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COVID-19: Regional Analysis and Policy Responses

The COVID-19 crisis has caused untold disruption to lives and economies. As the current patterns of globalization are being questioned, the regional level will become vital in dealing with cross-border problems. It is at this level that reconnecting economies, reversing the disruption of trade and transport links, and addressing transboundary risks offer more immediate benefits. The critical task of strengthening trust in concerted action may yield clearer results in the context of regional collaboration frameworks, which should be reinforced as a fundamental building block of multilateralism. Effective regional actions require reaching out to multiple partners. The potential of regional collaboration should be fully leveraged to build back better and meet the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Regional economic commissions can be catalysts for such actions, as they engage various actors across common goals.

<u>COVID-19: Towards an inclusive, resilient and green recovery —building back better through regional cooperation.</u> provides key policy messages from the regional commissions and highlights the vital role of regional cooperation in an effective recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic

ECA

Research and analysis

- Policy Brief: Impact of COVID-19 in Africa (Publication 20 May 2020)
- Informal traders: a balanced act of survival (Publication 12 May 2020)

Resources

- <u>ECA COVID-19 Response: Publications, Events, Presentations and other</u> Resources
- Africa UN Knowledge Hub for COVID-19

News and press releases

- Now is the time for Africa to digitize land registries, says Joan Kagwanja (Press Release – 28 May 2020)
- Africa Regional Integration Index calls on continent to build more resilient economies through integration (Press release – 22 May 2020)
- A case for accelerated health integration in Africa (Press release 21 May 2020)
- <u>Deputy Secretary-General Tells Africa Dialogues Series COVID-19 Poses</u>
 <u>Challenge to 'Common Goal of Silencing the Guns' on Continent</u> (Press release 20 May 2020)
- Global solidarity with Africa is an imperative (News 20 May 2020)
- Initiative on Model Provisions for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic in Regional and other Trade Agreements (Press release – 20 May 2020)
- Stand in solidarity to preserve Africa's hard-won progress, urges UN chief (News – 20 May 2020)
- Africa's Finance Ministers and Private Sector Group seek to rapidly resolve commercial debt service obligations together (Press release – 18 May 2020)
- Africa's responses to COVID-19 must be gender responsive (News 13 May 2020)

Op-eds

- 100 Days of COVID-19 in Africa: What We've Learned and What's Ahead (26 May 2020)
- UN Deputy Chief: After COVID-19, Africa can build back better (25 May 2020)

ECLAC

Research and analysis

- Recommendations for eliminating selection bias in household surveys during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic (Publication – May 2020)
- <u>Employment Situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. Work in times of pandemic: the challenges of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)</u> (Publication May 2020)
- Food systems and COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean: Health risks; safety of workers and food safety N° 4 (Publication – 14 May 2020)
- <u>Capital Flows to Latin America and the Caribbean: First Quarter 2020 in Times</u>
 of COVID-19 (Publication 8 May 2020)
- Food systems and COVID-19 in Latin America and the Caribbean: Risks threatening international trade N° 3 (Publication – 7 May 2020)

COVID-19 Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean

News and press releases

- ECLAC Presents to the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States a
 Study on the Economic Impact of COVID-19 that Includes an Observatory on
 Measures and Instruments along with Recommendations and Proposals for
 Confronting the Disease (Press release 28 May 2020)
- Greater International Financial Cooperation is Crucial for Latin American and Caribbean Countries to be Able to Face the "Perfect Storm" Unleashed by the COVID-19 Crisis (Press release – 26 May 2020)
- Resilient, Inclusive and Low-Carbon Economy as the Guiding Axis for the Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery: Alicia Bárcena (News – 22 May 2020)
- ECLAC Stresses the Value of the Regional Dimension as a Bridge to Connect the Global Processes and New National Realities Prompted by COVID-19 with regard to the Challenge of Fulfilling the 2030 Agenda (Press release – 22 May 2020)
- <u>Prioritizing Security and Health Policies at Work is Necessary for the Post</u>
 COVID-19 Reactivation of Production and Employment to be Safe and Healthy
 (Press release 21 May 2020)
- <u>ECLAC and ILO Analyze Labour Challenges in Latin America and the</u>
 <u>Caribbean in the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic</u> (Announcement 20 May 2020)
- Alicia Bárcena Calls for Rethinking the Model and Consolidating the
 Economic, Social and Environmental Dimensions of Sustainable Development

 so as to Leave No One Behind (Press Release 18 May 2020)
- ECLAC Reaffirms Commitment to Working with and for Latin American and <u>Caribbean Countries on Regional Cooperation and Integration to Tackle</u> <u>Current and Future Challenges in the Face of COVID-19</u> (News – 17 May 2020)

ESCAP

Research and Analysis

- How COVID-19 is changing the world: a statistical perspective (Publication 19 May 2020)
- <u>Strengthening Freight Transport Corridors of South Asia in the aftermath of</u> COVID-19 (Policy brief – 15 May 2020)
- Combating COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific: Measures, lessons and the way forward (Policy brief – 15 May 2020)

Resources

- <u>East and North-East Asia Policy Dialogue on the Economic and Social Survey</u> of Asia and the Pacific (Webinar - 28 May 2020)
- North and Central Asia Virtual Policy Dialogue on Economic and Social Survey 2020 (Webinar - 27 May 2020)
- New tracker on Policy Responses to COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific (27 May 2020)

- Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19: ESCAP Framework (20 May 2020)

 ASEAN-ESCAP Policy Dialogue: Building a Resilient ASEAN Economic

 Community in the Aftermath of COVID-19 (Webinar 18 May 2020)
- Sustainable Economies in the aftermath of COVID-19: A virtual Policy
 Dialogue on Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific

 2020 (Webinar 13 May 2020)
- <u>Perspectives from Asia-Pacific on Leadership in a Global Crisis</u> (Webinar 12 May 2020)
- Webinar: COVID-19: Opportunities for Resilient Recovery (Webinar 7 May 2020)

News and Press Releases

- UN Seeks To Build Transport And Trade Resilience In Wake Of COVID-19 (Press Release-28 May 2020)
- The World Is In Lockdown, But Tropical Cyclones Are Not (Blog 28 May)
- Protecting The Most Vulnerable Amidst COVID-19 And Cyclone Amphan (Blog 27 May)
- Asia-Pacific Countries Endorse UN Resolution For Concerted Regional Action Against COVID-19 (Press Release – 21 May 2020)
- <u>Regional UN Forum Concludes With Call For Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships</u>
 <u>To Preserve Development Gains, Build Back Better Post COVID-19</u> (Press Release 20 May 2020)
- Asia-Pacific Countries Convene On Regional Actions To Mitigate COVID-19
 Impacts (News 18 May 2020)

Op-Eds

 Protecting The Most Vulnerable Amidst COVID-19 And Cyclone Amphan (oped by Sanjay Srivastava, Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction – 27 May 2020)

ESCWA

Research and analysis

- Impact of COVID-19 on young people in the Arab Region (Policy brief May 2020)
- The Impact of COVID-19 on Arab Financial Systems (Policy brief May 2020)

Resources

- UN Seeks To Build Transport And Trade Resilience In Wake Of COVID-19 (Press Release-28 May 2020)
- Mapping of government measures to protect persons with disabilities (Arabic)
- COVID-19 Policy Tracker
- Prevalence of COVID-19 in the Arab Region
- WHO: Eastern Mediterranean region COVID-19 affected countries
- Oil Market Crisis, COVID-19, Economic Recovery: Implications for Arab Countries (Online event – 12 May)
- <u>Electricity Interconnection in the Arab region in the wake of COVID-19</u> (Online meeting 8 May)

meeting - 23 April)

<u>Arab Group meeting on climate change</u> (Online meeting – 22 April)

News and press releases

<u>Major Arab stock markets register value losses of about 25% in the first quarter of 2020</u> (News – 14 May 2020)

UNECE

Research and analysis

 Jobs in green and healthy transport - Making the green shift (Publication – 19 May 2020)

Resources

- Platform for National Statistical offices (NSOs)
- Food Outlook
- Observatory on Border Crossings Status
- Data Sources on Coronavirus impact on Transport
- COVID-19: the role of the Water Convention and the Protocol on Water and Health
- COVID-19 and Official Statistics
- Resource list on COVID-19 and older persons

News and Press Releases

- <u>UNECE and Global Forum for Geography and Statistics webinar highlights</u> role of geospatial statistics in COVID19 response (News – 22 May 2020)
- <u>National Trade Facilitation Roadmap for Exports Enhancement and</u>
 <u>Diversification boosts Tajikistan's competitiveness and will help in COVID-19</u>
 <u>crisis response</u> (News 21 May 2020)
- COVID-19 pandemic outlines need for housing for all (News 21 May 2020)
- <u>UNECE mobilizes experts to develop guidance on Public-Private Partnerships</u>
 <u>to help build back stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic</u> (News 19 May
 <u>2020</u>)
- Greening the transport sector in the post COVID-19 recovery could create up to 15 million jobs worldwide (Press Release –19 May 2020)
- <u>UNECE releases new dataset for tram and metro statistics, supporting informed policy responses for sustainable post-COVID mobility</u> (Press Release 18 May 2020)
- <u>Declines in air pollution due to COVID-19 lockdown show need for comprehensive emission reduction strategies</u> (News –18 May 2020)

Op-eds

Time to rethink the way we work and travel (12 May 2020)

Regional Commissions New York Office

VOICING REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

For more information, including previous issues of Newsletter, please visit our website:

www.regionalcommissions.org

or email: rcnyo.records@un.org

Websites of the UN Regional Commissions:

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