

These COVID-19 Analytical Snapshots are designed to capture the latest information and analysis in a fast-moving environment. Topics will be repeated from time to time as analysis develops. If you have an item to include, please email us at research@iom.int.



New research & analysis on civil society responses & COVID

[First, Save Lives: Solutions for the COVID-19 Pandemic and New Solidarity with Migrants and Refugees-A Global Civil Society Statement](#) from the Civil Society Action Committee. For the list of signatories, click [here](#).

[Coronavirus: civil society's role in West Africa](#) by Ayisha Osori

[Civil Society and the Coronavirus: Dynamism Despite Disruption](#) by Saskia Brechenmacher, Thomas Carothers and Richard Youngs

[Civil Society and COVID-19 in India: Unassuming Heroes](#) by Mohammed Sinan Siyech and Naweeda Jouhar

Civil Society Survey on misinformation about COVID-19

The UN is requesting feedback on its communication and the topic of misinformation from the perspectives of CSOs who are responding to the crisis. Click [here to access the survey](#).

Civil society responds to COVID-19



Many civil society organizations working with migrants and refugees have contributed to the response to the dual public health and economic shocks caused by COVID-19. In many cases, this has meant [advocating against xenophobia](#), providing [research and analysis](#) to ensure inclusion of vulnerable populations, [filling in the gaps](#) in social protection systems and removing the barriers that prevent migrants' access to [essential health services](#).



UN-civil society briefing

On 18 May, the United Nations will host a [civil society briefing](#) entitled "Fighting Stigma, Xenophobia, Hate Speech and Racial Discrimination related to COVID-19." Separately, the UN has issued a [call for stories of CSOs](#) responding to the effects of COVID-19.



Photo credit: [UNICEF-USA/](#)

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Civil society statements on migration and COVID-19

The [Global Forum on Migration and Development](#) has published two webinars and compiled the public statements issued by various civil society organizations in response to the pandemic. To access the page, click [here](#).

Combating xenophobia and disinformation

Racist abuse and violence against perceived foreigners has proliferated in parallel with the pandemic. Many CSOs have begun countering these trends, such as Art.1 MN, a [Dutch anti-discrimination organization](#) that launched a campaign against xenophobia and abuse. A Polish NGO is producing material to counter [conspiracy theories](#) about the virus.

Filling gaps in social protection

CSOs continue to fill gaps in public service delivery around the world. Médecins Sans Frontières has dispatched medical teams [around the world](#) to support clinics in providing specialized COVID-19 health care for elderly, homeless and migrant populations. In India, over 90 CSOs have coordinated their extensive networks to [distribute food and masks](#) to [millions](#) of people, including many [migrant labourers](#).

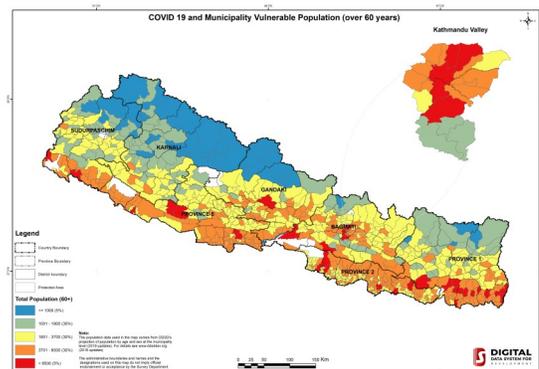
Community organizing and advocacy

For years, NGOs in [Singapore](#) have been advocating [for improved migrant worker living spaces](#), but with the recent outbreak resulting from inadequate public health measures, this work has now received greater [recognition](#). A [coalition of migrant collectives](#) in Brazil have pushed for increased access to basic public services for migrants living in Brazil, [regardless of status](#).



Analysis on critical issues

A key role of CSOs is to collect, analyse and present data on topics of importance to the public. Civil society groups in the [United States](#) have [chronicled, tracked and collected data](#) on the labour conditions of migrants in the agricultural and livestock sectors. A [number of Nepal based-CSOs](#) have developed apps and applied analyses to ensure inclusion of vulnerable populations in health policy responses.



Source: [DD4Dev](#)

Joint Civil Society Statement on Digital Surveillance



[Surveillance technology](#) has been repurposed for contact tracing and monitoring mobility during the pandemic. In a [joint statement](#), over 100 organizations urged governments to

“ *show leadership in tackling the pandemic in a way that ensures that the use of digital technologies to track and monitor individuals and populations is carried out strictly in line with human rights.*”

This COVID-19 Analytical Snapshot has been produced by [IOM Research](#) (research@iom.int).

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