

Coronavirus **Useful Link**

WHO real time dashboard WHO COVID-19 page WHO travel advice (English/Arabic) Protect yourself (English/Arabic) Q&A (English/Arabic)

> WHO online course respiratory viruses including COVID-19

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NEWSLETTER

WHO and stakeholders spearheads the COVID-19 health awareness response in Lebanon for the public's safety

WHO Lebanon continues to take the lead with sisters agencies and in collaboration with government ministries especially the Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) and other stakeholders, with measures taken to boost country preparedness and response in all capacities in their quest to keep Lebanon in the containment phase as other countries in the region and globally fight the deadly pandemic that has claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands and brought some of the biggest economies to a complete standstill.

Together with UN agencies, government entities, local NGOS including the Lebanese Red Cross, WHO is part of a taskforce using risk communication to address community engagement through awareness raising campaigns. The role of WHO in providing technical support within the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) taskforce in the production of awareness campaigns using animated videos targeting healthcare workers and the general public on ways of protection, home-iso-lation, home delivery, nutrition, addressing stigma and bullying, breastfeeding and mental health. WHO also produced 155,000 brochures, flyers and posters on handwashing, protection during travel, student protection, mental health and many more are in the pipeline.

Within the RCCE taskforce's drive to work along with the government's decision to start the deconfinement phase, the team is working on a campaign to promote the use of non-surgical cloth masks for the general public excluding healthcare workers and people working in quarantine centres or medical facilities. This project will guide people on how to make their own masks at home especially for those who cannot afford to buy re-usable masks for themselves and their families, when and how to use them

As part of the awareness raising drive against the misinformation that has taken centre stage in the fight against coronavirus as many people out of fear and concern would hang on to anything that gave them hope, WHO along with UNICEF and UNDP partnered with the Ministry of Information to counter the spread of COVID-19 misinformation in Lebanon thus creating the rumour log as a first step to counter rumours and fake news. Every rumour is posted on the rumour log at the MOI website in preparation for a website that is being created. A number of videos have been produced and widely disseminated covering topics like virus living on surfaces, the use of alcohol on body and clothes, drinking or injecting disinfectants, having zero cases does not mean Lebanon is free of coronavirus, hot weather does not kill the virus, and lately we are working on a video on how safe it is to use the swimming pool. As the status of the COVID-19 changes in Lebanon with the easing of the partial lockdown allowing restaurants and other businesses to function, WHO and partners are trying to always be a step ahead in preparation for the eventual complete deconfine-ment phase which requires a new set of guides to allow people to settle into what will be known as the "new norm". This will include preparations for schools when they eventually open their doors at the start of the new academic year which is anticipated to be around September 2020. The preparation will include WHO guidelines out of which videos and outreach material will be produced to create awareness on the safety measures in different settings.



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Newsletter, April 2020

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Newsletter, February 2020

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Newsletter, October 2019
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Health for all newsletter, 1 October–31 December 2017 [pdf 2.61Mb]
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