Managing COVID-19
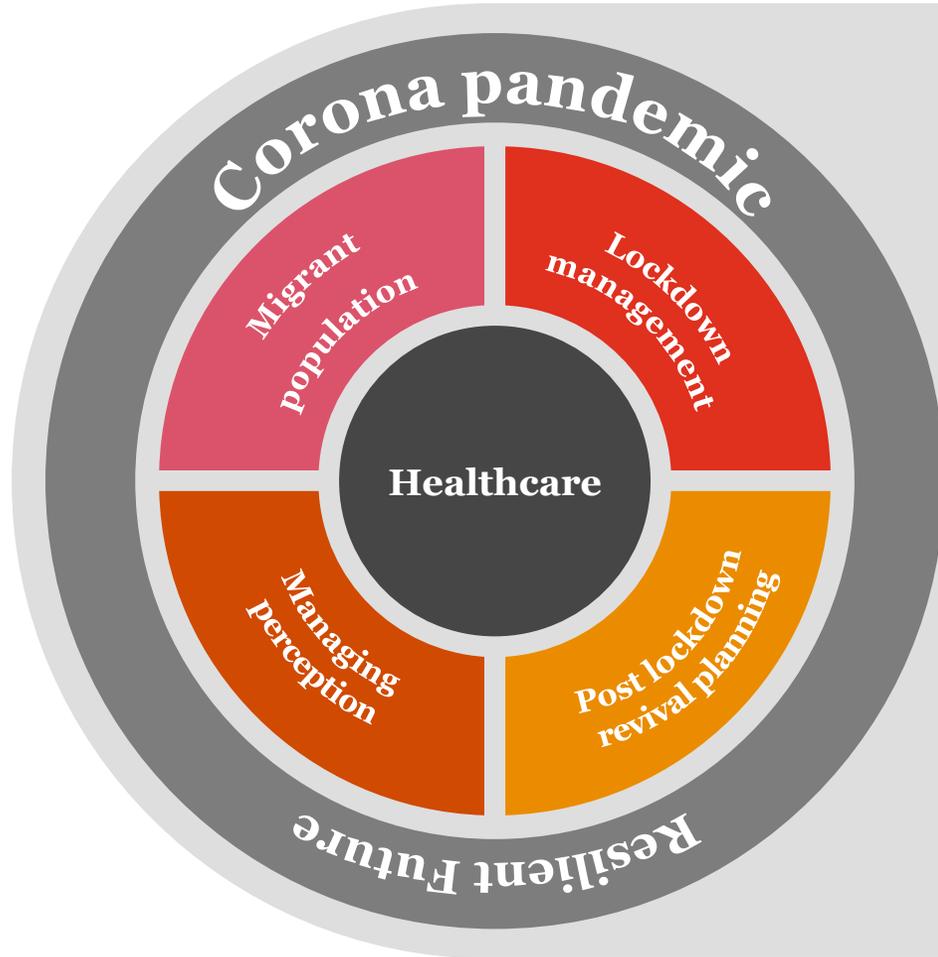# and post-lockdown planning

April 04, 2020

pwc

COVID -19 outbreak has caused huge impact on economies and societies across the globe. As Governments and communities tirelessly work towards navigating the challenges created by this pandemic, it is necessary that efforts are prioritized to maintain continuity of service delivery and make strategic shifts to ensure that the increasingly limited resources provide maximum benefit to the society.

States have taken up several proactive measures to manage and mitigate the spread of this pandemic. It is necessary that, in these testing times, holistic planning and solutions are implemented with highest efficiency towards containment of the spread of the pandemic and building a more resilient society, prepared for future eventualities.
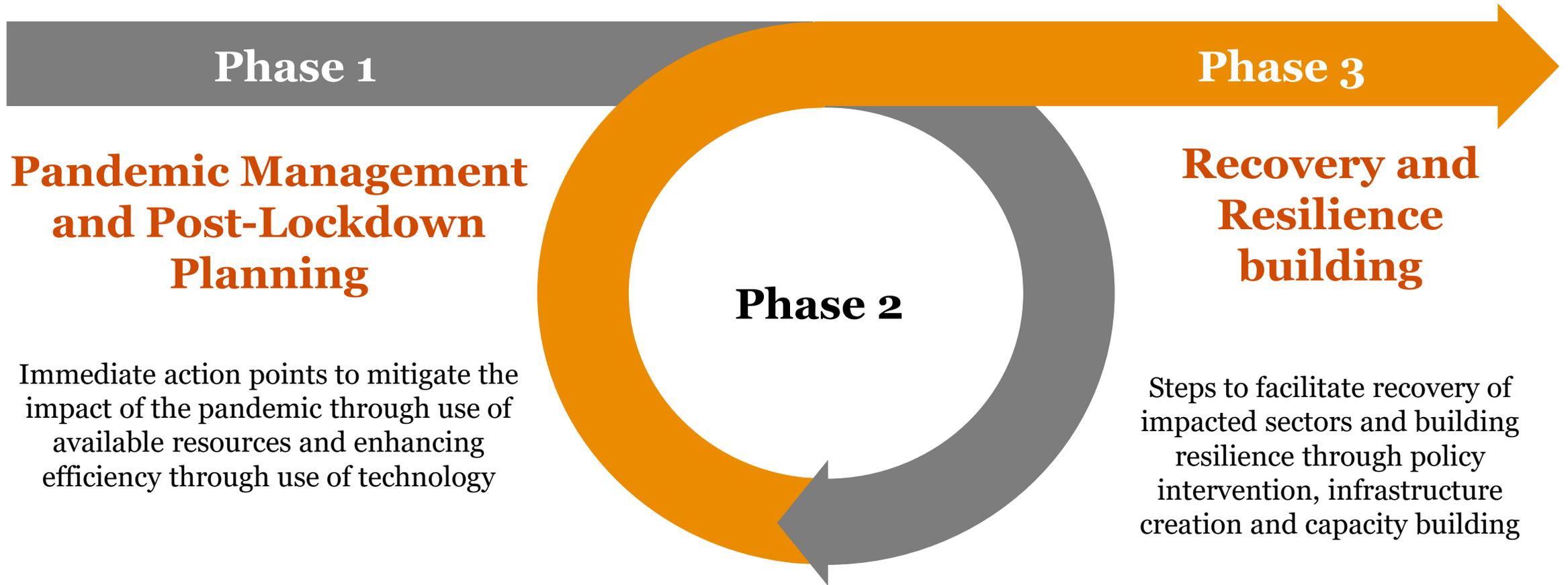
Contents

Our understanding of top issues CURRENTLY

Clarity, Control and Confidence amidst the Crisis

Healthcare
Doctors and support staff, infrastructure, equipment and supplies

Lockdown management
Strategy, implementation planning and execution

Post lockdown revival planning
Economy, Agriculture, Industry, Finances, Cities, Villages, People

Managing perception
Varied public issues and fluid, fickle opinions

Migrant Population
Ensuring well-being of people 'remotely'

Phase 1

Phase 3

Pandemic Management and Post-Lockdown Planning

Recovery and Resilience building

Phase 2

Immediate action points to mitigate the impact of the pandemic through use of available resources and enhancing efficiency through use of technology

Steps to facilitate recovery of impacted sectors and building resilience through policy intervention, infrastructure creation and capacity building

Economic and Social Impact Assessment
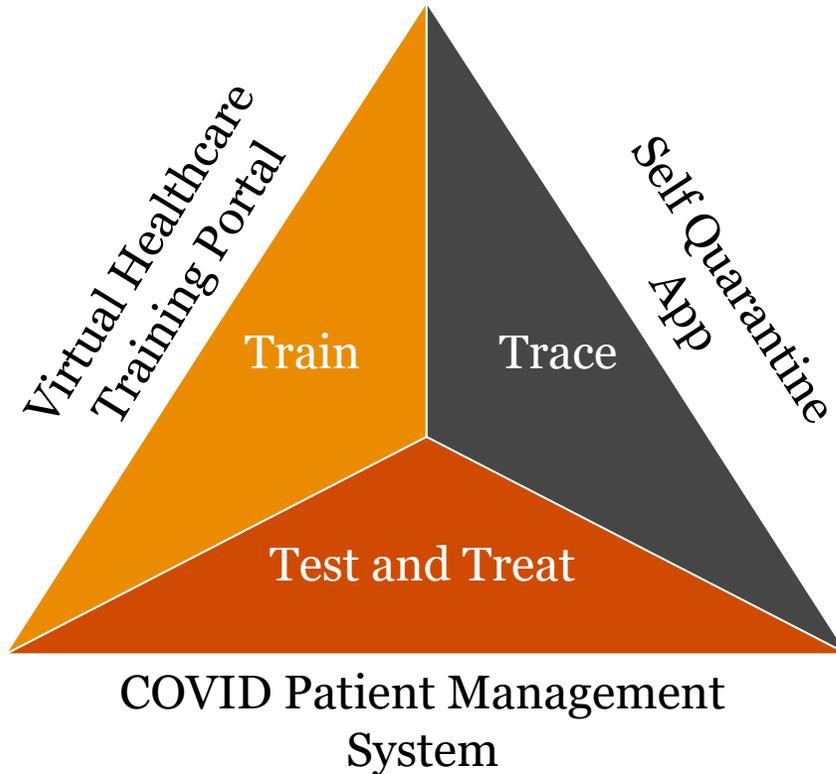
Identifying gaps and impact on various sectors for early redressal

1

Pandemic Management and Post-Lockdown Planning

a. Leveraging ICT to fight the epidemic

Target : T +2 weeks

Train

Trace

Test and Treat

Virtual Healthcare Training Portal

Self Quarantine App

COVID Patient Management System

Virtual Healthcare Training Portal

- Capacity building of healthcare professional in small towns and villages
- Focussing on management of patient influx and providing requisite care for COVID related complications as well as taking care of mental health of patients
- Specific focus on smaller towns and rural areas

Self-Quarantine App

- GPS and mobile tower location time stamp-based App to track people under self-quarantine
- App to automatically record the location of the person on a continuous basis
- Person under self-quarantine required to share a selfie at required intervals

COVID patient management system

- Pre-identification to post treatment tracking system
- Centralized epidemiological investigation of suspected cases through tracking of travel and spread history
- Phone records-based contact tracing system
- Realignment of health care system based on contact identification

a. Leveraging ICT to fight the epidemic

Target : T +2 weeks

Leveraging the existing IT cells/ command and control centers

- Mapping of vulnerable populations
- Doctor on call
- Mobile check up vans for vulnerable people
- Telemedicine – to help people on suggested medicine
- Provision of temporary wash basins with soap in slums
- Tie up with suppliers of essentials and track the availability, distribution and shortage of essential goods.
- Mapping the empty / under construction buildings that could be used as temporary shelters
- Mapping of private clinics and integrating them with the state level response system
- Mapping the hot spots in the states and track the developments

b. Helping citizens through focused support initiatives

Target : T +2 weeks

Creating Awareness

- **Awareness campaign** targeting different aspects of the pandemic and post pandemic relief measures

- **Targeted awareness** for various stakeholders like senior citizens, children, migrant workers, daily wagers, etc.

Setting up Mobile Clinics

- **Taking healthcare service to community level** can help reduce load on hospitals

- **Effective infection control system** for early identification of suspected cases

- Focus on **Senior citizens** in smaller towns and rural areas

Govt's Doctors on-call App

- **Enlist doctors from across State** with various areas of expertise to reduce load on hospitals and pandemic exposure

- Facility for **video call for consultation** and **connected e-retailers** to deliver medicine

- **Linked to e-wallets and Govt schemes** for payment

Target : T +2 weeks

Migration Portal and Tracker

- System for registration of migrant workers
- Tracker for people entering State and implementation of special entry procedures
- Capture skill-sets of the workforce, and assist in planning future development programs/schemes

Lockdown Exit Strategy

- Developing process for developing community-based exit strategies for COVID-19 lockdown

- Planning and implementing a staggered, low-cost no-impact lockdown exit strategy

d. Getting into the rehabilitation phase

Target : T +4 weeks

COVID-19 insurance policy

- Provide supplemental health cover to families affected by the pandemic
- Create mechanism for claims and establish helpline and grievance cell to facilitate fulfilment of the same
- IEC and awareness campaigns regarding the availability of insurance covers

COVID-19 impact fund

- Set-up an Impact Fund to bring in philanthropic organizations, NGOs and funding agencies together
- Identify areas of interventions like healthcare, jobs generation, MSME support, etc.
- Designing the fund, financing mechanism, facilitation in bringing partners and monitoring
- Leveraging the support of donors and multilateral agencies

Economic relief for bottom-of-the-pyramid households

- Comprehensive economic relief plan for the bottom-of-the-pyramid households
- Short-term universal basic income for population hardest hit by the pandemic

e. Business in post-COVID world

Target : T +8 weeks

MSME welfare strategy

- Identify key sectors affected due to the pandemic

- Plan economic relief package (ex. subsidy, loan interest waiver, electricity/water charges deferment, etc.) for the affected sectors

- Implement a "MSME health clinic" program to handhold affected industries to recovery

Large industries stimulus

- Detailed assessment of the nature and extent of economic loss

- Development of a industrial stimulus strategy with detailed action plan for each sector

- Focused policy measures in light of the impact on the basic services and economic requirements

MSME **Industry Revival** Large-Scale

f. Looking beyond the Pandemic

Target : T +8 weeks

Vaccine Distribution Strategy

- Operational strategy for COVID-19 vaccine distribution including plan of procurement, priority stakeholders and necessary infrastructure

- Coupled with design of IEC campaigns and mobilization strategy for healthcare workers

- Strategy to be in place and ready for deployment as soon as Vaccines become available

Post pandemic contingency planning

- Scenario analysis, stress modelling and risk modelling for various sectors like food supply, agriculture, tourism, MSMEs, migrants, etc.

- Assessing the capacity that maybe required at the government level and mobilising private sector and other stakeholders, wherever gap exists
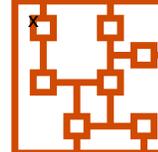
State level data hub

- Centralized assessment of data generated by various departments

- Analytics for key learnings, identification of gaps and future preparedness

- Knowledge dissemination of the outcomes of the above

2

Economic and Social Impact Assessment

Economic and Social Impact Assessment

The pandemic is leading to far-reaching consequences beyond the spread of the disease and efforts to quarantine it. A comprehensive socio-economic impact assessment shall help recognize the gaps in managing the pandemic, vulnerabilities, quantum of damage caused and plan necessary restoration efforts. Such assessment shall help in the post-disaster socio-economic restoration policies and strategies.

1. Family as a unit affected due to deaths/sickness

2. Bottom of pyramid impact on daily wage earners, micro industries, farmers, producer groups - financial and productivity loss

3. Loss of jobs – focus on migrants and the semi-skilled/skilled workers

4. Economic loss due to lockdown for govt and private sectors -possible impact on GDP including primary, secondary and tertiary sectors

5. Assessment and identification of most affected sectors

6. Impact and stress on service delivery like healthcare, public utility services in ULBs and GPs, supply chain of essential commodities, etc.

Economy Revival Plan

The local economy has been weighed down by both structural and cyclical factors, with finance as the distinctive, unifying element. There is need to have State Level **'Economic Resurgence Plan'** which would provide a comprehensive overview of the current economy, assessing productivity, setting policy direction for future economic growth, and identifying strategies, programs, and projects to improve the economy. Some key aspects that could be considered are as follows:

1. Adopt a regional perspective to ensure balanced regional development

2. Build institutional ownership and accountability

3. Strategies for brining more women in the workforce

4. Alternate economic growth models for the agglomerations

5. Integration of informal sector in the economic plans

6. Innovative Financing and Investment (private sector, CSR, donor agencies, value capture financing etc.)

6. Identify the policy and regulatory interventions

2. Identify priority projects that need to be implemented at fast pace

3. Revisiting the budgetary provisions

4. Identify the priority sector and the interventions needed for growth of the same

5. Building resilience for sustaining the economic revival

6. Clear roadmap with defined milestones

3

Recovery and Resilience building

Social Welfare

Centralized monitoring system of Food and Essential Supply Chains

MoUs with other states towards migrant worker welfare and creation of a State Migration Centre

Healthcare infrastructure development with a centralized database to ensure last mile reach

E-learn modules for school and college courses to ensure continuity of education during similar situations

Creation of a vulnerability database of bottom of pyramid households and linking to social welfare benefits

State commute and logistics planning system covering all ULBs and GPs

Governance

State level policy and strategy towards disaster management

Capacity building of govt machinery at State, District, Block & GP levels
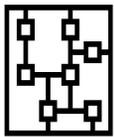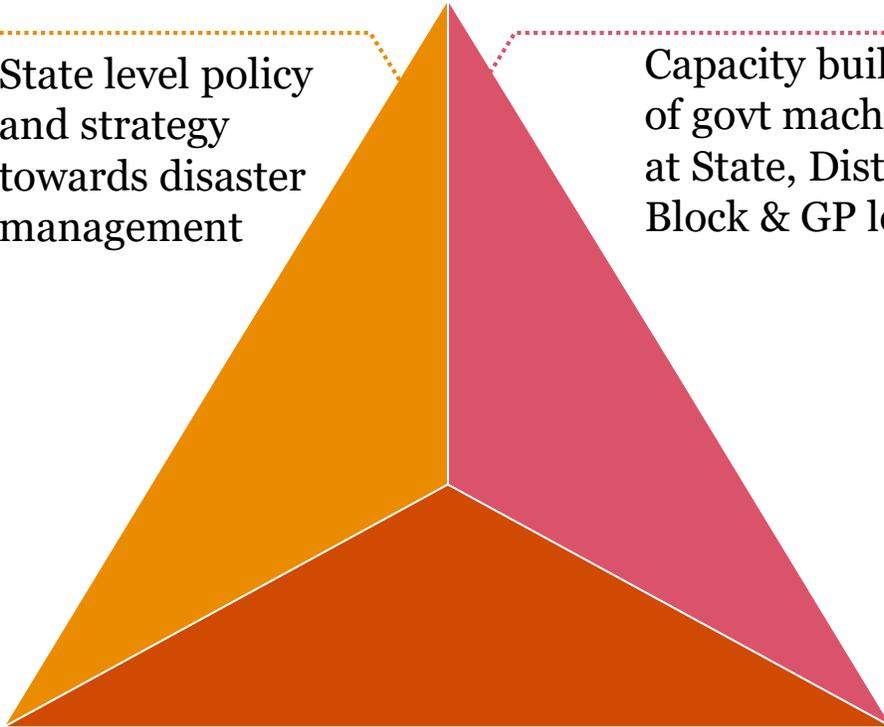
Upgrading State control room to a data governed Disaster response Centre

Public Finance

Formation of an Disaster Resilience Fund

Creation of a disaster insurance scheme for key industries

Innovation fund for Research and Development of low-cost localised solutions for disaster mitigation

Industrial development

'Disaster proofing' economy through an industrial policy facilitating disaster resilience measures by industries

Large scale introduction of mechanisation and biotechnology for disaster proofing key sectors

Disaster resilient forward and backward linkages for industrial production through centralized supply chain management system

Facilitation of healthcare industries such as pharmaceuticals, health kits, etc.

Identify skill gaps in local industries and upskilling migrants to work in state

Urban development

Disaster proofing public utilities (energy, water supply, waste management) in urban areas

ULB level localized disaster mitigation data aided control rooms for enhanced preparedness at each ULBs

Transit-oriented development planning of cities

Energy

Deep diagnostics and assess power procurement portfolios, and opportunities to reduce portfolio cost of power purchase & make up for the loss of reduced billing

Analysis of load curve along with supply curve to arrive at policy decisions for future. Simulate them with 3- 5 yr horizon prospectively with increased renewables.

Reduction in power demand from industries expected change in power factor, leading to poor voltage and frequency

Tariff determination equation to get imbalanced due to change in consumption mix with increased residential load during summers and continued slowdown in commercial activities

Job-work for MSMEs may be done from homes if small machines are shifted to residences

State power sector to be made resilient by moving supply sources from fossil power plants to renewables.

Power utilities and renewable agencies operate on paper file, and movement of manpower during lockdowns may be a problem.

Ascertaining the impact, measures and planning for contingency, in case the grid fails to **ensure continuity of emergency services**

Solar rooftops with small battery packs can provide reliable, cheap and clean power – to **continue livelihood and industrial activity.**

ERP systems for record keeping and approvals, **Use of drones from remote locations to do thermal imaging** for solar projects, to identify specific requirements of maintenance.

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