

Office of the United Nations High
Commissioner for Human Rights



United Nations
Development Programme

United Nations Sustainable
Development Group



Checklist for a **Human Rights-Based Approach** to Socio-Economic Country Responses to COVID-19



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I. Objective

In April 2020, the UN issued the [UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19 \(SERF\)](#), which sets out the strategy and blueprint for the UN's urgent socio-economic response to countries and societies in the face of COVID-19. The SERF is a pathway designed to help countries tackle the devastating social and economic dimensions of the pandemic, with a focus on at-risk groups.¹ The SERF outlines that responses should aim to: protect people and planet; preserve gains across all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); ensure equality; promote transparency, accountability, participation, and collaboration; increase solidarity; and place the voice, rights and agency of people at the center.

The following checklist has been designed as a non-exhaustive list of potential actions, tools, and resources organized by the five streams of work that constitute the SERF.² Consistent with the UN Secretary-General's policy brief on [COVID-19 and Human Rights](#) the objective of the checklist is to provide initial guidance to help the UN in examining whether socio-economic impact assessments, responses, and recovery plans apply a human rights-based approach, ensuring that no one will be left behind.

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- 1 At-risk groups refers to populations experiencing the highest degree of socio-economic marginalization, requiring specific attention. See p. 5 of the [SERF](#)
 - 2 The checklist is informed by human rights guidance materials on COVID-19 produced by UN entities including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Organized according to this checklist's sections, the materials are featured in the non-exhaustive list of resources at the end of this document.

II.

Overview

The [SERF](#) requires UN Country Teams (UNCTs) to carry out the following actions as part of the implementation of the response:

1. Undertake a **mapping** of those most at risk of being left behind according to at-risk groups outlined in the framework³;
2. Make sure the UN's programmatic and non-programmatic interventions **address human rights concerns and advance human rights** and that **international norms, standards, and principles are integrated** in the design and implementation of socio-economic responses⁴;
3. Help countries establish or strengthen inclusive dialogue mechanisms between **civil society** and the state⁵;
4. Establish **transparent reporting mechanisms** and other means of verification of information related to the COVID-19 response for civil society (particularly those most marginalized)⁶;
5. Advise states on how to steer away from policies that could aggravate inequalities and human rights grievances for at-risk groups⁷ and keep the focus on '**building back better**' as outlined in the UN Secretary-General's [Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity](#) report⁸.

3 pp. 6-7 of the [SERF](#)

4 pp. 9, 34, 35 of the [SERF](#)

5 p. 35 of the [SERF](#)

6 p. 36 of the [SERF](#)

7 p. 34 of the [SERF](#)

8 p. 40 of the [SERF](#)

III.

Checklist



A. Mapping of Those Most at Risk of Being Left Behind

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

		Yes	Not yet
1	Have you undertaken a quick but comprehensive mapping of the at-risk groups experiencing the highest degree of socio-economic marginalization and/or discrimination, requiring specific attention? ⁹ For additional checklists to guide considerations for some of the at-risk groups, use the links included below and reference the UNSDG COVID-19 Resources webpage that is updated on a regular basis with additional checklists.		

	Yes	N/A
Women [LINK TO SPECIFIC CHECKLIST]		
Older persons [LINK TO SPECIFIC CHECKLIST]		
Adolescents, children and youth, especially girls and young women		
Persons with disabilities, persons with mental health conditions [LINK TO SPECIFIC CHECKLIST]		
Indigenous peoples		
Migrants, refugees, stateless and internally displaced persons, conflict-affected populations		
Minorities		
Slum dwellers, people in informal settlements, homeless persons		
People living with Human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other people with pre-existing medical conditions		

	Yes	N/A
Small farmers, fishers, pastoralists, rural workers in informal and formal markets, and other people living in remote rural areas as well as urban informal sector and self-employed who depend on markets for food		
The food insecure, particularly in countries affected by prolonged conflict and crisis		
People in extreme poverty or facing insecure and informal work and incomes		
Groups that are particularly vulnerable and marginalized because laws, policies and practices do not protect them from discrimination and exclusion (e.g. LGBTI people)		
Persons in detention or in institutionalized settings (e.g. persons in psychiatric care, drug rehabilitation centres, old age homes)		
Specific populations as relevant in the national context		

⁹ In mapping of at risk groups, consult the Humanitarian Response Plan (if one exists in country). In countries, where a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) exists, UN socio-economic response frameworks should seek close collaboration and programmatic complementarity to the HRP to maximize the impact of humanitarian and socio-economic response efforts, in accordance with [General Assembly Resolution 46/182](#). Where relevant and no other HRP has been developed, UN socio-economic response frameworks also may include activities that respond to humanitarian needs.

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

		Yes	Not yet
2	Has a gender analysis been applied to the mapping?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Have you mapped different impacts experienced by girls, boys, women, men, and LGBTI persons for each at-risk population identified?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Have you mapped out not only male-dominated sectors, but also female-dominated sectors (e.g. domestic care workers, micro- small- and medium enterprises, sex industries, etc.)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Have you applied a gender analysis to questions 3 and 4?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3	Have you used the UN guiding questions listed in the SERF to ensure that those most at risk of being left behind are protected and included in the response to the COVID-19 crisis?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Who has been targeted when devising the country's health and socio-economic response measures? What is the demographic and where do they reside? Where are the gaps?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Which barriers keep people beyond the reach of infrastructure, employment, services, jobs, and other socio-economic response measures?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ How can those who are excluded, marginalized, and vulnerable be brought into the fold? How can they be made more resilient to shocks and crises?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ How can the responses help remove and avoid exacerbating structural drivers of exclusion, inequalities, and discrimination?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4	Have you taken into account certain considerations to guide UN action for a comprehensive response?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Personal situation and status	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Occupation and location	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Legal status	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Social norms and gender stereotypes	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Trust between authorities and the population and among groups by ensuring inclusivity, dialogue and grievance mechanisms	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

B. Integration of International Human Rights Norms and Standards

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
5	Have you consulted the following sources of information throughout the response?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ The latest country-specific recommendations including from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), UN Special Procedures, and UN Treaty Bodies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Nationally available information on human rights and COVID-19	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ The country's Voluntary National Review report to examine its commitments and progress on the SDGs and related human rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6	Have you integrated the COVID-19 Human Rights Indicators framework in Annex I of the SERF by:		
	→ Integrating the COVID-19 human rights indicators into the workplan/strategy of existing UNCT structures or processes (e.g. working groups, task forces, Common Country Analysis / UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Selecting country-relevant thematic indicators (TI) and complementary indicators (CI), including priority at-risk groups for data disaggregation and/or qualitative analysis (see below indicators checklist)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Identifying lead agencies under each selected indicator?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Populating all selected indicators through quantitative and/or qualitative information/analysis and integrating them in the UN socio-economic response?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

COVID-19 Human Rights Indicators Checklist

	Selected/ prioritized		If a lead agency has been identified, please specify:	Quantitative and/or qual- itative data available	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
TI1: COVID-19 Country Response Plans containing systematic mapping of and special measures for vulnerable and marginalized groups	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI1.1: Rapid human rights impact assessment of country preparedness and response	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI1.2: Participation of vulnerable/marginalized groups participating in COVID-19 policy responses	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI1.3: Health measures pursuant to International Health Regulations (2005)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI1.4: Ethical/human rights guidelines on use of intensive care units	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI2: Extent to which the health system has been impacted by COVID-19 and is impeding access to other essential health services	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI3: Cases of physical, sexual, or psychological violence against women, girls, boys, older persons, and LGBTI persons, and proportion of these victims that have access to appropriate services	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI4: Proportion of vulnerable groups receiving relevant COVID-19 information	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI5: COVID-19 related censorship, digital shutdown, violence against human rights defenders, journalists, trade unionists, medical and other experts, and whistle-blowers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI6: Acts of discrimination, harassment, racism, or xenophobia related to COVID-19	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI6.1: Campaigns to eliminate COVID-19 associated stigma, discrimination, racism, and xenophobia	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI7: Measures to ensure occupational health and safety	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI7.1: National occupational safety and health plans	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI7.2: Number of COVID-19 cases among health workers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI8: Measures to ensure equal access to social protection floors to victims of COVID-19 crisis	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI8.1: Addressing housing-related impacts	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Selected/ prioritized		If a lead agency has been identified, please specify:	Quantitative and/or qual- itative data available	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
TI9: Alternative measures to deprivation of liberty, in particular in situations of overcrowding	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI9.1: Monitoring by independent bodies	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI9.2: Detainees' access to treatment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI9.3: Identified overcrowded detention centres	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI2: Extent to which the health system has been impacted by COVID-19 and is impeding access to other essential health services	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
TI10: State of emergency proclaimed through proper legal procedures	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
CI10.1: Emergency measures that are unlawful, disproportionate, unnecessary, etc.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

C. Cross-Cutting Elements

Applicable to All Five Pillars

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
7	Have you ensured that the assessments and analyses carried out under Sections A and B have been utilized in order to identify the positive and negative human rights impact of the programmatic and non-programmatic interventions?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Will the combined interventions contribute to the elimination of the structural drivers of exclusion, inequalities, and discrimination identified in Section A?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Will the combined interventions contribute to the implementation of the UPR, UN Special Procedures, and UN Treaty Body recommendations identified in Section B?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	→ Will the interventions contribute to the transformative changes necessary for the realization of the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs, its targets, and its central promise to leave no one behind?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Have you ensured that the interventions are informed by the tracking of disaggregated data for the at-risk groups identified in Section A as integrated into the COVID-19 Human Rights Indicators framework?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	Have you ensured that a gender analysis informs interventions, including the differential impacts experienced by girls, boys, women, men, and LGBTI persons, for each at-risk population identified in Section A?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Have you ensured that the interventions include efforts by the UNCT to help the country establish or strengthen inclusive dialogue mechanisms between civil society and the state ? Was the national human rights institution (NHRI) as well as diverse groups of civil society (including organizations representing the at-risk groups in Section A) meaningfully involved in the assessments and analyses?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	Are mechanisms put in place to provide information to and gather timely feedback from at-risk groups in the context of COVID-19?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

D. Non-Exhaustive List of Human Rights Considerations for Each Pillar



1. Health First: Protecting Health Services and Systems During the Crisis

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
1	Are health facilities, goods, and services (including early testing and treatment for COVID-19 and other essential services, such as immunization, sexual and reproductive health (SRH), HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, non-communicable disease such as cancer and diabetes treatments, and medical and psychological support to survivors of gender-based violence) available, physically accessible, culturally acceptable, and affordable to all, without discrimination, including to groups most at-risk of being left behind?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Are measures in place to ensure that health services and hygiene goods (such as clean water and soap) reach marginalized groups to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on them and to address structural, legal, and administrative barriers to access?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	Do measures take into account the particular risks faced by older persons and persons with disabilities (including isolation, neglect, or violence resulting from age-based or other discrimination) in access to medical treatment and other support?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	Is the occupational health and safety of those working during this crisis (including their mental health needs) particularly of health workers, support staff, and care workers at all levels, assessed and addressed?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Is anonymized disaggregated data (at a minimum by sex, age, ethnicity, race, and disability) related to the pandemic collected and made public in order to inform health responses and identify those most at risk of being left behind?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Have protections been put in place to ensure that the right to privacy is respected, especially in relation to tracing and tracking of COVID-19 cases?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	Are affected communities involved in designing the health response and in implementing measures?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Are financial barriers for essential health services and treatment reduced, including through regulatory measures to prevent profiteering on hygiene products and essential medicines and supplies?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	Do measures facilitate access to health care by reducing out-of-pocket payments for patients, including by introducing and expanding health insurance schemes or health care-specific components of social assistance programmes?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Are budget allocations for the health and health-supporting sectors increased with resources deployed towards the strengthening of the health workforce (including women health care workers and those supporting SRH and rights services) and the acquisition of additional intensive care units, ventilators, personal protective equipment, and medications to treat secondary infections associated with COVID-19?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



2. Protecting People: Social Protection and Basic Services

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
1	Are social protection measures developed to ensure universal coverage of all basic goods and services under a transparent management with participation of all relevant stakeholders, non-discrimination of any of its users, and a specific lens on gender equality?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Are targeted social protection measures adopted to protect and mitigate the impact of the pandemic on each of the relevant at-risk groups in Section A?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	Are social protection measures developed and implemented through a participatory process that respects the right of individuals to seek, receive, and impart information on all social security entitlements in a clear, accessible, and transparent manner, including for children, adolescents, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	Are social protection benefits easily accessible by beneficiaries? Administratively and physically?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Are social protection measures gender-sensitive? Do they recognize women's unequal burden of unpaid care work and their over-representation in the informal economy? Do the measures aim to redistribute the unequal burden more equally between women and men (e.g. parental leave and public care services)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Do measures protect girls and women from harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child, early, and forced marriage that may occur more frequently due to economic constraints and disruptions to education caused by the pandemic response?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	Is a contingency funding mechanism integrated in the national education finance system to ensure continuity of learning, in particular for compulsory education of all learners without discrimination?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Do measures ensure that people are not evicted, displaced, or rendered homeless because of lack of, late, or underpayment of rent or mortgage due to the virus and the pandemic response?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	Do measures ensure that adequate standards of living are upheld and that no essential services are suspended or denied because of the informality of settlements due to the pandemic response, including water, electricity, heating, phone, internet, and tele-communications (e.g. a moratorium on public utilities)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Are there measures that ensure that at-risk groups who are unable to reach their homes or may need to leave a household due to violence (including gender-based violence), do not fall into homelessness and are provided with adequate alternative accommodations (including shelters), that ensure safety and provide access to water, sanitation, food, social support, health services, and testing for COVID-19?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	Are measures in place to ensure that sufficient and nutritious food remains available (including through the provision of food and nutrition assistance), especially for the most marginalized?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12	Are there measures that address the water, sanitation, and hygiene needs of populations in vulnerable situations, including those with unequal and inadequate access to water?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



3. Economic Response and Recovery: Protecting Jobs, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, and the Informal Sector Workers

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
1	Are measures put in place to ensure the occupational health and safety of those who continue to work, in particular in the health, agriculture, food production and transport sectors and sanitation services, including by providing the necessary protective equipment?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Are targeted measures put in place to support small-scale farmers, women especially, in order to secure food production, including through financial support, access to credit, land, seeds, natural resources, technology, and markets?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	Are measures taken to protect the jobs, pensions, and other health and social benefits of workers during the pandemic, including of self-employed workers, workers in non-traditional forms of employment (own-account, temporary, casual workers), workers in the informal economy, and migrant workers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	Are the adverse impacts of COVID-19 responses on the employment and the remuneration of workers (such as child labour, unfair dismissals and layoffs, reduced working hours, and modifications to employment types) addressed and mitigated?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Are measures being taken to protect employees with disabilities from being dismissed, including through workplace adjustments, as well as to make accessible the occupational, health, and safety measures taken to prevent further infection?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Are measures taken to subsidize wages, provide tax relief, and establish supplementary social security and income protection programmes and do they cover groups at-risk of being left behind?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	Are there measures for the labour integration of migrant workers trained in health-related sectors to assist in the fight against COVID-19, including by facilitating the necessary procedures for their professional activity and for the homologation and validation of professional degrees of migrants?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Are there measures to mitigate the negative impact of unemployment on youth?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	Do effective remedies through both judicial and non-judicial grievance mechanisms exist for employees to address issues that arise out of COVID-19 related measures?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Are there policies to ensure that names and contact information of workers found to have been infected by COVID-19 are not revealed to the workforce or the public at large, unless the worker consents or is required by the government as per applicable laws?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



4. Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
1	Have stimulus packages been developed and assessed with a human rights lens? Do the proposed fiscal and economic reforms address the pre-existing inequalities that are accelerating the pandemic's incidence and impact and ensure all people will have access without discrimination to food, essential health care, clean water, adequate housing, and essential levels of social protection?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Do the proposed fiscal and economic reforms aim to deploy maximum available resources (including through progressive taxation) for medium and long-term investments in social services so that the minimum core obligations ¹⁰ are met?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	If retrogression is unavoidable, are the proposed fiscal and economic policies aimed at ensuring that the retrogression is temporary, legitimate, reasonable, proportionate, non-discriminatory and protective of the minimum core obligations of economic, social, and cultural rights as well as consistent with the requirements of transparency, participation, and accountability as designed and adopted?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	Are the fiscal and economic reform policies contributing to a transition to a no-carbon economy founded on renewable energy and environmentally sound technology?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Are country analyses and strategies addressing debt distress, risks of debt distress, and sustainability being undertaken with support of the UNCT? If so, do these incorporate Human Rights Impact Assessments and do they address the issues that arise therefrom? Are they geared towards ensuring that national revenue is sufficient to ensure that the minimum core obligations are met?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Are there measures in place to ensure international financial institutions (IFIs) and donors refrain from attaching conditions to their financing that could undermine the state's ability to respect, protect, and fulfil its human rights obligations in the allocation of resources and the design of policies?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	Are loans and grants from IFIs and donors monitored, including by NHRIs and civil society organizations, to ensure that they are used to address demonstrated needs, with a focus on those most at risk of being left behind?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	In the design of fiscal and economic reform policies, has consideration been given to tax relief and suspension of loan payments for those most at risk of being left behind?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	Has support been provided to a fiscal policy review that assesses the impacts of value-added taxes on low-income households and adoption of progressive tax policy?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Does the design of fiscal and economic reform policies prevent price gouging for basic food, essential medicines and equipment, water, and ground transport (in order to keep prices at pre-COVID-19 levels) and are fines introduced to facilitate compliance?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

¹⁰ Minimum core obligations include essential health care and social protection, basic shelter and housing, water and sanitation, foodstuffs, and quality education.



5. Social Cohesion and Community Resilience

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
1	Are states of emergency being used only for legitimate public health goals, not as a means to quash dissent, shrink civic space, ban peaceful protests, postpone elections, silence human rights defenders or journalists or deny other human rights? Are states of emergency being declared in line with international obligations?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Are emergency measures provided by law and regularly reviewed? Is their effectiveness assessed and is there a clear provision about when the emergency measures will come to an end? Can you confirm that non-derogable rights are not being affected?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	Are measures in place to support human rights compliant conduct by security services in the context of lockdowns and curfews?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	Have measures been taken to protect the right to information and freedom of expression, including freedom of the press, to ensure everyone has access to accurate, clear, and evidence-based information?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	Is accurate information about the pandemic available on a regular basis, in an accessible format and in all local and indigenous languages, including to persons with disabilities and older persons, to ensure that no particular part of the population is excluded from access to information or stigmatized?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Are most affected groups as well as society at large able to effectively participate in the design and delivery of the pandemic response?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	Are women and men, including youth and older persons, from groups at risk of being left behind consulted and participating in decision-making in relation to the responses to the pandemic at community, regional, and national levels, as well as through special mechanisms to respond to COVID-19?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	Are measures being taken to alleviate vulnerability for persons who are outside their country of origin, such as by granting temporary residence to migrants, imposing a moratorium on deportations and other forced returns, and ensuring that individuals are able to return home voluntarily in safety and dignity?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	If health monitoring mechanisms are used to track and monitor behaviours and movements of individuals (such as surveillance and monitoring), are these used exclusively to fulfil the specific purpose of managing the COVID-19 pandemic? Do safeguards exist to manage risks of misuse?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Is the UN supporting the NHRI to function in order to monitor and engage the government with targeted advisories and rights-based approaches?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	Are diverse civil society and human rights defenders, including women's rights organizations and women human rights defenders, operating freely? Are they consulted in the UN response?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

ACTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS		Yes	Not yet
12	Are measures being taken to ensure the health care of people in closed settings, including places of detention and in institutionalized care, to mitigate the risk of harm and increased vulnerability to infection?		
13	Are public authorities taking immediate steps to address prison overcrowding, such as measures to release individuals, including children, persons with underlying health conditions, persons with low-risk profiles who have committed minor offences, persons with imminent release dates, those in pre-trial detention, and those detained for offences not recognized under international law?		
14	Are authorities urgently establishing non-custodial alternatives to migrant detention?		
15	Has a moratorium been put in place on children entering detention and are efforts to release children underway in consultation and partnership with child protection actors and relevant government authorities to ensure adequate care arrangements?		
16	Are oversight and accountability mechanisms, including the judiciary, functioning and being consulted in the UN response? Are judicial services continuing to ensure due process and fundamental rights?		

IV.

Related Resources

In addition to the related resources identified below, please see the [UN Response to COVID-19 webpage](#) that is updated on a regular basis.

A. Mapping Of Those Most At Risk Of Being Left Behind

- ◆ [Part II of the Interim Draft Operational Guide for UN Country Teams on Leaving No One Behind](#)
- ◆ [OHCHR's Guidance on COVID-19](#) as well as specific guidance on:
 - ◆ [Children in detention](#)
 - ◆ [Indigenous peoples](#)
 - ◆ [LGBTI people](#)
 - ◆ [Migrants](#)
 - ◆ [Minorities](#)
 - ◆ [Persons with disabilities](#)
 - ◆ [Racial discrimination](#)
 - ◆ [Women](#)
- ◆ [Pages 5-7 of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UNICEF COVID-19 response: Considerations for Children and Adults with Disabilities](#)
- ◆ [UN Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues Guidance Note: Indigenous peoples and COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures thematic guidance on COVID-19](#), including:
 - ◆ [“Leave no one behind” – Don't forget your commitments in your response to the COVID-19 crises, UN expert urges states](#)
 - ◆ [“States must include LGBT community in COVID-19 response”: The how and why from a UN expert](#)
- ◆ [UN Policy Brief: A Disability-Inclusive Response to COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Policy Brief: COVID-19 and the Need for Action on Mental Health](#)
- ◆ [UN Policy Brief: COVID-19 and People on the Move](#)

- ◆ [UN Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on older persons](#)
- ◆ [UN Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Women](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Brief: Prevention of violence against women and girls & COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Country Support Policy Brief: Meeting basic needs of women and girls with disabilities during COVID-19](#)

B. Integration of International Human Rights Norms and Standards

- ◆ [Initial Guidance for Resident Coordinators and United Nations Country Teams on Implementation of Human Rights Indicators on COVID-19 and COVID-19 Human Rights Indicators Implementation Table](#)
- ◆ [Table linking Sustainable Development Goals and Human Rights](#)
- ◆ [Universal Human Rights Index](#) (using the filters ‘Theme’, ‘Affected persons’ and/or ‘SDGs’).
- ◆ [UN Secretary-General’s policy brief on COVID-19 and Human Rights](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures Communication](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures Press Releases](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Policy Brief no. 17: COVID-19 and violence against women and girls: Addressing the shadow pandemic](#)
- ◆ [Voluntary National Review report](#)
- ◆ Contact the Human Rights Indicators and Data Unit of OHCHR’s Methodology, Education and Training Section (METS) for additional guidance concerning the 10 Indicators for Monitoring the Human Rights Implications of COVID-19, including a PowerPoint presentation, via hrindicators@ohchr.org
- ◆ Recent analyses, studies or positions released by the NHRI, civil society, or disadvantaged groups on the impacts of the pandemic on marginalized sections of the population

C. Cross-Cutting Elements Applicable to All Five Pillars

- ◆ [COVID-19 and Gender Monitor](#)
- ◆ [Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)
- ◆ [Guidance on a Human Rights-Based Approach to Data](#)
- ◆ [UN COVID-19 Data Hub](#)
- ◆ [UNSDG Common Minimum Standards for Multi-Stakeholder Engagement](#)
- ◆ [UN Secretary-General's Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity report](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Guidance: Rapid gender assessment surveys on the impacts of COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Spotlight on gender, COVID-19, and the SDGs: Will the pandemic derail hard-won progress on gender equality?](#)

D. Non-Exhaustive List of Human Rights Considerations for Each Pillar

1. Health First: Protecting Health Services and Systems During the Crisis

- ◆ [Justice for Women Amidst COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [OHCHR's Guidance on COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures thematic guidance on COVID-19, including:](#)
 - ◆ ["COVID-19 is devastating indigenous communities worldwide, and it's not only about health" – UN expert warns](#)
 - ◆ [COVID-19 measures must be grounded first and foremost on the right to health](#)
 - ◆ [Statement by the UN expert on the right to health on the protection of people who use drugs during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- ◆ [UN Treaty Bodies thematic guidance, including:](#)
 - ◆ [CESCR General comment No. 14 \(2000\) on the right to the highest attainable standard of health \(E/C.12/2000/4\)](#)
 - ◆ [CESCR statement on coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) pandemic and economic, social, and cultural rights](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Policy Brief no. 18: COVID-19 and women's leadership: From an effective response to building back better](#)
- ◆ [WHO statement on Addressing Human Rights as Key to the COVID-19 Response](#)

2. Protecting People: Social Protection and Basic Services

- ◆ [COVID-19: Protecting Children from Violence, Abuse, and Neglect in the Home](#)
- ◆ [Gender Responsive Social Protection during COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [Guidance Note on CEDAW and COVID-19 \(22 April 2020\)](#)
- ◆ [OHCHR's Guidance on COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Food Security and Nutrition](#)
- ◆ [UNESCO COVID-19 Education issue notes](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures thematic guidance on COVID-19, including:](#)
 - ◆ ["Housing, the front line defence against the COVID-19 outbreak," says UN expert](#)
 - ◆ ["Leave no one behind" – Don't forget your commitments in your response to the COVID-19 crises, UN expert urges states](#)
- ◆ [UN Treaty Bodies thematic guidance, including:](#)
 - ◆ [CESCR General Comment No. 19 \(2008\) on the right to social security \(E/C.12/GC/19\)](#)
 - ◆ [CESCR Statement on the social protection floor \(E/C.12/2015/1\)](#)

3. Economic Response And Recovery: Protecting Jobs, Small And Medium-Sized Enterprises, And The Informal Sector Workers

- ◆ [COVID-19 and Child Labour: A time of crisis, a time to act](#)
- ◆ [How Business Can Help Reduce the Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Families](#)
- ◆ [ILO Standards and COVID-19 as well as:](#)
 - ◆ [A policy framework for tackling the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 crisis](#)
 - ◆ [A safe and healthy return to work during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
 - ◆ [COVID-19 and the World of Work: Ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities at all stages of the response](#)
 - ◆ [In the face of a pandemic: Ensuring Safety and Health at Work](#)
- ◆ [Joint Guidance Note on the Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Human Rights of Migrants](#)
- ◆ [OHCHR's Guidance on COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [Policy Brief: The World of Work and COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UNDP Human Rights Due Diligence and COVID-19: Rapid Self-Assessment for Business](#)

- ◆ [UN Special Procedures thematic guidance on COVID-19, including:](#)
 - ◆ [Ensuring that business respects human rights during the Covid-19 crisis and beyond: The relevance of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#)
- ◆ [UN Treaty Bodies thematic guidance, including:](#)
 - ◆ [CESCR's General Comment No. 23 \(2016\) on the right to just and favourable conditions of work \(E/C.12/GC/23\)](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Policy Brief no. 15: Addressing the economic fallout of COVID-19: Pathways and policy options for a gender-responsive recovery](#)
- ◆ [UN Women Policy Brief no. 16: COVID-19 and the care economy: Immediate action and structural transformation for a gender-responsive recovery](#)

4. Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration

- ◆ [Debt and COVID-19: A Global Response in Solidarity](#)
- ◆ [Guiding Principles on Human Rights Impact Assessments of Economic Reforms](#)
- ◆ [OHCHR's Guidance on COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures thematic guidance on COVID-19, including:](#)
 - ◆ [COVID-19 crisis highlights urgent need to transform global economy, says new UN poverty expert](#)
 - ◆ [Debt standstill for distressed countries must go beyond 2020, urges UN expert](#)
- ◆ [UN Treaty Bodies thematic guidance, including:](#)
 - ◆ [CESCR statement on public debt, austerity measures and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights \(E/C.12/2016/1\)](#)

5. Social Cohesion And Community Resilience

- ◆ [COVID-19: Working with and for young people](#)
- ◆ [DISINFODEMIC: Deciphering COVID-19 disinformation](#)
- ◆ [DISINFODEMIC: Dissecting responses to COVID-19 disinformation](#)
- ◆ [OHCHR's Guidance on COVID-19, as well as specific guidance on:](#)
 - ◆ [Civic Space](#)
 - ◆ [Detention](#)
 - ◆ [Emergency measures](#)

- ◆ [UNDP Strengthening social cohesion: conceptual framing and programming implications](#)
- ◆ [UNODC and UNDP Guidance Note on Ensuring Access to Justice in the Context of COVID-19](#)
- ◆ [UN Special Procedures thematic guidance on COVID-19, including:](#)
 - ◆ [Responses to the COVID-19 could exacerbate pre-existing and deeply entrenched discrimination against women and girls, say UN experts](#)
 - ◆ [“States responses to COVID-19 threat should not halt freedoms of assembly and association” – UN expert on the rights to freedoms of peaceful assembly and of association, Mr. Clément Voule](#)
- ◆ [UN Treaty Bodies thematic guidance, including:](#)
 - ◆ [HRC Statement on derogations from the Covenant in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

**Office of the United Nations High
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