

If you would like to know more about an example in this monitor, have an additional question, or would like to receive the monitor by email in future, please let us know via international office@amsterdam.nl

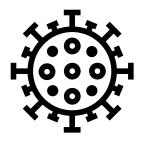
This fortnightly monitor aims to provide an overall picture of measures taken by other cities in Europe and beyond in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Different domains are discussed, and all examples focus on their relevance to cities and especially Amsterdam. This document also contains an overview of EU measures and of information sources relevant to cities.

For more information on the Amsterdam approach of the coronavirus, please check: amsterdam.nl/coronavirus



Inhoud

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Relaxation of restrictions

This monitor mainly focuses on the relaxation of the restrictions. How will the economy be reopened and how will businesses and the cultural sector be supported? What are cities doing to restart healthcare facilities and public transport?

Below is an overview of the general measures in a number of European countries:

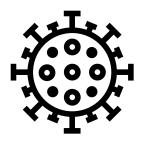
- In Austria, restaurants will open from 15 May. Groups of up to 10 people will be allowed to meet from 1 May. Face masks are mandatory in shops and public transport.
- In Belgium, schools will reopen from 18 May. All shops can reopen from 11 May.

- In the Czech Republic, all bars and restaurants can open from 25 May. Groups of up to 10 people are allowed to meet from 24 April
- Face masks are compulsory in Poland. Schools will open from 24 May.
- In France, since last week, elderly people can be visited again under strict conditions. A maximum of two visitors at once, physical contact is still not permitted.
- In residential areas of **Brussels**, cyclists and pedestrians have priority on the road and the maximum speed is reduced to 20 km/h.
- In Milan, residents are invited to contribute ideas on the next phase

- of the coronavirus crisis. On an online platform, residents can share ideas about the future and the 'new normal'.
- Bristol aims to use the Sustainable Development Goals for recovery, a green economy with less poverty and inequality.
- In Vilnius, the mayor has announced that restaurant owners are allowed to use public space in 18 areas of the city to expand their terraces. This means that terraces can be arranged to leave two meters between tables.

Read more?

Click <u>here</u> for an overview by country and <u>here</u> for an article by Politico comparing Europe's exit strategies.



Spotlight: Singapore

Introduction of the TraceTogether app

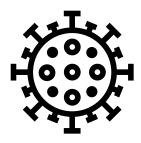
The aim of this app is to contain the spread of COVID-19 by means of contact tracing. Singapore residents can download the app voluntarily. To use the app, a phone number must be registered. The app uses Bluetooth to keep track of other users who have been in the user's vicinity. This information is stored anonymously on the phone. Only if a contact tracer seeks contact will the user be asked to upload the data from his/her phone to a central Ministry of Health server. Location data is not used.

SpotOn

A smart thermometer to measure temperature safely, easily and quickly. The thermometer features facial recognition technology, which can detect up to 10 faces at a time. The accuracy is between +0.3-0.5°C. The detection distance is 2 metres. The thermometer is not affected by masks, hats, hairstyles, or hot and cold items (including drinks). The colour green is used for a temperature below 37.5°C and red for above 37.5°C. If the measurement using SpotOn is above 37.5°C, a manual check will be made.

Chatbot for questions related to COVID-19

The chatbot uses decision trees and can be used via the Singapore government website, Telegram, Facebook and Facebook Messenger. Chat history is checked daily to identify FAQs. Google Translate can be used to translate a question into English. The chatbot can also be used to search within information. It also has a symptom checker and can perform simple medical triage.



Spotlight: Singapore

Travel & Health Declaration System

This is a national check-in system designed by GovTech for efficient crowd monitoring and to prevent long waiting times. The system is cloud-based and available free of charge to government agencies and companies. Visitors can scan a QR code by using the SingPass Mobile app, then give permission to share their contact details before making the necessary declaration or visiting an organisation.

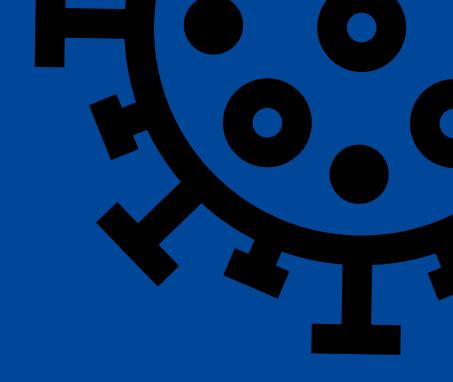
Digitisation Fund

The Digitisation Fund is part of the government and its USD 55 million support package for arts and culture. The fund helps museums to make their collections accessible via virtual platforms. The package also supports the digital presentation of major events.

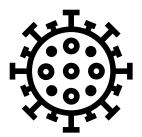
Marketing Partnership Program

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) has launched the Marketing Partnership Programme at a cost of USD 20 million. This initiative is to ensure that companies in the tourism industry maintain their international reputation and are able to kickstart when the market recovers. The STB provides support for marketing expenses and will distribute various additional funding boosters to companies that collaborate with other tourism stakeholders in order to offer services of greater value to customers.





Social Domain



Schools in Denmark can reopen

How is this happening?

Opening of schools and childcare in Denmark

- Children and staff from households in which a member has COVID-19 are not allowed to go to the day care or school.
- If staff have symptoms or develop them during the day, they have to go home. They can return when they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours.
- If a child falls into a high-risk group with regard to his/her health, the GP should be consulted. It remains an individual decision, but in principle children from high-risk groups can go to school.
- If a staff member turns out to be ill, extra hygiene measures must be taken. In principle, direct colleagues

- who have come into contact with the person may continue to work.
- There is no maximum number of people in the day care. However, as far as possible children and adults should be allowed to stay with the same group in the same room.

Classroom changes

- Pupils should change classrooms as little as possible during the school day. The teacher should come to the classroom.
- Where room changes are necessary, pupils should wash their hands in between.

Bringing/collecting children

- Parents or other accompanying adults should not be allowed to gather at day care entrances. This can be arranged by having children arrive at intervals.
- Adults should avoid physical contact including close and prolonged contact, handshakes, hugs, etc. with people they do not live with.
- Public transport should be avoided.





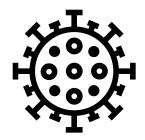
Schools in Denmark can reopen

What are the hygiene rules?

- Toilets must be cleaned with cleaning agents at least twice a day.
- Tables and contact points (e.g. chairs, doorknobs) must be cleaned at least twice a day.
- Toys, both indoors and outdoors, must be washed at least twice a day.
- Toys may not be brought from home.
- Toys that cannot be cleaned according to the instructions must be stored until after the COVID-19 epidemic is over.
- Bedding is strictly personal and must remain in the child's pram or bed.
 It is recommended that bedding should be washed twice a week or if

- necessary at 80°C. If bedding is not personal, it should be washed daily at 80°C.
- Tablets should be cleaned several times a day and between uses. If possible, children should not share tablets, or only a few children should share the same tablet. Alcohol wipes should be used for cleaning.
- Keyboards and computer mice should be cleaned daily with disposable wipes. Hands should be washed before and after using the mouse and keyboard.





Measures in times of coronavirus

in the social domain

Elderly and vulnerable people

In **Madrid**, several apartment buildings have been opened for elderly people with COVID-19 symptoms who do not have caregivers or whose caregiver has died. There is room for 75 people, who can also receive social and psychological support.

In **Edinburgh** and **Glasgow**, iPads have been donated to elderly people so they can keep in touch with their families while in home isolation. In **Munich**, the municipality is collaborating with public libraries to deliver books to the elderly and people with disabilities. A local organisation also receives financial support from the municipality to help elderly and vulnerable people with shopping and other everyday needs, including walking the dog.

Homeless people

In **Edinburgh**, a national charity has partnered with the city council to make 10 thousand hotel bed spaces available for 730 people. The charity has also relocated its team of 14 professional advice and support staff to one of the hotels to help create positive prospects for the homeless people. Hundreds of volunteers are participating in the project, for example by supplying fresh ingredients and preparing food.

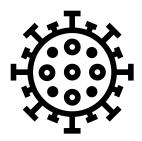
In various European cities, including **Nice** and **Brno** (Czech Republic), masks are being distributed to homeless people.

Health

In **Vienna**, healthcare staff who work overtime for four consecutive weeks have been given a one-off bonus of 500 euros.

Vienna has made 1 million euros available to conduct research on the coronavirus. Seven research projects have now started.

Milan has started a helpline for people with mental health problems, enabling psychologists and doctors to speak to patients.



Measures in times of coronavirus

in the social domain

Young people

In **Madrid**, online activities are being organised for teenagers. Around 2,500 teenagers in social isolation at home have taken part in online activities including cooking, magic, craft, video games, dance and other exercise. About 120 young people took part in a rap competition.

In **Helsinki**, school lunches are being provided via a pick-up service. The lunches were initially only for pupils who were still coming to school due to home circumstances, but they are now available to everyone.

Overig

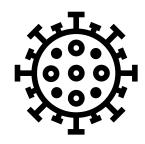
In **Sweden**, flight attendants from the airline SAS have been retrained as healthcare staff. See more information <u>here</u>.

Nantes and the department of Loire-Atlantique have set up a fund of more than 2 million euros to help with rent payments for vulnerable residents left with little or no income due to the coronavirus crisis.

Besiktas: The mayor has launched a gender equality campaign on social media. The core messages are:

- Jobs are not male or female.
- Anyone can do housework.
- Childcare is the responsibility of both parents.





Call for European cities

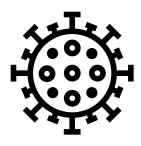
to take in unaccompanied minor asylum seekers from Greece

On March 12, European Commissioner Ylva Johansson called on EU member states to take in additional children from Greece. A number of countries have responded positively:
Germany, Luxembourg, France, Portugal, Ireland, Finland, Croatia, Lithuania, Belgium, Bulgaria and Switzerland. Austria has offered to provide extra emergency accommodation capacity for Greece.

Amsterdam, in collaboration with the municipality of Utrecht and eight other cities including Barcelona and Leipzig and in collaboration with Eurocities, has made an appeal to the European Commission, the European Council and the European Parliament regarding the current circumstances of refugees in Greece, which are dire, especially for children. The aim of the appeal

is to demonstrate that European cities are prepared to provide extra accommodation for this vulnerable group, and to increase pressure on other member states to cooperate. Amsterdam's deputy mayor Rutger Groot Wassink was interviewed by The Guardian in relation to this appeal. Read the article here.





Spotlight: New York

Extension of measures and health situation

In New York State, and thus in New York City, measures to combat the coronavirus pandemic have been extended to at least 15 May. This means that schools and non-essential businesses will remain closed, and people have to wear masks in public and when using private or public transport. It has been announced that schools will not reopen for the rest of the school year and studies will continue online.

Because the United States has no universal health insurance system, many US citizens are uninsured. New York State is offering residents without health insurance the option to apply for insurance until 15 May 2020 through the New York State Health Department or private companies.

It is notable that African Americans in particular are being disproportionately affected by the coronavirus. This is because they often cannot afford the luxury of not going to work because they would then be unable to buy basic provisions. In addition, they often have low-paid jobs involving a lot of contact, which means the chance of infection is higher. Moreover, the relatively high rate of poverty among African Americans also leads to a relatively less healthy lifestyle, which can result in obesity and diabetes. This is also in line with the World Bank's view of the impact of COVID-19 on the poor.

Pressure on the system

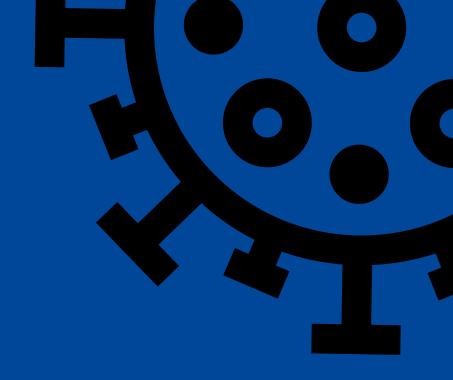
A total of 26.2 million Americans have lost their jobs in five weeks. This does not include the self-employed, freelancers and people on zero-hour contracts, so the actual number is much higher. In the week of 22 March, nearly 114,000 unemployment claims were made in New York City. It is expected that many more will still be made, as people have been <u>unable to submit claims</u> because the system has been unable to cope with the surge.

Traffic and air quality

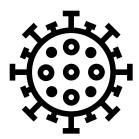
There is 60% less traffic using the busiest bridges and tunnels. As a result, the number of road accidents has also decreased by 60%. In addition, there has been a major improvement in air quality, with a 25% reduction in air pollution.

Fraud

A special website has been set up by the Manhattan police to detect and combat COVID-19 related fraud.



Physical Domain



"The world has changed, so will our mobility"

Il mondo è cambiato.

Cambia anche il modo di muoversi.

In questa nuova realtà dobbiamo adeguarci a tempi e modi di viaggiare diversi.

In ATM facciamo la nostra parte con il massimo impegno: mettiamo in campo tutte le nostre persone, schieriamo l'intera flotta e sanifichiamo tutti i mezzi e le stazioni.

Per tutelare la tua salute e quella degli altri è importante la collaborazione di tutti: tieni la distanza e usa la mascherina.

Viaggiamo responsabilmente



Milan is preparing to restart public life with the campaign slogan: "The world has changed, so will our mobility".

Red and green dots have been placed on tram/bus/metro seats to encourage distancing.

Translation

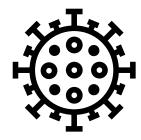
In this new reality we have to adapt to different times and ways of travelling.

We are doing our very best: we are deploying all our staff, using our entire fleet and disinfecting all facilities and stations.

Everyone's cooperation is important to protect your health and that of others: keep your distance and wear a mask







Vending machines with free hygiene packages

in Izmir metro stations

In the metro stations of Izmir, Turkey, the local government has started to install so-called 'maskmatics': vending machines providing free hygiene packages, which contain four face masks and a 100 ml bottle of disinfectant. This is to ensure that all residents have access to masks, as their use is compulsory.

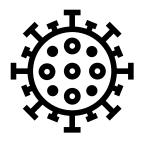
The first machine was installed in the busy Konak metro station. Its first user was Mayor Tunç Soyer, who said that "Considering the health of the residents of Izmir is our main priority."

The vending machine can be used by residents with an Izmir transport card. This method of dispensing masks reduces the risk of infection as they are not distributed by hand.



The local government is to install machines at 10 other metro stations in addition to Konak. A local company is supplying the machines. Izmir also plans

to issue residents with a weekly hygiene package. Read more about Izmir's approach <u>here</u>.



Spotlight: Cannes

In France, masks are mandatory from 11 May. Cannes has started distributing masks to all residents.

Monitoring

In partnership with a start-up company, detection cameras have been installed in three markets. The cameras use an algorithm to detect anyone not wearing a mask. If a market visitor is found not to be wearing a mask, an officer can be sent to give the person a mask and to provide information on the benefits of wearing masks. Market visitors are not made aware of the system in advance; there is only a notice at the entrance giving brief information. People who object can indicate this by shaking their heads. The footage is viewed live and not saved, so personal data is protected.

An alert system informs municipal officials of how many face masks are being worn during the day. A digital dashboard shows developments in the number of people wearing a mask. In response, it is then possible to consider taking additional measures, such as providing information or distributing masks.

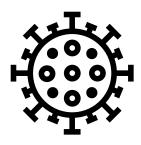
Public transport

Cannes is also installing the detection cameras on buses, where the system will be expanded to include a 'distance meter'. An alarm will sound if people on the bus are too close together.

Shelter for homeless people

The space that was to have been used by the cancelled Cannes Film Festival has been made available to homeless people. It now accommodates 50-70 people.





Municipal waste management

ACR+ on municipal policy in context of the coronavirus crisis

The coronavirus crisis is also having an impact on waste production and collection. The Amsterdam Metropolitan Area is a member of the ACR+ network (focused on resource management/ circular economy). In many cases, household waste production seems to have increased, which is an important issue for the municipality of Amsterdam, given its responsibility for waste collection. Protocols for cleaning public space in cities have also been revised.

Various cities/countries have provided input for analysis to ACR + (Milan, Catalonia, England and France). Click here for an infographic showing trends.

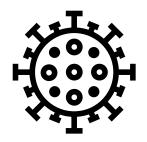
UK waste guidelines

Like the Netherlands, the United Kingdom has also drawn up guidelines on how municipalities can deal with waste management during the coronavirus crisis. The guidelines deal with staff safety and the frequency of collection per type of waste.

Information on how other cities deal with waste management:

- Website van ACR+ with the municipal policy page
- Information from the European
 Commission
- OECD rapport including passage on waste management policy
- Effecten in the United States





Wide support for a 'green' EU COVID-19 recovery plan

The EU is currently working on the EU COVID-19 recovery plan. In an article published in several countries, Frans Timmermans and Bertrand Piccard advocate a green recovery.

This of course is the position they would be expected to take, but there is also broad support from other countries, companies, NGOs, universities and research institutes for the development of a green recovery plan.

In this regard, the following issues are important:

- The European Green Deal should underpin EU recovery measures;
- EU climate legislation must be implemented as planned;
- Commission proposals on biodiversity and "farm-to-fork" strategy will be postponed only for a few weeks.

The <u>Netherlands</u> is also strongly in favour of a green recovery plan, as are the <u>United Kingdom and Germany</u>.

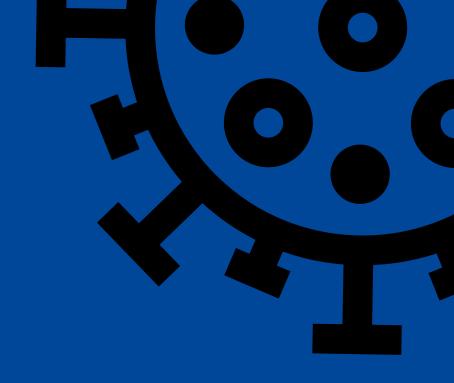
Angela Merkel expressed her <u>support</u> on 28 April during a virtual climate summit.

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, local governments have severe budget deficits. Warsaw has indicated that the national government can block local green initiatives and that climate goals will not be achieved. Warsaw is therefore calling for more direct access to EU funds for cities to promote sustainability.

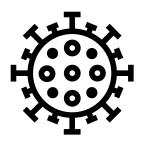
It is expected that in several countries (mostly in Eastern Europe) this will strongly influence discussions regarding a green recovery plan. A <u>statement</u> by 36 MPs has also been sent to the

President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen calling for the EU to put pragmatism first and postpone initiatives under the EU Green Deal to concentrate on emerging from the crisis.

It is important to note that the European Commission has shared a new timetable for the initiatives in the EU Green Deal, which shows that almost all major proposals will be published on schedule (with the exception of biodiversity). In general, it is also expected that the EU recovery plan will have considerable green conditions attached. Amsterdam also sees the recovery phase as an opportunity to realise green ambitions based on Kate Raworth's Doughnut model.



Economy



Restarting the economy

Munich

One-off support for companies with up to 250 employees or up to €50,000 if there are liquidity shortfalls, in addition to federal programmes for companies with a maximum of ten employees. Additionally, equity funds have been significantly increased; there are also credit programmes with up to 100% guarantees. There is also sector-specific assistance, also available for companies that offer social services such as care or education and for cultural organisations (and individuals working in this industry). Employees who can't work full time because of the crisis can receive up to 67% of their regular salary as compensation. This money is paid directly from the government to employees.

Helsinki

Local startups are being supported in attracting foreign investment. Surveys

are being conducted among both foreign investors and startups to gain more information about which tools and approaches would be welcomed. New measures will be taken based on the outcome of these surveys.

Berlin

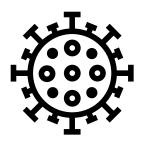
Throughout the crisis, the local business development bank is being supported by almost 50 municipal staff to ensure quick financial support for these companies. There are also grants of up to €9,000 for self-employed workers, freelancers and companies with up to five employees ('Emergency Aid II'). For companies with 6 to 10 employees this grant can go up to €15,000. Emergency Aid III helps with fast loans for SMEs (small- to medium-sized companies with more than 10 employees). The maximum loan is 25% of the annual turnover in 2019. Companies of up to 50

employees can get up to €500,000 and companies with more than 50 employees can get up to €800,000. Finally, Emergency Aid V comprises further, advanced protective measures for SMEs. An amount of €75 million has been budgeted for this.

Barcelona

The Catalan government has taken various financial measures. For example, an amount of €21 million has been cleared for companies (particularly SMEs) that are hit hardest by COVID-19. A further €4 million have been made available for 19 research projects related to the fight against COVID-19. Another €1 million is available for loans to improve liquidity in companies.

Finally, **McKinsey** has released a <u>report</u> on how companies and governments can restart the economy.



Municipal help for the cultural sector

For a large part, cultural life across the world has been brought to a standstill, with far-reaching consequences for almost everyone working in the cultural and creative sector. Amsterdam is actively exchanging insights about this with other cities within the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF). Below, an overview of what a selection of cities are doing to help the cultural sector.

Amsterdam

- is looking into additional local measures and is a member of the National Taskforce led by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science;
- is conducting research into farreaching economic impact on arts and culture sector;
- provides information to the cultural sector about support measures;
- on 15 April 2020, the Amsterdam

Fund for the Arts (AFK) opened an 'express service' (budget: €300,000) for smaller projects, including digital projects. Grants from €1,500 to €5,000 per application are available.

Barcelona

- has instituted a €1 million subsidy to support basic cultural infrastructure;
- provides advance payments for already granted subsidies for postponed or cancelled projects;
- provides €1 million to municipal libraries to purchase books.

Berlin

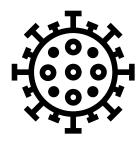
has set up a €30 million emergency fund (link in German) of up to €500,000 for SMEs in the cultural and media industries that have a maximum turnover of €10 million and do not receive public funding.

Helsinki

- has set up a €300,000 fund for ideas from the cultural and event sectors to connect with audiences in innovative digital ways;
- requires no refunds of already granted subsidies for cancelled events;
- offers re-use or returns of tickets for municipal cultural institutions;
- aims to generate more digital memberships for public libraries (e.g. for e-books, digital audio, digital language classes).

Stockholm

- provides SEK 20 million to support subsidised institutions;
- requires no refunds of subsidies for cancelled events originally planned for 2020.



Municipal help for cultural sector

Londen

- Pay It Forward London: a crowdfunding platform for SMEs enabling small cultural institutions and other organisations to sell tickets and services 'in advance';
- London Community Response Fund: a £10 million fund collected by a number of other funds for eight of the hardest hit sectors (including arts and culture).

Lisbon

- cultural institutions located in municipal buildings do not pay rent until 30 June 2020;
- all signed contracts are being honoured by means of postponing events or adapting programmes;
- support for cultural organisations that do not receive municipal funding through the Social Emergency Fund.

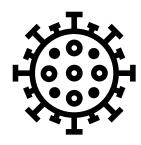
Vienna

- Emergency plan for culture: €35 million support programme for cultural businesses, SMEs and selfemployed waorkers
- €1000/month advances (link in German) for a maximum of three months for freelance artists and scientific researchers living in Vienna. Total budget of €1 million.



See also the <u>Eurocities overview</u>, category 'culture'.

Amsterdam will continue to actively exchange insights with other cities within the WCCF.



Restart cultural sector China

Shenzhen

Shenzhen's main library, concert hall and museums were reopened on 24 March 2020. Smaller institutions remain closed. The 'Health Code App' is being utilised throughout China. This app includes QR codes that need to be downloaded when visiting a public organisation. Green means 'healthy – can visit all public institutions'; yellow: 'recovering - limited access'; red: 'ill, high temperature or contagious - no access'.

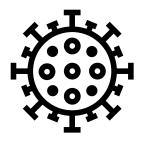
Shanghai

Museums will reopen in mid-May, with reduced opening times and limited visitor numbers; all visitors will have their temperature taken and the Health Code App is being used. Events will take place again, starting with open-air events and followed by events in music venues and stadiums.

Chengdu

Cultural institutions have been open for three weeks at 50% visitor capacity, but this has not proved economically viable, partly because too many people chose not to attend due to fear of infection. The institutions have now closed again. Heritage buildings remain open, as do bookshops.





Spotlight: Beijing

On re-opening the economy, China has introduced a number of measures that aim at limiting new infections by screening. These include preventing new cases by screening and medical observation by labour migrants from other provinces, for example in hotels, at people's homes and in ports. Tickets are being issued to entering different districts, and people's temperature is taken when entering.

Seventy special clinics have been set up; they comprise 50 test centres with a total capacity of 13,000 tests daily and 20 hospitals with more than 3,000 beds each. One notable observation is that according to registrations, more women than men have fallen ill.

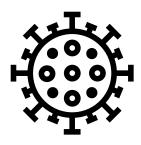
China's choices in easing restrictions are different from those of other countries.

While economic activities have largely been resumed, schools remain closed. Nevertheless, the emphasis appears to be on resuming as many economic activities as possible. Restaurants, small shops and people working in jobs involving close physical contact, such as physical therapists and hairdressers, have resumed work under additional hygiene measures. All businesses that can guarantee having 2.5 square metres per person available can ask their staff to return to work. Tourist attractions and open-air sports facilities are also re-opening.

Another interesting feature is that in order to move around in public, people need to use an app to prove they are healthy. If they are, they can also make use of public transport and other facilities.

Companies are being supported in the purchase of personal protective and medical equipment; face masks and thermometers are being procured at regional and district levels, and special agencies have been set up that can procure these products on companies' behalf where necessary. The government also supports companies in quaranteeing a healthy supply chain for 300 companies that they deem to be essential. A platform has been established to coordinate supply and demand for certain raw materials, parts and machines. To ensure sufficient labour supply, one million labour migrants have been brought to Beijing from other regions.

Another interesting fact is that people are being encouraged to cycle to work, with often additional cleaning procedures in place for bike sharing systems.



Spotlight: Tokio

The national government declared a state of emergency for the Tokyo region on 7 April and on 6 May for the rest of the country. But there is no total lockdown in Japan. Instead, the government is appealing to citizens to "avoid the three C's: closed spaces, crowded places and close conversation." For the most part, citizens are voluntarily cooperating with this.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) focuses many of its efforts on communication. Since late January, citizens and organisations such as embassies receive frequent updates from TMG about national and local measures. The governor is regularly broadcasting on YouTube.

Information is available in many foreign languages. TMG often refers readers/ listeners to English-language media such as NHK WORLD-JAPAN, the international service of the national public broadcaster.

Economic measures

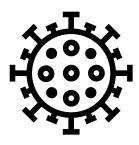
The economic situation has deteriorated by 20% compared to December 2019. The total amount made available by TMG is ¥360 billion (€3.5 billion). This is twice as much as during the financial crisis.

The funds are intended for companies that voluntarily comply with the request to close or suspend their activities. It is mainly directed at SMEs to help with cashflow problems.

In addition, companies can receive compensation for taking other preventative measures to avoid further spread of the virus.

Funds have been allocated to help social institutions procure medical equipment, including face masks, and there is an allowance for companies helping to support patients with mild symptoms.

Businesses and schools are receiving financial support for remote working and learning. Funds have also been made available to support the cultural sector.



Protection of digital rights by cities

Since plans for 'COVID-19 apps' have been announced, the City of Amsterdam is making additional efforts to protect residents' digital rights. Below is an overview of Amsterdam's goals. On the following slide, there is an overview of action taken by other cities.



Goal 1

The City will gather insights into technological applications and innovations that are being used in other countries' and cities' fight against the coronavirus, and analyse opportunities and threats.

The City will make conscious choices regarding the use of innovation and technology for fighting the spread of the coronavirus and will ensure democratic legitimation. Unless limitations are in place for national security reasons or similar, the City will be open and transparent in making these choices.

Amsterdam will remain aware of innovations and applications that are high-risk, but potentially relevant for use during and after the coronavirus crisis, and will encourage ideas for alternative applications that are suitable for our society.

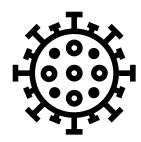
Goal 2

Amsterdam's residents will be aware of technologies and innovations that are being utilised in the coronavirus crisis and their functions regarding the monitoring of citizens. This relates to applications that businesses and citizens acquire themselves (paid or free).

Wherever possible, the City will flag digital applications and innovations that may infringe on human rights.

Goal 3

Amsterdam will devise various possible scenarios about what to expect from further digitisation of the information society after the coronavirus crisis.



Digital rights and tracking apps

Looking at Israel, China, Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Iran, Singapore, the US, Sweden, Germany, Italy and Spain, technological measures are used for social distancing, contact tracking, self-diagnosis and enforcement. Digital tools can measure crowding, distances between people and symptoms of COV-ID-19.

In Amsterdam, we use CCTV, the Crowd Monitoring System Amsterdam (CMSA), enforcement agents and police, traffic management sensors and air quality sensors for monitoring and measuring various factors. Further instruments that are in the development or planning phase are heat sensors, object detection/scanning vehicles ('scancars'), MMwave (millimetre wave) frequencies as an alternative to video cameras, and crowd data from Google and telecommunications

companies. Cities using or considering these technologies include: various Chinese cities, Singapore, Taiwan, Milan, Helsinki and Barcelona.

Tracking apps versus low-tech approaches

Singapore was the first city to use a tracing app. Similar apps are now being implemented or considered across the world. In the Netherlands, this topic is currently the subject of public debate, partly prompted by the Appathon organised by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport. Various cities are considering employing thousands of people to expand the 'traditional' ('manual') form of contact tracing, because apps can't offer sufficient guarantees due to technical limitations (inadequate level of detail of localisation and contact, as seen in Singapore) and not least because of

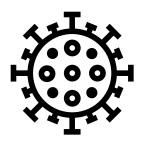
concerns regarding the safeguarding of digital rights (as expressed by Barcelona representatives).

Barcelona and digital rights

Barcelona has issued a public statement expressing concerns regarding the use of technology and announcing that tracing apps and other tech must fulfil a number of requirements, honouring the principles of proportionality, time limits, reversibility, voluntary participation, privacy, open government and open source, and transparency.

Cities Coalition for Digital Rights

This <u>coalition</u>, launched by New York City, Barcelona and Amsterdam, is monitoring and exchanging observations regarding the use of tech in the fight against the coronavirus.



Spotlight: South Korea

digital healthcare

Monitoring op afstand

Remote Monitoring
Patients infected with the COVID-19
virus who only experience mild
symptoms are remotely monitored by
Moongyeong Seoul National University
Hospital. Video calls and electronic
systems are used, resulting in safe and
efficient monitoring.

Telemedicine service apps

Various apps make it possible to arrange appointments with doctors and get medical advice using video conference services. Prescriptions are forwarded to pharmacies from the app. It is also possible to identify your symptoms yourself. If COVID-19 infection is suspected, the person concerned is connected to a hotline.

Al-based patient research

Al is used to detect abnormalities within seconds and with high precision, including lung infections, which are one of the main symptoms of COVID-19 infection. This helps to reduce the pressure on healthcare workers.

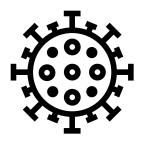
Drug research

South Korea is researching the use of existing drugs and their impact on COVID-19. With a view to maximising capacities and resources, a council has been set up to focus on the reuse of drugs. This consists of organisations with different areas of expertise. Al is also used in the development of new drugs. For example, deep learning algorithms are used to predict the interaction between a drug and proteins and, with the help of platforms, possible drugs to

combat COVID-19 are proposed.

Self-diagnosis- and self-quarantine app

The first app is designed for travellers entering the country. Any symptoms they may have are monitored and medical advice is provided through social media channels or a call centre. Since 1 April, all incoming visitors have been required to install the app on arrival. Personal details must be entered, including nationality, name, address and other necessary information for quarantine purposes. Travellers must declare their health conditions. This must be entered once a day for a period of 14 days. There is also a self-quarantine safety app which also monitors self-diagnosis and keeps track of users' compliance with quarantine measures. Downloading this app is voluntary for Koreans and mandatory for incoming visitors.



Spotlight: South Korea

Government website with information about working from home

The website lists useful products for working from home and the companies that supply them.

Distance learning

Since schools in South Korea closed, the government has been providing academic content online, in fields such as maths, science, software and VR/AR, to prevent students from falling behind too much. Korean subscription TV channels also offer educational content for primary and secondary schools. In addition, 36,000 tablets have been donated to children from low-income families.

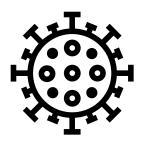
Walk-through testing stations

Established to collect COVID-19 samples faster and safer. There are two types of testing stations, in which either the patient or the healthcare worker is in the testing station. The stations ensure that contact is minimised thus reducing the risk of cross-contamination. This also increases the daily test capacity.

Open Government data regarding COVID-19

The South Korean government has set up an official website for COVID-19 containing all relevant information, including instructions for people in quarantine, an overview of the number of infections per day and information on the public distribution of face masks.





EU approach to COVID-19

Support measures and new Recovery Fund

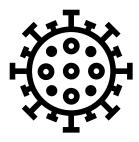
At a European Summit on 23 April, the government leaders agreed on a package of measures of €540 billion:

- €240 billion from the European emergency fund (ESM) for emergency support to member states with minimal conditions; the member state applying for a loan should use the funds primarily for direct and indirect healthcare costs related to the coronavirus.
- €200 billion for a guarantee fund from the European Investment Bank for favourable loans, in particular to small and medium-sized enterprises.
- €100 billion euros for a fund for short-time working schemes; the Commission will borrow this amount on the capital market in order to lend it to member states to finance

temporary benefits and short-time working schemes. They can also use loans from this SURE programme for healthcare.

In addition, it has been agreed that a (larger) recovery fund should be set up to enable the European economy to get up and running again after the coronavirus crisis. The European Commission has been asked to make proposals for this, based on an analysis of the economic impact of the coronavirus crisis in the various member states, with particular reference to the tourism sector. The size of the recovery fund has not yet been determined, but the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen gave an indicative figure of €1 trillion (1,000 billion).

A joint strategy for the recovery phase will be linked to the decision on the multi-year budget for 2021-2027 (the Multiannual Financial Framework, MFF). The idea is that the MFF will be increased, allowing the Commission, with guarantees from the member states, to borrow large sums of money and to provide credit on favourable terms to member states that need it. Von der Leyen expects to have a proposal with 'innovative financial instruments' ready in the second half of May.



European exit-strategie

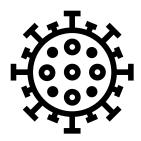
On 15 April, the European Commission presented a proposal for a European roadmap to gradually lift the various national and international restrictions in the EU. The roadmap will allow EU countries to develop a coordinated exit strategy. When EU countries decide to relax or adjust restriction measures, they should inform the Commission and neighbouring countries in order to avoid possible negative consequences across borders. The Commission proposes to open internal borders first and external borders at a later stage.

More information

More information on European policy is available from the <u>Ministry of Foreign</u> <u>Affairs</u>, the <u>European Commission</u> itself and <u>Europa decentraal</u>.

A more extensive report and a daily update are available on request from international office@amsterdam.nl





Overview of relevant information sources

- <u>Eurocities</u> has a website containing urban best practices and organises webinars on a variety of topics.
- C40 also provides information on various themes and there are board and expert level discussions. In addition, C40 has a specialised Knowledge Hub.
- The <u>Global Parliament of Mayors</u> has an overview of best practices and a forum for questions from directors.
- The City Innovators Forum has designed a <u>comprehensive toolbox</u> for urban policy during the time of the coronavirus.
- The World Economic Forum, the Resilient Cities Network, Friends of Europe and UCLG also regularly facilitate webinars.
- You can sign up for the <u>daily update</u> from Bloomberg Philanthropies, with a focus on US cities.

- A number of cities have set up their own knowledge-sharing initiatives, including Ankara with the <u>Capitals</u> <u>Initiative for COVID-19</u>'.
- The European Commission's Joint Research Centre has an 'overview of overviews'.
- CEMR (Council of European Municipalities and Regions) has recommendations for waste collection during the coronavirus crisis.
- This <u>handbook</u> examines research methods and forecasting relating to the coronavirus.
- The National Association of City Transportation Officials has relevant information for and by <u>transport</u> <u>professionals</u>.
- UNESCO has compiled a <u>list of useful</u> tools and tips to facilitate distance learning.

- Smart Cities World mainly looks at AI, ICT and the future in relation to the coronavirus.
- Amsterdam organises knowledge exchange in the social domain such as through a European network of city directors, and 'Bridging the Gap' where scientists and policy makers discuss inequality in times of crisis.

If you would like to know more about an example in this monitor, have another question, or would like to receive the monitor by email in future, please let us know via internationaloffice@amsterdam.nl

