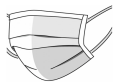


Guidance: NGOs, companies, and academics supporting COVID-19 responses in LMICs

Support locally



Make and/or donate cloth masks, plastic face shields, gloves, and hand sanitiser to slum dwellers, essential workers, local prisons and other **populations who cannot avoid close contacts**.



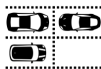
Make and/or donate medical masks, plastic face shields, gowns, and hand sanitiser to **local clinics, hospitals, and care homes**.



Prepare and donate household **food packages** to the most vulnerable populations; for example, single parents, the disabled, widows, and the elderly. Coordinate with local authorities and/or community groups to ensure equitable and safe distribution.



Donate supplies or money toward **hand washing stations and toilets** in slums. The WHO recommends "[tippy tap](#)" hand-free hand washing stations.



Donate **buildings and parking lots** toward isolation centres, or small local food markets.



Local businesses that produce personal protective equipment and other essential items can boost production, provide relief, and reinforce stay-at-home measures in their cities by creating **small-enterprise opportunities in, and near, slums**. Approach community/citizen groups to decide on start-up materials and equipment, wages, and quality control measures.



All businesses should ask employees to **work from home**, if possible, and provide technology support to do so. Essential businesses that require on-site workers can **minimise person-to-person contacts** by:

- staggering working hours.
- spacing work stations.
- sanitising facilities daily with a bleach or disinfectant solution.
- encouraging workers to commute by car, bike, or on foot.



Find local volunteer opportunities via your city government website, faith organisation, or community group.



Call friends, family, and neighbours to ensure they have enough food, water, and other essentials. Confirm they understand the signs of COVID-19 infection (a new cough, difficulty breathing, fever or chills), and know to stay home for 14 days if they experience any symptoms. Share this [one-pager](#) with guidance if it helps.

Support from afar



Create, or contribute to, **open-source tools** that enable cities and communities to **coordinate COVID-19 responses**. Example requirements are: ability to...

- Collect SMS- and phone-based self-reports of urgent community needs
- Dynamically map areas/populations in need of specific goods or services
- Log resources such as health volunteers, monetary and food donations, or companies with manufacturing capacity, and a simple method to connect actors with expressed needs and resources

Engage open-source and city government groups in this process, for example: [Core Group](#), [Open Government Partnership](#), [OpenSource.com](#)



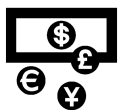
Create, or contribute to, **open-source tools** that support citizen groups to perform local **needs assessments** and provide **first response** in their communities; for example, create an [ODK](#) form, or release an app via [GitHub](#).



HDX Produce up-to-date **datasets** of “slum” areas, settlement types, infrastructure, population, population characteristics, and other datasets that support COVID-19 planning and response. Describe datasets in the WHO Bulletin [COVID-19 Open](#) and distribute data via the [Humanitarian Data Exchange \(HDX\)](#).



Become a [UN online volunteer](#) and contribute to the **global COVID-19 response** by providing translation, training, fundraising, data visualisation, and more.



Donate to food relief, infrastructure, data collection/monitoring, or COVID-19 medical response, at any scale.

“We can’t wash our hands with data, or eat it” - Nicera, Kibera Slum, Nairobi

Food relief to prevent starvation and extreme hunger amongst millions of daily workers and vulnerable populations without income for months.

- [International Committee of the Red Cross](#)
- [World Food Programme](#)
- COVID-19 [FoodforSlums](#) fund for [SDI affiliates](#)

Funds to build water, sanitation, and health infrastructure in slums, informal settlements, and other poor communities at high risk of COVID-19 spread.

- [Slum/Shack Dwellers International \(SDI\) affiliates](#) in 1000s of communities across 32 low- and middle-income countries.
- Local initiatives registered at [Global Giving](#)

Medical treatment, contact tracing, and monitoring of people with severe COVID-19 infection. Also ensure that **basic health services continue** including childhood vaccination and assisted deliveries.

- [Medecins Sans Frontieres \(MSF\)](#)
- [Partners In Health \(PIH\)](#)
- [Direct Relief](#)

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