



39th
Annual General
Meeting

COVID-19 IN AFRICAN CITIES

Impacts, Responses and Perspectives

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Date: [15 of September 2020](#)

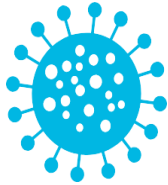
Impact of COVID-19 in Africa



Over more **193 cities** affected by Covid-19



25 million people may fall into extreme poverty



Over **95%** of total cases in urban areas and **1.25 M** confirmed cases as of **3rd** of sept 2020



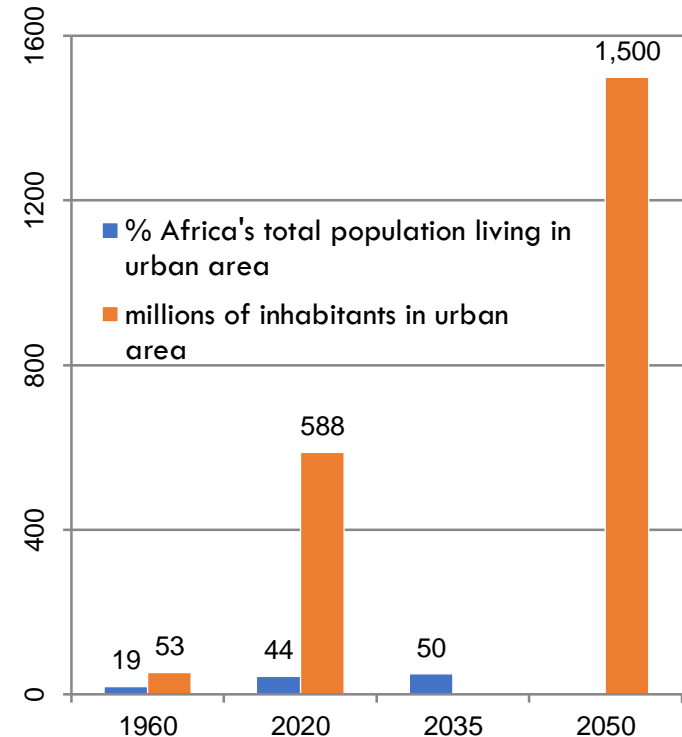
3.2% to 1% decrease of the average **GDP** growth in Africa in 2020 is expected



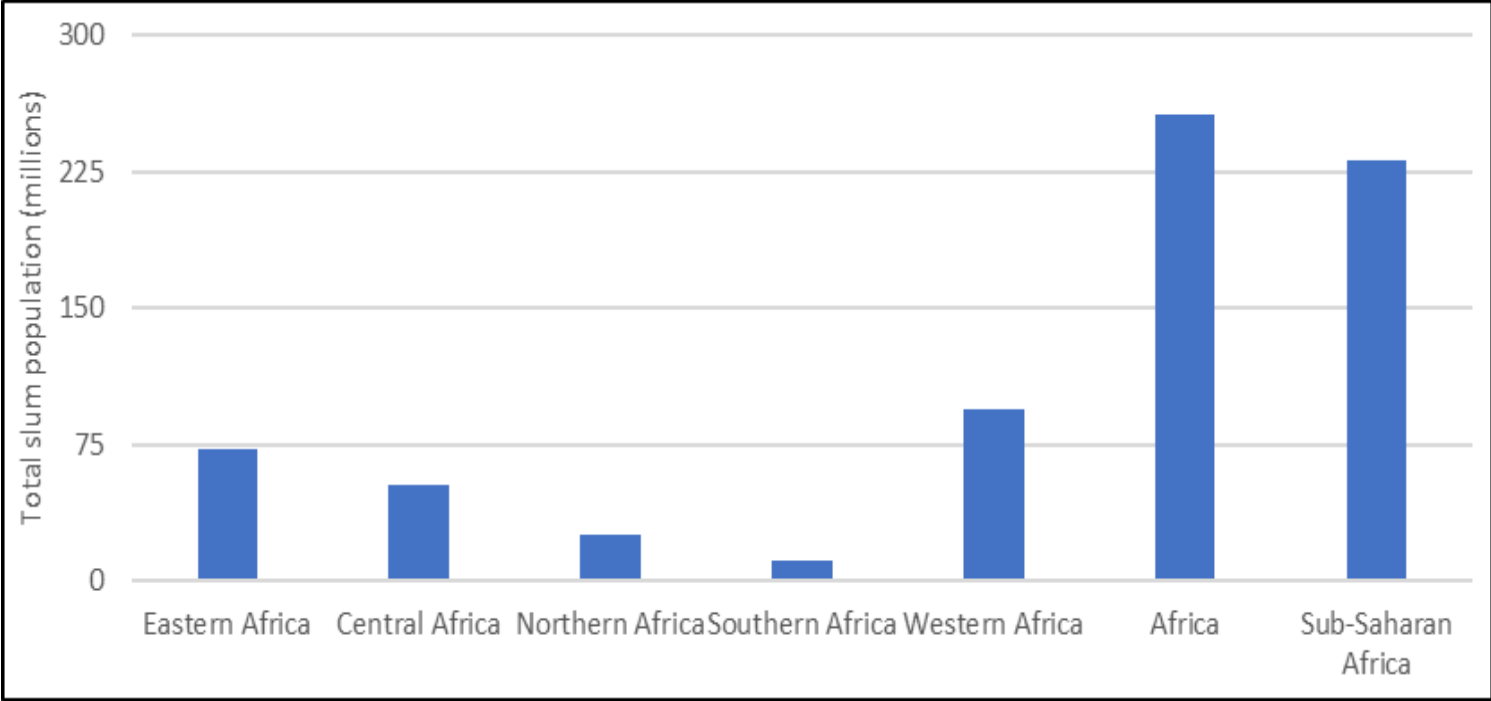
40% of region's exports drop due to global fall in oil prices

African Urbanization: Risk Factor of COVID-19 Rapid and Unplanned Urbanization

- Small- and medium-sized cities are the **fastest growing ones** and concentrate most of the urban population in Africa.
- In 2018, only **221** African cities' populations exceeded **300,000** while more than **10,000** cities and towns had less than **300,000** inhabitants.
- These towns face **pronounced urban planning and management capacity challenges** which may also constrain COVID-19 responses.



Prevalence of Slums and Informal Settlements (47% Total Urban population; 52% in SSA; 48% in NA)



Distribution of slum population in Africa

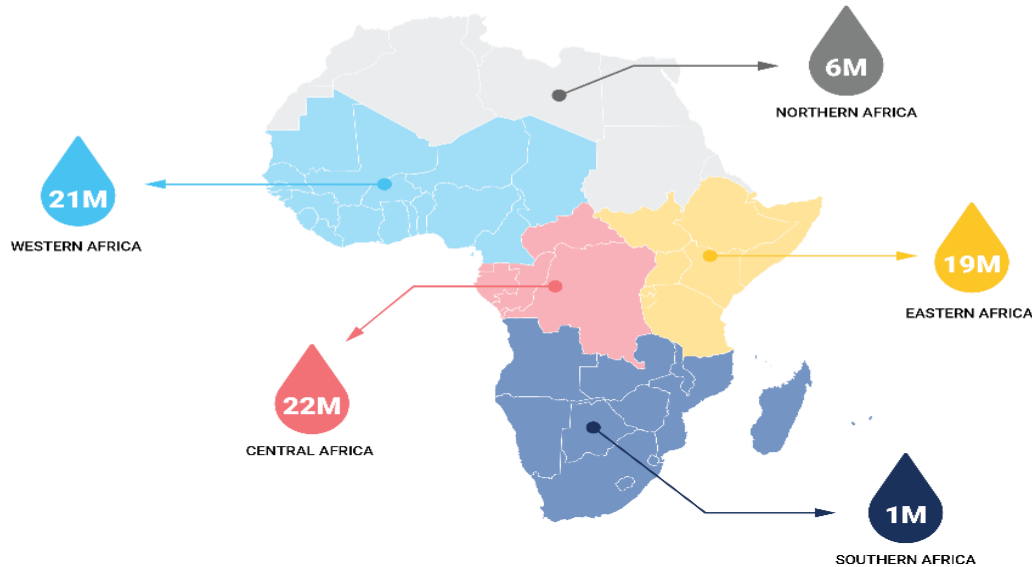
Access to Basic Services in Urban Areas



87%

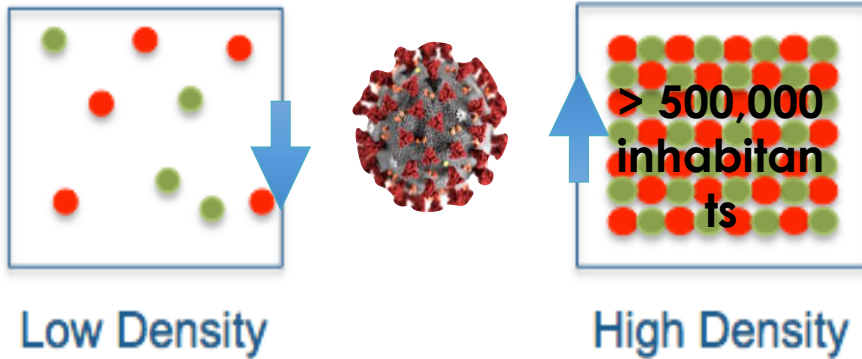
African urban population with access to improved drinking water which collection did not exceed a 30-minute round trip.

AFRICAN URBAN RESIDENTS HAVE NO ACCESS TO SAFE WATER SERVICES (69M).

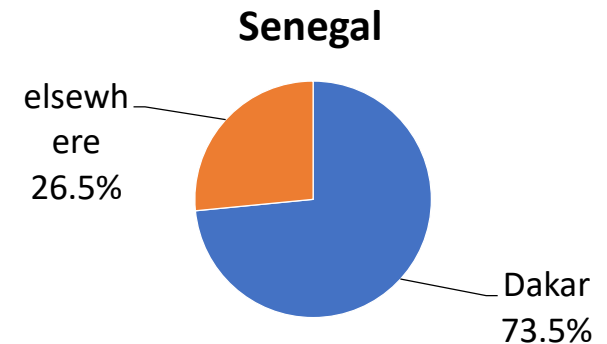
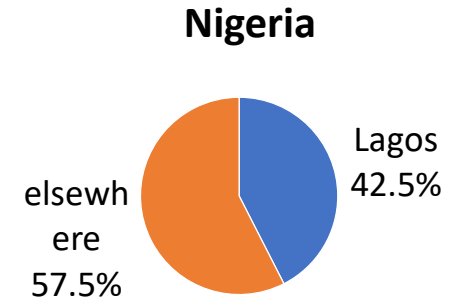


- 69 Millions urban pop have no access to safe water services (Central, West, Eastern Africa).
- 55% urban pop have access to basic sanitation
- 47% of all urban residents have basic hand washing facilities in their homes

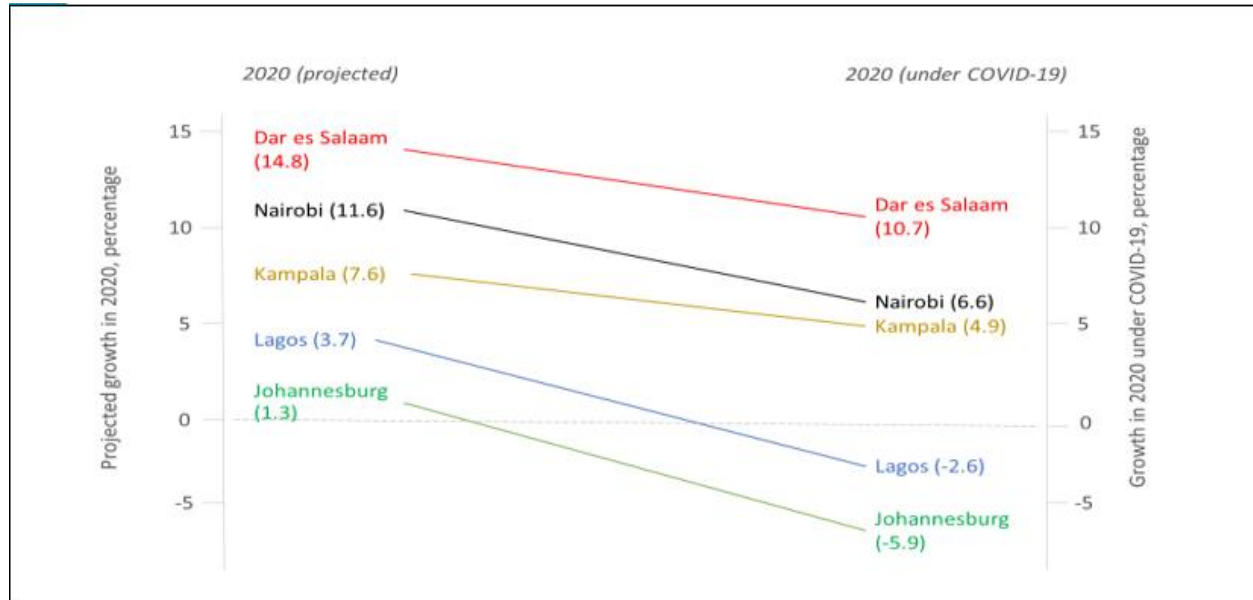
Density, Mobility and Market Places: Contagious Opportunities



The prevailing density conditions, as well as the strength of the linkages with infection sources (e.g. international travel) could explain the current significant variations in reported COVID-19 cases.



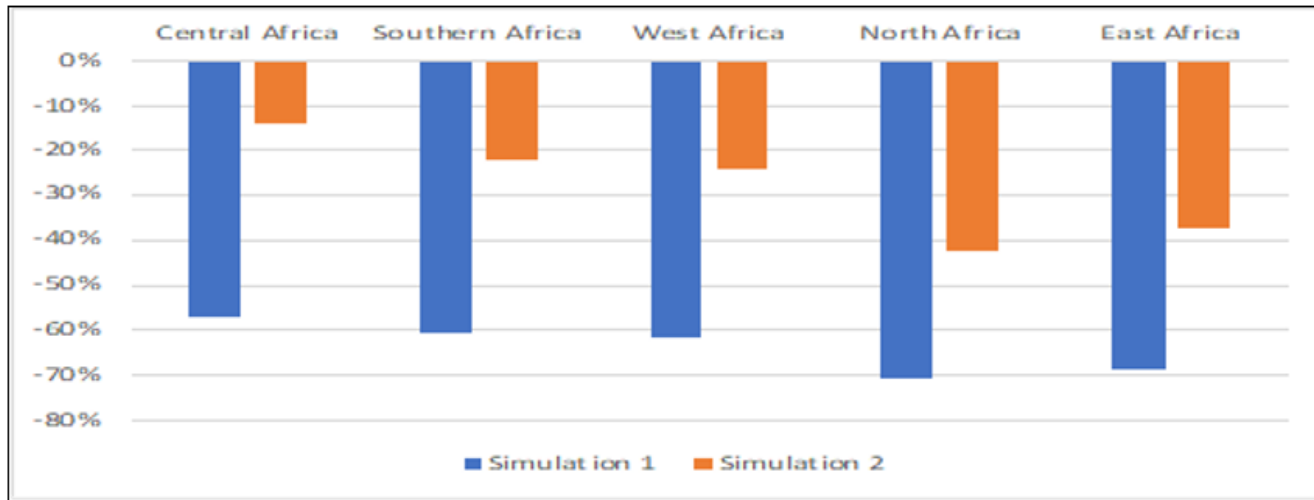
Economic and Financial Impacts of COVID-19 in Urban Areas



Projected growth and growth under COVID-19 conditions in selected African primary cities

- The economic contraction will impact tradable activities, particularly manufacturing and services.
- For example, Johannesburg and Lagos, are expected to experience negative growth. Nairobi is expected to contract by 5%. The two other cities in the sample will see a decline of 3 to 4%.
- The urban economic contraction will directly reduce municipal revenues which, in turn, lead to less financial resources to deliver urban services

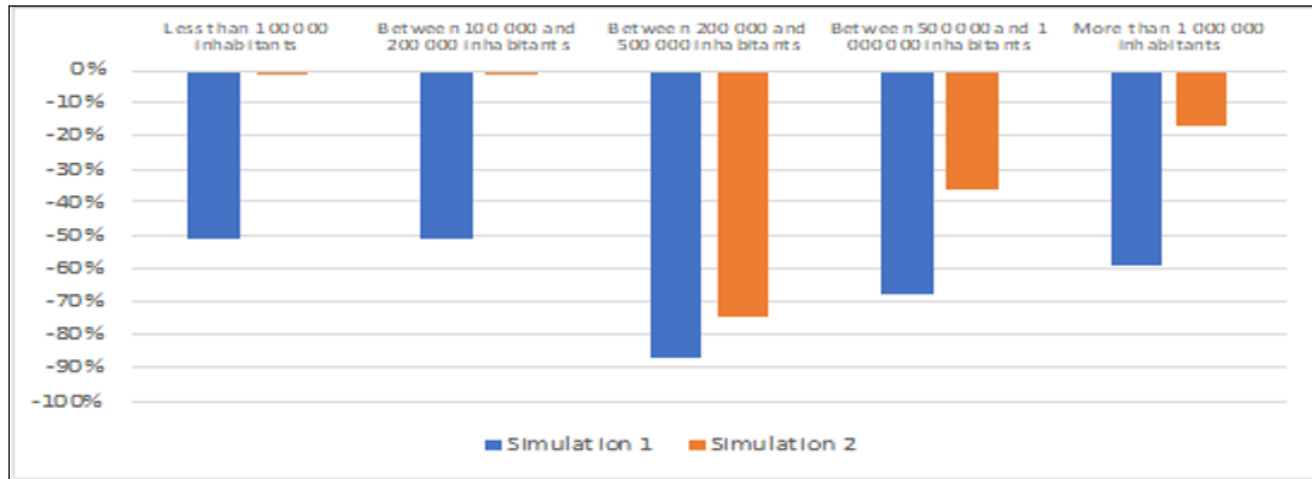
Shrinking Local Fiscal Scape



Average impact of local and regional government's finances in the five regions of Africa

- African local governments, on the average, are projected to experience a drop in local finances in the order of 65% under the worst case scenario and up to 30% under the best case scenario.

Impact on Capital Investment of Local & Regional Governments



Impact on the capital investment of local and regional governments per size of population

- Cities with less than 200,000 inhabitants are most impacted.
- These small cities have no investment capacity.
- All financial resources are used for the operation of public services.

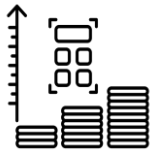
Poverty and Inequality



- Informality, underemployment and the precarious nature of jobs **affects 80% of all Africans of working age.**
 - Lack of social protection and support mechanisms if they lose their livelihood.
 - No safety nets nor alternative incomes.
 - No disposable cash and inability to stockpile food.
 - **Need for in-cash or in-kind public assistance** to survive.



- **Women aged 15 to 49 are overrepresented in urban slums and slum-like settings in 80% of the 59 developing countries (UN-Habitat/UN-Women, 2019); increased violence against women (SA: 10660 phone calls and 616 SMS from 27 March to 16 of April).**

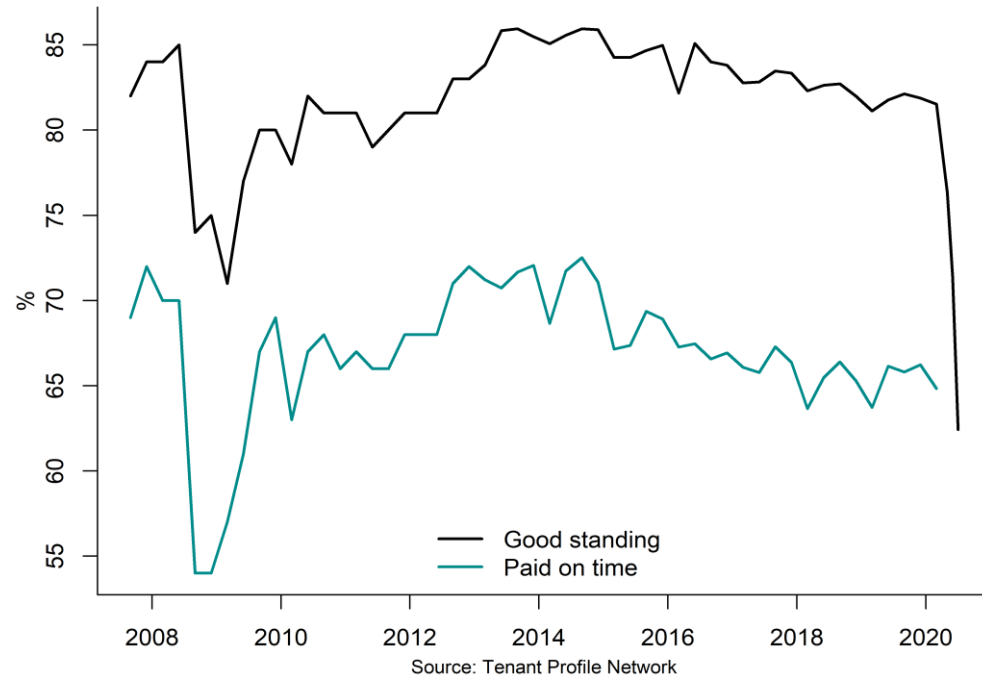


- **Recurrent expenses for food, energy, water and even in slums the rent still comes due at the end of the month.**

Financial Problems of Households and Housing Market

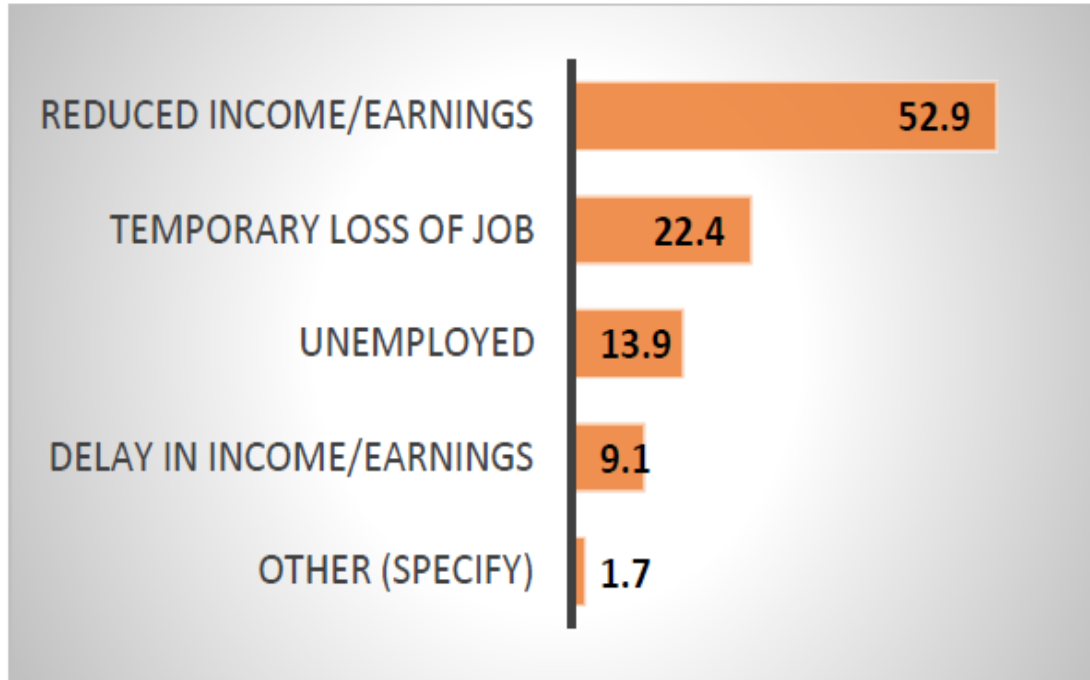
MEASURES TO MITIGATE RENATAL ISSUES	COUNTRIES
<p>MORTGAGES RELIEF: The government prescribes the financial institutions to phase out debt payments for until after the end of the crisis :</p>	<p>Algeria, Angola, Cabo Verde, Morocco, Namibia, Tunisia, Uganda</p>
<p>EVICTION BAN: tenants whose incomes have fallen particularly sharply due to the COVID-19 pandemic because of rent arrears:</p>	<p>Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia (Tigray), South Africa,</p>
<p>RENT FREEZE: In extreme cases, the rent payments are completely suspended</p>	<p>Gabon, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Coast</p>

Tenants with good rent payment standing in South Africa, 2007-2020



The proportion of good standing tenants plummeted from 81.5% in the first quarter 2020 to 62.7% in June 2020

Impact on Rental Market in Kenya



30.5 per cent of households were unable to pay rent

Source: Survey on socio-economic impacts of COVID 19 on Households, 2020

Policy Recommendations for Informal Settlements

Target informal settlements through tailored measures

- Provide COVID 19 tailored health care services to informal settlements taking into consideration unique and elevated vulnerability (water, sanitation, waste management).
- Establish participatory data collection systems in informal settlements to identify gaps and facilitate coordination of interventions among various actors (community, local, national).
- Develop informal settlement regeneration and restructuration plans to be integrated into national priorities and strategies to address root causes of vulnerability.

Policy Recommendations for Housing and Forced Evictions

Establish mechanisms to promote rapid access to housing and prevent forced evictions

- Housing an important tool for economic recovery: boosting the housing value chain .
- Fill the gap on housing data in collaboration (housing profile, data on tenure system, rental housing, financing and land availability); and revision of housing policies and strategies in the medium term.

Policy Recommendation for Urban Planning

Integrate urban planning and management as key priorities for recovery and rebuilding strategies towards long-term resilience

- Address the structural and underlying drivers of urban vulnerability to shocks and stress including through investments in infrastructure, services and job creation for resilience.
- Integrate health dimension into spatial planning process and mechanisms, especially in secondary cities and enhance the competencies of urban planners,
- Promote green recovery and rebuilding including through developing infrastructures to diversify safe and green mobility through mass public transit and non-motorized transport systems

Thank you

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