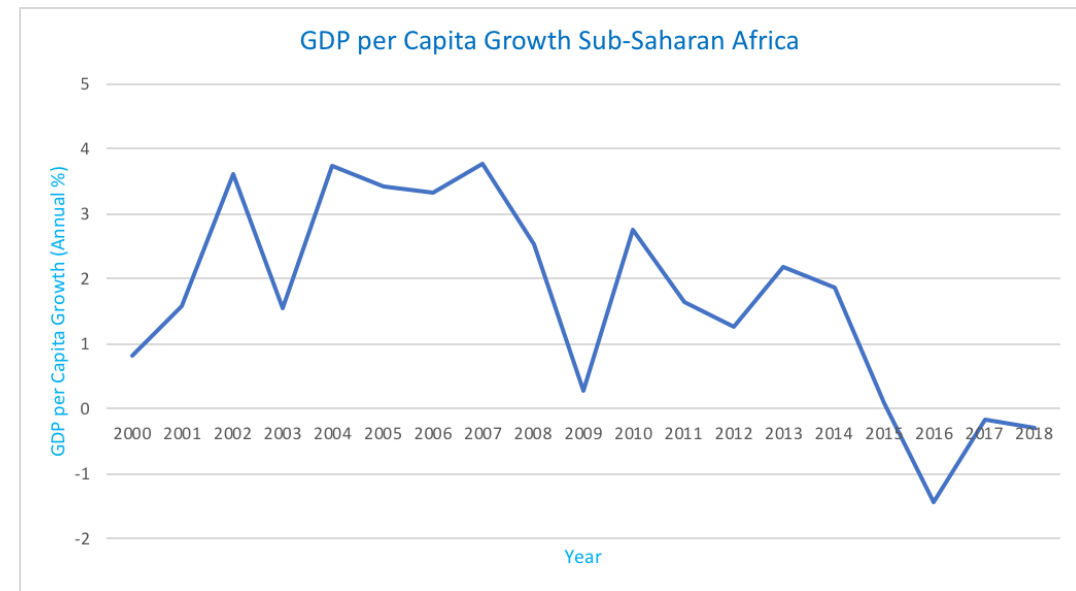
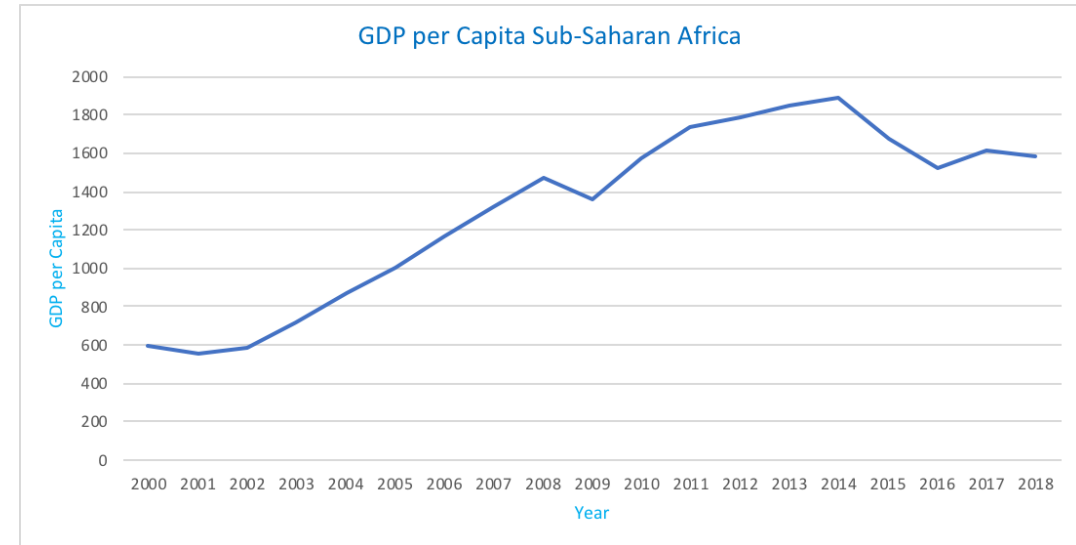
	SNG	SYCH	SRL	SML	SA	SSD	SDN	TOGO	TNS	UG	TZ	ZAM	ZIM
Movement													
Restrictions on domestic transportation	X				X	X				X			
Travel restrictions on foreign travels	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Border closures	X		X			X	X	X	X	X			
Health													
Mandatory quarantine for travellers and suspected/confirmed cases			X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
National State of Emergency	X		X		X				X				
Economy													
Fiscal	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X
Monetary and Macro-Financial	X	X	X		X			X	X	X		X	X
Exchange Rate and Balance of Payments			X		X					X			X
Labor													
Working from home advisories					X	X							X
Temporary paid leave													
Education and Social Measures													
Closure of learning institutions	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Restrictions/Ban on public gatherings (churches, etc.) and Social Distancing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Curfew							X		X				
Actions Taken	8	5	9	3	10	6	7	7	9	8	3	6	6
Source: Policy Responses to Covid-19, IMF													
https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19													

COVID-19: Actions Undertaken in Africa

MEASURE	No. of Countries
Movement	
Restrictions on domestic transportation	13
Travel restrictions on foreign travels	44
Border closures	24
Health	
Mandatory quarantine for travellers and suspected/confirmed cases	25
National State of Emergency	11
Economy	
Fiscal	45
Monetary and Macro-Financial	36
Exchange Rate and Balance of Payments	11
Labor	
Working from home advisories	8
Temporary paid leave	1
Education and Social Measures	
Closure of learning institutions	38
Restrictions/Ban on public gatherings (churches, etc.) and Social Distancing	43
Curfew	11

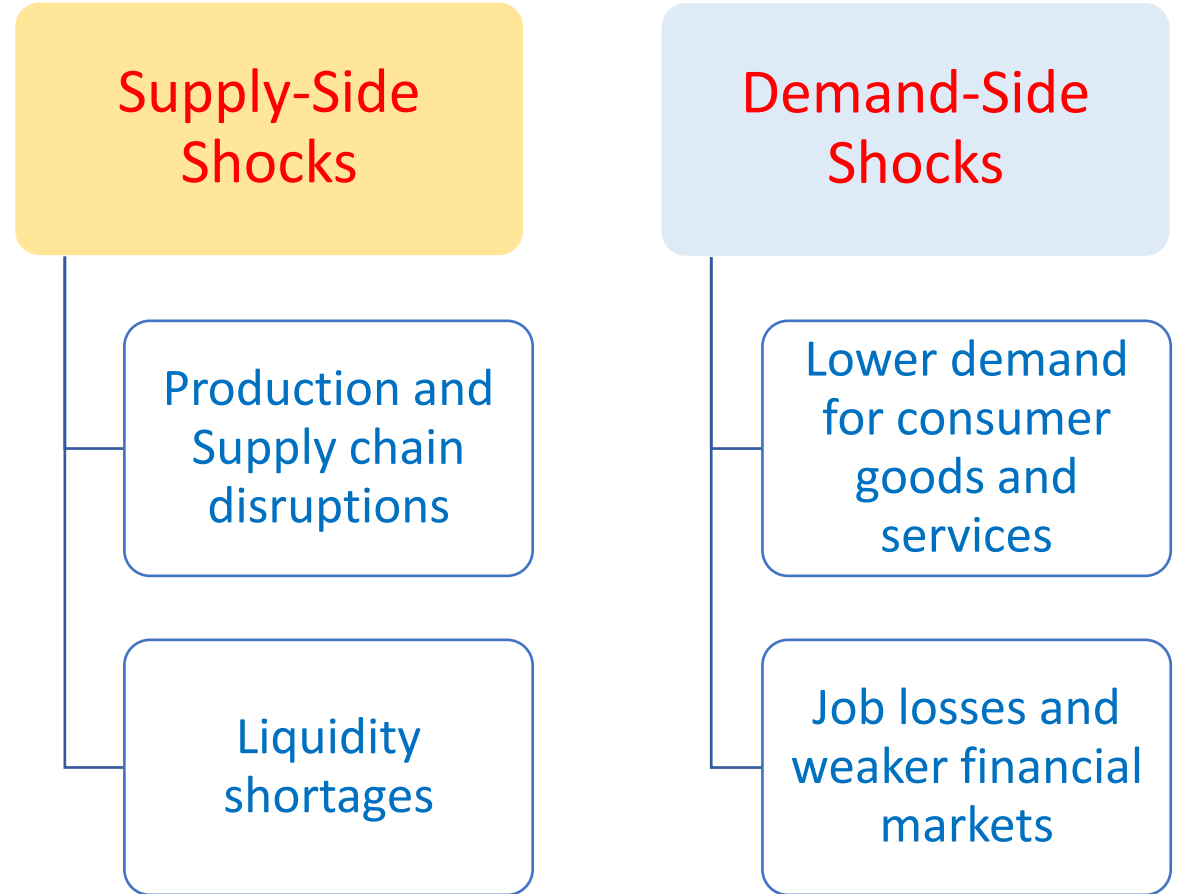
African Economy

- As of 2018, Sub-Saharan Africa's GDP per capita stood at \$1 585
 - From Low to High-Income countries
- Before the COVID 19 out-break, Africa's economy had been predicted to grow **3.9% in 2020** and **4.1% in 2021** (AfDB, 2020)
 - Large difference in growth rates among SSA countries
- In the 2009 crisis GDP per capita growth dropped to almost zero
- In 2016, SSA had negative GDP per capita growth



Composition of African Economy

- Some major contributors to Africa's GDP include; Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing, Tourism, Industry and Manufacturing, Oil, Mining, and the Financial Sector
- Many of these sectors are now exposed
 - Lower demand domestically and abroad
 - Dependence on other countries for imports of intermediate good
 - Travel restrictions
 - Weaker financial markets
- In many of these sectors, workers cannot “work from home” → job losses
- There is a risk for increasing poverty levels



Covid-19 & Economic Shocks on Africa

Containment Measures

- Measures that are crucial to slowing the spread of the virus will have a direct cost on local economies
- The disruption to people's daily lives means less paid work, less income, less spending, and fewer jobs. And, with borders closed, travel and tourism are quickly drying up, and shipping and trade are suffering

Global Hardship Spillovers

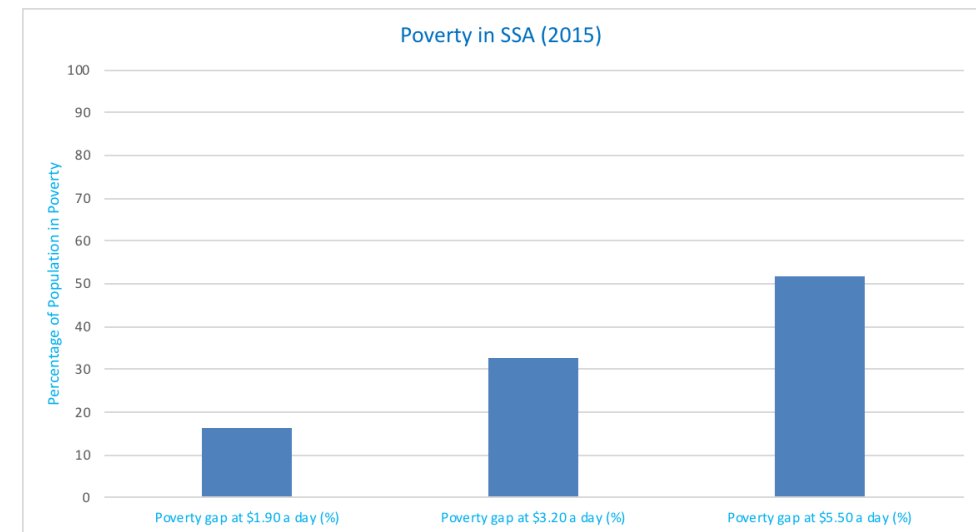
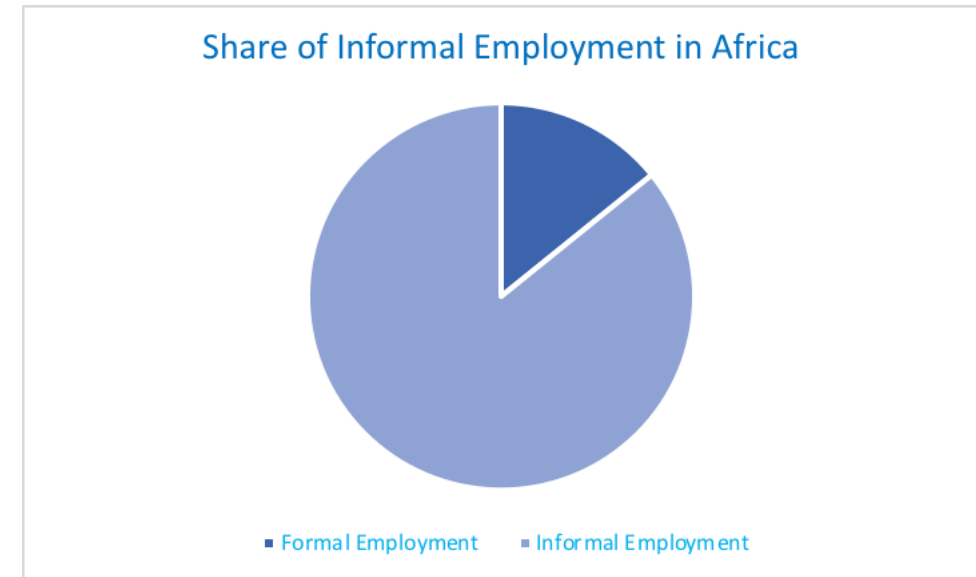
- Reduced global demand
- Disruptions to production and world supply chains
- Tighter global financial conditions will limit access to finance
- Countries are likely to also see delays in getting investment or development projects off the ground

Oil Price Fall and Locust Swarms

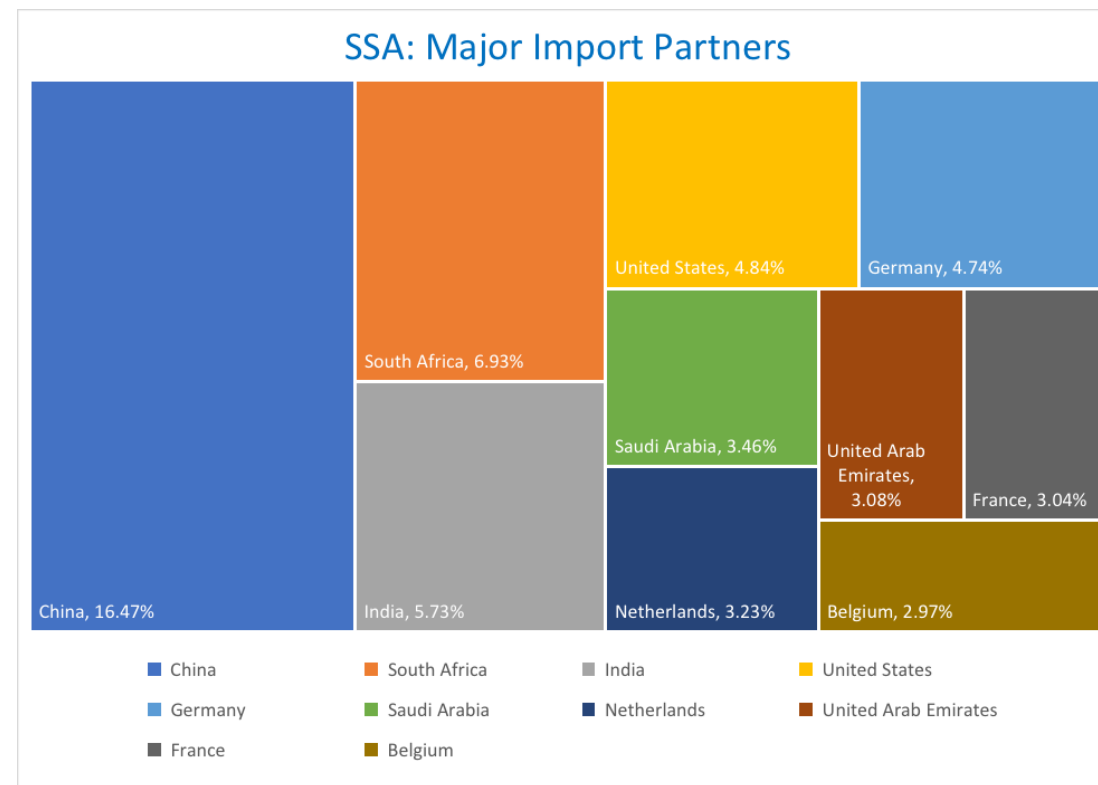
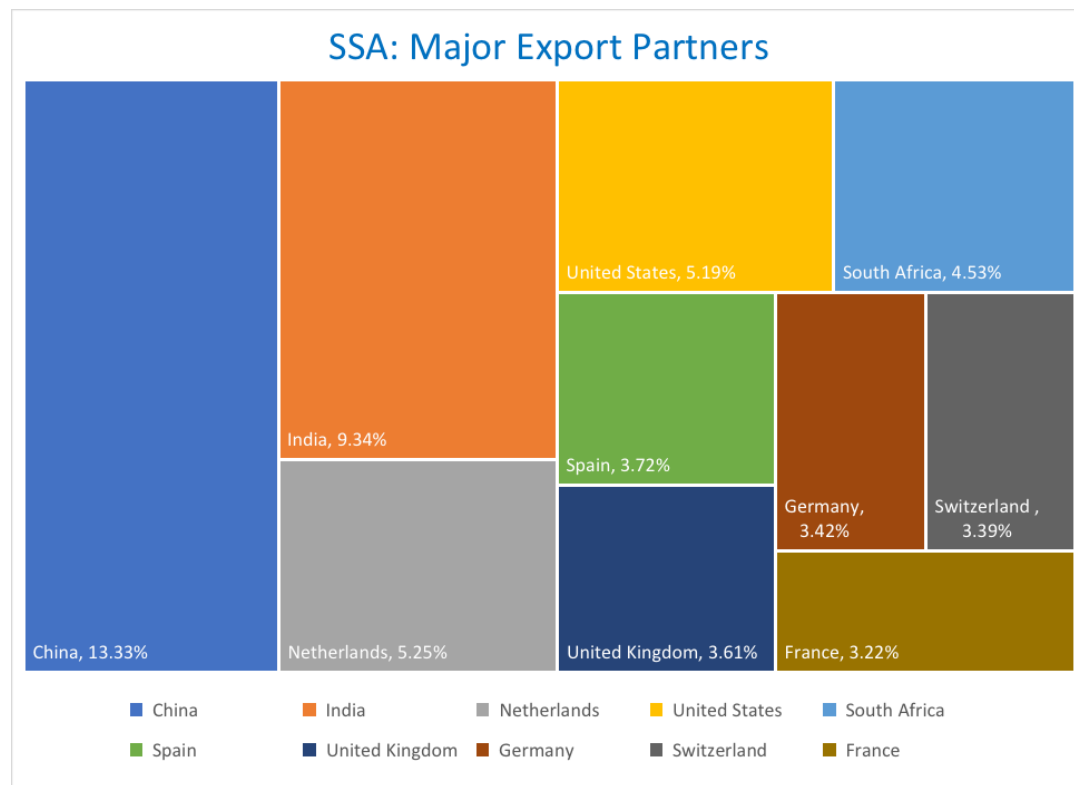
- Oil prices down by more than 50 percent since the start of the year. Will hurt oil exporting countries
- Agricultural production had begun to be distorted by the locust swarms in East Africa in early 2020

African Economy and People Already Impacted

- Closure of commercial outlets, government institutions and corporations – as well as an abrupt stop of tourism – has brought countries to a halt
- Lockdown means the informal sector lose their source of income
- The lack of income loss insurance produces a high risk that workers will not implement social distancing
- There is a risk for increases in poverty levels



Africa's Trade Partners are Heavily Infected (1/2)



Africa's Trade Partners are Heavily Infected (2/2)

Out of the 10 countries with most cases of Covid-19:

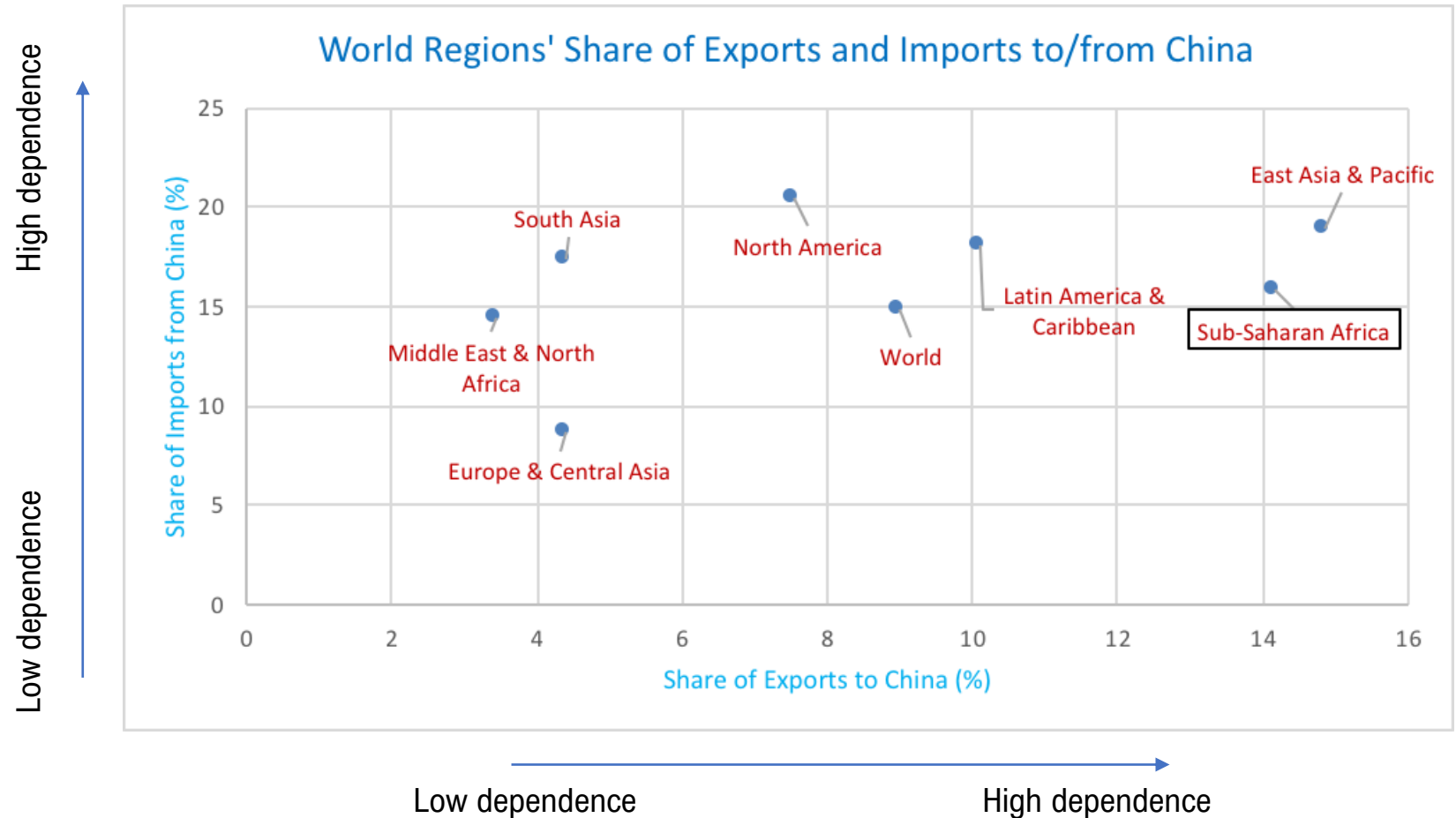
- 8/10 are top 10 export partners to Africa
- 5/10 are top import partners to Africa

Country	Number of Covid-19 Cases*	SSA Top 10 Export Partner Ranking	SSA Top 10 Import Partner Ranking
1. United States	103 321	4	4
2. Italy	92 472	-	-
3. China	82 341	1	1
4. Spain	72 284	6	-
5. Germany	52 547	8	5
6. France	37 145	10	9
7. Iran	35 408	-	-
8. United Kingdom	17 093	7	-
9. Switzerland	13 152	9	-
10. Netherlands	9 762	3	7

*Covid-19 Cases data as of March 29 2020

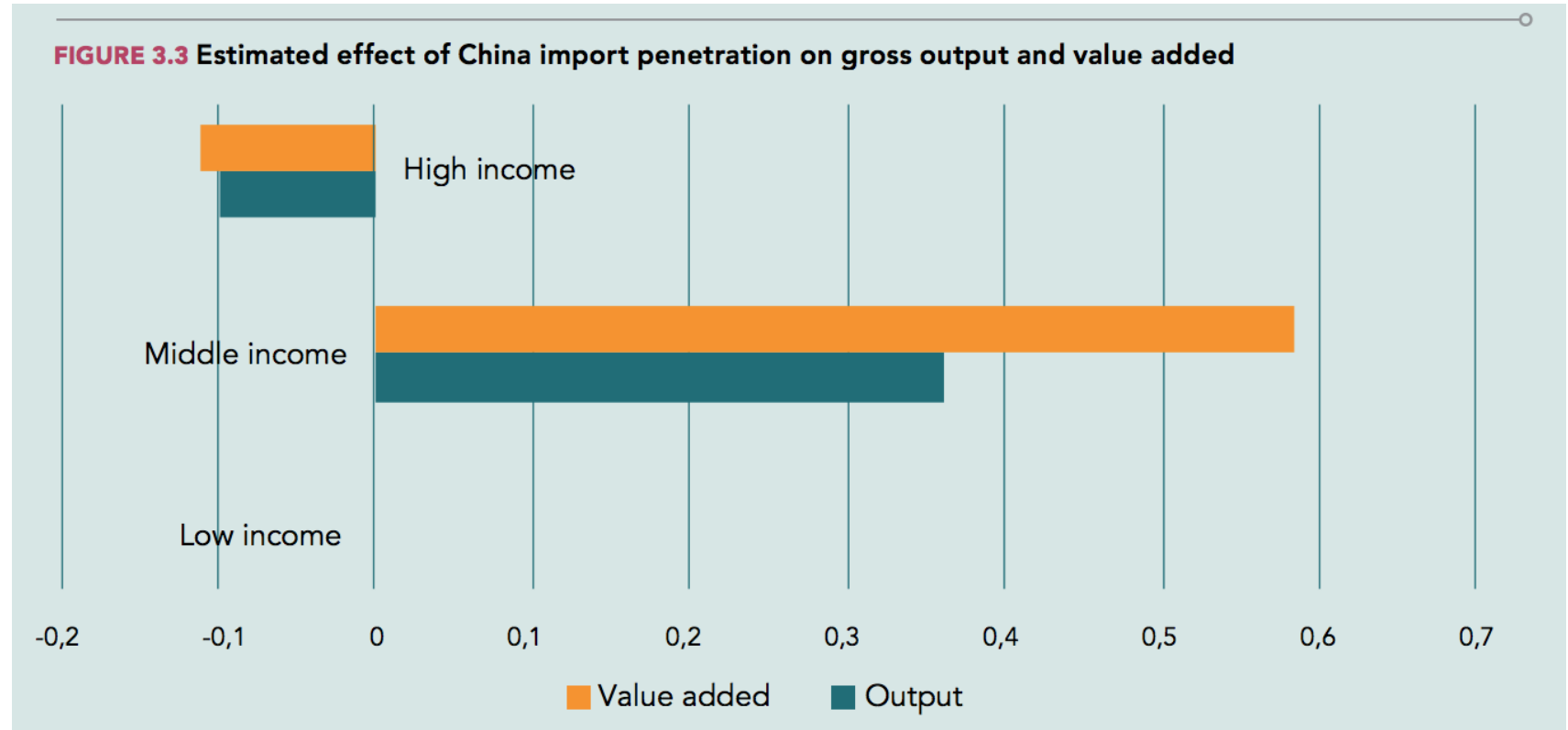
Africa Trade Dependence on China (1/2)

- SSA countries have a high dependency on China for exports and imports
- SSA countries rely on China for trade → COVID-19 likely to damage SSA's role in GVCs
- Disruption from China was initial shock. Now we are seeing impacts from Europe and North America



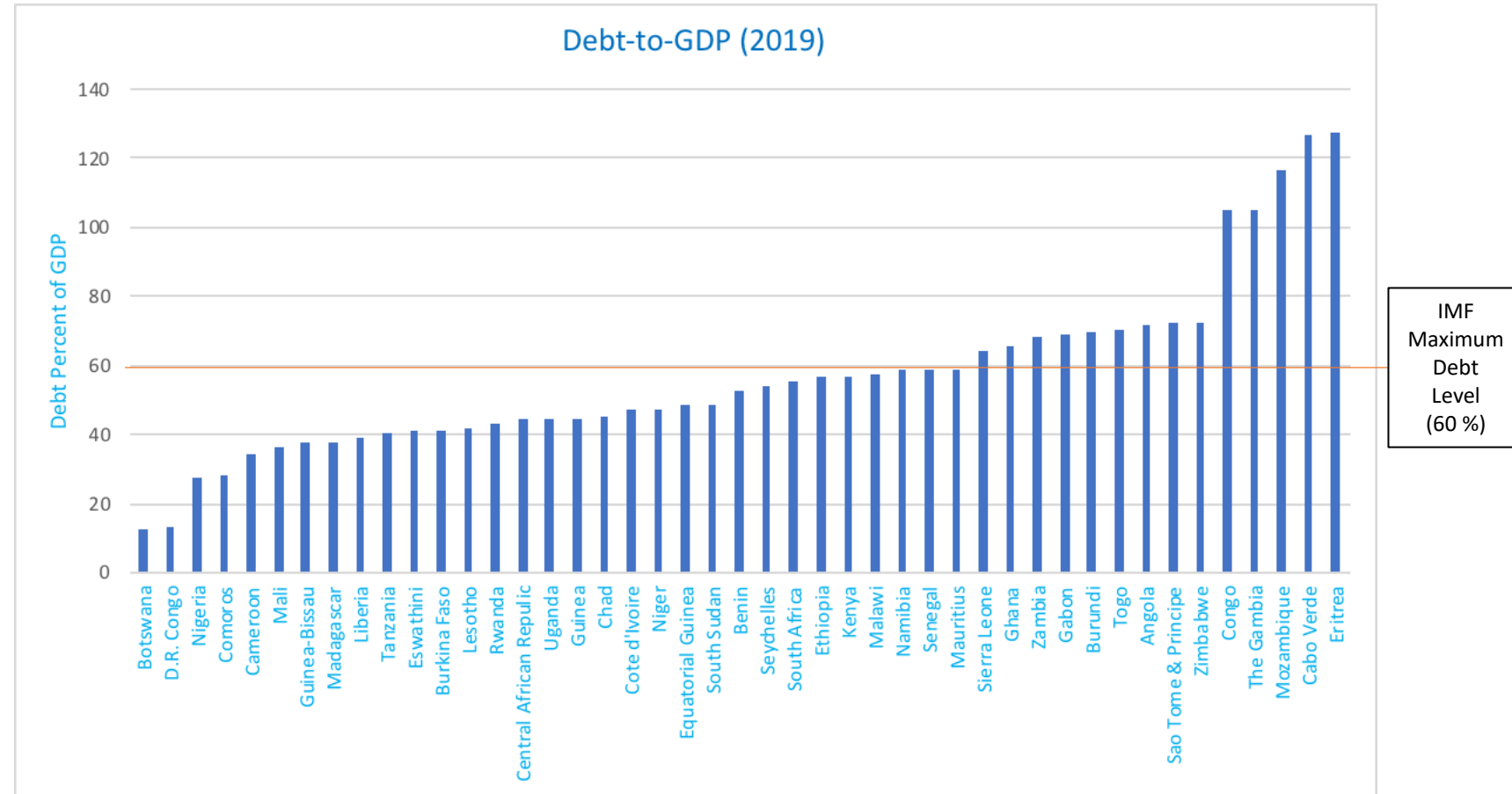
African Trade Dependence on China (2/2)

- Middle-income countries have benefitted from China import penetration
- Availability of Chinese imports goods have benefitted gross output and value added
- Africa relies on China for intermediate goods imports
→ COVID-19 damages
Kenya's role in value chains



Africa's Debt Makes it Vulnerable

- Heavily-indebted developing countries face an economic threat
- A decade ago, the region was spared the brunt of the global financial crisis. Lower debt levels meant most countries had room to increase spending and they were able to implement counter-cyclical policies
- Today, many countries in sub-Saharan Africa have limited room in their budgets to increase spending. They are also more reliant on global capital markets today



Data Source: IMF 2019

Low Income Cities Have Very Limited Resources

Budget and Capital Expenditures by Income Level

Country Income Level	Average of Total budget per capita (USD)	Average of Capital expenditures per capita (USD)
High	\$3,720	\$602
Upper-middle	\$1,413	\$638
Lower-middle	\$121	\$29
Low	\$45	\$23
All	\$1,610	\$406

Source: Global Municipal Database, UN-Habitat 2018

African Cities Needs Stronger Finance to Act Locally

Budget and Capital Expenditures by Region

Region	Average budget per capita (USD)	Average capital expenditures per capita (USD)
East Asia and Pacific	\$2,521	\$937
Europe and Central Asia	\$1,718	\$254
Latin America and the Caribbean	\$1,003	\$159
Middle East and North Africa	\$489	\$385
North America	\$3,382	\$572
South Asia	\$80	\$30
Sub-Saharan Africa	\$138	\$26
All	\$1,610	\$406

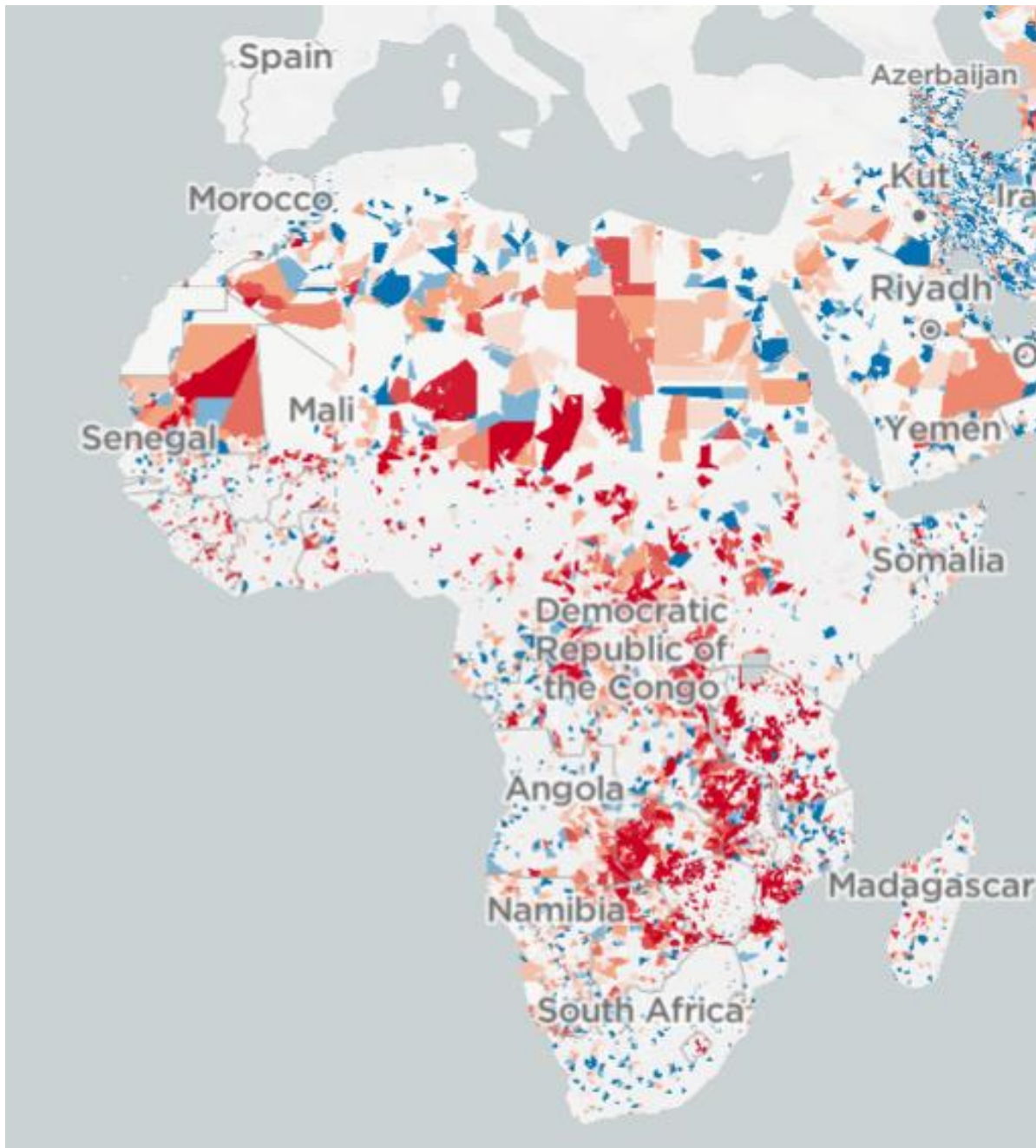
Source: Global Municipal Database, UN-Habitat 2018

Africa: Informal Settlements

In Africa, 60% of urban settlements are informal, and most of the populations live in precarious housing where families share rooms and houses

Informal settlements and overcrowded public spaces such as buses and markets may spread COVID-19 in unpredictable ways

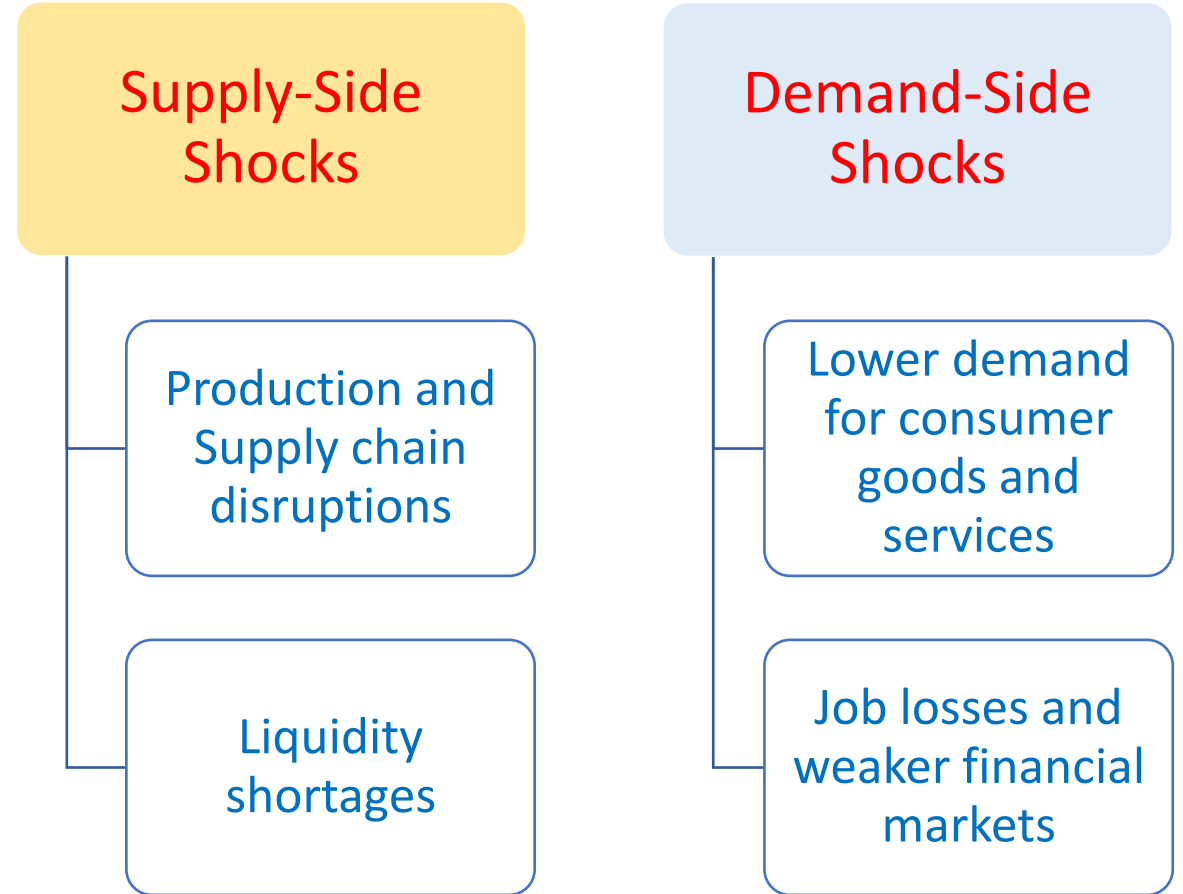
The lack of access to land, shelter, basic services and transport i) drive a higher risk from the virus itself and ii) make the country less resilient to a shock like this.



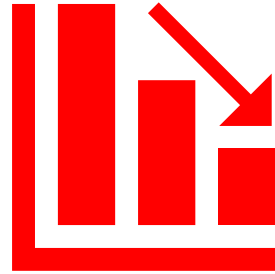
COVID-19: The Kenyan Economy

Composition of Kenyan Economy

- Some major contributors to Africa's GDP include; Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing, Tourism, Industry and Manufacturing, Mining, and the Financial Sector
- Many of these sectors are now exposed
 - Lower demand domestically and abroad
 - Dependence on other countries for imports of intermediate good
 - Weaker financial markets
- In many of these sectors, workers cannot “work from home” → job losses
- There is a risk for increasing poverty levels



Effects on Tourism



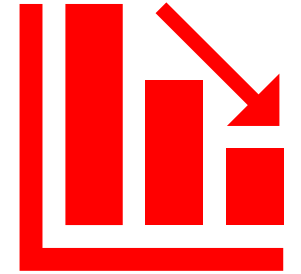
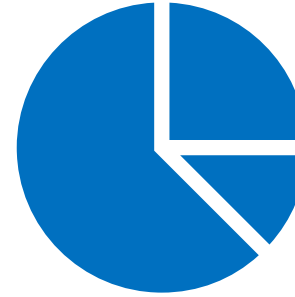
Tourism contributes:

- 8.5 % of Africa's GDP
- 6.7 % of Africa's employment

COVID-19 Challenges:

- Travel restrictions, and the cancellation of many planned visits, flights, business and leisure events
- Drop in the important tourism sector, where many business owners lack insurance to cover lost income

Effects on Agriculture



Agriculture contributes:

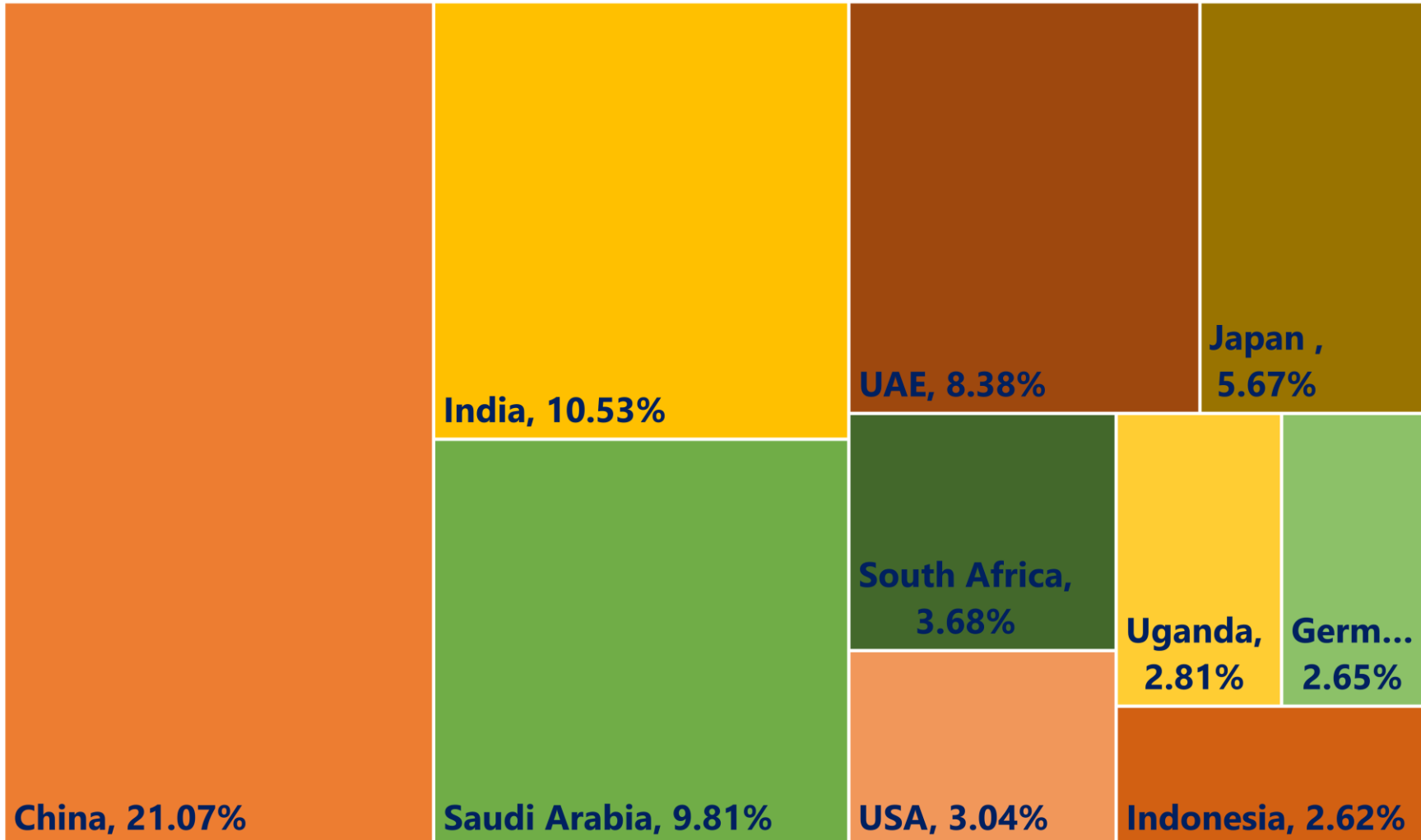
- 15 % of Africa's GDP
- Employs around half of the labor force

Covid-19 Challenges:

- Agricultural production had begun to be distorted by the locust swarms in East Africa in early 2020
- COVID-19 induces further shock

Kenya's Import Partners

Kenya's Top 10 Import Partner Countries (2018)



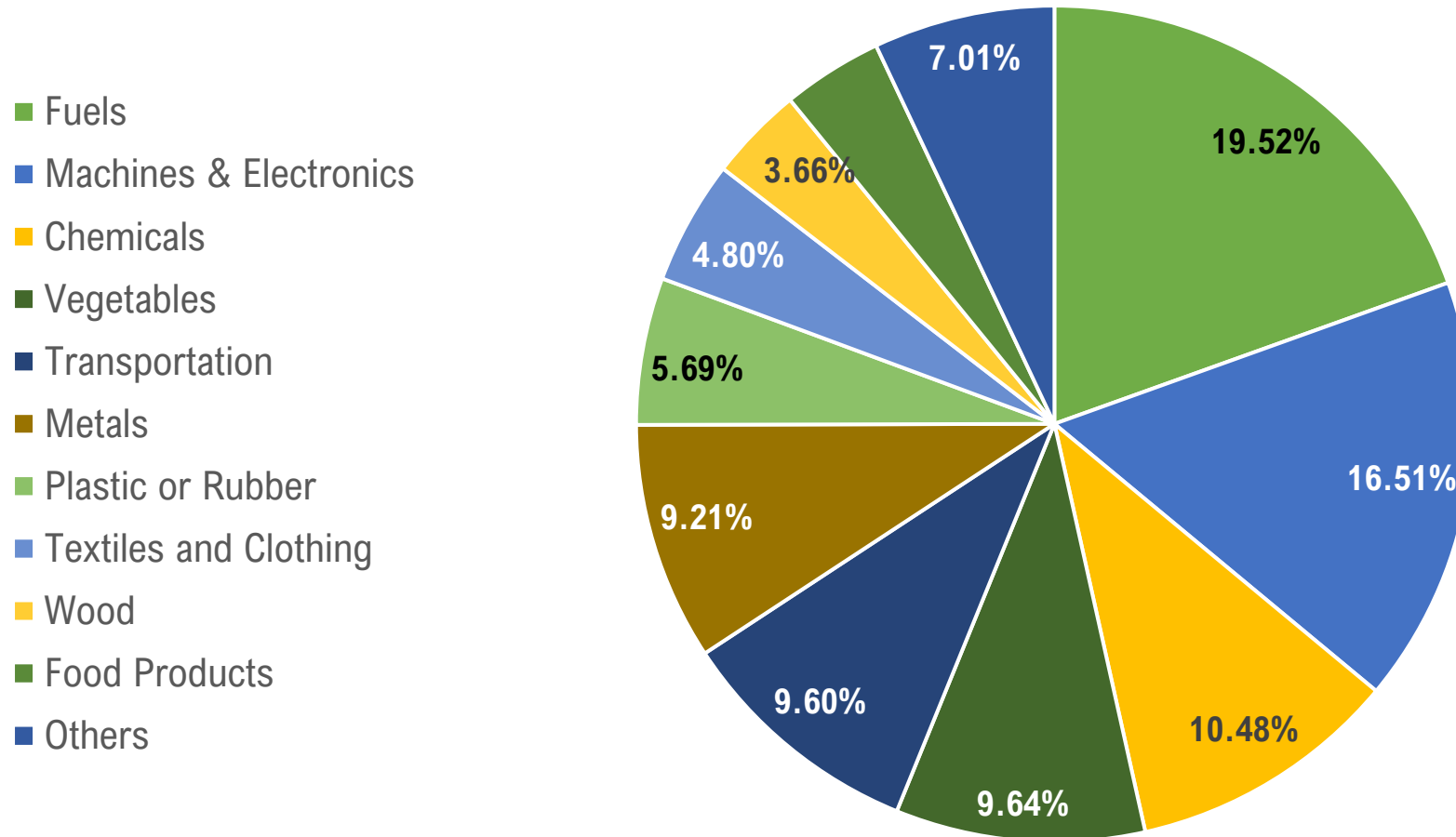
Takeaways

- More than a fifth of Kenya's total imports originate from China.
- COVID 19 will have a significant impact on Kenya's trade

Note: Values represent the amount of imports as a percentage of total imports originating from respective countries

Kenya's Imports by Products

Kenya's Imports as a Percentage of the Total
(2018)

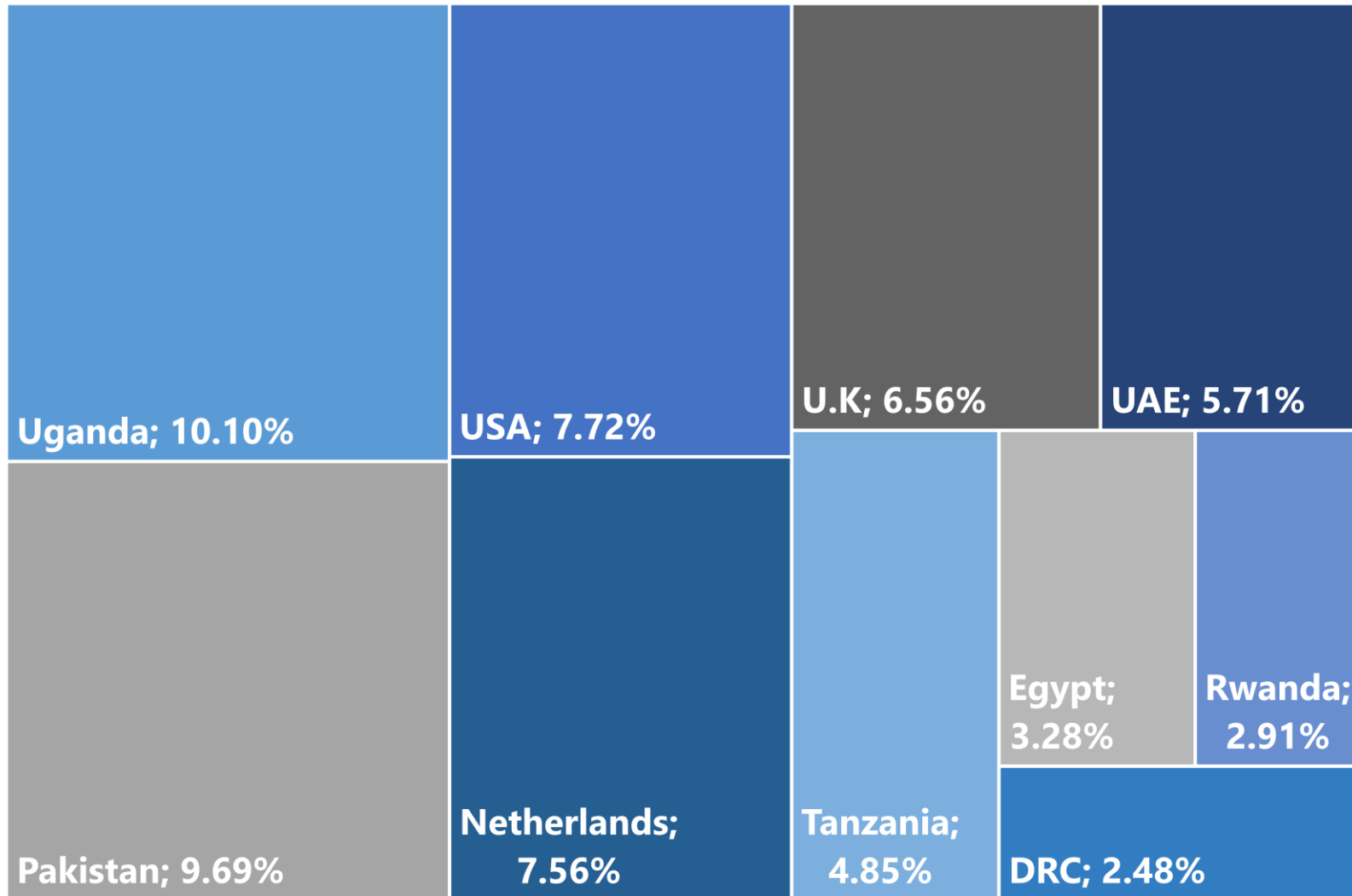


Takeaways

- Kenya's second largest import is machines & electronics, for which China is the largest partner
- With COVID 19, there's strain on Chinese exports, which will likely negatively affect Kenya's economy.

Kenya's Export Partners

Kenya's Top 10 Export Partners Countries



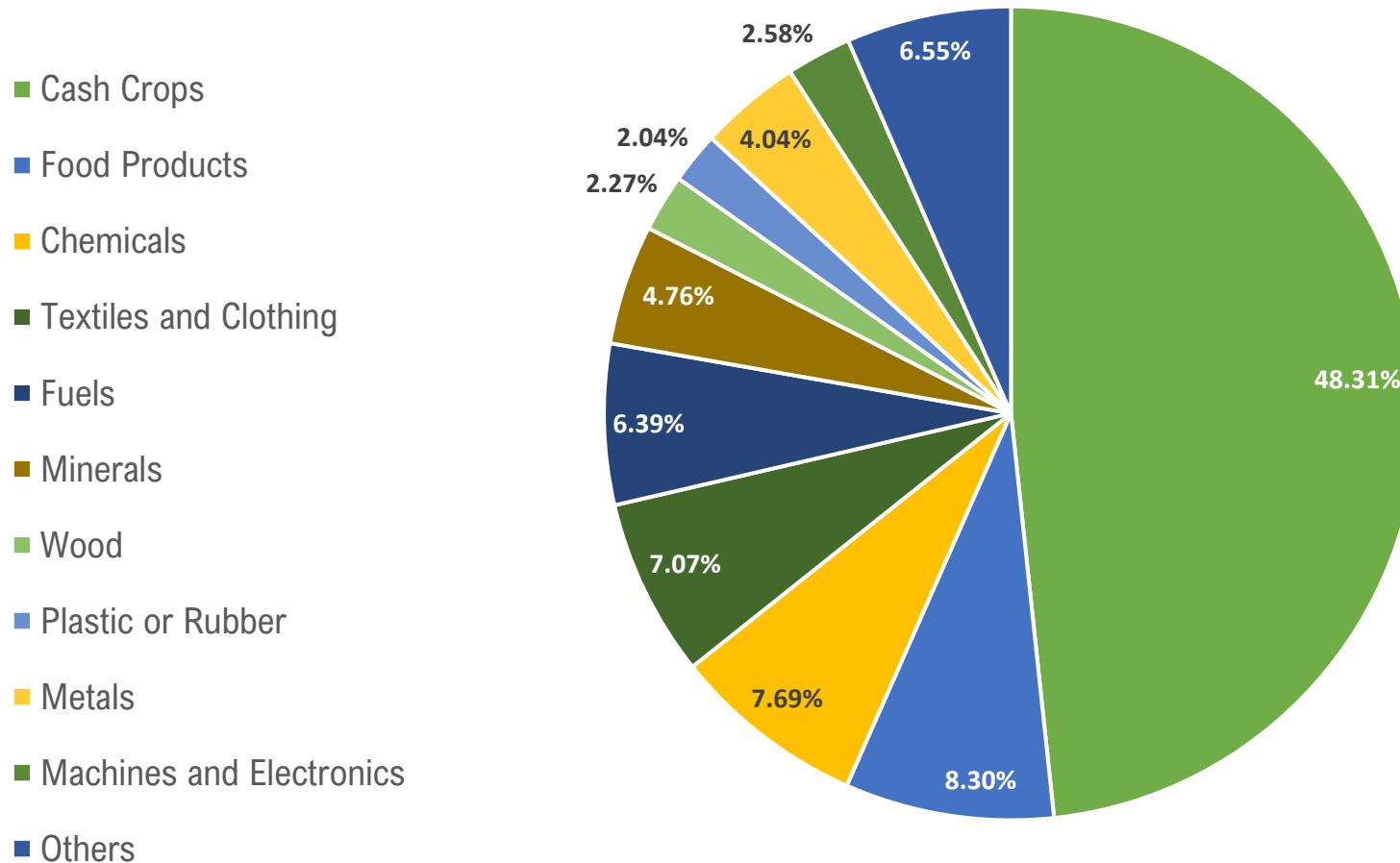
Takeaways

- Some of Kenya's major export destination countries have high COVID 19 confirmed infections
- Lower demand among these countries will decrease Kenyan exports

Note: Values represent the amount of exports as a percentage of total exports destined to respective countries

Kenya's Exports by Products

Kenya's Exports as a Percentage of the Total (2018)

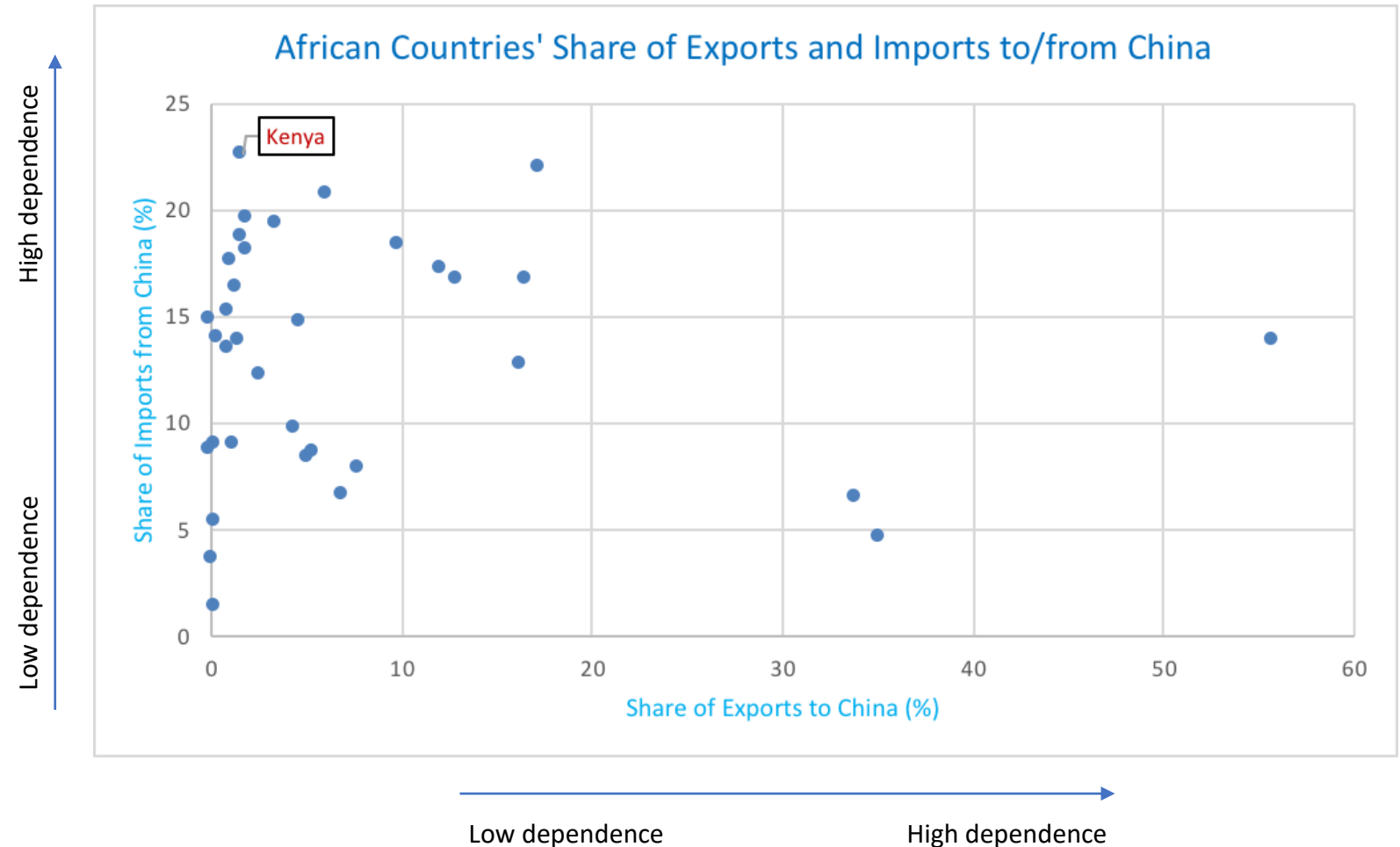


Takeaways

- COVID-19 lockdowns in other countries is causing a lower demand for several of these products
- Trading routes are being blocked by lockdowns

Kenya Trade Dependence on China

- Kenya comparatively has a higher dependency on China for imports than other African countries
- Kenya comparatively has a lower dependency on China for exports than other African countries



Kenyan Economy and People Already Impacted

- Closure of commercial outlets, government institutions and corporations has brought the country to a halt
- Lockdown means the informal sector lose their source of income
- The lack of income loss insurance produces a high risk that workers will not implement social distancing
- There is a risk for increases in poverty levels

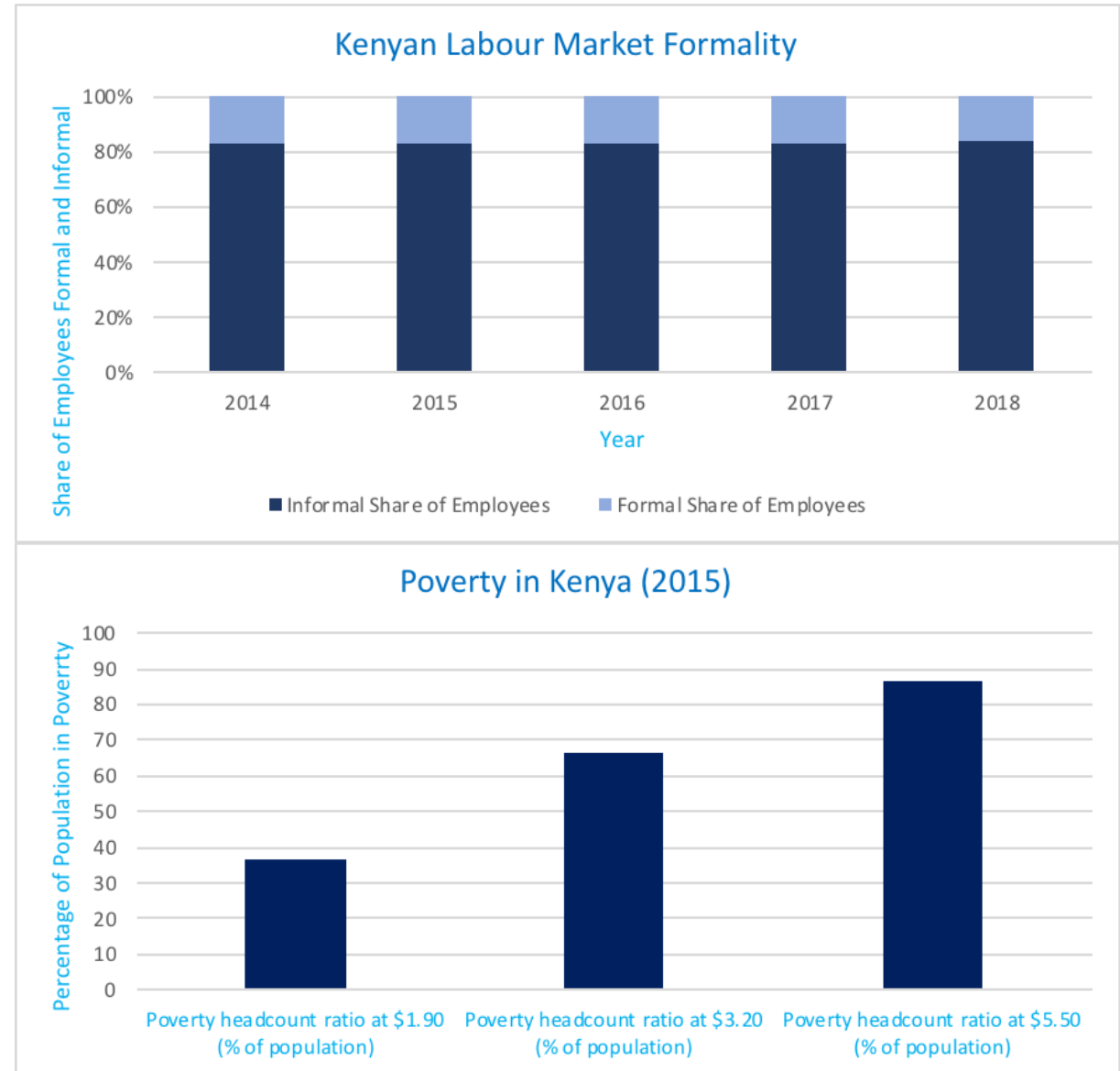


Figure 2.10 | Street layer - Contrast of Planned versus Unplanned (Kisumu)



Source Image: Kisumu, Digital Globe, Google Earth
Illustration: UN-Habitat, Jia Cong Ang

Source: UN-Habitat (2019), Urban Planning for City Leaders in Kenya

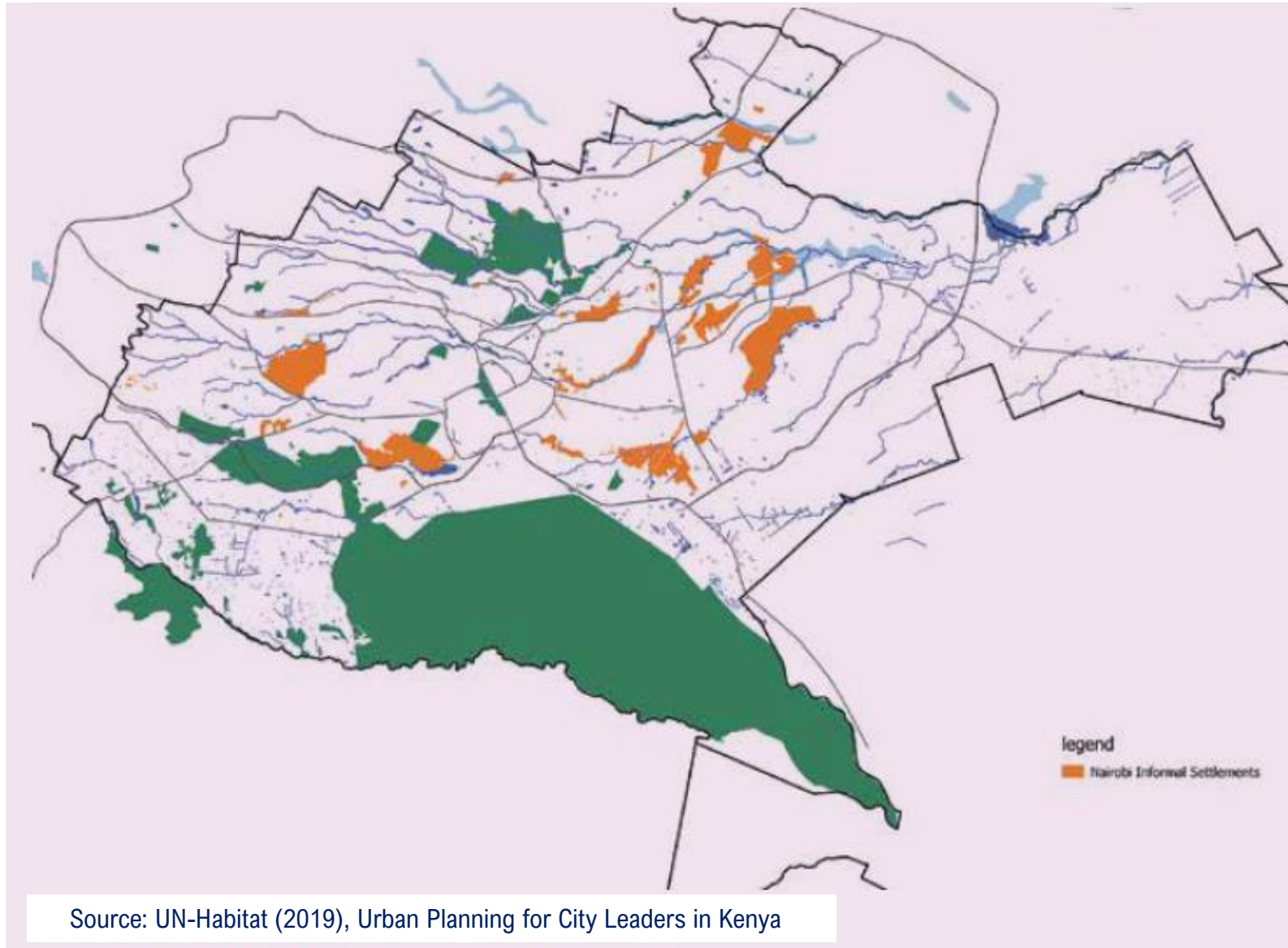
Kenya: Informal Settlements

In Kenya, 60% of urban settlements are informal, and most of the populations live in precarious housing where families share rooms and houses

Informal settlements and overcrowded public spaces such as buses and markets may spread COVID-19 in unpredictable ways

The lack of access to land, shelter, basic services and transport i) drive a higher risk from the virus itself and ii) make the country less resilient to a shock like this.

Kenya: City Wide Informal Settlements in Nairobi



Informal settlements contain vulnerable communities with low access to water, healthcare and sanitation

Informal communities risk even larger exposure as they lose sources of income due to lockdown

Informal settlement and overcrowding need policies to contain the potential effects of COVID-19 and provide support to vulnerable communities.

COVID-19: Actions and Way Forward

Kenya Facing COVID-19: Key Points

1. Economy

- Trade dependence on China make economy vulnerable
- Firms may be permanently affected by disruptions in supply chains
- In many of the largest sectors, employees cannot work from home
- Effects can already be seen in important sectors such as tourism
- Workers of the large informal sector lose their source of income with lockdown

2. Informal Settlements

- 60% of urban population are in informal settlements. Overcrowding and concentrations constitutes a risk. Risks for women, elders, and youth.
- Lack of access to basic services drives a higher risk from the virus itself and makes the country less resilient to a shock like this.

3. Health Systems

- Less than a fifth of population have health insurance (very limited conditions covered)
- Health inequality: 14 counties are below the WHO target for health facility density

COVID-19: Mitigation and Preparedness (1/2)

1. Health Systems

- Establish ICT application to monitor spread of COVID-19
- Consider preparing retired doctors and nurses to act in case of emergency
- Train college and high school students on basic protocol and support to affected areas
- Provide universal medical COVID-19 testing and treatment: support low-capacity counties by deploying mobile teams
- Establish separate testing and treatment facilities. Consider using public spaces

2. Human Settlements

- Create special task force and establish permanent communication with informal settlements
- Supervise that basic services (WASH) are available to all, including in informal settlements
- Prepare emergency measures, mobile medical aid teams, and special fund to support emergencies

COVID-19: Mitigation and Preparedness (2/2)

3. Protecting Jobs, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Supply Chains, Informal Workers

- Provide special credit to SMEs, create special funds to support cash-flows
- Keep main economic sectors running by integrating production platforms
- Support cash distribution schemes to most vulnerable population, including informal workers, and vulnerable employees in most affected sectors

4. Macroeconomic Policies

- Provide liquidity and credit to the system
- Monitor SMEs to allow them to operate before they reach cash-flow threshold
- Allow main agriculture activities to operate with special health and security conditions
- Maintain minimum transport system for cargo and internal operations

5. Support National and Multilateral Actions

- Integrate central government actions, multilateral organizations, incorporate NGOs, and civil society.

COVID-19: UN-Habitat with Cities at the Forefront

Two major areas UN-Habitat to look at, and work with UNDP, UNICEF and others, **focusing on mitigation and pathways to recovery:**

1. Measures to mitigate breakdown of urban economies, recognizing that globally they represent the majority of GDP, that there is an urgent need to focus on the informal sector and its relationship with the formal economy. This needs to go beyond classic social safety nets and fiscal measures but also look at mitigation measures related to:

- Predict urban – rural movements to areas of origin, pre-empting health risks while supporting alternative livelihoods
- Deal with pressure on access to adequate housing, risk of evictions, with a focus on those already without access to begin with (slums, homelessness, etc.)
- Alternative livelihood options in the local formal and informal sector (ex. local PPE production, community mobilisation, safe options for informal markets)

2. Measures to support local governments and service delivery actors in their frontline role, including in socio-economic mitigating measures they can put in place, while ensuring financial capacity for critical service delivery (water, waste management, etc.) focusing on LDCs and cities with a high degree of informality. This should include measures to:

- Include the informal sector in national economic measures
- Provide direct access to financing, expanding the fiscal capacity of local governments and critical service providers to act;
- Expand systems of community grants and communal cash-transfers for direct use in informal settlements and slums, building on tested approaches for slum upgrading)

COVID-19: Socioeconomic Impact on Africa -Health, Economy and Planning-

Thanks!



Nairobi, April 2nd, 2020

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