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Spatial Planning Guidelines during COVID-19

Historically, pandemics have altered the way cities are planned leading to adaptations in building codes still seen today. These guidelines are for short, medium and long-term spatial planning response and recovery measures post COVID-19. The concepts are interrelated and equally relevant for social, economic and environmental sustainability on all geographic scales.

UN-Habitat Guidance on COVID-10 and Public Space

The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed our relationship with our streets, public spaces and public facilities. We need to support cities and local governments in making public spaces part of the response whether they help limit the spread of the virus, or improve mental and physical health ensuring we do not leave anyone behind.

UN-Habitat Strategy Guidance: Solid Waste Management Response to COVID-19

French | Spanish

Lock-downs and physical distancing have created challenges with the disruption or failure of urban basis services, including the collection, treatment and disposal of waste essential for hygiene and public health. The present guidelines seek to address the lack of guidance on how to adapt regular municipal waste management services to a pandemic situation and support decision makers in developing a solid waste management response strategy to the COVID-19 situation.

Policy Brief – Public Transport is COVID-safe

The Covid-19 crisis has shown how essential public transport is to guarantee access and continuity of basic services. Cities and countries have been responding to short-term emergencies, but now we must move beyond, ensure the survival of the public transport and seize a historical unique opportunity to start over and shape the future of our cities.

This policy brief shows that numerous scientific studies and empirical analysis show that public transport is much less risk than other public places or private gatherings. Unfortunately, it has been too often stigmatised without any solid arguments. The policy brief has been developed by the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) and supported by UN-Habitat.

Public Transport and the COVID-19 Pandemic – Guidance Document

This guidance document draws from the third Live Learning Series hosted by UCLG, Metropolis and UN-Habitat, co-organized with the International Union of Public Transport (UITP) on 8 April 2020 and guides Cities and Public Transport Authorities and Operators on their response to COVID-19 in the transport. It also provides recommendations on “Building Back Better” towards Resilient and Inclusive Mobility in cities.

Interim Technical note on urban WASH for COVID-19 response in slums and informal settlements (UN-Habitat and UNICEF)

This technical note provides additional information to support water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions as part of the ongoing COVID-19 response at national and sub-national levels. The note supports both formal and informal WASH institutions (including public and private) to address the water, sanitation and hygiene needs of the most marginalized populations in informal settlements.

The UN Secretary-General's Policy Brief on COVID-19 in an urban world

The Policy Brief describes how cities can manage the pandemic and emerge as the hubs of energy, resilience and innovation that make them such vibrant and appealing places for many to live. The Policy Brief calls for conscious policy choices, particularly with respect to inequalities, local capacities and a green, inclusive recovery. The UN agencies involved in writing the Brief included UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNDESA, UNEP, UNICEF, UNODC, ILO, WHO, OHCHR.

UN-Habitat COVID-19 Policy and Programmatic Framework

UN-Habitat's COVID-19 Policy and Programme Framework provides guidance for global, regional and country-level action and is a key instrument to focus and scale UN-Habitat's contribution to the overall response led by national and local governments, UN agencies and local partners.

Issue Brief: COVID-19 through the Lens of Urban Rural Linkages-Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (URL-GP)

As COVID-19 knows no borders and given the mobility of people there must be an integrated urban and rural approach to the COVID-19 response. The guiding principles and framework for action of the URL-GP were designed for such an integrated approach, to assist governments and their private sector and civil society partners with assessment, planning and policy development tools.

COVID-19 in African Cities: Impacts, responses and policies

UN-Habitat in collaboration with UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG), African Development Bank (AfDB), and Shelter Afrique have joined hands to produce this report which proposes several interventions to promptly and effectively address the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic in Africa at the urban level led by national and local governments supported by international and regional development institutions.

Discussion paper - Covid-19: Socioeconomic Impacts on Africa

Africa is the continent where the greatest proportion of the population does not have access to social protection and adequate health care and with the largest share in poverty. This will play a role on how Covid-19 will impact Covid-19 the region, especially for marginalized groups.

Impact of COVID-19 on livelihoods, food security and nutrition in East Africa – Urban Focus (UN-Habitat and WHO)

In cities and urban areas in East Africa, livelihoods and incomes of populations are seriously affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for those living in informal settlements. These urban populations are more vulnerable to food insecurity and unstable livelihoods as they mainly depend on the informal sector.

COVID-19 Urban Transport Response: Opportunities for Policy-Making in Africa

The urban transport sector is at the heart of the current COVID-19 pandemic – as a vital service for health and other key workers, who have to get to their workplaces. Therefore, it is crucial to provide a coordinated, science-based response from all levels of government to maximise the best possible public health outcome with the least economically damaging impact for all. This policy note provides insights into short- and long-term action policy responses and proposes a sector reform and an inclusive low-carbon transition in urban mobility. It was developed by High Volume Transport (HVT) Applied Research Programme in collaboration with UN-Habitat, Climate Parliament, UITP and others.



Practical actions in cities to strengthen preparedness for the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond (UN-Habitat contribution to WHO interim checklist for local authorities)

This document accompanies the interim guidance on “Strengthening Preparedness for COVID-19 in cities and urban settings”. It provides local authorities, leaders and policy-makers in cities with a checklist tool to ensure that key areas have been covered. An excel version that local authorities may wish to adapt to meet their needs is also available. It allows filtering by steps of action; suggested domains and responsible teams within local governments for each action; and phase(s) of the emergency management cycle.

UN-Habitat’s Policy Statement on the prevention of evictions and relocations during COVID-19

In the face of this pandemic the lack of adequate housing has repercussions on society as a whole and is a direct threat to everyone’s health and safety. In several countries and cities many cases of evictions and relocations principally affecting the poorest and most vulnerable populations. Such evictions and relocations do not only result in grave violations of the fundamental right to adequate housing and protection against forced eviction but also create significant additional risks and generally exacerbate the spread of COVID-19.

Sourcebook - Integrating Health in Urban and territorial planning (WHO and UN-Habitat)

This sourcebook details why health needs to be part of urban and territorial planning (UTP) and how to make this happen. It brings together two vital elements we need to build habitable cities on a habitable planet: Processes to guide the development of human settlements – in this document referred to as UTP and concern for human health, well-being and health equity at all levels.

#BeyondTheOutbreak Series

As of the beginning of the pandemic, UN-Habitat, UCLG and Metropolis have joined forces and crafted a series of exchanges between local and regional governments aimed at discussing the key challenges in facing the pandemic and in recovering from it at local level. The meetings have originated unique knowledge that has been gathered into reports, video recordings and a knowledge hub:

- 17 sessions
- 256 speakers
- 94 cities
- 73 academic experts and organizations involved

World Cities Report 2020

Cities hold the key to the global recovery from the COVID-19 health crisis and the worst recession for decades, according to the flagship Report on “The Value of Sustainable Urbanization”. The Report analyses the intrinsic value of cities in generating economic prosperity, mitigating environmental degradation, reducing social inequality and building stronger institutions. It shows how together these can drive transformative change



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**COVID-19
RESPONSE**

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