

## CORONASYS INNOVATION SHEET 29

### COVID-19 HUMANITARIAN

#### Background

While COVID-19 is certainly challenging for every country affected, those who are suffering from humanitarian crisis are particularly vulnerable to its impact<sup>1234</sup>. This is why researchers from the Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health<sup>5</sup>, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine<sup>6</sup> and the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies<sup>7</sup> developed an [online platform](#) where humanitarians can share their experiences.

#### Features

Humanitarians can send their programs and field experiences to the online platform where they are reviewed by the three universities together with various guidance documents. After that, the examples are uploaded to the website using an operational framework<sup>8</sup>. At the moment, more than 130 guidance documents and 65 field experiences are accessible on the website<sup>9</sup>.

#### Potentials

The openly accessible platform allows humanitarians to share their experiences with colleagues and initiate a dialogue on local, regional and global levels. The platform also provides an academic perspective on local solutions and can generate a process of mutual learning to benefit the recipients of all the projects. The platform might even serve as an example for expert exchange in future global health emergencies<sup>10</sup>.

#### Points to consider

The researchers initially hoped for an advanced feedback loop, meaning that field experiences could serve as a basis for improved COVID-19 humanitarian guidance iterations. As of now, this did not occur sufficiently<sup>11</sup>, probably due to the still very acute development of the pandemic.

#### Conclusion

The online platform can be a very useful tool for humanitarians and might provide valuable insights into COVID-19 response for all stakeholders involved in tackling the pandemic.

**State of information:** 11/23/2020

**Publication:** November 2020

**Country:** International

**Focus area:** Humanitarian Aid

#### Developers:

- Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine
- Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies

#### Beneficiaries:

- Humanitarian Assistance
- Local, regional and global policy makers

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<sup>1</sup> Truelove, Shaun, Orit Abraham, Chiara Altare, Stephen A. Lauer, Krya H. Grantz, Andrew S. Azman, and Paul Spiegel. "The Potential Impact of COVID-19 in Refugee Camps in Bangladesh and beyond: A Modeling Study." Accessed November 23, 2020. <https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1003144>.

<sup>2</sup> Alemi, Qais, Carl Stempel, Hafifa Siddiq, and Eunice Kim. "Refugees and COVID-19: Achieving a Comprehensive Public Health Response." *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* 98, no. 8 (August 1, 2020): 510-510A. <https://doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.271080>.

<sup>3</sup> Alawa, Jude, Nawara Alawa, Adam Coutts, Richard Sullivan, Kaveh Khoshnood, and Fouad M. Fouad. "Addressing COVID-19 in Humanitarian Settings: A Call to Action." *Conflict and Health* 14, no. 1 (September 10, 2020): 64. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-020-00307-8>.

<sup>4</sup> Blanchet K, Alwan A, Antoine C, et al. Protecting essential health services in low-income and middle-income countries and humanitarian settings while responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. *BMJ Glob Health*. 2020;5(10):e003675.

<sup>5</sup> Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health. "Center for Humanitarian Health," 2020. <http://hopkinshumanitarianhealth.org/>.

<sup>6</sup> London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. "Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre." LSHTM. Accessed November 23, 2020. <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres/health-humanitarian-crises-centre>.

<sup>7</sup> Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies. "Improving Humanitarian Response." Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, 2020. <https://humanitarianstudies.ch/>.

<sup>8</sup> COVID19 Humanitarian. "Framework. COVID-19 in Humanitarian Settings: Documenting and Sharing Context-Specific Programmatic Experiences | Conflict and Health | Full Text." Accessed November 23, 2020. <https://conflictandhealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13031-020-00321-w/figures/1>.

<sup>9</sup> COVID19 Humanitarian. "Home," 2020. <https://www.covid19humanitarian.com/>.

<sup>10</sup> Singh, Neha S., Orit Abraham, Chiara Altare, Karl Blanchet, Caroline Favas, Alex Odlum, and Paul B. Spiegel. "COVID-19 in Humanitarian Settings: Documenting and Sharing Context-Specific Programmatic Experiences." *Conflict and Health* 14, no. 1 (November 19, 2020): 79. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-020-00321-w>.

<sup>11</sup> Singh, Neha S., Orit Abraham, Chiara Altare, Karl Blanchet, Caroline Favas, Alex Odlum, and Paul B. Spiegel. "COVID-19 in Humanitarian Settings: Documenting and Sharing Context-Specific Programmatic Experiences." *Conflict and Health* 14, no. 1 (November 19, 2020): 79. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-020-00321-w>.

### **Background on Innovation Sheet Series**

As part of a real-time evaluation of the SARS CoV 2 pandemic (with focus on epidemiological, medical, economical, societal, technical, and cultural developments in Germany and Armenia) the CoronaSys research team, under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Martin Voss, is conducting a continuous monitoring of developments and medical, technical, and social innovations concerning Covid-19.

Multiple national and international media outlets, research platforms, and scientific and organizational guidelines, briefs, and updates are screened to feed into this outlet. The rationale behind this is to support the projects' network partners in Armenia and Germany with short summaries of key developments and promising innovations that are shaping the global, German, and Armenian outbreak response and recovery.

The aim of these short briefs is to give condensed and structured information on selected innovations emerging out of the conducted horizon scanning. This could be mainstream big-ticket items or fringe subjects that are easily overlooked in the global flood of information. Some innovations will be followed through their evolution in time while others may only appear once. While subjectively selected, the briefs are descriptive in nature and leave analysis and critical interpretation to the reader. Network partners in both countries are invited to provide feedback on their interest areas and suggest particularly relevant topics for the CoronaSys Workshop series.

The CoronaSys Innovation Sheet Series is published by the [Academy of the Disaster Research Unit](#), which is, as a non-profit limited liability company, a spin-off of the [Disaster Research Unit](#) at the Free University of Berlin. The series is part of the research project "[CoronaSys](#): Addressing the corona pandemic in Armenia through systemic risk management", sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

*If you have any questions, suggestions, or if you wish to be taken on (or off) the project mailing list for CoronaSys updates, innovation sheets, and workshop invitations, please send a message to Janina Schäfer ([schaefer@a-kfs.de](mailto:schaefer@a-kfs.de)). For general project inquiries, you may contact the team lead Sara Merkes ([merkes@a-kfs.de](mailto:merkes@a-kfs.de)) or the project lead Martin Voss ([voss@a-kfs.de](mailto:voss@a-kfs.de)).*

### Previous CoronaSys Innovation Sheets

- 1 "New" Antiviral Face Masks
- 2 "Dyphox" Surface Coating
- 3 MOVES SLC Portable ICU
- 4 Portable TRI- KLEEN 500UV
- 5 Convalescent Plasma Therapy
- 6 ASIC-App
- 7 BinaxNOW Antigen Test
- 8 Corona Traffic Light
- 9 Aproof at Home Antibody Test
- 10 IVAT Hygiene Tower
- 11 LY-CoV555 Antibody Treatment
- 12 4C Mortality Score
- 13 Regional Corona Prediction Model
- 14 Computer-designed Mini- Proteins
- 15 Covid-19 Simulator
- 16 Trimodulin
- 17 BNT162b2-Vaccine
- 18 SARS-COV-2 Rapidplex
- 19 European Corona- Map
- 20 FELUDA Paper Strip Test
- 21 Humanitarian Action Mapping Tool
- 22 IKKA Score
- 23 WHO Digital Implementation Investment Guide
- 24 RCCE Toolkit
- 25 Cough-Analyzing App
- 26 Follow Up on LY-CoV555 Antibody Treatment
- 27 Follow-up on BNT162b2-Vaccine
- 28 Lucira™ COVID-19 All-In-One Test Kit

All previous CoronaSys Innovation Sheets are available online:

<http://coronasys.a-kfs.de/category/innovation-stream/>

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