Urban legislation and governance arrangements

Recommendations

Multi-level governance

- **Incorporate territorial and spatial governance approaches into national, subnational and local pandemic responses.** Territorial approaches take into account local needs and have proven to be far more effective in securing public support and compliance, resulting in better health and economic outcomes.

- **Promote an integrated and cooperative approach between different levels of governance:** Metropolitan and regional management systems and "whole of society" approaches represent the surest way to achieve meaningful multi-level governance and maximize results.

Resilience and preparedness

- **Strengthen health care, social welfare and other protections** by the means of progressive tax models and redistributive fiscal policies. An effective and responsive public sector is essential to meet needs, build resilience and manage crises as they evolve.

- **Use the learning from this pandemic to ensure emergency preparedness is effectively integrated into health governance at all levels** to respond effectively to future emergencies.

Transparency and participation

- **Enhance public engagement by strengthening democratic decision-making structures:** National and subnational governments should commit to channel resources where they are needed most, by taking steps to establish inclusive and accessible mechanisms such as participatory budgeting.

- **Promote transparency and trust building to maximize public support and compliance:** Evidence-based, proportionate and inclusive measures are the most effective approach to managing restrictions, accompanied by accessible guidance. **Community participation** in this process is key and should be tailored to take into account gender, ethnicity, class and other factors.

- **Exploit the opportunities that digital technologies offer for improved governance, but alongside a clear commitment to equitable access and human rights:** The pandemic has highlighted the value of online platforms and applications for information and service provision. However, it is essential that access is extended to everyone and appropriate protections around privacy and freedom must be put in place.

Recovery and cooperation

- **Ensure crisis management strategies incorporate long-term recovery strategies that align with aspirational goals around social inclusion and sustainability,** such as climate change, inequality, migration and the erosion of human rights. The need **to achieve collective action, cooperation and solidarity to "build back better",** repairing the social fabric while transitioning to a more sustainable future, is now clearer than ever.

Cities have collaborated with other levels of government in the formulation of economic policies, although at this stage, coordination in the formulation of such policies is not as common as health policies

- **Adopt a global focus to rebuilding that recognizes the need for all countries and cities to be included in any lasting recovery:** Though every country has been hit, the impacts of the pandemic could be especially acute in some developing countries, potentially leaving them in a protracted state of crisis. Richer countries, international agencies and other actors have a duty to provide appropriate technical support, financing and experience sharing as the **world navigates a path to recovery together.**

In Lima, where some three quarters of the population normally use public transport, the city authorities responded to the reduction in bus services in the wake of the pandemic by installing emergency bike lanes and supporting the rollout of a low-cost bicycle that, besides assuring residents with an affordable model, would also aid the city's economic recovery by being manufactured locally