Reopening of Major Economies post COVID-19

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## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Executive Summary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Executive Summary

The coronavirus outbreak, which was first detected in China in December 2019 and declared a Public Health Emergency by WHO in January 2020 and pandemic in March 2020. The outbreak has infected people in 188 countries and territories, resulting in more than 302,000 deaths. More than 1.58 million people have recovered. Its spread has left businesses around the world counting the costs.

Authorities worldwide have responded by implementing travel restrictions, lockdowns, workplace hazard controls, and facility closures. Many places have also worked to increase testing capacity and trace contacts of infected persons.

The pandemic has caused severe global economic disruption, including the largest global recession since the Great Depression.

Amid the coronavirus pandemic, several countries across the world resorted to lockdowns to “flatten the curve” of the infection. These lockdowns meant confining millions of citizens to their homes, shutting down businesses and ceasing almost all economic activity.

The global economy could suffer between $5.8 trillion and $8.8 trillion in losses - equivalent to 6.4 per cent to 9.7 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP) - as a result of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, says a new report released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in May 2020.

Governments around the world have been quick in responding to the impacts of the pandemic, implementing measures such as fiscal and monetary easing, increased health spending, and direct support to cover losses in incomes and revenues.

Sustained efforts from governments focused on these measures could soften COVID-19’s economic impact by as much as 30 per cent to 40 per cent, according to the ADB report. This could reduce global economic losses due to the pandemic to between $4.1 trillion and $5.4 trillion.

That debate varies, of course, with the progress of the virus. China, where the outbreak originated, has slowly reopened Wuhan. New Zealand says the virus is “currently eliminated” there and is talking about resuming flights to Australia. Brazil locked down its first major cities this week, while other countries, such as Canada, Japan, and Sri Lanka, also tightened rules. And Africa, which was largely spared during the initial wave, is now facing a rising number of cases with only limited medical resources.

Ultimately, however, a global recovery will depend on the ability of governments worldwide to contain COVID-19, thereby preventing future outbreaks and allowing countries to reopen for business. In the case of the economic crisis set off by COVID-19, then, economic recovery begins with an effective public health response across the globe.

Now, as some countries lift restrictions and gradually restart their economies, here’s a look at how major economies are reopening:-
Planning of restrictions over the coming months, helping prepare Australians to go back to work in a COVID-19 safe environment and getting the economy back to a more sustainable level.

There have been 6,899 confirmed cases in Australia and sadly 97 people have died. There are now only around 1,000 active cases in Australia, and over the past week, daily infection rates have remained low. Testing remains high, with more than 730,000 tests undertaken in Australia.

The Govt continue to have the right controls in place to test more people, trace those who test positive and respond to local outbreaks when they occur. These are precedent conditions to enable Australia to relax baseline restrictions and enable Australians to live and work in a COVID-19 safe economy.

The Govt is encouraging Australians to download the COVIDSafe app to ensure that we can protect Australians and reset baseline restrictions. More than 5.3 million Australians have already downloaded the COVIDSafe app.

Re-opening a COVID-safe Australia and economy

The National Cabinet has to finalize the three-step plan to gradually remove baseline restrictions and make Australia COVID-safe.

Australia has so far been highly successful in ‘flattening the curve’. The number of new COVID-19 cases in Australia each day is very low. The Govt is working on careful steps to ease some of the restrictions that have helped suppress the spread of the virus. The Govt. is confidently and cautiously taking the first step to lifting restrictions. The success so far means slowed the spread of COVID-19 and built the capacity in the health system to manage the impact of the virus. The AHPPC has provided strong advice on the conditions that must be met as Govt. establish COVID safe ways of working and living so that Australia reopen parts of the economy in the safest possible way while living with COVID-19. This means that many Australians can start getting out to the shops, undertaking some local trips and travel, visiting playgrounds and public parks, and having friends and family around with a bit more freedom.

But the National Cabinet is very clear: continued suppression of COVID-19 is about collective action. Success depends on maintaining the new community norms - physical distancing, good hygiene practices and downloading the COVIDSafe app to keep all Australians safe while all are out.

For businesses, this also means taking the time to prepare and develop a plan to operate in a COVID safe way to protect their customers and workers. With every Australian playing their part, this is important to highlight that they should all feel safe and confident in leaving the house and starting to do some of the things they have
missed in the last few months - like getting back to work, having a quick bite in a restaurant or cafe, attending auctions and open houses, and participating in group exercise.

Each step while deciding takes extra need to be underpinned by a strong commitment from all:
- stay 1.5 metres away from other people whenever and wherever we can
- maintain good hand washing and cough/sneeze hygiene
- stay home when we’re unwell, and getting tested if we have respiratory symptoms or a fever,
- download the COVIDSafe app so we can find the virus quickly, and
- Develop COVID safe plans for workplaces and plans.

The success depends on daily behaviors part of our lives during the COVID-19 pandemic to keep Australia COVID safe.

Australian governments are taking a measured approach. The three-step plan provides a pathway for jurisdictions to move towards COVID safe communities in a way that best suits their individual circumstances.

States and territories are able to move between the steps on the pathway at different times, in line with their current public health situation and local conditions. They’ll need to maintain steady case numbers and be able to rapidly contain outbreaks, which Govt based set to do - with the enhanced testing regime, strengthened health surge capacity, and improved ability to quickly identify people who may have been exposed to the virus.

For each of the major areas of restrictions the Govt has set out three key steps between the present situation and way forwards expected to reach.
- Step 1 will focus on carefully reopening the economy, and giving Australians opportunities to return to work and social activities, including gatherings of up to 10 people, up to 5 visitors in the family home and some local and regional travel
- Step 2 builds on this with gatherings of up to 20, and more businesses reopening, including gyms, beauty services and entertainment venues like galleries and cinemas.
- Step 3 will see a transition to COVID safe ways of living and working, with gatherings of up to 100 people permitted. Arrangements under step 3 will be the ‘new normal’ while the virus remains a threat. International travel and mass gatherings over 100 people will remain restricted.

Under the three-step plan, states and territories continue to make decisions to their individual circumstances and local conditions. Jurisdictions may ease restrictions at a different pace. Individuals and business should look to local authorities for the most up to date information.

National Cabinet also committed - as part of the three-step plan - to regular reviews and stocktake assessments of the progress every three weeks. The Govt will be closely monitoring the situation as restrictions are eased. This will enable to assess the impact of changes, track progress against the agreed precedent conditions, determine the pace of moving through the steps, and make any further decisions. The AHPPC and
National Cabinet were very firm on this. The Govt is prepared for an increase in case numbers or possible outbreaks, but relapse should not be an option. A second wave is not something Australians can afford to go through. The cost to people, economy, social fabric, is too high. It should look to build success in each step and move forward safely and with confidence.

So long as Australians keep living and working in a COVID safe way, the Govt. is parallel working towards keeping case numbers low and continue taking steps on the pathway to relaxing more restrictions.

National Cabinet's goal is to have a sustainable COVID safe Australia in July 2020. The Govt is emphasizing towards showing results what we can achieve when Australians work together - together all have helped flattened the curve. Now, let's work together to get Australia COVID safe.

Source:
Report on Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia
Australian Government report on “3step framework for a CovidSafe Australia”
More than 500 garment factories in Bangladesh that supply to global brands reopened in the last week of April after a month-long shutdown to curb the spread of the coronavirus. Some of the world’s biggest clothing firms including Gap Inc, Zara-owner Inditex and H&M source their supplies from Bangladesh, which allowed garment manufacturers in the capital Dhaka and the port city of Chittagong to resume work from the last week of April.

While the country has allowed garment and other factories to reopen, much of the rest of the economy is still shut down and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has mentioned that schools and colleges may have to remain closed until September if the situation did not improve.

Companies have been advised by the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BKMEA) to follow below SOPs-

- To make sure the workers wear masks
- Wash hands at the entrance
- Undergo temperature checks
- Maintain physical distancing

Bangladesh is home to around 4,000 garment factories employing 4.1 million workers, and industry groups for the sector had warned that the shutdown that began on March 26 could cause the country to lose $6 billion in export revenue this financial year. BKMEA has mentioned that Competitors such as Vietnam, China and Cambodia had already resumed operations.

The COVID-19 outbreak continues to evolve rapidly, and the government is mobilizing Canadian businesses and manufacturers to help fight the spread of the virus and protect the health and safety of all Canadians.

The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced Canada’s Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19, which will create pathways to deploy resources to domestic manufacturers and businesses so they can help during this critical time.

The Plan introduces new measures to directly support these businesses to rapidly scale up production or re-tool their manufacturing lines to develop products made in Canada that will help in the fight against COVID-19. These products could include critical health and safety supplies and equipment, including personal protective equipment, sanitization products, diagnostic and testing products, and disease tracking technology.

The Plan builds on the Government of Canada’s more than $1 billion COVID-19 Response Fund and the support that has been provided to our health care system since the beginning of the outbreak. It focuses on domestic capacity building, innovative solutions, and procurement of essential supplies. It will:

- Build the industrial capability needed to manufacture critical supplies at scale in Canada. This will be done either by re-tooling the manufacturing lines of existing Canadian businesses or rapidly scaling up the production of others that already produce these products.
- Refocus Canada’s existing industrial and innovation programs, by adding to their mandate a requirement that they prioritize the fight against COVID-19. This includes:
  - the Strategic Innovation Fund to deliver direct support to Canadian companies for large-scale projects
  - National Research Council of Canada to expedite research and development with small and medium-sized enterprises
  - Innovation Superclusters to tap into a national network of 1,800 members, and Innovative Solutions Canada to help companies commercialize products more quickly
- Deliver direct support to key Canadian companies that are working on large-scale and later-stage research and development projects aimed, in the immediate term, at producing countermeasures to COVID-19.
- Challenge innovative companies to develop research-based solutions, technologies, and products that can address a variety of COVID-19 issues.
- Source equipment needed to support Canada's response to COVID-19 here in Canada. The Government of Canada will use existing supply arrangements and innovative, flexible procurement approaches. It is also reaching out to suppliers to identify and purchase equipment, supplies, and services needed for Canada's
response to COVID-19. With a view to longer-term support, the Government of Canada will ensure procurement flexibility to support innovation and build domestic manufacturing capacity to supply critical health supplies to Canadians. These measures are part of a larger strategy the Government of Canada is implementing to protect Canadians and prevent the spread of the virus. This strategy prioritizes the health and safety of Canadians, ensures the capacity of our health care system, and mitigates the economic impacts on Canadians and Canadian business.

**Quick Facts**

- On March 11, 2020, the Government of Canada announced a more than $1 billion package to help minimize the health, economic, and social impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak, which includes $50 million to help ensure adequate supplies of personal protective equipment for provinces and territories, as well as to address federal needs.
- The Strategic Innovation Fund will allow for rapid support to Canadian companies that are working on large-scale and later-stage promising research and development projects aimed at providing medical countermeasures to COVID-19, including vaccines and critical medical supplies.
- The National Research Council of Canada will organize a COVID-19 Challenge Program, composed of teams of government, academic and private sector partners to address a range of medium term needs of the Public Health Agency of Canada and Health Canada. These include personal protective equipment, sanitization products, diagnostic and testing products, therapeutics, and disease tracking technology.

_Source:_
China

As China emerges from lockdown, new consumer behaviours, technological innovation and ways of doing business are being confronted. China is gradually returning to normal even as it prepares against possibility of a second wave of the outbreak.

Beijing has announced new regulations that include requiring residents to practice good behaviour, such as covering their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, not eating on public transport, and wearing a mask in public if sick. Restaurants will also be required to provide serving utensils and avoid sharing portions, when possible. The regulations come into force on June 1.

- China the sharp drop in new coronavirus cases has encouraged consumers to venture back into malls and restaurants - for the most part quite gingerly but occasionally in throngs. Helping consumers return has been a loosening of quarantine and other restrictions on business and social activity. Restaurants that have satisfied authorities with plans for curbing the risk of infection are now allowed to serve groups of diners and most stores have reopened, though big brands like IKEA and Apple Inc have restrictions on crowds.
- Local authorities in several provinces are also asking Communist Party officials to set an example by spending on food and shopping and encouraging their friends and family to do the same. Some provinces are handing out coupons to the public to spend on food and books. To encourage spending, some businesses have embarked on promotions offering discounts or gifts to customers upon reopening.
- China already appears to be bouncing back, its economy–built on a combination of manufacturing expertise, connectivity and first-class infrastructure, plus the world’s largest middle class of domestic consumers–was operating at 87% of typical output on May 12, according to the Trivium National Business Activity Index. In April, though imports were down 14.2%, China’s exports were up 3.5% year on year, surpassing predictions largely because of medical products sent overseas.
- Chinese financial institutions, led by China Development Bank and China Export-Import Bank, have provided massive capital for Belt and Road Initiative projects, funded almost entirely by loans. The capacity to repay - certainly, within the schedule agreed - must now surely come under question, thereby limiting such institutions’ future stimulus roles.

As China begins to emerge from lockdown, businesses can learn four lessons from China’s reopening:

1. Risk mitigation for the workforce - Keeping the workforce safe and healthy continues to be the number one priority for companies across the world. As China’s businesses begin to reopen, businesses are taking steps to try to reduce the potential for future hotspots to emerge. Across all businesses, a personal health code system enabling contact tracing has been launched and recognized across different provinces to speed up the process of getting people back to their company. Temperature checks continue, with businesses positioning infra-red thermometers at entrances. Start times are staggered and flexible hours are encouraged to reduce congestion at rush hours. Meetings are limited in the number
of people that attend in favour of increased use of online meeting platforms. Workers are provided with personal protective equipment to limit the spread of airborne particles. Elevator buttons and door handles are cleaned hourly, hand sanitizer and other cleaning supplies are made widely available and workstations are spread out as much as possible.

2. **Reassess and secure supply chains where necessary** - One of the first and most visible impacts of the virus was exposing the vulnerability of global supply chains to disruption. As factories across China closed, both domestic manufacturers and those located abroad were unable to source many of the components they required. As China’s economy begins to reopen, supply chains remain a key priority. In some cases, purchasing departments are assigning extra full-time staff to call suppliers multiple times a week on orders and to closely monitor logistics. In some cases, staff are visiting suppliers’ factories to help ensure orders are properly executed. In other cases, companies are rethinking their supply chain more holistically and attempting to reduce their reliance on subcontractors and increase vertical integration, bringing additional capabilities in-house to reduce future disruptions.

3. **Adjust delivery models where necessary** - The coronavirus hit the world at a time when many business models were already under huge amounts of pressure to adapt to technology-enabled competitors and changing consumer preferences. As companies reopen after the lockdown, many are likely to find some of the delivery models they’ve used in the past may no longer be optimal. Sectors such as retail, food service, and education may need to adjust their business models to engage their customers and companies are also leveraging opportunities to speed up digitalization. Upon re-opening and moving forward, an enduring move towards systematically improving direct-to-consumer capabilities could fundamentally improve retail efficiency.

4. **Be prepared for rolling lockdowns amid a “seesaw” recovery** - While several promising treatments are currently being tested that may mitigate the stress on the health care system, expert consensus is an effective vaccine remains 12 to 18 months away. As a result, companies need to consider the path toward normalcy is likely to be nonlinear. Indeed, the most likely path to normalcy may be that of a “see-saw” shaped recovery that necessitates a series of short-term adaptations that will differ by sector. Companies are having significantly more internal meetings - even daily in some instances - to discuss and quickly respond to changing markets, supply chain issues and evolving government policies. For some companies, actions can include shoring up the IT infrastructure that’s been hastily assembled over the last three months to enable remote working and developing more robust policies that support employees working from home. For companies with large labour forces, automation may play a key role in reducing reliance on human workers. At the same time, short-term actions such as encouraging workers to take vacation, pushing for greater paperless work and implementing strict controls on non-critical expenses are being taken to reduce costs.

Source:
https://time.com/5836611/china-superpower-reopening-coronavirus/
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/chinas-coronavirus-outbreak-shops/
Measures to ease lockdown:

- Masks become compulsory where social distancing not possible.
- All other businesses—factories, office and shops—would reopen with strict social distancing rules from 11 May.
- Restaurants and bars might be able to re-open in a second phase of the easing of the lockdown from 2 June. All travel of more than 100 kilometres (62 miles) will continue to be banned unless for “imperative” family or work reasons.
- The French government is aiming for at least 700,000 tests a week by 11 May, with authorities planning to trace and test all those who have come into close contact with a confirmed case, whether symptomatic or not.
- Gatherings of more than 10 people indoors or outdoors will remain banned, while over-65s have been urged to remain cautious when going out.
- Beaches will remain closed to the public at least until 1 June. Since some parts of the country had been hit far harder than others, lockdown measures would be lifted by area, with departments classified as red, orange or green depending on their infection level.

- Mobilization of BPI France

Following the acceleration of events, a number of Bpifrance measures for banks are operational. The companies concerned can contact their banking contact to request the mobilization of this measure or contact BPI directly on their website. Bpi France automatically defers all CBI loan maturities (capital + interest) and rents for a period of 6 months and with no application fees.

1. Guaranties:
   I. Guarantee Fund "Reinforcement of the Treasury".
      a) Intended for VSEs, SMEs and Mid-cap companies (ST consolidation in MT and new money)
      b) Guarantee up to 90% on liquidity enhancement loans from 2 to 7 years
      c) Used to guarantee long and medium-term loans, movable and immovable leases, financial leases, etc.
      d) Term: 2 to 7 years (can be extended to 15 years [max.] for loans with a security interest in a real estate asset or in the case of a sale and leaseback of real estate)
      e) Up to 5m€ for SMEs and up to 30m€ for ETIs
      f) Elimination period reduced to 6 months
   II. Guarantee Fund "Confirmed Line of Credit".
      a) Intended for SMEs and Mid-cap companies, renewable only once
b) Up to 90% guarantee on confirmed credit lines for a period of 12 to 18 months

c) Used to guarantee the renewal of confirmed ST lines of credit (overdrafts, overdraft facilities, discounts, daily, etc.)

d) For financing the business operating cycle

e) Guarantee equal to the duration of the CT line (up to 5m€ for SMEs and up to 30m€ for Mid-cap companies)

f) 4-month waiting period

2. Mid-term financing

I. Asset Loan:
   a) Intended for VSEs, SMEs and Mid-cap companies, with at least 12 months of balance sheet
   b) Used for one-off cash requirements and an exceptional increase in working capital requirement, linked to the economic situation
   c) 50k€ to 5m€ for SMEs, and up to 30m€ for Mid-cap companies
   d) Term: between 3 and 5 years, of which 6 to 12 months of deferred depreciation
   e) Unsecured loan on the assets of the company or its manager

II. Ready to bounce:
   a) Intended for VSEs, SMEs and Mid-cap companies
   b) Partnership with the Regions and co-financed
   c) Allows financing a cash requirement related to a cyclical difficulty, a temporary fragile situation, or a working capital requirement that does not allow normal operating conditions.
   d) Financing ceiling: 10k€ to 300k€.
   e) Term: 7 years, including 2 years of deferred capital amortization

3. Evolution of the Factoring guarantee system:

   I. For factoring companies currently benefiting from agreements for the benefit of SMEs, the proposed changes are:
      a) Increase the max. outstanding amount of secured receivables from €200k to €500k
      b) Allow the release of the security deposit

- Recent update of the French foreign direct investment (FDI) screening procedure.
  a) This evolution is twofold: the long-term inclusion of biotechnologies in the list of critical technologies likely to be subject to FDI screening and the lowering from 25 to 10% of the threshold of voting rights acquired in company which triggers the procedure. This new rule will apply for a limited period of time, only for listed companies, and for investors from third countries (European Union and European Economic Area investors are exempted).
b) Inclusion of biotechnology in the list of critical technologies subject to the foreign investment screening procedure

c) Bruno Le Maire signed a decree including biotechnologies in the list of critical technologies likely to be subject to specific screening (Arrêté du 27 April 2020 JO du 30 April 2020).

d) The French FDI legal framework already protects activities which are “essential to the protection of public health”. The addition of biotechnologies to this list will give the French authorities wider margins to assess operations in this sector.

Social Measures:

- Additional allowance to social security daily allowances (Ordinance #2020-322, 25 March 2020, Ordinance #2020-420, 15 April 2020 and Decree #2020-434, 16 April 2020)
  
  a) Measure applicable until 31 August 2020
  
  b) Extended scope in order to ensure equal treatment to:
     
     I. All employees, irrespective of seniority
     
     II. Employees who have been required to stop working as a result of the covid-19 epidemic in particular staff who are subject to isolation, eviction or home confinement measures, as well as parents of a child under the age of 16 subject to such a measure, and who, for one of these reasons, is unable to continue working
     
     III. Employees who are absent from work due to incapacity resulting from illness or accident
     
     IV. Consequently, restriction is lifted for employees working at home, seasonal employees, casual employees and temporary workers

Source:
The German Government has developed a framework for the phasing out of quarantine measures and bring about an economic recovery strategy taking into consideration both medium and long term consequences. These include:

- Economic policy paving way to reactivating industrial production networks through entrepreneurial investment and innovation.
- To restore transport and logistics chains and to coordinate this closely at the European level.
- Targeted impulses allowing for a stronger demand for goods and services from private households and for relief for businesses.
- Tax relief, public spending and medium-term growth stimuli for climate protection and digitisation must be sufficiently dimensioned to put Europe back on a growth path.

The economic consequences of the pandemic is broadly considered under **four phases:**

1. Containment Stage
2. Re-Entry Stage
3. Stabilisation Stage
4. Recovery Stage

**Phase 1 - Containment Stage:**

*General Economic Policy Requirements:*

- **Provision of liquidity support:** In the containment phase, national priority is to provide the best possible protection for businesses and employees from severe disruptive distortions.
- **Stand-still and roll-back agreements required:** In general, export restrictions not only restrict production and sales but also cause domino effects in other countries. Therefore, immediate and effective standstill and roll-back agreements regarding trade-restrictive measures at the international level are necessary.
- **Short-term regulations on central deadlines for cost reductions:** Especially in the field of energy and climate policy, there are numerous reporting deadlines or consumption thresholds. A legally binding regulation is needed quickly for centralised relief measures, which will prevent the loss of relief due to the crisis.

**Phase 2 - Re-Entry**

*General Economic Policy Measures*

- Resumption of industrial activity while keeping numbers of new infections low
- Gradual return to production
• Absence of major events
• Impacts on demand and supply shortages
• Return to open educational institutions
• Strengthen supplier relationship
• Stabilise confidence among employees and consumers
• Restore industrial process chains

Specific Economic Policy Measures:
• Possibility to offset losses in 2020
• Creation of moratorium on taxes
• Postponing the OECD’s work related to tax challenges arising out of digitisation of economy

Mobility and Logistics
• Special health protection measures
• Accelerated planning in transport infrastructure
• Secure supply chains in air freight logistics
• National relaxation in cabotage regulations
• Supply chains for rail freight supply
• Operability of inland waterway transport

Digitisation and Innovation Policy
• Expand promotion of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
• Flexibility in the deadlines of EU research projects

Energy and Climate Policy
• Promote investments
• Creating scope for investments

External Economic Policy
• Revision in European export restrictions
• Initiate customs simplifications
• Adjust foreign trade and investment promotion
• Ensure liquidity and solvency of developing and emerging countries

Phase 3 - Stabilisation

General Economic Policy Measures
• Boost demand and household consumption
• Coordinated strategy at European level

Specific Economic Policy measures
• Improvement of the deduction of net income losses
• Use of competition law as a driver of innovation
• It supports programmes and consultancy for SMEs
Phase 4 - Recovery

*General Economic Policy Measures*

- Longer-term measures along a growth programme
- Enable EU funding channels for rebuilding of economy
- Bring national policies in line with EU initiatives
- Support corporate strategies to increase the resilience of value chains
- Additional investment incentives for building refurbishments
- Improve enforcement of existing trade agreements
- Revitalise the EU internal market
- Extend tax incentives on R&D
- Set the course for an internationally competitive tax burden for German companies

*Source: BDI report on “Restart & Recovery”*
Israel, which has a population of about 9 million, has had 15,443 coronavirus cases and 201 deaths. Israel allowed some businesses to reopen last Sunday and is also considering letting children return to school as part of trial efforts to ease coronavirus restrictions and help the country’s struggling economy.

After weeks of closures, shops with street access reopened though malls and markets stayed off-limits to prevent large gatherings. Restaurants were allowed to offer takeaway food, in addition to delivery services already operating.

Israel has approved the reopening of all street-level businesses to continue gradually lifting restrictions imposed to contain the spread of the coronavirus and strengthen the country's economy after the worst phase of the pandemic. Establishments on public roads such as barbershops, hairdressers and beauty salons reopened whereas shopping centres remain closed. Cafes and restaurants, which until now could only do home deliveries, will be able to offer takeaway, although clients will not be allowed to sit at tables and eat in the establishments.

The Israeli government imposed strict restrictions in March, measures that started to be slowly lifted on April 19.

Since then, public transport services have increased, retail trade has reopened and 30 per cent of workers in companies and industries - with a maximum of ten people- have been allowed back to their stations.

For businesses to reopen they must be at street level and adhere to social distancing measures, such as separation barriers between employees and customers, two metres between people, strict hygiene regulations and a limit on the number of people allowed in an establishment.

The measures were part of Israel's plans to gradually recover its economic activity, which has been hugely affected by the pandemic as the country has more than a million unemployed and the economic damage has hit all sectors.

The government also approved on Friday a 2.1 billion euro package to support self-employed workers and small businesses, which have seen their activity reduced to a minimum or even to zero in recent weeks.

Despite the lifting of some restrictions, residents must remain confined and are not allowed to go more than 500 meters away from their homes unless it is for work or other basic necessities reasons. A night-time curfew was also imposed in Muslim majority areas for the holy month of Ramzan, to avoid movement of people and crowds.

Source: https://www.haaretz.com/
Measures to ease lockdown:

- **May 4** Deconfinement begins. Places of worship remain closed for religious ceremonies, but funerals with a maximum of 15 attendees will be allowed.
- Restaurants reopen for takeaway only.
- Face masks will be required on all public transportation and to visit relatives.
- Travel between regions will remain banned. Italy says it has carried out 1.9m tests so far. The infected are required to stay at home for 14 days, unless they urgently need to go to hospital.
- Hospitalisation policies differ between regions.
- **MAY 18** All shops, tourist attractions and culture venues are allowed to reopen.
- Cinemas, theatres and nightclubs remain closed. **JUNE 1** Restaurants and bars reopen. **SEPTEMBER** Schools reopen.

All industrial and commercial activities suspended, response to coronavirus (COVID-19)

- The Italian government on 22 March 2020 published a decree that essentially suspends all industrial and commercial activities, with certain exceptions for “essential activities.”
- The suspension directive applies to the whole of Italy and is effective from 23 March until 3 May 2020, as provided by the decree adopted by the Italian government on 10 April 2020.
- The decree, adopted on 10 April 2020, extended the list of “essential activities” provided originally by the decree dated 22 March 2020.
- In accordance with the decree dated 10 April 2020, companies’ employees or contractors may have access to the premises of the companies whose activities have been suspended for maintenance, supervisory, cleaning activities and for the payments management.

To support the production and supply of medical devices and personal protective equipment

- In compliance with the Decree no. 18/2020 the Extraordinary Commissioner appointed for implementing the anti-Covid-19 adopted measures has introduced financing facilities for a maximum percentage of 75% of the admitted costs for investment plans aimed to increase the supply of medical devises and personal protective equipment (within the maximum limit of support provided by the Italian government amounting to Euro 800.000).
Covid-19 short time implementation process

- Notification to be filed with Works Council (if any) or National Trade Unions
- Notification must contain the following main information: reasons; duration and number of plants and employees involved
- Joint examination between Works Council (if any) or National Trade Unions and Company (also in video-conference) by maximum 3 days from the Notification
- Formal application to be filed with competent Social Security Authority
- Formal application must contain the following main information: reasons, duration, number of suspended working hours, number of plants and employees involved, copy of notification and minute of the joint examination
- Covid-19 process lasts about 7 days
- For the period of health emergency Italian authorities
  - Suggests the use of holidays and encourages the use of smart working, allowing employers to use it even without a written agreement with employees
  - Provides the possibility for employees with children aged up to 12 years (or without any age limit for children with certified disabilities) to benefit from up to 15 days parental leave, covered by social security benefit equal to 50% of the remuneration
- As an alternative to parental leave employees may benefit from a childcare allowance, amounting to € 600 (€1,000 for doctors, nurses, personnel working in health and biomedical sector, etc.)

Start-ups

- Employees will be entitled to a monthly amount of 80% of their salary (subject to caps: EUR 939.89 where salary is EUR 2,159.48 or below, and EUR 1,199.72 where salary is in excess of EUR 2,159.49);
- Specific leave for parents with children under the age of 12
- Suspension or extension of mortgage payments and other long-term loans for self-employed workers
- A fund for last resort income support (appropriation of 300m€ for 2020) is established for employees and self-employed workers who ceased, reduced or suspended their employment relationship or business due to the pandemic.
- Allowance for March of EUR 600 to autonomous workers, seasonal workers (tourism, agriculture).

Crisis measures

- The entry into force of the Italian Code of Corporate Crisis and Insolvency has been postponed until 1 September 2020.
- The financial statements for the year ending at 31 December 2020 can be drawn up on a going concern basis, if the business was treated as a going concern in the financial statement for business year ending before the
23rd of February 2020. This measure will also apply to financial statements for years ending by 23 February 2020 and not yet approved.

- Between 9 April and 31 December 2020, the rule on the reduction of share capital will not apply. Therefore, it will not be necessary to reduce a company’s capital because of losses or, if it falls below the statutory minimum level, raise it. Nor will reduced or lost capital constitute grounds for winding up a company.
- The mechanism by which shareholder loans are repaid only after the claims of other creditors have been settled will not operate between 9 April and 31 December 2020. This rule also applies to intercompany loans (where there is management and coordination of one company by another).

Source:
Overall Strategy for lifting lockdown

Prime Minister Abe convened the 34th meeting of the Novel Coronavirus Response Headquarters on 11th May and decided to lift the state of emergency for 39 prefectures namely those except the eight prefectures of Hokkaido, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Kyoto, Osaka and Hyogo. PM also outlined five pillars for the new supplementary budget including measures to protect jobs and support students.

His government plans to draw up sector-by-sector reopening guidelines as early as this week for businesses being shut due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Economic and fiscal policy minister Yasutoshi Nishimura said that the government may lift the emergency for some prefectures before its expiration.

But Nishimura said that the emergency "may be declared for such prefectures again if there are signs of a spike in coronavirus cases.

Health minister Katsunobu Kato said that his ministry is expected to give approval as early as this week to an antigen test kit that can detect coronavirus infections quickly.

One week from now, on May 21, Expert Meeting to assess the situation at that moment again. If it is possible, we intend to lift the state of emergency, without waiting until its completion date set on May 31. However, prefectures continue to encourage residents to not let down their guard and to make efforts to prevent the spread of infections, including refraining from going out and traveling beyond prefectural borders, as they have done to date. For those prefectures where the state of emergency has been lifted, we hope that they will uphold basic preventive measures, such as washing hands and wearing face masks as well as avoiding the three Cs.

By lifting the state of emergency in many areas, Japan will create a new normal for everyday lives in the age of coronavirus. To this end, it is necessary to introduce another set of new measures; that is our assessment. In order to consolidate the impact of the first supplementary budget, we will immediately start formulating the second supplementary budget. At the same time, we will also start preparing bills that establish necessary schemes.

5 pillars of measures going forward post the lifting of lockdown

As the first pillar, we will fundamentally enhance the Employment Adjustment Subsidies to protect the livelihoods of those who have had no choice but to temporarily close businesses. We will raise the maximum payment to 15,000 yen per day as a special measure and establish a new scheme that allows employees themselves to directly apply for and receive the money.
Secondly, amid the significant decline in sales of micro-, small- and medium-sized business operators, we will establish a new assistance scheme to further reduce rents, a fixed cost that is posing a major burden on them.

Thirdly, we will establish a new mechanism for supporting students, including university students, so as to ensure that none of them are forced to relinquish their education due to the significant decline of earnings from part-time jobs, or other reasons.

Fourthly, in order to overcome the prolonged battle with the virus, we will cover, with the government outlays, the total expenditure of the comprehensive support subsidy for medical systems and increase the amount significantly. By doing so, we intend to extend robust support, such as enhancing screening structures and care for the patients with severe symptoms in order to solve various issues faced by medical institutions.

Fifthly, as it is difficult to foresee the overseas trend of infections sufficiently, we will provide adequate liquidity support for large companies and those relatively smaller ones, in addition to small- and medium-sizes enterprises. We will also implement measures to strengthen financial functions such as increasing the allocation of special lending by the Japan Finance Corporation and crisis response lending by the Development Bank of Japan, as well as strengthen the financial base with capital funds including subordinated loans.

Source:
Office of Prime Minister Abe https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/actions/202005/_00010.html
Prime Minister of Malaysia Mr Muhyiddin Yassin in his Labour Day speech on 1 May announced a plan named the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO or Conditional MCO), a relaxation of regulations regarding the MCO, with its main goal was to reopen the national economy in a controlled manner. The CMCO was scheduled to start from 4th May 2020. The regulations of the CMCO as stated in his speech included:

- Most economic sectors and activities are allowed to operate while observing the business standard operation procedures such as social distancing and recording the names and telephone numbers of customers and the dates of their visit.
- Outdoor sports activities which do not involve body contact, in small groups without an audience and involving not more than 10 persons are allowed on the condition that social distancing is practiced. Sports activities involving large gatherings, body contact and other risks of infection are not allowed, including all indoor and stadium sports events.
- Social, community and cultural events which involve large gatherings as well as all types of official events and assemblies are not permitted. Religious activities and all congregational or assembly activities in houses of worship are not allowed.
- Interstate travel, including the balik kampung tradition for the oncoming Eid al-Fitr are not allowed, except for work purposes and to return home after being stranded in the hometowns or elsewhere.

The move was met with some backlash as states delayed easing their restrictions due to lack of preparation while companies struggled to get all their workers tested before resuming work.

The states of Kedah, Kelantan, Pahang, Sabah and Sarawak decided to not implement the CMCO by 4 May, either to give way to discussions regarding the implications of reopening economic sections towards the future trend of Malaysia's pandemic or to secure the positive development of the pandemic. The governments of Selangor and Perak restricted some business sectors operating during the CMCO while Negeri Sembilan only allowed economic sectors to reopen. The government of Penang on the other hand had implemented a three-phase gradual reopening till 13 May 2020.

Malaysia has announced to extend its relaxed lockdown till 9th June 2020, allowing nearly all economic activities to continue while keeping its borders shut and schools closed. On 10th May 2020, Prime Minister of Malaysia announced that the government will allow limited interstate travel for families who are separated ahead of the Eid al-Fitr celebration.

Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Preparedness and Gating Value</th>
<th>Phase Guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Area of Spread of COVID-19  
• Testing Capacity: general and targeted populations  
• Contact Tracing and Isolation Capacity  
• State-wide Health Care System Capacity | State assessment will be based on:  
• Rate of COVID-19 Transmission Should be 1.15 or less  
• Number of tests should be 3000 per day  
• Time from: Positive test result to isolation recommendation for case - 24 Hrs  
• Quarantine rec. for case contacts - 36 Hours  
• Availability of scarce resources: General beds, ICU beds, Ventilators - All 3 Sufficient based on modelling  
• PPE kit - 14 days Supply Minimum | Responsibilities of individuals and employers during all phases, and in each specific phase of the opening. |

Proposed Phased Approach

General guidelines applicable to everyone in Mexico:
• Stay Home In general, stay at home: avoid unnecessary travel, and always stay at home when you are sick (except for medical emergencies)  
• Wash your hands frequently  
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands  
• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash  
• Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces  
• Watch for symptoms of COVID-19

If you must go out:
• Wear a multilayer cloth face covering in public settings except when eating, drinking, or exercising outdoors
- Maintain a 6 foot distance from others
- Avoid gatherings
- Protect vulnerable populations by finding ways to connect without face-to-face contact

**Guidelines for All Phases only for Employers:**
- Limit operations to remote work to the greatest extent possible
- Arrange workplace to provide for 6 feet of distance between individuals wherever possible
- Close common areas where personnel are likely to congregate wherever possible, or modify them to minimize contact
- Provide for all meetings to take place remotely whenever possible
- All employees should be provided with appropriate face coverings and should wear them in the workplace
- Train all employees on daily cleaning and disinfecting protocol, hygiene, and respiratory etiquette (e.g., covering coughs)
- Make handwashing, sanitizer, and other hygiene support available to employees
- Screen employees before they enter the workplace each day (verbally or with a written form or app). Send employees home who are experiencing the following COVID-19 symptoms related to COVID-19 and direct them to obtain free testing through DOH
  - Fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat and/or loss of taste or smell
  - Prohibit employees with known close contact to a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 to return to work until the end of the 14-day self-isolation period
- Minimize non-essential travel. Adhere to CDC guidelines and state orders regarding isolation following out-of-state travel
- Adhere to all CDC and OSHA guidelines

**Guidelines for All Phases only for Retailers:**

**Required**
- Adhere to COVID-Safe Practices for All Employers
- Adhere to maximum occupancy limits per the State’s Public Health Order
- Utilize signs, stanchions and/or floor decals to support 6-foot social distancing, including one-way aisle traffic and separate entry/exit wherever possible
- Utilize signage to communicate occupancy limits and encourage customers to wear face coverings
- Maintain a schedule of stringent daily cleaning and sanitizing
- Once every two hours (or more frequently), clean and disinfect high-touch items such as doors, fitting rooms and credit card terminals
- Establish safety protocols to allow for contactless curb side pickup and home delivery wherever possible
Best practice

- Install large plexiglass sneeze guards at cash registers wherever possible
- Arrange for contactless payment and receipt options to the greatest extent possible
- Screen employees and customers with a no-contact thermometer; individuals with a temperature reading above 99.1°F should be denied entry, Offer face coverings and gloves to customers

### Pre-Phase (Preparation Phase)
1 May 2020 - Mid May 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilities which will be opens? How Does it Open?</th>
<th>What Remains Closed or Restricted?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Non-essential retailers can operate via curbside pickup and delivery service only where permitted by their license  
• State parks to reopen on a modified basis, as staff is available. Day use only, no camping or visitor centers  
• Golf Courses allowed to open for golf only. No dine-in food service or retail  
• Pet-humane adoption/groomers/daycare/boarding permitted to operate  
• Veterinarians permitted to operate  
• Gun stores can operate by appointment only  
• Restrictions on certain medical procedures lifted, but only for those hospitals and providers that can meet capacity requirements and show adherence to DOH emergency requirements | • Instruction to Stay Home remains in place for all individuals  
• Non-essential retailers and workplaces  
• Dine-in service at restaurants and bars  
• Indoor malls, gyms, salons, theatres, casinos  
• Mass Gatherings restricted as per the current PHO  
• 14-day quarantine order remains in place for out-of-state airport arrivals  
• Vacation rentals prohibited to out-of-state residents |

### Phase-1
Mid May 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilities which will be opens? How Does it Open?</th>
<th>What Remains Closed or Restricted?</th>
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</table>
| • All retailers may operate according to Retail COVID-Safe Practices at 20% fire code occupancy  
• Non-essential businesses generally may operate according to CSPs at up to 50% of pre-crisis staffing levels  
• Dine-in service at restaurants and bars permitted according to CSPs (in development) at up to 50% | • Casinos  
• Theatres/Cinema Halls/ Multiplex  
• Instruction to Stay Home remains in place for Vulnerable Individuals (1)  
• Visits to long-term care and other congregate care facilities restricted as per current PHO |
occupancy, no barstool or standing service. No live music
- Gyms and salons can operate according to CSPs
- Hotels permitted to operate according to CSPs at up to full capacity
- Houses of worship can operate according to CSPs at capacity to-be-determined

- Mass Gatherings restricted (includes concerts, events, and social gatherings)
- 14-day quarantine order remains in place for out-of-state airport arrivals
- Vacation rentals prohibited to out-of-state residents

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<th>Phase-2 Early June 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilities which will be opens? How Does it Open?</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Theatres may operate according to CSPs and capacity restrictions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Bars may operate according to CSPs and capacity restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Casinos may operate according to CSPs and capacity restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Instruction to Stay Home remains in place for vulnerable individuals</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase-3 June 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilities which will be opens? How Does it Open?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Vulnerable Individuals instructed to practice social distancing</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Aim to reopen schools in August with modified schedules and procedures to protect students, faculty, and staff</td>
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Source:
Measures to ease lockdown:

- Not all measures have an end date yet. This means that working from home will probably remain the norm throughout the year.
- This also applies to keeping a distance of 1.5 meters, washing hands often and coughing and sneezing in one’s elbow. However, in the roadmap, described as “careful planning”, the mantra “stay at home as much as possible” has been replaced by “stay at home in case of complaints” from next week.
- Public transport will resume normal schedules from June 1, but with just a fraction of seats available to allow for social distancing. High schools will also reopen in June, followed by camping sites and vacation parks.

The Government offers a link to inform people

- The Netherlands Enterprise agency offers a link with a FAQ section. It contains health-related information, but also information for employers on shortening working hours.
- Overall information provision to companies on the outbreak takes place via Chambers of Commerce.
- Measures to ease the lockdown
- Work from Home is maintained until further notice. Schools reopens on May 11th for 50% of the time. Top-level athletes will be allowed to resume training sessions at dedicated training facilities if they maintain a distance of 1.5 metres from others. Ban on events until September 1st. Travel restrictions for foreigners: May 15th for third world country

Export restrictions

- Export restrictions for personal protective equipment (only permissible if companies have an export license).

Customs authorisation

- Companies can request for tailor-made solutions if they are unable to meet the solvency requirements of an AEO authorisation, the customs representative authorisation or the reduction or waiver of the guarantee under a comprehensive guarantee authorisation.
- The period for current applications for authorisations that cannot be properly completed due to the coronavirus will be suspended. If a company has applied for the authorisation electronically, it should register the extension in the European Application System ‘CDS’ (Customs Decisions System).
- Tailor-made solutions are available for companies that are in urgent need fora specific customs authorisation.
Stimulus measures

- SMEs affected by the outbreak will be supported via an extended credit guarantee scheme for SMEs (BMKB-C). The credit guarantee has been increased up to 90% of 75% of a line of credit and the percentage for the premium due is lowered from 3.9% down to 2% valid for a duration of 16 quarters.
- Temporary opening of BMKB guarantee instrument for agricultural and horticultural companies (BL-C)
- Enlargement of the Guarantee Entrepreneurs finance measure (GO) for SMEs and larger firms. The amount for which the government stands as guarantor has been increased up to €150 million. The maximum guarantee percentage has been increased from 50% up to 80% for large companies (public limited companies, nv) and up to 90% for SMEs. The GO guarantee ceiling has been raised up to €10 billion.
- Small firms are offered a six-month delay in repayments of micro loans through credits, with interest rates lowered down to 2%
- Under conditions, a €4,000 tax exempt reimbursement is granted to entrepreneurs in a number of specific sectors which have been hit by the coronavirus measures (TOGS). As of 29 April 2020, this amount is also granted on basis of qualifying registered secondary activities.

Source:
Reopening approach during COVID-19

Following extension of containment measures until May 24, Peru is adopting a sectoral approach to reopen the economy. The economy is currently at 50 percent capacity. The government published a plan to resume economic activities progressively over a 4-month period.

**Article 1.- Approve the “Resumption of activities”**

1.1 Approve the “Resumption of Activities” in accordance with the strategy prepared by the Multisectoral Working Group formed by Ministerial Resolution No. 144-2020-EF / 15, which consists of four (04) phases for its implementation, which will go permanently evaluating in accordance with the recommendations of the National Health Authority.

1.2 Phase 1 of the “Resumption of Activities” referred to in the preceding paragraph, begins in May 2020, and its activities are detailed in the Annex that forms part of this Supreme Decree.

**Activities included in phase 1 of the “resumption of activities”**

**Mining and industry**

1. Exploitation, processing, storage, transportation and closure of mines in the strata of large-scale mining and hydrocarbon construction projects of national interest.
2. Inputs for agricultural activity.
3. Industrial fishing (indirect human consumption).
4. Temporary production: expired and expiring purchase orders (exports).
5. Glass, forestry (timber or non-timber), paper and cardboard, plastics and ice industries expansion of textiles and clothing, machinery and equipment.
6. Metalworking industry
7. Basic chemical substances and fertilizer and complementary services to agriculture (for essential activities).

**Building**

1. Projects of the National Infrastructure Plan for Competitiveness (PNIC).
2. Projects of the Authority for Reconstruction with changes (ARCC)
3. 56 projects in the Transport and Communications Sector.
4. 36 sanitation works.
5. Agrarian infrastructure activities (irrigation, maintenance, rehabilitation of drains, among others).
6. Priority real estate projects (excavation phase, structures and finishes, and housing in rural areas).
7. Agricultural products (rental / sale of machinery)
8. Investments in Optimization, Marginal Expansion, Rehabilitation and Replacement (IOARR), access to water and sewerage in police stations, hospitals and schools.
9. Industries and services related to construction.

**Services and tourism**

1. Restaurants and related facilities authorized for home delivery (with the establishment's own logistics and security protocol and pick up locally)
2. Categorized hotels and tourist transport for essential activities.
3. Telecommunications related services
4. Complementary services to agriculture.
5. Services provided to companies (IT support and professional services, knowledge service exports)
6. Notary services
7. Recycling services.
8. Maintenance services of equipment related to buildings and homes (pumps, hot springs, elevators, plumbing, electrician, carpentry, among others)

**Commerce**

1. Marketing of agricultural products
2. Electronic commerce of goods for the home and related.

**Source:**

On 2\textsuperscript{nd} May 2020, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce of Singapore decided to ease some of the tighter circuit breaker measures, which were announced on 21 April 2020, progressively over the coming weeks. At the same time, the country is preparing for the safe and gradual resumption of economic and community activities after the end of the circuit breaker period on 1 June 2020. Singapore will be tapping on digital solutions, such as the SafeEntry check-in system, and deploying them more pervasively when the business activities are resumed.

- From 5 May 2020, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) needle acupuncture was allowed, for pain management only (excluding cupping, moxibustion, guasha and tuina manipulative therapies), if assessed by the TCM practitioner to be essential. TCM halls with registered TCM practitioners were also allowed to sell retail products. This is on top of the consultation and herbal dispensary services which they are already allowed to provide.
- From 5 May 2020, residents living in strata-titled residential buildings may exercise within the common areas of these private residential developments such as footpaths but must continue to practice safe distancing measures. All sports and recreational facilities within these private residential developments such as playgrounds, pools, gyms, barbecue pits and club houses are to remain closed.
- From 12 May 2020, the following were allowed to resume operations:
  a) Manufacturing and onsite preparation of all food, including cakes and confectionery, ice cream, cocoa, chocolate and chocolate products, and other snacks;
  b) Retail outlets of food, including cakes and confectionery, packaged snacks and desserts, may be open for takeaway and delivery only;
  c) Home-based food businesses may operate, but only for delivery or collection. Home-based private dining will not be allowed. Delivery and collection of food orders should be done in a safe and contactless manner, by appointment so that it can be spaced out, and there is no bunching of people.
  d) Retail laundry services;
  e) Barbers and hairdressers, for basic haircut services; and
  f) Retail of pet supplies.
- In addition to the businesses, Singapore will gradually re-open more workplaces, taking into account their importance to the economy and global supply chains, their contribution to local employment and their ability to minimize risks of transmission at their workplaces.
- All businesses must put in place the necessary safe management measures to minimize crowding within their premises and ensure high sanitation and hygiene standards. These measures include:
  a) Staggered working hours and break times, to minimize crowding of workers at arrival/departure or break times.
b) Employers must cancel or defer all events or activities that involve close and prolonged contact amongst participants. All social gatherings at the workplace must also be cancelled or deferred, including interacting at staff canteens, or being in groups during meals or breaks.

c) Clearly demarcated queue lines and signage for customers/visitors.

d) Clearly identified waiting area for customers/visitors and delivery personnel (if applicable) with demarcations for safe distancing.

e) Implementing SafeEntry at the workplace and encouraging employees to download and activate the Trace Together app.

f) Making sure that customers/visitors and delivery personnel observe at least one-meter spacing at all times and do not cluster together.

g) Ensuring that all staff, patrons and delivery personnel on the premises have their masks on.

h) Placing hand sanitizers at high-touch areas.

i) Observing high levels of hygiene and cleanliness in accordance with the SG Clean checklists, as well as Ministry of Health and National Environment Agency’s guidelines, which are relevant for the sector.

Source:


https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/%20requirements-for-safe-management-measures
Spain

Measures to ease lockdown:

- May 2 Individuals and families able to exercise outside.
- May 4 Deconfinement begins on smaller Spanish islands. Some local shops allowed to open, by appointment. Restaurants and bars allowed to open for takeaway meal service. Borders remain closed, and no travel between provinces permitted. Face masks “highly recommended” on public transport and outside the home.
- May 11 Deconfinement begins in mainland Spain. Approach will be phased, based on local circumstances with no fixed timetable. Shops and food markets reopen with social distancing and reduced capacity. Restaurants and bars allowed to reopen their terraces at 30 per cent capacity. Hotels to reopen, without communal spaces. Places of worship reopen with 30 per cent capacity. Public transit reopened with full service, but reduced passenger numbers.
- As of April 27, the Spanish government said it had carried out more than 1m of the more reliable PCR tests, and 310,000 antibody tests. Those who test positive are required to self-isolate until three days after the fever has broken and a minimum of seven days after the beginning of symptoms. Serious cases are sent to hospital.
- END MAY Cinemas and theatres could reopen at 30 per cent capacity. Restaurants and bars able to offer table service at 30 per cent capacity. Places of worship allowed to increase to 50 per cent capacity.
- MID-JUNE Large shopping centres reopen with reduced capacity. Bars and nightclubs reopen at 30 per cent capacity.
- LATE JUNE – MID-JULY Travel between provinces may be allowed to resume.

Measures to support the continuation of the employment of workers with permanent seasonal contracts in the tourism industry and tourism-related retail and hotel and restaurant sectors (art. 13).

I. Companies (excluding those in the public sector) in the tourism industry, as well as those in the tourism-related retail and hotel and restaurant sectors, which generate productive activity between February and June and which hire or retain workers under permanent seasonal contracts during such months will be able to apply a 50% reduction of employers’ social security contributions for non-occupational contingencies, and for the joint refunding of unemployment benefits, the wage guarantee fund (FOGASA) and vocational training in respect of such workers.

- Paid leave - Royal Decree 10 2020 (Application between March 30 and April 9, 2020)
  I. Workers will retain the right to the remuneration that would have corresponded to them if they were rendering services.
  II. Recovery of working hours: from the day following the end of the alarm state until December 31, 2020.
III. This recovery must be negotiated in a consultation period open for this purpose between the company and the legal representation of the working people, which will have a maximum duration of seven days.

IV. In any case, the recovery of these hours may not suppose the breach of the minimum daily and weekly rest periods provided for in the law and in the collective agreement, the establishment of a notice period lower than the one collected.

- Measures to support the tourism industry:
  I. Increase in the Thomas Cook financing line to assist companies incorporated in Spain within certain economic sectors (art. 12).
      a) The budget item of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism guaranteeing 50% of the debt drawn down from the ICO credit line will be raised from the initial EUR 100 million to EUR 200 million so as to cover the increased financing line up to EUR 400 million, adjusting the corresponding budgeted amounts in each year to these new limits.

- Guarantee of liquidity to sustain economic activity
  a) Measures in the area of public contracting to alleviate the consequences of COVID-19. (Art. 34)
     I. Public contracts for ongoing utilities and services which can no longer be performed or are impossible to continue, as a result of COVID-19 or the measures adopted by the State, the autonomous regions or local authorities to combat the virus, will be automatically suspended from the moment their provision becomes impossible and until such time as they can be performed again.
     II. When fulfilment of a public contract is suspended, the grantor must indemnify the contractor for the damage and loss effectively suffered during the suspension period, subject to an application and confirmation thereof. The compensation for damage and loss that may be paid to a contractor shall only include the following:
        b) The salary costs of personnel that are assigned on 14 March 2020 to the normal performance of the contract, during the suspension period.
        c) Costs of maintaining definitive guarantees, related to the contract suspension period.
        d) Rental or maintenance costs of machinery directly allocated to the performance of the contract, provided that the contractor can provide evidence that these could not be used for any other purposes.
        e) Expenses of insurance policies stipulated in the specifications and related to the purpose of the contracts entered by the contractor and that were in force at the time the contract was suspended.

- Suspension of the regime of liberalisation of certain foreign direct investments in Spain (Article 7 bis)
  a) For the purposes of this article, all investments made by residents in countries that are not part of the European Union and the European Free Trade Association are considered foreign direct investments in Spain when the investor holds an interest of 10% or more of the share capital
of a Spanish company or when as a result of a corporate transaction, legal act or transaction they effectively participate in the management or control of this company.

- Suspension of the regime of liberalisation of foreign direct investments in Spain, in the following sectors:
  a) Critical infrastructures: (energy, transport, water, healthcare, communications, media, data treatment or storage, aerospace, defence, electoral or financial industries, and sensitive facilities), as well as key land and real estate assets for the use of these infrastructures.
  b) Critical technologies and dual-use goods, including artificial intelligence, robotics, semiconductors, quantum, nuclear, among others.
  c) Supply of key inputs.
  d) Sectors with access to sensitive information.
  e) Furthermore, suspension of the regime of liberalisation of foreign direct investments in Spain, in other circumstances (e.g. an investor controlled by the government of a third country).

Source:
All persons who are able to work from home should do so.

- Persons in the following list of industries and activities will be permitted to perform work outside the home, and to travel to and from work, under Alert Level 4, subject to-
  - strict health protocols, and social distancing rules;
  - return to work to be phased in to enable measures to make the workplace COVID-ready; and
  - return to work to be done in a manner that avoids and reduces risks of infection.

PERMISSIONS AND PROHIBITIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART A</th>
<th>AGRICULTURE, HUNTING, FORESTRY AND FISHING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>All agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing, bee-keeping, including preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage, transport of live animals and auctions (subject to health directions) and related agricultural infrastructure and services (including research, inspection, certification and quality control). All fishing, operation of fish hatcheries and fish farms, on such conditions as may be issued in directions by the cabinet members responsible for the environment, forestry and fisheries. Harvesting and storage activities essential to prevent the wastage of primary agricultural, fishing and forestry goods. Export of all agricultural, agro-processed, fishing and forestry products.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>PART B</th>
<th>ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>All electricity, gas and water supply is permitted.</td>
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<tr>
<th>PART C</th>
<th>MANUFACTURING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Manufacture of wholesale and retail products permitted to be sold under Alert Level 4, and all input products, permitted scaling up to full employment, except where otherwise indicated, and subject to strict health protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Manufacture of paper and paper products, excluding stationery, permitted scaling up to full employment and subject to strict health protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Manufacture of plastics and packaging, including glass, plastic bottles and containers, permitted scaling up to full employment and subject to strict health protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Petroleum refineries, smelters, and furnaces, permitted scaling up to full employment and subject to strict health protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Manufacture of winter clothing, footwear, bedding and heaters (and all inputs required, including textiles) permitted, commencing at 25% and scaling up to 50% employment and subject to strict health protocols.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Manufacturing of automotive, steel and other metals, rail and shipbuilding (including components), scaling up in phases to 50% employment and subject to strict health protocols.

7. Stationery production, scaling up in phases to 50% employment and subject to strict health protocols.

8. Cement, other construction material, and hardware, scaling up in phases to 50% employment and subject to strict health protocols.

9. All other manufacturing, scaling up to 30% employment and subject to strict health protocols.

PART D CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES (INC. TRADES PERSONS)
1. Civil engineering for public works projects (including water, energy, sanitation).
2. Public works civil engineering and construction works.
3. Road and bridge projects, including local road repairs.

PART E WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, COVERING STORES, SPAZA SHOPS, E-COMMERCE AND INFORMAL TRADERS
1. Food products, including non-alcoholic beverages and animal food.
2. The sale of hot cooked food, only for home delivery.
3. Toilet Paper, sanitary pads, sanitary tampons, and condoms.
4. Hand sanitiser, disinfectants, soap, alcohol for industrial use, household cleaning products, and personal protective equipment.
5. Products for the care of babies and toddlers.
6. Personal toiletries, including haircare, body, face, hand and foot care products, rollons, deodorants, dental care products.
7. Medical and Hospital Supplies, medicine, equipment and personal protective equipment.
8. Fuel and lighting, including coal, wood, paraffin and gas.
9. Airtime and electricity.
10. Hardware, components and supplies.
12. Chemicals, packaging and ancillary products used in the production of any these products listed in Part E.
13. Textiles required to produce face masks and other personal protective equipment and winter clothing.
14. Winter clothing, footwear, bedding and heaters and the components and fabrics required to manufacture these.
15. Children's clothing and fabrics and components required to manufacture these.
16. Stationery and educational books.
17. Personal ICT equipment including computers, mobile telephones and other home office equipment.
18. No sale of liquor permitted.
19. Directions may permit the incremental expansion of e-Commerce, taking into account the need to limit the extent of movement on the road, contact between people, law-enforcement challenges and the impact on other businesses.

PART F INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES
1. All telecommunication services and infrastructure.
2. Information and Communication Technology services for all private and business customers.

3. Postal services and courier services for all permitted Alert Level 4 services.

**PART G**  
**MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES**

1. Online services.

2. Productions for local broadcast and live streaming of creative sector services in support of COVID-19 subject to directions.

3. Newspapers and broadcasting.

**PART H**  
**FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. Employees should work from home where possible.

2. Essential financial services may operate, subject to directions issued by the relevant Cabinet member, including the following services necessary to maintain the functioning of a financial system as defined in section 1(1) of the Financial Sector Regulation Act, only when the operation of a place of business or entity is necessary to continue to perform those services:
   i. the banking environment (including the operations of mutual banks, cooperative banks, co-operative financial institutions and the Postbank);
   ii. the payments environment;
   iii. the financial markets (including market infrastructures licensed under the Financial Markets Act, 2012 (Act No. 19 of 2012);
   iv. the insurance environment;
   v. the savings and investment environment;
   vi. pension fund administration;
   vii. outsourced administration;
   viii. medical schemes administration; and
   ix. additional services designated in terms of regulation 11B (4A) (c) (i)

The services listed above may not include debt collection services.

3. Services necessary for the provision of social grants.

4. Private security services may operate.

5. Implementation of payroll systems.

6. Car sales under specific directions

7. Chauffeur services, rental of motor vehicles, driven vehicles, machinery and equipment, and of goods to support other Alert Level 4 services.

8. Call centres, for local and all international markets, may operate subject to directions issued by the relevant cabinet members.

9. Other professional services may operate only where work-from-home is not possible, and only to support other Alert Level 4 services.

**PART I**  
**ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE ACTIVITIES PERMITTED**

1. Accommodation not permitted, except for quarantine and essential services.

2. Restaurants only for food delivery services (9H00 - 19H00) and subject to restriction on movement (no sit down or pick up allowed).

**PART J**  
**TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES PERMITTED**
1. Ocean, rail, road and air transport of goods permitted only for activities set out in Regulation 22(1).

2. Public rail, minibus taxi and bus services will resume at Alert Levels and on terms as will be set out in Directions, based on the progressive increase in commuter numbers during the various phases.

3. E-hailing services subject to restrictions on capacity and times, and for permitted activities only.

4. Transport and logistics in respect of specified cargo specified in J1, and permitted retail goods to neighbouring countries, which shall include

**PART K  MINING AND QUARRYING**

1. Coal production for Eskom scaling up to full employment.

2. Open-cast mining scaling up to a baseline of 50% and thereafter scaling up to full employment.

3. All other mining starting in batches scaling up towards 50% employment.

**PART L  REPAIR AND RELATED EMERGENCY SERVICES PERMITTED**

1. Tow trucks and vehicle recovery services.

2. Emergency repair work, including plumbers, electricians, locksmiths, glaziers, roof repair work.

3. Emergency automobile repairs for all persons.

**PART M  SUPPLY CHAINS**

1. Production, manufacturing, supply, logistics, transport, delivery and critical maintenance and repair of goods and services (including components and

2. All workplaces or premises must have care and maintenance that is essential to the prevention of the destruction or significant impairment of working machinery or inventory. Areas, plant, or to permit orderly wind down arrangements, on such conditions as may be issued by means of directions by the relevant cabinet members.

**PART N  PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS' EMPLOYMENT**

1. Live-in staff, and staff providing care to the sick, mentally ill, elderly, people with disabilities and children.

**PART O  PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND OTHER ARMS OF THE STATE**

Only essential government and administration services may operate, including:

1. Disaster management services.

2. Licensing, permitting, deeds, masters offices. birth and death certificates, replacement identification documents.

3. Any other service designated by the Executive Authority, HODs, Heads of Courts, and Heads of other Chapter 9 Institutions.

4. Essential municipal services.

5. Services related to the functioning of courts; the State Capture Commission.

6. Essential SARS services defined by the Commissioner of SARS.
7. Police, peace officers, traffic officers, military medical personnel and soldiers, correctional services officials and traffic management services.

8. Services rendered by the Executive, members of Parliament, Members of the Provincial Legislature, Members of Local Councils, the Judiciary, traditional leaders and National Office Bearers of Political Parties represented in Parliament.


### PART P  HEALTH, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES

1. Medical and veterinary services permitted.

2. Cleaning, sanitation, pest control, sewerage, waste and refuse removal services.

3. Recycling of glass, paper, plastic, metal, tyres and such others as determined by directions, are permitted at 50% capacity. Informal recyclers will be permitted to resume operations.

4. All Social work, counselling, services supporting gender based violence, care and relief activities permitted.

5. Wildlife Management, Anti-poaching, Animal Care and Veterinary services.

6. Funeral services, including mortuaries services and the transportation of mortal remains.

7. Trade union essential staff for workers covered by Alert Level 4, subject to Directions.

### PART Q  EDUCATION SERVICES

1. Permitted on dates and schedule set out separately.

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*Source: Government Gazette No.43258, 29 April 2020, Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs. Website: [www.gpwonline.co.za](http://www.gpwonline.co.za)*
South Korea 'back to normal' with offices and museums reopened

- South Korea returned largely to normal Wednesday as workers went back to offices, and museums and libraries reopened under eased social distancing rules after new coronavirus cases dropped to a trickle.
- The South endured one of the worst early outbreaks of the disease outside China and while it never imposed a compulsory lockdown, strict social distancing had been widely observed since March.
- Employees were urged to work from home where possible while the new school term was postponed from its March start.
- Scores of events - from K-pop concerts to sports seasons - were delayed or cancelled, while museums and galleries were closed and religious services suspended.
- But South Korea appears to have brought its outbreak under control thanks to an extensive "trace, test and treat" programme that has drawn widespread praise.
- In a population of 51 million, its death toll is little more than 250, and new cases have slowed to just a handful - 13 in the past three days, all of them arriving international passengers. More than 90 of the South's imported cases are returning citizens.
- At least 100 people visited the National Museum of Korea in Seoul on Wednesday morning, and the first visitors of the day - a married couple - were given a bouquet of flowers by staff.
- The South reported two new infections on Wednesday, taking the total to 10,806
- South Korea says it has no immediate plans to revive strict social distancing rules despite a spike in coronavirus cases linked to nightclubs in Seoul

Some broad guidelines for workers/professionals

For workers:

- If you feel sick, go home
- Proactively use flexible work hours (such as work from home or commuting during off-peak hours) and paid time off such as sick days, vacation time, and family leave

Keep ample distance

- Workshops and training should be conducted online or via video.
- When face-to-face, follow guidelines for personal hygiene
- If you’re with a colleague, sit two meters (minimum one meter) apart
- Don’t do things that cause people to spit, such as chanting
• If using indoor cafeterias, try to sit in rows or zigzag. Keep conversation to a minimum; if necessary, cover your mouth

**Ventilate and disinfect**

• Regularly disinfect places where your hands often touch (table, keyboard, mouse, phone, etc.)
• Thoroughly wash your hands and follow proper etiquette when coughing
• Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
• Avoid physical contact, such as shaking hands
• Use your own teacups, spoons, and other paraphernalia

**Keep physical distance but maintain social connection**

• Avoid happy hours, club activities, and other small group events; return home early after work
• Several people should not occupy the break room at once

**For employers:**

• Provide opportunities for employees to check their temperature using thermal scans or no-touch thermometers
• If there are symptoms such as fever or respiratory abnormalities, or if you’ve been abroad in the past 14 days, allow employees to stay home and use sick days, vacation time, or other leave, or work from home. If necessary, reflect this in your company policy
• Create an atmosphere in which employees can freely take advantage of paid time off and flexible working hours. Make sure there are no disadvantages from doing so.
• Keep ample distance
• Minimize business trips, both domestic and international
• Ensure workers keep two meters apart (at least one meter) by using available space or changing the directions of monitors, desks, or other work surfaces
• Have employees sit in rows or zigzag in the cafeteria, or install transparent dividers between seats
• Wash hands often and follow proper etiquette when coughing
• Train and inform workers on proper hand washing procedures (use of hand sanitizer), etiquette for coughing, and other ways to manage hygiene
• Provide and distribute masks and hygiene products according to the needs of the workplace
• Keep physical distance but maintain social connection
• Create a culture that minimizes extracurricular activities, outings, and happy hours so that people go home directly after work
• Tell employees to refrain from using the same common space
• Provide makeshift meeting rooms to host visitors according to the needs of the workplace
• The employer appoints a department or point person in charge of quarantine efforts
On meetings:

General principles

- Use video conferencing and phone calls as much as possible
- Make sure in-person meetings take place in ventilated spaces where employees can maintain physical distance
- Minimize meeting attendees and maximize efficiency in order to reduce the meeting length
- Follow these guidelines when conducting in-person meetings:
  - Inform attendees that they should refrain from attending the meeting if they travelled abroad in the last 14 days or have shown symptoms such as fever, respiratory distress (sore throat, coughing, difficulty breathing, headache, muscle pain, fatigue)
  - The meeting host should check for respiratory abnormalities or fever and make sure those with symptoms don’t attend
  - Refrain from physical contact, such as shaking hands, before or after the meeting
  - Make sure hand sanitizer is readily available in the conference room so attendees can use it frequently
  - Provide a well-ventilated, spacious area for the meeting and be sure to ventilate before the meeting
  - Take a break every hour to ventilate the space by opening doors and windows
  - Maintain a distance of two meters between every attendee (minimum one meter). If this cannot be met, refrain from meeting in person. If the meeting is still necessary, ensure every attendee wears a mask, even when speaking.
  - Masks are up to personal discretion if ventilation and distancing can be followed

Source:
Sri Lanka Prepares to End Lockdown with Partial Opening

Sri Lanka has gradually begun relaxing curfew as the coronavirus outbreak is now “under control to a certain degree”. President Rajapaksa said that relaxed measures have been allowed for government and private sector institutions which started work from 11th May 2020 with a limited number of employees.

Sri Lanka has been under a continuous lockdown since March 20, a week after the first local victim of the pandemic was reported.

Senior police official in charge of COVID-19 prevention has mentioned -

1. The relaxation is meant to Revive the economic activities after the long layoff.
2. The public should limit their movements solely for work purposes.
3. All restaurants, places of entertainment and schools will continue to be shut.
4. The curfew will be continued in the four high-risk districts which includes capital Colombo.
5. The public and private sector employee must produce a letter from their employer which would allow them to travel during the curfew.
6. The steps have been taken to restart the economic activities, still all must adhere to quarantine regulations by keeping the required social distancing.
7. There will be specific times for the state and private sectors to reopen and close their institutions so that overcrowding could be avoided.

Thailand started the first phase of easing of lockdown on 3\textsuperscript{rd} May 2020. The guidelines for the easing in the second phase will be presented for consideration to Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha on 15\textsuperscript{th} May 2020. The second phase of easing will likely be announced and started on 17\textsuperscript{th} May 2020.

Authorities have set a rough timeline for the gradual lifting of lockdowns, with the third phase likely to be announced in early June. The final phase, which is expected to be announced in mid-June, will see “all businesses and activities” reopening.

**Phase 1 of Easing of Lockdown:**

1. **Activities relating to the economy and way of life:**

   - The sales of food or beverages in hotels, airports, train stations, terminals, hospitals, restaurants or cafes, convenience stores, pushcarts, hawkers, stalls, excluding places of entertainment, pubs and bars, may be operated as takeaway. However, if services in those places are to be provided, access to such services shall be set up in accordance with disease prevention measures and recommendations of the government.
   - Restaurants or cafes which also sell liquor may open but the consumption of liquor or alcoholic beverages in the restaurant/cafe shall be prohibited.
   - Department stores, shopping centers, and community malls may open with access only to supermarkets, pharmacies, stores selling miscellaneous items essential for daily life and retail stores selling telecommunication items, banks, offices of government agencies and state enterprises. Restaurant sections may open for takeaway only.
   - Small retail/wholesale shops, community retail/wholesale shops, markets, floating markets and flea markets may open with controlled entrance and exit, the checking of body temperature of the service staff and customers, and maintaining physical distancing for shopping and payments; d. Beauty salons, hair styling or hairdressing salons and barber shops for gentlemen or ladies may open for shampooing, cutting, hair layering and hairdressing, but waiting in the salon/shop shall be prohibited.

2. **Exercising or health care activities:**

   - Hospitals, clinics, dental clinics and medical centers of all types, established in accordance with the law.
   - Golf courses or golf driving ranges may open, but the gathering of audiences or competitions shall be prohibited. The club, club house or restaurant on the premises shall follow takeaway services.
   - Sport fields only for outdoor sports which, according to international rules, players have to keep social distance and have no physical contact, namely
tennis, horse riding, shooting and archery, may open, but the gathering of audiences or competitions shall be prohibited. The club, club house or restaurant on the premises shall follow takeaway services.

- Public parks, grounds-areas for public activities, places for exercise, sport fields may open only in open-air areas for walking, running, riding bicycles or cycling, or any other type of individual exercise, but the gathering of audiences or competitions, recreations and performances shall be prohibited.

- Places providing pet care and veterinarian services, pet spa, pet bathing, pet grooming, pet sitting or kennel services will be allowed.

The list of activities and businesses which will be allowed to reopen in the second phase of easing are still under consideration. One factor that will be taken into consideration for second phase is whether the six types of businesses and activities which have been allowed to resume since May 3 have strictly followed mandatory health guidelines to prevent a new round of infections.

Source:
The government of Dubai, which serves as the business capital of the United Arab Emirates, has issued a comprehensive order and a set of guidelines that need to be put in place before various sectors hit by the coronavirus pandemic are reopened for public. According to the order issued by the Dubai administration, the guidelines call for strict adherence to social distancing and constant sanitisation measures in shopping centres, trading outlets and offices in Dubai once they reopen.

However, the official date for reopening businesses has not been announced but it is expected soon.

Once the reopening is announced, businesses can reopen after they have complied with the guidelines and protocols and ready to receive customers/resume operations.

According to the circular, shopping malls, high-street stores, and wholesale outlets will be allowed to operate for 10 hours per day upon reopening, although consumer visits will be restricted to three hours.

They will also be allowed only to have 30 per cent of their staff onsite.

In the first stage, family entertainment venues, changing rooms, prayer rooms and cinemas will not be permitted to reopen.

Some of the guidelines for reopening of various sectors in Dubai -

1. Wholesale & Retail
   - 24-hour mall sanitisation: Clean all the common areas of the mall premises included toilets cleaned after each use and entrance areas sterilised
   - Entrance health checks: Ensure that anyone entering the mall including staff, visitors and contractors undergo mandated temperature screening and checks

Restricted access
   - Elderly above 60 years old and children between the ages of 3-12 years are not permitted to enter
   - Open all mall entry points
   - Malls must open all entry points to avoid crowding at entrances since visitors must do health checks which could lead to long queues

Provision of masks and hand sanitisers
   - All visitors are always mandated to wear masks in the mall from entry. Non-compliance will lead to denial to enter mall.
   - Hand sanitisers to be installed

Mandatory isolation rooms
• Have a small dedicated area on site to isolate potential positive cases

Sanitisation for each item after each trial
• No testing will be allowed for personal care items and retailers are not allowed to implement ‘No Return Policy’ for sale of personal items

Food court and F&B outlets distancing compliance
• Ensure F&B outlets can host 30 per cent of the capacity with two metre distance between tables - including the food courts- to enable physical distancing
• Promote smart payments as the preferred method

Prohibit sales and promotional activities
• Neither mall management nor retailers are allowed to hold sales and promotions to avoid crowd management within a store
• Suspend valet parking services
• Dubai Economy also said that mall management is “encouraged” to make retailers pay rental for the lease areas based on a pro-rata charge for the number of hours the store stays open instead of a full day rental. If retailers have to renew their lease, there should be no increase on rent after renewal, it added.

2. Offices
• Offices that reopen will be allowed to stay open for nine hours, with up to 30 per cent of their staff. They have to ensure no high-risk individuals are present at work.

24-hour office sanitisation
• All the common areas of the building/office premises including toilets have to be cleaned after each use and the entrance areas must be sterilised

Entrance health checks
• Ensure that anyone entering the building/office including staff and visitors undergo temperature screening and checks. Those showing any symptoms are prohibited from coming to work

Provision of masks and hand sanitisers
• All employees and visitors are always mandated to wear masks in the building/office. Non-compliance will lead to denial of entry

Physical distancing of two metres
• Ensure the two-metre distancing measure is maintained in all common areas, elevators, service desks and customer service.
• The elevators will only be permitted to operate with up to 30 per cent capacity

Offices working hours
• Building and office hours should not exceed eight hours a day

Minimise meetings
• Ensure that no more than five people are in a meeting following a distance of two metres.
• No gatherings are permitted
• Pantries must remain closed
• Suspend valet parking services

3. Construction
• All workers to stay inside the site during the working duration, they are not allowed to move out the construction site
• Measure the temperature of the workers as soon as they disembark
• All workers to wear personal protective equipment (muzzles, gloves and glasses)
• Avoid overcrowding inside the working area, lifts, hoists, offices and rest areas
• Distribution of workers rest times
• Provide full protective set for the storekeeper
• Providing tools and materials sterilization clearance insufficient and various locations on site.

Delivery of materials
• Driver of the delivery truck should not leave driver cabin during offloading without wearing personal protective equipment
• All materials to be offloaded by construction workers

Removal of Waste Material
• Provide enough waste bins
• The driver of delivery truck should not leave driver cabin during offloading without wearing personal protective equipment
• All waste to be loaded by construction workers

Symptoms Found on workers
• Authorities to be informed as soon as any of the workers on-site show symptoms
• Isolate suspected workers until authority’s arrival
• Measure the temperature for all visitors before entering the site
• Provide personal protective equipment (muzzles, gloves and glasses)

4. Manufacturing
24-hour Factor Sanitization
• Factories need to maintain every 2 -3 hours sanitization in all common areas, lunch rooms-common table surfaces are wiped after each person use
• For accommodation camp, sanitization performed by 3rd party regularly to ensure work safety and reduce spread of contamination
• Need for Government support to help small to medium factories/companies that need help to afford constant sanitization measures

Entrance health checks
• Temperature check done regularly (twice a day)
• Workers and those showing symptoms should not come to work
• Provision of Hand Sanitizers & Masks
• Most factories are already practicing using gloves & masks with hand sanitizer set up everywhere
• COVID 19 health & prevention staff education
• Need to develop in house company videos in all native languages –educate on all steps to take from entry to exit in the factory–provide measures to take even on personal level –keeping away from children until hand hygiene is done and take extra personal hygiene precautions

5. Social and Cultural Values
• No gatherings of over 10 people in private places include no weddings, funerals, etc
• Social distancing should be implemented during gatherings of less than 10 people and physical contact such as handshaking, hugging, etc is not allowed
• Highly advised that gatherings are few and are restricted to extended family members or very close friends during iftar/suhoor
• Endorse these actions through a strong communication plan and campaigns through the Dubai Media Office and relevant social entities

6. Donating food
• No food should be donated or given directly to any person outside the household, except mass donations under direct supervision of charity and government entities
• Donations should be done through authorized charity bodies only

7. Receiving food
• It is not advised to share food within family members living in different houses to minimize transmission risk, however, when receiving food from family or friends the food items should be carefully transferred to home containers

8. Prayers during Ramadan
• Gathering for prayers is not allowed
• Group prayers among immediate household members is conditional that they live in the same house.

9. Visiting high-risk individuals
• Visiting high-risk individuals (such as elderly, individuals with chronic diseases, etc) if not in the same household should be avoided for their own safety and visiting same family members living in different houses is advised to be limited and restricted to the essential and as per need.

10. Household help
• Household help should be instructed not meet with individuals outside the household
• Household help should be instructed not to accept food or items from unknown origin
• Household help should be given the right protective gear when dealing with individuals outside the household
• Household help should be given the right instructions for receiving packages (such as wiping the package or the food container, wearing gloves, etc)
• It is advisable to reduce household movement to the minimum and arrange for them to stay in the family house instead of their accommodation in case of taking care of elderly and infants.

11. Leaving the house
• Leaving the house is advised for necessities only
• Family visitation and one outdoor activity can be performed as per the set parameters
• When outside the house avoid touching any surfaces and immediately sanitize hands after doing so
• Avoid touching face until hands are properly washed with soap and water
• Elderly and high-risk individuals with chronic diseases are encouraged to stay home and avoid public places 8. Transportation (public or private)
• Mask should be worn when leaving the house
• It is advised to have sanitizers readily available and to use frequently in case of movement whether in private or public transportation.
• What to do in case of symptoms presenting themselves
• If a family member exhibits symptoms, they should immediately self-isolate and contact the DHA hotline
• All members of the family should especially the elderly and vulnerable should stay away from a sick individual

Source:
The Government’s aim has been to save lives. This continues to be the overriding priority at the heart of the plan by considering three main factors:

1) **Health Effect**: The Government considers overall health outcomes, not just those directly caused by COVID-19. The Government will take into account:
   a) Direct COVID-19 mortality, those who die from the virus, despite receiving the best medical care
   b) Indirect harms arising from NHS emergency services being overwhelmed
   c) Increases in mortality or other ill health as a result of measures including postponement of important but non-urgent medical care and public health programme
   d) The long-term health effects of any increase in deprivation arising from economic impacts, as deprivation is strongly linked to ill health.

2) **Economic Effect**: The second consideration is protecting and restoring people’s livelihoods and improving people’s living standards. This means the Government will take into account:
   a) The short-term economic impact, including the number of people who can return to work where it is safe to do so.
   b) The long-term economic future, which could be harmed by people being out of jobs and by insolvencies and investing in supporting an economic bounce back.
   c) The sustainability of public finances so the Government can pay for public services and the healthcare response.
   d) Financial stability so that the banks and others can continue to provide finance to the economy.
   e) Distributional effects, carefully considering the Government’s measures on different income and age groups, business sectors and parts of the country.

3) **Social Effect**: is the wider effect of the social distancing measures and to minimise the adverse social costs, both their severity and duration, for the greatest number of people possible. This means the Government will take into account:
   a) Number of days of education children lose.
   b) Fairness of any actions the Government takes, especially the impact on those most affected by social distancing measures; and
   c) Importance of maintaining the strength of the public services and civic organisations who protect, or support society is most vulnerable.

As the UK exits *Phase one* of the Government’s response, where the Government had sought to contain, delay, research and mitigate, and will move through two further phases.
• **Phase two: smarter controls** - Throughout this phase, people will need to minimise the spread of the disease through continuing good hygiene practices like hand washing, social distancing and regular disinfecting of surfaces touched by others. These will be in place for some time.

• **Phase three: reliable treatment** - Humanity has proved highly effective at finding medical countermeasures to infectious diseases and is likely to do so for COVID-19. To enable this, the Government will try its best to develop, trial, manufacture and distribute reliable treatments or vaccines as swiftly as possible.

**Roadmap to lift restrictions step-by-step**

**Step 1:**
- For the foreseeable future, workers should continue to work from home rather than their normal physical **workplace**, wherever possible.
- It is important that vulnerable children and the children of critical workers are able to attend **school**, as is currently permitted.
- When **travelling** everybody (including critical workers) should continue to avoid public transport wherever possible. Social distancing guidance on public transport must be followed rigorously.
- Homemade cloth **face-coverings** can help reduce the risk of transmission in some circumstances. Face-coverings are not intended to help the wearer, but to protect against inadvertent transmission of the disease to others if one has it asymptomatically.
- **Clinically vulnerable** people should continue to take particular care to minimise contact with others outside their households, but do not need to be shielded. Those in the clinically extremely vulnerable group are strongly advised to stay at home at all times and avoid any face-to-face contact.
- The Government is examining more **stringent enforcement measures** for non-compliance and will impose higher fines of breaking the rules.

**Step 2:**
- A phased return for early years settings and **schools**. This aims to ensure that the youngest children, and those preparing for the transition to secondary school, have maximum time with their teachers.
- Opening **non-essential retail** when and where it is safe to do so.
- Permitting **cultural and sporting events** to take place behind closed doors for broadcast, while avoiding the risk of large-scale social contact.
- Re-opening more **local public transport** in urban areas, subject to strict measures to limit as far as possible the risk of infection in these normally crowded spaces.
- The Government has asked Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) to examine whether, when and how it can safely change the regulations to allow people to expand their household group to include one other household in the same exclusive group.
Step 3:
- The ambition at this step is to open at least some of the remaining businesses and premises that have been required to close, including personal care (such as hairdressers and beauty salons) hospitality (such as food service providers, pubs and accommodation), public places (such as places of worship) and leisure facilities (like cinemas).

Fourteen Supporting Programmes

To deliver phased plan, the Government will deliver fourteen programmes of work, all of which are ambitious in their scope, scale and timeframes.

1. NHS and care capacity and operating model
2. Protecting care homes
3. Smarter shielding of the most vulnerable
4. More effective, risk-based targeting of protection measures
5. Accurate disease monitoring and reactive measures
6. Testing and tracing
7. Increased scientific understanding
8. "COVID-19 Secure" guidelines
9. Better distancing measures
10. Economic and social support to maintain livelihoods and restore the economy
11. Treatments and vaccines
12. International action and awareness
13. Public communication, understanding and enforcement
14. Sustainable government structures

COVID-19 will not be the last major disease that endangers UK. The Government will prepare and build itself for diseases that could threaten the country in the future.

Source:
UK government report on “Our Plan to re-build: The UK Government’s COVID Recovery Strategy”
3 Phased Approach
Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Preparedness</th>
<th>Phase Guidelines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The data-driven conditions each region or state should satisfy before proceeding to a phased opening</td>
<td>What States should do to meet the challenges ahead</td>
<td>Responsibilities of individuals and employers during all phases, and in each specific phase of the opening.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gating criteria before States & regions proceed for phased opening:

1. **SYMPTOMS**: Downward trajectory of influenza-like & COVID-like symptoms reported within a 14-day period
2. **CASES** - Downward trajectory of documented cases or positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period
3. **HOSPITALS**: Treat all patients without crisis care & Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including emerging antibody testing

Proposed Phased Approach (IMPLEMENTABLE ON STATEWIDE OR COUNTY-BY-COUNTY BASIS AT GOVERNORS’ DISCRETION)

Guidelines for All Phases:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Employers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE  
- Hand Wash or use hand sanitizer  
- Avoid touching your face.  
- Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.  
- Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.  
- Strongly consider using face coverings while in public, and particularly when using mass transit.  
PEOPLE WHO FEEL SICK SHOULD STAY HOME  
- Do not go to work or school.  
- Contact and follow the advice of your medical provider | Develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations and guidance, and informed by industry best practices, regarding:  
- Social distancing and protective equipment  
- Temperature checks  
- Testing, isolating, and contact tracing  
- Sanitation  
- Use and disinfection of common and high-traffic areas  
- Business travel  
Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms. Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider. |
Develop and implement policies and procedures for workforce contact tracing following employee COVID+ test.

**Phase I**
FOR STATES AND REGIONS THAT SATISFY THE GATING CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDIVIDUALS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>SPECIFIC TYPES OF EMPLOYERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS</strong> should continue to shelter in place, Precautions should be taken to isolate from vulnerable residents</td>
<td>Continue to <strong>ENCOURAGE TELEWORK</strong>, whenever possible and feasible with business operations.</td>
<td><strong>SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES</strong> (e.g., daycare, camp) that are currently closed should remain closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All individuals, WHEN IN PUBLIC should maximize physical distance from others. Social settings of more than 10 people should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.</td>
<td>If possible, <strong>RETURN TO WORK IN PHASES</strong>.</td>
<td><strong>VISITS TO SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS</strong> should be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MINIMIZE NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL</strong> and adhere to CDC guidelines regarding isolation following travel</td>
<td>Close <strong>COMMON AREAS</strong> where personnel are likely to congregate and interact or enforce strict social distancing protocols.</td>
<td>Those who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimize <strong>NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL</strong> and adhere to CDC guidelines regarding isolation following travel.</td>
<td><strong>LARGE VENUES</strong> (e.g., sit-down dining, movie theatres, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate under strict physical distancing protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly consider <strong>SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS</strong> for personnel who are members of a <strong>VULNERABLE POPULATION</strong>.</td>
<td><strong>ELECTIVE SURGERIES</strong> can resume, as clinically appropriate, on an outpatient basis at facilities that adhere to CMS guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>GYMS</strong> can open if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>BARS</strong> should remain closed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Phase -II
FOR STATES AND REGIONS WITH NO EVIDENCE OF A REBOUND AND THAT SATISFY THE GATING CRITERIA A SECOND TIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocks and Regions</th>
<th>Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS should continue to shelter in place.</td>
<td>Continue to ENCOURAGE TELEWORK, whenever possible and feasible with business operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All individuals, WHEN IN PUBLIC should maximize physical distance from others. Social settings of more than 50 people should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.</td>
<td>Close COMMON AREAS where personnel are likely to congregate and interact or enforce moderate social distancing protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL can resume</td>
<td>NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL can resume.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly consider SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS for personnel who are members of a VULNERABLE POPULATION.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VISITS TO SENIOR CARE FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS should be prohibited. Those who do interact with residents and patients must adhere to strict protocols regarding hygiene.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LARGE VENUES (e.g., sit-down dining, movie theatres, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate under moderate physical distancing protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ELECTIVE SURGERIES can resume, as clinically appropriate, on an outpatient and in-patient basis at facilities that adhere to CMS guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GYMS can remain open if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BARS may operate with diminished standing-room occupancy, where applicable and appropriate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Phase-III
FOR STATES AND REGIONS WITH NO EVIDENCE OF A REBOUND AND THAT SATISFY THE GATING CRITERIA A THIRD TIME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocks and Regions</th>
<th>Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS can resume public interactions, but should practice physical distancing, minimizing exposure to social settings where distancing</td>
<td>Resume UNRESTRICTED STAFFING of worksites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VISITS TO SENIOR CARE FACILITIES AND HOSPITALS can resume. Those who interact with residents and patients must be diligent regarding hygiene.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
may not be practical, unless precautionary measures are observed.

LOW-RISK POPULATIONS should consider minimizing time spent in crowded environments.

LARGE VENUES (e.g., sit-down dining, movie theatres, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate under limited physical distancing protocols.

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GYMS can remain open if they adhere to standard sanitation protocols.

BARS may operate with increased standing room occupancy, where applicable.

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Source:

*BID report on “Restart & Recovery”*
On 31 March 2020, the Prime Minister of Vietnam issued Directive No. 16/CT-TTg (Directive 16) to enforce social distancing throughout Vietnam for 15 days from 1 April 2020. The directive responds to the heightened alert regarding the COVID-19 pandemic situation in Vietnam.

On 23 April 2020, Vietnam began to ease its nation-wide distancing measures, making it the first country in Southeast Asia to ease national COVID-19 lockdown measures. Vietnam has reported under 300 COVID-19 cases and no fatalities since the first domestic cases were detected on January 23. The easing of restrictions came ahead of the country’s National Reunification celebrations, a major public holiday that lasts from April 30 to May 3.

- Vietnam has approved the reopening of sub-border gates and border crossings in Lang Son and Quang Ninh provinces connecting with China to ease trade between the two countries.
- Religious activities in Vietnam were allowed to resume from May 8 but with preventive measures for large gatherings.
- The government has allowed the resumption of all non-essential services except for clubs and karaoke parlours but with preventive measures.
- All people in Vietnam must wear face masks in public places such as supermarkets, bus stations, airports, and on all means of public transport.
- Public beaches in several cities and provinces including Da Nang, Nha Trang, Binh Dinh, Khanh Hoa, Quang Nam, Quang Ninh, Thanh Hoa and Nghe An reopened but with social distancing restrictions. In addition, tourism activities resumed in Ha Long Bay and Bai Tu Long Bay from May 1.
- Public buses in Ho Chi Minh City resumed operations, though with no more than 20 passengers per vehicle.
- Vietnam has approved to remove the regulation on export licensing of face masks by issuing Resolution 60 but has asked authorities to monitor export volumes strictly.
- Schools across the country including in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City reopened for classes from May 4 but in gradual phases.
- Customs clearance resumed at Tan Thanh Po Chai border gate in the northern Lang Son province with China from April 30.
- Vietnam could miss its target of having one million businesses this year due to the pandemic causing many to shut down. However, the government has issued a financial assistance package for employers and employees.
- Ho Chi Minh City authorities removed sports centers and indoor sports businesses from the list of suspended businesses due to COVID-19 allowing gyms to reopen. In addition, the public gathering limit has been raised to 30 people from the previous 20.
- Vietnam ended the social isolation guidelines at the end of April 22, though restrictions will continue in some high-risk areas. While the social isolation
guidelines in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City have also been lifted, some restrictions continue to remain for bars, clubs, spas, theatres, sports centers, and others. Restaurants and eateries that operate must comply with strict guidelines from local authorities.

- The Ministry of Transport on May 6 relaxed social distancing guidelines on planes, buses, taxis, and ships. Taxis, buses, Grab services and inter-provincial transport have also resumed though with restrictions as per the transport authorities.
- The Ministry of Transport has allowed the increase in the frequency of domestic flights on the Hanoi-Ho Chi Minh City route as well as the reopening of other domestic routes. However, this will depend on demand, and travellers should still confirm travel details with the airlines.
- Vietnam has stated that it will organize flights to bring Vietnamese citizens from Canada, France, Indonesia, Japan the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, the US, and the UAE.
- Vietnam’s government approved a plan to export 400,000 tonnes of rice in April after rice exports were previously suspended.
- From May 11, Commercial, production, and service businesses of Hanoi were given permission to resume operations.
- Shopping centers, supermarkets, and shops were allowed to open from 09:00 (local time), while food and vegetable markets, petrol stations, and restaurants were allowed to open earlier.
- Vietnam’s Prime Minister has stated that the social distance guidelines will be eased in a gradual phased manner with adequate controls in place to deal with the epidemic.

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