

## **Covid-19 public policy implementation: Interventions & local innovations from African countries**

### **Information for respondents to the questionnaire**

#### **(1) What is the research about?**

You are invited to participate in a study that examines three types of non-pharmaceutical public health interventions that have been implemented as part of the public policy response to COVID-19. The research will collect examples of the implementation of security policy (curfew), physical distancing policy (by setting, such as schools, places of worship, markets, transportation, and bars and restaurants), and behavioural policy (mask/face covering wearing). This crowdsourcing effort is part of a wider project inventorying examples of such interventions for prevention, mitigation, and control of COVID-19 from the African continent. The study will explore implementation challenges and innovations in context, and it identify conditions and capacity that may facilitate or hinder the roll out of specific interventions. The research team will analyse the different types of interventions implemented for lessons to inform policy development and adaptation. The LSE COVID-19 Rapid Response Research Fund supports this research.

#### **(2) Who is carrying out the research?**

Catherine M. Jones is the principal investigator leading the study at the London School of Economics and Political Science (the LSE), with the participation of the following co-investigators: Emmanuel Bonnet (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, UMI Résiliences), Sarah Dalglish, (Johns Hopkins School of Public Health & Institute for Global Health, UCL), Fatoumata Hane (Université Assane Seck de Zinguichor), Kadidiatou Kadio (Institut de recherche en science de la santé du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique), Valéry Ridde (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, UMR CEPED), and N'koué Emmanuel Sambieni (Université de Parakou, Laboratoire de Recherches et d'Etudes sur les Dynamiques sociales et le Développement Local).

#### **(3) Do I have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to contribute to the crowdsourcing effort by completing the questionnaire. You do not have to take part if you do not want to.

#### **(4) What will my involvement be?**

If you do decide to take part, you will fill out a short questionnaire about a select policy from one of the three types, providing some descriptive details about it, and how/whether it has been implemented. The questionnaire explores issues of stakeholder engagement, communication, and acceptability. If you decide to submit a contribution, you can complete the questionnaire online, in a MS Word document returned via email, or over the phone with a member of the research team. If you would like to submit information on more than one policy, you will need to reply to the questionnaire separately for each intervention that you wish to share details about. The questionnaire should take no more than 45 minutes to complete and submit. We cannot and do not guarantee that you will receive any personal benefits from the study. We hope the study will be beneficial broadly to researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers involved in African countries' COVID-19 policies.

#### **(5) How do I withdraw from the study?**

Participating in this study is completely voluntary - you are not under any obligation to participate. You can withdraw the information you submitted from the study at any point until November 1, 2020, without having to

give a reason. Withdrawing from the study will have no effect on you. If you withdraw from the study we will not retain the information you submitted, unless you are happy for us to do so.

**(6) What will my information be used for?**

We will use the information collected to compile a database of interventions that will be publically available online ([www.covid19afrique.com](http://www.covid19afrique.com)). We will also analyse the information in comparison with data collected from case studies to write reports, briefs, and academic outputs (such as scientific journal articles) that help to understand how to support the implementation of public health interventions stemming from COVID-19 public policy measures. Analysis and results from the research will be made public via a range of mediums (including, but not limited to) institutional websites, conference presentations, blog posts, peer-reviewed journals and policy notes. The findings will also be used to generate new research questions and inform future research proposals.

**(7) Will my taking part and my data be kept confidential? Will it be anonymised?**

The research team will review each submission before it is included in the publically accessible database. Only the details about the intervention will be included in the database. Your data will be anonymised. Your details as a submitter (name, institution) will not be presented in the database with the details on the intervention, and we will not acknowledge you as a contributor to the database unless you indicate that you would like to be named as such. We will keep a list of names of contributors who wish to be recognised stored separately from the data online. Your name will not be used in any reports or publications resulting from the study, unless you consent to this. Confidentiality will be maintained as far as it is possible. All data collected will be securely stored on the password protected survey software platform (KoBo Toolbox). All digital files will be stored in a password-protected programme. Only the research team will have access to the complete files and records of submissions. We will not store any hard copies of research information. Any hard copies will be transferred into a digital format before being destroyed.

**(8) Who has reviewed this study?**

The London School of Economics and Political Science Research Ethics Committee [REC ref. 1158] has approved the study.

**(9) Data Protection and Privacy Notice**

The LSE Research Privacy Policy can be found at: <https://info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/Secretarys-Division/Assets/Documents/Information-Records-Management/Privacy-Notice-for-Research-v1.1.pdf>

The legal basis used to process your personal data will be Public Task. The legal basis used to process special category personal data (e.g. data that reveals racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, health, sex life or sexual orientation, genetic or biometric data) will be for scientific and historical research or statistical purposes.

To request a copy of the data held about you please contact: [glpd.info.rights@lse.ac.uk](mailto:glpd.info.rights@lse.ac.uk)

**(10) What if I require further information about the study? What if I have a question or complaint?**

A member of the research team is available to discuss the study with you and answer any questions that you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage, please contact the principle investigator Catherine Jones by email: [c.jones11@lse.ac.uk](mailto:c.jones11@lse.ac.uk) or telephone: +44 (0) 20 7107 5183.

If you have any concerns or complaints regarding the conduct of this research, please contact the LSE Research Governance Manager via [research.ethics@lse.ac.uk](mailto:research.ethics@lse.ac.uk)

This information sheet is for you to keep.

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