Resilient Ramallah 2050

Ramallah Measures over COVID-19

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Phase 1
March 5th
- First confirmed cases in Palestine: lockdown in contagious location. Closure of educational, tourism and Hospitality institutions

Phase 2
March 23rd
- Confinement: Palestine goes into confinement for 30 days

Phase 3
April 23rd
- Easing lockdown: movement inside cities, small businesses allowed to reopen, and transportation to work in minimized capacity
National Authority

• The President announced a 30 day state of Emergency in Palestine on 5th of March, and prolongs it on 3rd of April for another 30 days.
• The Prime Minister office, representing the Palestine Cabinet put a "Multi-pronged plan" in practice to control the spread of coronavirus in Palestine.
• The Prime Minister announced the closure of schools and universities, the cancellation of all hotel reservations and conferences, the shuttering of tourist and religious sites, the banning of public gatherings and protests, and other measures.
• Limited movement between governorates, and shutdown boarders.
• The Government of Palestine "GoP" assigned a spokesperson, to limit the spread of rumors, in order to provide the public with credible sources of information about the situation, and provide updates through twice daily briefings through the National Media.
• Generate Funds/Aids to support hospitals and precautionary plans.
• Provide loan and banking facilities, longer grace-periods, and convenient online banking.
• Force a mandatory 14-days quarantine to all in-coming travelers at government quarantine facilities.

Local Government

• Ministries communicate and supervise the implementation of the GoP Emergency Plan.
• Encourage and convert into E-learning.
• Designate quarantine facilities for every governorate.
• Ministry of Health developed a website for the community to get instant information about coronavirus updates (www.corona.ps), and dedicated a toll-free landline number to receive citizens calls and requests.
• Governors supervise and communicate among sectors.
• Governorates lockdown shops and restaurants.
• Governorates lockdown gyms and postpone/cancel conferences or any public event in the governorates.
• Control over commodity prices.
• Distribute awareness messages: social media, Radio, TV and SMS to citizens, also awareness brochurs.

Local Authorities - Ramallah

• Ramallah Municipality initiates the disinfection and sanitation of public and civil society organizations.
• Closedown public gardens, public facilities, and cancel all public city events.
• Reschedule working hours, and decentralize decisions to management to arrange departments work and attendance.
• Awareness about coronavirus on social media, banners in the city.
• Online Open Call for volunteers from young city inhabitants.
• Disinfection of municipal premises and control over building visitors.
• Carry-out online social activities, and home cultural activities with citizens.

Private Sector

• Flexible working hours/ working from home option, especially, for working mothers.
• Encourage community work.
• Donations.
• Commitment to help in emergency times, and commodity prices.
Ramallah measures: city mitigation

- A proactive response to the pandemic, following a coherent Urban Resilience Strategy that was developed in 2017
**EMERGENCY PLAN**

The city council established an emergency team, to set actions in motion. continued work via virtual meetings.

**LOCKDOWN MUNICIPAL FACILITIES**

City Council made a decision on the 5th of March to close all public parks and municipal facilities.

**DISINFECTION**

Municipal team does disinfection to various public venues and spaces.

**SERVICE PROVISION**

Municipal service provision focused on solid waste collection, waste water and treatment plants operation. Also, supporting neighboring cities in service provision.

**EMERGENCY ROOMS**

The city was zoned into 19 neighborhoods to facilitate better services. Use of GIS interactive apps and spatial analysis to document cases, support decision- making and management of incoming requests.

**YOUNG VOLUNTEERS**

Online Open Call for young city volunteer to support neighborhoods during the critical times. More than 700 young volunteers applied.
Digitization

online surveying to collect data, support decision making, event planning, and to share data with partners

online procurement to support the municipality's work during emergency, and to remotely support staff

communication and awareness campaigns across social platforms: Communication channels with citizens to manage any complaints or inquiries
400 awareness posts
Online Cultural and Social activities

Virtual Story-telling for kids through social media

Live sports classes through social media

Online singing sessions for kids
Cultural and Social Events

Land Day
The 30th of March

the municipality adapted the event to be a family celebration at home, by first asking families and kids to prepare paintings and drawings about the Land Day, and share them on social media. Also, the municipality arranged a trail to visit neighborhoods in the city and sing together from houses' balconies different Palestinian national songs while raising Palestine's flag.

On a yearly basis, the municipality organizes the "Ramallah Spring" - an event that invites everyone to plant the city. Due to the current circumstances, the municipality asked citizens to plant their homes.

- 80,000 plants were distributed
- 2500 houses received plants
- 150 city volunteers participated in the distribution of plants
Seasonal Greetings

Easter greeting was arranged to reach all patients at quarantine facilities and hospitals in the governorate, also to restless security personnel at control points.

Ramallah received the Holy Light coming from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The flame is handed through the control points to other cities and villages in the West Bank.

The city celebrates the Holy Month of Ramadan, lighting of Ramadan Lantern at the city's major landmark.
Recovery:

• partnership for the Goals
• focus on public health – physical, mental and wellbeing
• scale-up digital infrastructure in the city
• mobilize resources to support venerable groups and SMEs
• support local community and stakeholders to convert the COVID challenges into opportunities
• put in practice a cultural and social inclusion policy
• increase awareness among city organizations about incorporating resilient practices in their organizational planning