



COVID-19 RECOVERY ACTION PLAN FOR INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS IN THE ECE REGION

*GEOSPATIAL DATA COLLECTION AND MANAGEMENT: A CROSS-CUTTING
THEME APPLIED ACROSS
MANY OF THE INDIVIDUAL POLICY AREAS*

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Geo-spatial Data, Self-made cities & covid-19

In 2020 **Coronavirus was a test** and sadly even the world's supposedly most advanced nations had too visibly failed

A global / regional recovery action plan (RAP) was missing

Experience within UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management:

- More than 50M people live in self-made, unplanned cities within UNECE
- Lack of reliable and affordable **geospatial and demographic data** in a timely manner

There is still a large geospatial data divide within Europe

- **“Who”** and **“where”** are the most vulnerable, those exposed most to the pandemic? and
- **“how”** to act efficiently and in a timely manner?

Measures against the pandemic are related to the:

- **good management of land** and
- **need to be more “localized”**, location-based solutions



**COVID-19
RESPONSE**



- **Few countries** had reported significant progress on implementation of SDGs **since 2015** ; many projects face **significant additional delays** due to the Covid-19 situation– **New challenges** are introduced
- **1.6 billion workers** in the formal or informal economy **are at risk** of losing their livelihoods-Creation of a large group of “**new poor**”
- Other natural disasters are more or less “localized”, while **COVID-19** is or may exist “everywhere”...and this **requires holistic solutions , BUT** at the same time Covid-19 has a higher, “**localized**” **concentration among informal settlement residents** where policies are confusing, planning is poor, property rights are insecure and people are marginalized, unregistered, less prepared, basic infrastructures are poor, and where there is a significant lack of reliable geo-referenced data and enabling technologies to measure and monitor what is happening **where, when, and how**
- Prepare a recovery action plan, with a particular focus on **SDG 11**

RAP aims to:

- a. prevent the spread of the pandemic &
- b. build back better & achieve greater resilience



The pandemic does not recognize legal or physical boundaries, and crosses these borders easily. As such, building resilience to pandemics within informal settlements also helps the neighboring communities

- targeted at **national & local governments** & other stakeholders in UNECE
- includes separately prepared **Policy Briefs**, covering a number of special topics; and the **Assessment Reports** for Tirana, Bishkek, Podgorica, and Skopje
- refers to previous documents; relies upon principles discussed within the **FAO VGGT; UNECE and FIG publications, etc**
- the format of this doc is build around **9 broad Policy Areas (PAs)**
- Each PA has a **Goal** and several Targets; each **Target** has specific **Actions**
- Color-coding is used **to visually distinguish the targets: emergency-focused; short-term** emergency-related; **intermediate-term** (blended-resilience and emergency-focused) and **long-term** (resilience-focused).



The nine Policy Areas are as follows

- Policy Area 1 - Geospatial, land rights, tenure, resource allocation and justice
- Policy Area 2 - Involvement of local communities, and local action
- Policy Area 3 - Basic data needs, telecommunication and information technology
- Policy Area 4 - Physical infrastructure, water, sanitation and energy services
- Policy Area 5 - Social and infrastructure services
- Policy Area 6 - Stay-at-home recommendations, culture and vulnerable groups
- Policy Area 7 - Food, basic consumption and distribution
- Policy Area 8 - Environmental concerns, green spaces, recreation and social events
- Policy Area 9 - Buildings, construction and land planning



cross-cutting themes

Throughout all Policy Areas, the constant theme is to collect, study, analyze and plan data

- The UN Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF)
- The UN-GGIM Ready to Respond. The Role of the Geospatial Community in Responding to COVID-19

A Task Timetable is still missing

- ❑ **Data collection and management**
- ❑ **Communication and promotional plans:** Consistent, accurate, inclusive, timely messaging
- ❑ **Participation plans:** Effective local engagement, and public participation
- ❑ **Resource allocation and integration:** effective strategy / integrated solutions
- ❑ **Economic benefits, local and political awareness and will**
- ❑ **Gender equality, diversity and disability**

PA 1&2, 5&6 urgent targets/actions for geospatial data collection



- ❑ Identify the **current coverage**, quality, and scope of available geospatial data sources
- ❑ Identify the existing **trusted community** leaders, and social and faith-based groups/Encourage the creation of local task forces /Identify, create, or expand the relevant local authorities /Develop specific, local community-led plans
- ❑ Identify the **donors**, faith-organizations and charities
- ❑ **Coordinate** these local initiatives with the relevant stakeholders
- ❑ **Map and include** informal constructions and occupants in the geospatial database
- ❑ Map hospitals, clinics& collect data about ICUs, medical staff, identify spots for testing and vaccination services etc
- ❑ Use all **available technology** UAVs , VGI, etc
- ❑ Supplement **demographic information** with **employment patterns** & a wide variety of **health statistics** for residents/ Identify the **sectors of the informal community** at greatest economic risk
- ❑ Identify **problems** and shortages in infrastructure, basic goods, water, energy, food, medicine etc
- ❑ Make geospatial and related sociodemographic information transparent, **accessible**, affordable and easy to manage

PA 3&4 urgent targets/actions for geospatial data collection



- ❑ Survey the current state of **radio and mobile phone technologies** (quantity, quality, and coverage)/ identify weaknesses/ strengthen interconnectivity within ISs/ **Reduce the digital divide**
- ❑ **Develop smartphone applications** to collect data / tele-health application / teleworking / analyze mobility patterns / cell phone-based education modules
- ❑ Record and communicate **information about the pandemic** (infection rates, death rates, testing sites, hospitalization and quarantine protocols, contact tracing, etc)
- ❑ Map and identify the characteristics of the **physical road and transportation network** / map mobility flows that create greater risk patterns / map & ensure emergency routes for services provision, road paving, street width and congestion of all kinds, garbage or debris / plan relocation if needed
- ❑ Map the existing **water and sanitation service / locations for garbage collection/** collect data on **energy connections**
- ❑ Produce a fit-for-purpose **traffic plan & water/sanitation plan/energy efficiency plan** (social distancing, energy, pollution) / Map best routes

PA 7,8 &9 urgent targets/actions for geospatial data collection



- ❑ Map the food **supply chain** and its main actors
- ❑ Identify and analyse what **recreational and other public gatherings** pose the greatest risk
- ❑ map **green spaces** that can be enjoyed safely
- ❑ Identify which **buildings** are frequently used and therefore have long queues
- ❑ Fit-for-purpose **indoor mapping** in buildings/houses where and if needed
- ❑ map **social housing** and provide **temporary housing**, or **quarantine facilities** (e.g. hotels that are currently empty, and repurposed community assets, like schools and community centres that are currently closed)
- ❑ Prepare mapped plans for **quarantines and lockdowns**