

# RESUMEN PRINCIPALES MEDIDAS DE POLÍTICA ECONÓMICA, MONETARIA Y FINANCIERA DE CARA A LA EMERGENCIA CAUSADA POR LA PANDEMIA GLOBAL COVID-19 /

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ECONOMIC, MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICY MEASURES TAKEN IN THE FACE OF THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC COVID-19

03-27-2020

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## 1. AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE / LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## Respuestas de Política económica y Financiera en Latinoamérica y el Caribe para combatir COVID-19

Resumen América Latina y el Caribe:

Principales medidas adoptadas por las autoridades e instituciones hasta Marzo 27, 2020.

1. Medidas Macroeconómicas, Monetarias, Financieras y Fiscales

Pais/Institucion	Fecha	Medidas
Argentina	19/03 23/03	Se dispuso una inversión de 100.000 millones de pesos (unos 1.500 millones de dólares) para obras públicas, vivienda y turismo, en un intento de afrontar las consecuencias económicas de la epidemia. El paquete contra la recesión de casi dos años, que se profundiza ahora con la crisis sanitaria, incluye otorgar 100.000 créditos para la industria de la construcción y 200.000 para refacción y mantenimiento de hogares.  El Banco Central oficializó que la tasa de interés para los préstamos a las PYME será de 24%. El objetivo es que las empresas puedan conseguir financiamiento para pagar los sueldos y también hacer frente a los cheques librados. El BCRA reducirá monto de encajes a entidades que activen línea especial de financiamiento. Estos préstamos apuntan especialmente a financiar capital de trabajo de las empresas. Adicionalmente, se incrementó la liberación de encajes en el marco del financiamiento del Programa Ahora 12, para incentivar el consumo de las familias. El BCRA dispuso la flexibilización, de manera provisoria, de los parámetros con los que son clasificados los deudores bancarios y suspendió hasta el 30/06 la posibilidad de la distribución de resultados por parte de las entidades financieras.
		Link  Medidas fiscales (con un coste estimado del 1% del GDP según estimaciones del FMI) enfocadas en un mayor gasto

		en el sistema de salud; apoyo para trabajadores informales y sectores vulnerables, incluyendo transferencias de emergencia a familias de bajos ingresos y pagos especiales a jubilados con pensiones mínimas; apoyo a sectores duramente golpeados por la crisis, incluyendo exenciones en los aportes patronales, préstamos para la construcción; apoyo de la demanda a través de obra pública. También incluyen controles de precios de alimentos y suministros médicos y fondos garantizados para la producción de bienes básicos.  Garantías crediticias para que los bancos lpuedan prestar a las pequeñas y medianas empresas, junto con las compañías dedicadas a alimentación y productos básicos, por el equivalente al 1,2% del PBI. Está previsto que la mayoría de las medidas anunciadas sean financiadas a través de reasignaciones de otras partes del Presupuesto. Link
Bahamas	A 25/03	The government's fiscal response is under preparation. So far, support measures totaling is B\$24 million (0.2 percent of GDP) have been announced, including (i) B\$4 million (0.03 percent of GDP) for the health sector and (iii) B\$ 20 million (0.16 percent of GDP) in support for business loans to SMEs.  The Central Bank of The Bahamas has arranged with domestic banks and credit unions to provide a 3-month deferral against repayments on credit facilities for businesses and households that were negatively impacted by the pandemic. Forbearance will be provided for borrowers who maintained their accounts in good standing before the onset of the pandemic.
		<u>Link</u>
Barbados	23/03	The Government has announced a BDS\$20-million (USD 10 million) "survival" stimulus package. This includes resources to refurbish the hospital and clinics, build isolation centers, and provision critical medications and supplies. In addition, the GoB intends to boost priority capital spending and introduce social programs for displaced workers to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on the economy. This includes infrastructure investment to renovate schools, government buildings, and a key industrial complex (0.6 percent GDP) and the introduction of a Household Survival Program (0.2 percent of GDP). The

latter involves a minimum income for households made unemployed by COVID-19 and supplemental unemployment benefits though the National Insurance Scheme.

Foreign reserves of just over BDS\$1.563 billion (USD 781,5 billion) or about 5.5 months' import cover have been boosted by BDS\$360 million (USD 180 million), or an extra month of import cover to help cushion the economic shocks and give government more flexibility.

Additional funds will constitute the BDS\$160 million (USD 80 million) approved by the IDB last week and a reinforcement of BDS\$200 million (USD 100 million) from the IMF under the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility, which is currently about BDS\$440 million (USD 220 million).

#### Link

Following negotiations with the GoB, commercial banks have agreed to provide forebearance in the form a 6-month debt-payment moratorium for individuals and business directly impacted by COVID-19.

#### <u>Link</u>

#### As of March 25

Belice

Belize has announced fiscal stimulus amounting to BZ\$25 million (USD 12,5 billion, about 1 percent of GDP) in 2020, funded by the central bank and partly through reallocating resources within the budget. The government has also introduced a bill to parliament that seeks to increase the maturity of treasury notes by an additional ten years. Central Bank of Belize has instituted macro-prudential measures to maintain the flow of credit in the economy: (i) reducing the statutory cash reserve requirements; (ii) extending the time period to classify targeted nonperforming loans in sectors such as restaurants, transportation and distribution companies, and other affected areas, from 3 months to 6 months; (iii) encouraging domestic banks and credit unions to provide grace periods for servicing interest and/or principal components of commercial loans and ancillary loans, as needed and where commercially viable; (iv) reducing riskweights for banks on loans in the tourism sector from 100 percent to 50 percent; and (v) reviewing financial institutions' business continuity and cybersecurity plans to

		ensure that an adequate level of financial services will be available to the public. <u>Link</u>
Bolivia	23/03	La presidenta anunció la aplicación de cuatro medidas económicas para atenuar los efectos del coronavirus COVID-19 en las familias bolivianas, como la creación de un «bono familia» de 500 bolivianos por hijo que vaya a una escuela fiscal, el no pago del capital de deuda por dos meses para las personas que tienen créditos, tampoco se cancelará el Impuesto a las Utilidades de las Empresas (IUE) de abril y se prohíbe contundentemente cortar los servicios de agua, luz y gas mientras dure la cuarentena en el país
	18/03 22/03	El país establece una inyección de casi 130.000 millones de dólares en el sistema financiero para aumentar su capacidad crediticia.
Brasil	23/03	El Banco Central intervino en los mercados de divisas y bonos del país para ayudar a restablecer la calma, mientras el real se hundió a un mínimo histórico. La entidad vendió 830 millones de dólares en dos rondas de intervención al contado y anunció un programa de recompra de bonos soberanos denominados en dólares en poder de los bancos locales, que se llevará a cabo junto con el Tesoro. En complemento a la medida de reducción de la tasa básica de interés de la economía en 50 bps – pasando de 4.50 para 3.75# a.a. (18.MAR.2020), el BC anunció el 23 MAR 2020: Reducción de los depósitos compulsorios sobre recursos a plazo de 25% para 17%, liberando BRL 68,000 millones (~USD 13,200 millones) a partir de 30 MAR. Consejo Monetario Nacional (CMN) autorizó al Banco Central:
	As of March 25	<ul> <li>conceder préstamos a instituciones financieras garantidos por debentures adquiridas entre 23 de marzo y 30 de abril de 2020. Es una Línea Temporária Especial de Liquidez (LTEL).</li> <li>captar Depósito a Plazo con Garantía Especial del Fondo Garantizador de Crédito (FGC), como medio de captar depósitos y garantizar la solvencia del sistema.</li> </ul>

BNDES 4 medidas anunciadas por BRL 55,000 millones (~USD 11,000 millones)

- 1. BRL 20,000 millones (USD 3,900) repasados para el Fondo Garantía de Tiempo de Servicio (FGTS) a ser usado en medidas futuras a ser anunciado por el Ministerio de Economía.
- BRL 19,000 millones (USD 3,700 millones) standstill por seis meses de las operaciones directas del Bndes.
- 3. BRL 11,000 millones (USD 2,700 millones) standstill por seis meses de las operaciones indirectas del Bndes.
- 4. BRL 5,000 millones (USD 987 millones) para nuevas operaciones de capital de trabajo para MiPyMEs

The authorities announced temporary income support to vulnerable households, temporary tax breaks and credit lines for firms with the aim of protecting employment, and new transfers from the federal to state governments to support larger health spending and cushion against the large expected fall in revenues. In all, announced measures add up to 2½ percent of GDP, but a majority consists of reallocations within the 2020 budget (impact on the deficit is under ½ percent of GDP). Public banks are expanding credit lines for businesses and households, with a focus on supporting working capital (announcements add up to over 2½ percent of GDP). An aid plan to states and municipalities was also announced, including financial support, the interruption of debt payments, debt renegotiation, and support for credit operations.

#### Link

Medidas anunciadas Gobierno Federal:

- Auxilio emergencia por tres meses, de R\$ 600,00 (~USD 120), destinados a los trabajadores autónomos, informales y sin ingresos fijos.
- El auxilio puede llegar a R\$ 1.200 por familia (~USD 240). El proyecto prevé ainda que madres provedoras de família "uniparental" reciban dos cuotas.

#### Link

03/26

		<ul> <li>Línea de crédito emergencia para pagar hoja de pagos para PyMEs por dos meses:         <ul> <li>El programa va a disponibilizar un máximo R\$20,000 millones (~USD 4,000 millones) por mes, por un total de hasta R\$ 40,000 millones en los dos meses del programa</li> <li>Se financiará hasta dos sueldos mínimos por trabajador, quedando a criterio de la empresa el pago superior a este.</li> <li>El financiamento estará disponible para empresas con ingresos entre R\$ 360 mil y R\$ 10 milhões por</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>año (~USD 72 mil a 2 millones);</li> <li>Exclusivo para hoja de pagos;</li> <li>6 meses de período de gracia y 36 meses para pagar el préstamo;</li> <li>3,75% ao ano de intereses.</li> <li>Link</li> </ul>
	03/19	Se inyectarán US\$11.750 millones para abordar las medidas que están divididas en tres ejes: reforzar el presupuesto del Sistema de Salud, proteger los ingresos familiares y proteger los puestos de trabajo y a las empresas que los generan. El Banco Central anunció una histórica bajada de los tipos de interés hasta el 1 %
Chile	As of March 25	La CMF ha anunciado un tratamiento especial en la constitución de provisiones a créditos hipotecarios postergados; el uso de garantías hipotecarias para resguardar créditos pyme; y ajustes en el tratamiento de bienes recibidos en pago y de márgenes en operaciones de derivados. Las medidas buscan facilitar el flujo de crédito hacia personas y empresas y mitigar los efectos de la pandemia en el sistema financiero. La Comisión inició la revisión del calendario de implementación de los estándares de Basilea III al objeto de evitar que se acentúen los efectos negativos del actual ciclo económico.
		The authorities presented a package of fiscal measures of up to US\$11.75 billion (about 4.7 percent of GDP) focused on supporting employment and firms' liquidity. The set of measures includes: (i) higher healthcare spending; (ii) enhanced subsidies and unemployment benefits; (iii) a set

		of tax deferrals; (iv) liquidity provision to SMEs, including through the state-owned Banco del Estado; and (v) accelerated disbursements for public procurement contracts.  Link
	03/18	El país destina 14,8 billones de pesos del Fondo de Estabilización Petrolero (3.6 billones USD) para enfrentar la crisis, pero no se endeudará para financiar los planes para contener la expansión de la enfermedad.
	03/18	Se destinarán más recursos al sistema de salud, se congelarán las tarifas de agua potable, se garantizará el abastecimiento de alimentos y se otorgarán facilidades para la refinanciación o extensión para el pago de créditos de personas y empresas.
	03/19	El peso cae a mínimos históricos frente al dólar, pero el Gobierno no ha considerado una intervención. Para garantizar el adecuado suministro de liquidez al mercado, el Banco de la República aumentó el cupo de REPOS contra deuda privada de \$5 a \$8 billones, a plazos entre 7 y 30 días. El cupo de la subasta de REPOS
Colombia	03/23	contra deuda pública permanece en \$12 billones, totalizando un cupo total de liquidez de \$20 billones, que se podrá recomponer entre el asignado a la subasta de REPOS contra deuda privada y aquella de REPOS contra deuda pública según las necesidades que refleje el mercado.  Medida para fortalecer la liquidez en dólares: se
		subastarán Swaps de dólares (FX Swaps) por US\$400 millones, en los cuales el Banco de la República venderá dólares de contado y los comprará a futuro (en 60 días). Con esta medida se brinda liquidez transitoria en dólares a un grupo amplio de entidades que incluye no solo a los intermediarios tradicionales del mercado cambiario, sino también a las sociedades administradoras de pensiones y cesantías en posición propia y de sus fondos administrados, con el propósito de aliviar las presiones en el mercado cambiario.
		Creación del Fondo de Mitigación de Emergencias para atender necesidades de salud, los efectos adversos

generados a la actividad productiva y la necesidad de que la economía continúe brindando condiciones que mantengan el empleo y el crecimiento. Será fondeado con recursos del Fondo de Ahorro y Estabilización (FAE) y del Fondo Nacional de Pensiones de las Entidades Territoriales (FONPET). Los recursos de estos fondos serán empleados a título de préstamo, que no serán requeridos hasta el 2040. Recursos priorizados para atender las necesidades del sector salud con recursos adicionales por más de 6 billones de pesos (USD 1,436 millones), adquisición de tests de diagnóstico; así como generar un flujo de recursos para aumentar capacidad instalada de hospitales. Se utilizarán recursos para un reconocimiento adicional a los médicos. Uso de los recursos del FOME:

- Atender necesidades adicionales de recursos de entidades que hacen parte del Presupuesto General de la Nación
- 2. Pagar costos generados por la ejecución de instrumentos y/o contratos celebrados para el cumplimiento del objeto del FOME
- 3. Efectuar operaciones de apoyo de liquidez transitoria al sector financiero a través de transferencia temporal de valores, depósitos a plazo, entre otras.
- 4. Invertir en instrumentos de capital o deuda emitidos por empresas públicas, privadas o mixtas que desarrollen actividades de interés nacional, incluyendo acciones con condiciones especiales de participación, dividendos y/o recompra, entre otras.
- 5. Proveer directamente financiamiento a empresas privadas, públicas o mixtas que desarrollen actividades de interés nacional.
- Proveer liquidez a la Nación, únicamente en aquellos eventos en los que los efectos de la emergencia se extiendan a las fuentes de liquidez ordinaria.

En caso de que se agoten los recursos, la Nación podrá utilizar, a título de préstamo, los recursos del FONPET siempre que no se comprometa el pago de las obligaciones a cargo de dicho Fondo.

Link

	03/23	Proyecto de ley del Ministerio de Hacienda con moratoria
	03/24	de tres meses al pago de impuestos de valor agregado (IVA), renta de empresas y aranceles de aduanas.  Reducción de la tasa de política monetaria para abaratar los créditos y un seguro para que el sector
		turístico pueda enfrentar las cuarentenas por el COVID-19 Medidas de CONASSIF para favorecer renegociación créditos:
		Disposiciones transitorias hasta 03/31/2021 para otorgamiento de prórrogas, readecuaciones y refinanciamientos
Costa Rica		<ul> <li>Permitir periodos de gracia sin pago de intereses ni principal a criterio de las entidades financieras</li> <li>Suspensión por 12 meses de disposiciones relativas a irregularidades de entidades</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Habilitación a Superintendente General de Entidades para modificación de parámetros que determinan los niveles de normalidad o irregularidad de indicadores de liquidez</li> <li>Ampliación de capacidad potencial de entidades de</li> </ul>
		percibir ingresos por desacumulación de provisiones  Link
	03/23	Habrá un recorte presupuestario de 1400 millones de dólares, de esos, 800 millones en bienes y servicios, y 600 millones en bienes de capital. La salud no entra en el recorte.
	02/24	Moreno dijo que enviará a la Asamblea la propuesta de que aquellos ciudadanos que tengan vehículos avaluados en más de 20 mil dólares paguen una contribución del 5 %
Ecuador	03/24	sobre el avalúo. Servidores públicos aportarán de manera temporal un pequeño porcentaje del salario. Se va a incrementar en 0,75 % las retenciones en la fuente
		de impuesto a la renta en empresas, como en sector bancario, petrolero y telecomunicaciones  Ecuador has acknowledged it will fail to make coupon
		payments on three bonds due later this week but insists it will pay up within the 30-day grace period, as it scrambles for cash amid the Covid-19 outbreak and the crash in oil
		prices. Link

El Salvador	03/23	El ministro de Hacienda indicó que se suspende el pago de la cuota de energía eléctrica, agua, telefonía, internet y cable por tres meses, a pagar en dos años "sin generar mora, ni interés".
Guatemala	03/19  As of March 25	Banco de Guatemala lowered its policy rate by 50 basis points to 2.25 percent. To support the financial sector, the Monetary Board has temporarily eased (180-day period) credit risk management regulations to enable loan restructuring, loan payments moratorium, and the use of generic provisions.  Link  Medidas gubernamentales anunciadas:  • política fiscal que incremente la inversión,  • implementación de transferencias para más de 160 mil familias.  • Promover financiamiento de vivienda a un bajo costo por Q100 millones (USD 12,92 millones)  • Dotar de recursos a las escuelas para remozarlas con una inversión de Q175 millones. (USD 22,61 millones)  • Liberación de medicamentos, alimentos y combustibles.  • Devolución de créditos fiscales por Q 2.6 millardos (USD 0,34 millardos).  • Exoneración de impuestos a los préstamos a las donaciones.  The government is drawing on emergency budgetary reserves (about US\$60 million) and seeking Congress approval of the World Bank Disaster Risk Management DPL (US\$200 million, 0.3% of GDP). A facility for coronavirus patients (financed through a US\$1 million grant from the Central American Bank of Economic Integration) will add 3,000 beds to the existing capacity (350 beds). A National Emergency and Economic Recovery Plan and a supplementary budget for a fiscal impulse of 1.2% of GDP are being discussed in Congress. Key measures announced to support the economy include streamlined tax credit refunds to exporters (freeing up to 0.2 percent of GDP), a one-quarter deferral of

		selective tax payments and social security contributions, a guarantee fund for SMEs, and expanded social housing.
Guyana	03/19	Guyana approaches World Bank for US\$5M to help with response to Coronavirus
	As of March 22	The authorities launched a public health preparedness plan for containment and treatment; they plan to boost some social programs and are also considering supporting wage payments temporarily in some sectors.
Haití		The central bank moved immediately to ease conditions in the financial system, including reducing the refinance and reference rates, reducing reserve requirements on domestic currency deposits, easing loan repayment obligations for three months, and suspending fees on interbank transactions. <u>Link</u>
Honduras	As of March 25	The executive has announced L3,800 mn (USD 0.15 mn, about 0.6 percent of GDP) in public expenses including: purchases of medical supplies and enabling of temporary medical facilities, hiring of additional healthcare personnel, and financing of a public program to deliver food supplies covering basic needs of poor families (800,000 families, about one third of the population). The executive plans to redirect 2 percent of all non-essential public expenditures in the 2020 budget to accommodate these expenses. The government also announced a 1-month freeze in prices of goods in the basic consumption basket, as well as 1-month free access to emergency telecommunications services related to the COVID-19 crisis. Separately, Congress approved a special economic stimulus law envisaging \$420 mn (about 1.6 percent of GDP) in additional spending to build new infrastructure (hospitals and medical centers) in the national health system over the medium term.  The central bank cut the policy rate by 75 bps to 4.5 percent—following cuts of 50 bps in December and January. The BCH also announced the suspension of

issuance of one-day BCH bills, resulting in liquidity increase of L10,600 mn (USD 0,42 mn or 1.6 percent of GDP)—this adds to the projected increase in liquidity of about L7,500 mn (USD 0,3 mn or 1.2 percent of GDP) in 2020 resulting from the previously announced elimination of obligatory investments in the central bank. The government issued a decree mandating all supervised financial institutions to provide temporary debt service relief to companies and individuals whose incomes have been affected by the crisis. Debt service of affected sectors will be suspended until end-June, without penalties or impact on credit classification. The government also announced a 3-month moratorium on service of bank loans financed by the second tier development bank Banhprovi (covering about 5 percent of total bank credit to the private sector), as well as additional financing for Banhprovi's housing program for the middle class (L200 mn, USD 8 mn or about \$8 mn). It has also expedited approval of loans under a subsidized credit program for the agricultural sector. Link The Minister of Finance announced tax cuts of around 0.6 As of March percent of GDP, along with targeted measures for up to 25 0.5 percent of GDP to counteract the effects of COVID19. This is largely expected to be financed by ongoing asset divestment. Additional measures have been announced to support the most affected sectors by the virus and contain labor shedding, including SCT and custom duty waivers on medical supplies and sanitizers and a COVID-19 Allocation of Resources for Employees (CARE) program, which Jamaica envisages (i) temporary cash transfers to businesses in targeted sectors based on the number of workers employed; (ii) temporary cash transfer to individuals where loss of employment can be verified since March 10; 03/26 (iii) grants targeted at the most vulnerable segments of society. The Minister also noted that the Fiscal Responsibility law contains an escape clause that would allow for some temporary flexibility in meeting the fiscal targets, should the economic situation deteriorate further.

#### <u>Link</u>

Bank of Jamaica today announces its decision to maintain its highly accommodative monetary policy stance by holding the policy rate unchanged at 0.50 per cent per annum

In relation to foreign currency liquidity:

- Continue to support the foreign exchange needs of businesses in the real sector through direct sales to authorised dealers and cambios, as needed. A halt on investment transactions that require the purchase of foreign exchange.
- 2. With effect from 19 March 2020, increased the limit on the foreign currency net open positions (FXNOP) of authorised dealers by 5 percentage points.
- 3. Stand ready to expand the volume of foreign currency swap arrangements with authorised dealers, thereby providing them with more FX liquidity. At 24 March 2020, the stock of outstanding swap contracts totalled US\$86 million.

As at 25 March 2020, the total value of liquidity assistance provided by the Bank to the via its short-term lending facilities and its asset purchase programme amounted to \$57B. The Bank has commenced a bond buying programme where we will purchase GOJ securities on the secondary market The Bank is also prepared to early redeem BOJ securities. At 25 March 2020, the nominal value of GOJ instruments purchased by BOJ and the early encashment of BOJ instruments amounted to J\$26.3 billion. With effect from 18 March 2020, the Bank removed the limit on the amounts that deposit-taking institutions (DTIs) can borrow overnight without being charged a penal rate.

Effective 26 March 2020, the Bank has re-introduced a longer-term lending facility, whereby Jamaica Dollar liquidity will be made available to DTIs for periods of up to six months. Re-activation of an intermediation facility where BOJ will use its balance sheet to facilitate transactions between holders of liquid balances and

		others who require liquidity if needed. Steps to re-activate the Emergency Liquidity Facility that was established in 2015 upon application by any financial institution.  Link
México	03/17 03/19 03/20	El Gobierno Federal destinará 3.500 millones de pesos (151 millones de dólares) para hacer frente a la pandemia.  El Banco de México anuncia el establecimiento de Líneas "swap" con la Reserva Federal de Estados Unidos.  El mecanismo "swap" acordado entre el Banco de México y la Reserva Federal de Estados Unidos es hasta por 60 mil millones de dólares. Este nuevo mecanismo apoyará la provisión de liquidez en dólares de Estados Unidos y tendrá vigencia por, al menos, seis meses.  Link  Banco de México ha reducido en 50 puntos base el objetivo para la Tasa de Interés Interbancaria a un día a un nivel de 6.5%, así como otras medidas para proveer liquidez y mejorar el funcionamiento de los mercados financieros nacionales:  1. Disminución del Depósito de Regulación Monetaria (DRM) por un monto de 50 mil millones de pesos (USD 2 millones).  2. Ajustes a la tasa de interés de la Facilidad de Liquidez Adicional Ordinaria.  3. Subastas de crédito en dólares de los Estados Unidos de América.  4. Colaboración con la Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público para fortalecer el Programa de Formadores de Mercado de Deuda Gubernamental.  Link
	03/26	Planes sanitarios recibirán aporte extra de 4.500 millones de pesos (unos 180 millones de dólares). Hacienda ha anunciado, además, que adelantará a los Estados la transferencia de 10.500 millones, correspondientes a abril y mayo, y al Instituto de Salud para el Bienestar llegarán otros 4.500.
		López Obrador anuncia que "en su momento se otorgarán créditos sin intereses o muy bajos a un millón de pequeños

		negocios que, desgraciadamente, van a resultar afectados por la crisis".  Link  CNBV emite criterios contables especiales, aplicables a instituciones de crédito, respecto de los créditos al consumo, de vivienda y comerciales, para los clientes cuya fuente de pago se encuentre afectada por esta contingencia. El apoyo consistirá en el diferimiento parcial o total de pagos de capital y/o intereses hasta por 4 meses, con posibilidad de extenderlo a 2 meses adicionales, respecto a la totalidad del monto exigible incluyendo los accesorios.  Los saldos se podrán congelar sin cargo de intereses. Lo anterior, resultará aplicable siempre y cuando el crédito se encuentre clasificado como vigente al 28 de febrero de 2020. Podrá aplicar a los créditos a la vivienda con garantía hipotecaria, créditos revolventes y no revolventes dirigidos a personas físicas, tales como: crédito automotriz, créditos personales, crédito de nómina, tarjeta de crédito y microcrédito; así como para los créditos comerciales dirigidos a personas morales o personas físicas con actividad empresarial en sus diferentes modalidades, incluidos agropecuarios.  Link
Nicaragua		
Panamá	03/07	Expansión de amnistía tributaria hasta el 30 de junio de 2020.  Condonación de 85% de intereses, recargos y multas por deudas al fisco.  Link  El Gobierno declaró el estado de emergencia el 13 de marzo que puede contemplar medidas para evitar el desabastecimiento e incremento injustificado de precios en productos de limpieza y aseo personal, así como incentivar a las empresas para que no reduzcan su fuerza laboral.

03/19 Se han bajado las tasas de interés de las Facilidades Permanentes de Liquidez de plazos mayores, la FPL -Primer Tramo (Hasta 30 días de plazo) y FPL - Segundo Tramo (30 días adicionales a la FPL – Primer Tramo). Con 03/26 ello, las tasas de interés del FPL, Primer Tramo y Segundo Tramo se redujeron en 200 y 250 pb respectivamente (pasando el FPL-Primer Tramo de TPM + 200 pb a TPM + 75 pb y la FPL-Segundo Tramo de TPM + 300 pb a TPM + 125 pb). Ratificación de Ley de Emergencia Económica que incluye: creación de un Fondo de Emergencia Sanitaria y un Fondo Social (administrado por el Ministerio de Hacienda) por hasta el monto de USD 300 millones para hacer frente a todos los costos de la intervención del estado en la emergencia (fundamentalmente subsidios). Permite usar el 20% de las utilidades no capitalizadas de las empresas públicas para apoyar a la AFD con líneas de apoyo a MiPyMEs. Permite usar el 20% de las utilidades no capitalizadas del BNF para crear un fondo fiduciario de apoyo a las MiPyMEs administrado **Paraguay** por AFD que puede ser usado por entidades supervisadas por la SBS y el Incoop. Se incrementa el capital del Crédito Agrícola de Habilitación (entidad que da crédito a los campesinos de la base de la pirámide fundamentalmente) en Gs 120.000 millones (algo así como USD 18.5 MM). • Se incrementa el capital de la AFD en Gs 120.000 millones (USD 18.5 MM) • Suspende efecto de límites para AFD. El más importante, la AFD pueda aceptar operaciones que le generen resultados negativos. The government has lowered VAT on medical supplies to 5 percent and eliminated import tariffs on them. On March 23rd, 2020, the government submitted to congress a package of emergency spending measures of around \$945 million (2.5 percent of GDP). The package includes additional health-related spending of \$500 million, \$400 million measures to support the vulnerable population, and \$45 million emergence funding for small enterprises.

The government has asked Congress to authorize

		additional borrowing of up to U.S. \$1.6 billion (4 percent of GDP) from IFIs and through bond issuances. The government has also allowed banks to restructure loans to private sector companies that are in repayment difficulties, and postponed collection of taxes and user fees for 2 months.  Link
Perú	As of March 03/23 03/19	The government has approved 783 million soles (USD 229,22 million, 0.1 percent of GDP) to attend the health emergency. In addition, the government has approved approximately 1.2 billion soles (USD 0,35 billion, 0.14 percent of GDP) in direct transfers to support poor households during the two-week national isolation period. The government has announced that similar direct transfers would be made available to a group of independent workers and has also announced a postponement of households' payments of electricity and water. The government has approved a three-month extension for the income tax declaration for SMEs and is granting flexibility to enterprises and households in the repayment of tax liabilities. These tax measures are estimated to provide a temporary relief in the order of 0.5 percent of GDP. The government has also approved the creation of a 300 million soles (or 0.04 percent of GDP) fund to help qualified SMEs to secure working capital and/or refinance debts.  The superintendence of banks has issued a notification allowing financial institutions to modify the terms of their loans to households and enterprises affected by the Covid-19 outbreak without changing the classification of the loans. These operations have to satisfy well defined conditions, including a maximum modification period of six months.  El BCRP viene tomando medidas para asegurar la liquidez del mercado interbancario y mantener la fluidez de las cadenas de pagos y de créditos y enfrentar así la alta

volatilidad. El Banco Central de Reserva del Perú (BCRP) realizó una subasta de Repo de Monedas por S/ 400 millones (USD 113 millones) a un plazo de un año, a una tasa de interés de 3,1 por ciento. Inyectó liquidez al mercado financiero por S/ 500 millones (USD 141 millones) a un plazo de 6 meses, mediante una subasta de Repo de Monedas a una tasa de interés de 2,80%.

El Directorio del Banco Central de Reserva del Perú acordó en la fecha reducir en 100 puntos básicos la tasa de interés de referencia de 2,25 a 1,25 por ciento. i. Depósitos overnight: 0,25%anual, ii. Operaciones de reporte directo de títulos valores y de moneda, y Créditos de regulación monetaria: 1,80% anual.

Hasta el 18 de marzo, el Gobierno destinó 2.382 millones de soles (US\$670 millones) para atender la atención sanitaria y para asistir económicamente a las familias vulnerables y las micro y pequeñas empresas.

Link

El Directorio del Banco Central de Reserva del Perú aprobó nuevas medidas para el mantenimiento de las cadenas de pagos y de créditos. Se han flexibilizado los requerimientos de encaje en moneda nacional y moneda extranjera a partir del mes de abril, con lo que se libera el equivalente a S/2 000 millones (USD 588 millones). Estas medidas son:

- 1. Reducción de la tasa de encaje mínimo legal en soles de 5 a 4 por ciento.
- 2. Disminución del requerimiento mínimo de cuenta corriente en soles de 1,0 a 0,75 por ciento del TOSE.
- 3. Reducción de la tasa de encaje para las obligaciones en moneda extranjera con plazos promedio igual o menor a 2 años con entidades financieras extranjeras de 50 a 9 por ciento.
- 4. Suspensión por lo que resta del año 2020 del requerimiento adicional de encaje asociado al crédito en moneda extranjera.

Asimismo, el Directorio del BCRP aprobó un nuevo instrumento de inyección de liquidez para las empresas,

		que consiste en operaciones de reporte de nueva cartera crediticia que cuente con garantía estatal. <u>Link</u>
República Dominicana	03/18	<ul> <li>Medidas del Banco Central:</li> <li>Reducción de las tasas de intereses de 4,50 % a 3,50 % anual y de otras tasas bancarias para inyectar liquidez. Disminución la tasa de interés de Repos a 1 día de 6.00 % a 4.50 % anual y Overnight de 3.00 % a 2.50 % anual.</li> <li>Flexibilización de los requisitos de cobertura del encaje legal en moneda nacional.</li> <li>Medidas de provisión de liquidez por RD\$52 mil millones (USD 963 millones) a las entidades financieras. Liquidez en moneda extranjera por más de US\$ 500 millones.</li> <li>Link</li> <li>El gobierno anuncia que serán destinados 10 mil millones de pesos en préstamos a hogares y las micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas en el sector comercio y unos 12 mil millones a sectores productivos, como turismo y al sector importados, a tasas de interés no mayores al 8% anual.</li> <li>Nuevos préstamos otorgados por entidades financieras no tendrán provisiones y no serán considerados para el cáculo del índice de solverncia.</li> <li>Autorización a entidades financieras para congelar calificaciones y provisiones y reestructuraciones de créditos. Autorización para que sean considerados no vencidos préstamos desembolsados contra líneas de crédito por un periodo de 60 días. Extensión por 90 días del plazo otorgado al deudor par actualización de garantías de tasaciones.</li> <li>Link</li> </ul>
Surinam		
Trinidad y Tobago	03/23 03/17	The fiscal package (TT\$5 billion, USD 0,74 billion, or about 3¼ percent of GDP) announced include (i) salaries for up to 3 months for temporarily unemployed workers; (ii) VAT and income tax refunds to individuals and SMEs; (iii) liquidity support to individuals and small businesses via credit union loans at reduced interest rates and long repayment

periods; and (iv) grants to hoteliers to upgrade of their facilities. The central bank reduced the policy rate by 150 bps to 3.5 percent, and the reserve requirement on commercial bank deposits by 300 bps to 14 percent. Commercial banks are expected to reduce the prime lending rates (currently at 9% percent) by the same amount. Additionally, commercial banks have agreed to provide a 1-month moratorium on mortgage loan and instalment loan payments, without any penalty; and to waive penalty interest on overdraft facilities. Other government housing institutions will provide similar relief to their customers with 2 to 6 months payment deferrals. Money lenders have been asked to arrange deferred payments and interest rate reductions for their members. Interest rates on credit cards will be reduced by 10 to 17 percentage points of the existing rates, on a bank by bank basis. Link 03/23 Banco República pondrá a disposición de las empresas una línea de crédito con condiciones "blandas" por 50 millones de dólares, para "hacer frente a la situación de epidemia", con énfasis en pequeñas y medianas empresas. Se trabaja con organismos multilaterales de crédito para aumentar esa cifra hasta 125 millones. Banco Central autorizará a instituciones las intermediación financiera, empresas de servicios financieros y administradoras de crédito a que extiendan los plazos de vencimiento de los créditos al sector no financiero, en acuerdo con sus clientes, por hasta 180 días. Medidas tributarias impulsadas por el Poder Ejecutivo: Uruguay diferir el pago del IVA mínimo de febrero y marzo a abonar a la Dirección General Impositiva (DGI) en seis cuotas "iguales, consecutivas y sin pago de interés", a partir de mayo. Respecto del Banco de Previsión Social (BPS) habrá "monotributistas, unipersonales y beneficios para sociedades personales con hasta diez empleados, cuyo régimen de aportación sea Industria y Comercio". Se difiere el pago de los aportes patronales de dueños y socios de sociedades personales que corresponden a marzo y abril: 60% se podrá pagar en seis cuotas a partir de junio y el 40% restante "será subsidiado por el Estado.

Venezuela	

#### 2. Medidas que favorecen MSMEs

Country/Institution	Fecha	Measure
Argentina	03/19	El Estado lanzará asistencia financiera por 350.000 millones de pesos (5.300 millones de dólares) a pequeñas y medianas empresas y otras de los sectores productivo y comercial. Otros 320.000 millones de pesos (4.900 millones de dólares) estarán disponibles en créditos del Banco Central para financiar capital de trabajo y una parte de las nóminas salariales de las empresas, El Banco Central oficializó ayer que la tasa de interés para los préstamos a las PYME será de 24%. El objetivo es que las empresas puedan conseguir financiamiento para pagar los sueldos y también hacer frente a los cheques librados.
Bahamas	As of 03/25	The Central Bank of The Bahamas has arranged with domestic banks and credit unions to provide a 3-month deferral against repayments on credit facilities for businesses and households that were negatively impacted by the pandemic. Forbearance will be provided for borrowers who maintained their accounts in good standing before the onset of the pandemic.  Link
Barbados		
Belice		
Bolivia	03/23	Mediante el DS, el Gobierno abrió la posibilidad de que las instituciones financieras del país establezcan medidas de apoyo a sus clientes mientras dure la emergencia sanitaria. Se ordenó no pagar el Impuesto a las Utilidades de las Empresas (IUE) de abril, y que esa cancelación se realice en mayo y a plazos.  Ayuda para las personas, familias pequeñas y empresas que pagan créditos, que no tendrán que pagar dos meses el capital de la deuda y esa cancelación se hará al final del periodo del crédito.

Brasil	03/18	El país destinará 700.000USD a la refinanciación de las
DIASII	00/00	deudas para familias y a empresas privadas
Chile	03/23	El plan anunciado contempla la postergación del pago del IVA de los próximos tres meses para empresas con ventas menores a 11,5 millones de dólares anuales, aplazamiento hasta julio de 2020 del pago del impuesto de la renta para las pymes o la aceleración de pagos a proveedores del Estado, lo que generará una liquidez inmediata de 1.000 millones de dólares.
Colombia	03/18	El Presidente anunció que se ha diseñado un alivio financiero que incluye a las pequeñas y medianas empresas para el pago de sus créditos en los próximos dos meses y extensión de plazos de pago y opciones de refinanciamiento a créditos hipotecarios en vencimiento sin que queden reportados en las centrales de riesgo crediticio.  El Ministro de Hacienda aseguró que el Gobierno tiene disponible alrededor de 11900 millones de dólares en la banca pública para otorgar garantías de crédito a PYME y hogares a través del sistema financiero.
Costa Rica	03/23	Tarifa preferencial por concepto del seguro de riesgos del trabajo para empresas de menos de 30 trabajadores. Nueva definición de siniestralidad para incluir COVID-19. Reducción de jornada laboral ordinaria si se demuestra disminución de ingresos. Reducción de base mínima contributiva para seguro social. Empresas industriales y comerciales con más de 2,000 KwH podrán pagar 50% de consumo en marzo, abril y mayo.  Mediante directriz, el presidente Alvarado instruirá a los bancos comerciales del Estado para que readecúen los créditos de deudores, incluyendo una posible moratoria en el pago del principal y/o los intereses por tres meses prorrogables, en particular para los sectores más afectados.
Ecuador		
El Salvador	03/23	Facilidades crediticias a micro, pequeña, mediana y gran empresa para crédito productivo a los sectores agropecuario construcción, servicios, turismo, industria manufacturera, adquisición de vivienda, comercio, electricidad, gas, agua, servicios sanitarios, transporte, almacenaje y comunicaciones.

		Apoyo a empleadores para el pago de cuotas de cotización al SAP.  Link  Medidas para facilitar liquidez:  Dinamización transacciones dinero electrónico, prontopago a PYME, compras del Estado Mínimo del 25% de Bienes y Servicios, simplificación trámites para mi cuenta MYPE, encadenamientos para la comercialización directa, incentivos fiscales para la inversión en nuevos proyectos productivos, creación de fondos de capital angel y coinversión.
Guatemala	03/23	Disposición de un fondo de Q100 millones (USD 12,93 millones) para las MIPYMES.
Guyana		
Haití		
Honduras	03/17	Medidas del gobierno: Banhprovi congelará por tres meses las cuotas de los financiamientos, Branhprovi pondrá a disposición de los bancos la primera cuota de 200 millones de lempiras (USD 7,99 millones), adicionales a un total de mil 400 millones (UD 16 millones) para reactivar la industria de la construcción. Lo anterior beneficiará a unas 200 familias y generará alrededor de mil empleos directos.  Atender a los micros y pequeños empresarios a través de créditos solidarios que suman 51 millones de lempiras (USD 2,04 millones). con los cuales se atenderá a cinco mil emprendedores.  Link
Jamaica		
México		
Nicaragua		
Panamá		
Paraguay	03/19	El Banco Central del Paraguay ha emitido normativas destinadas a aliviar los efectos del COVID-19 sobre las familias y empresas paraguayas que desarrollan actividades

	03/26	comerciales, productivas, industriales, de servicios y de cualquier naturaleza.  A fin de evitar una inadecuada presión sobre el precio de los activos inmobiliarios, se otorgan facilidades a las intermediarias financieras mediante la extensión de plazos para la enajenación de los bienes adjudicados en pago de créditos, posponiendo la obligación de constituir previsiones sobre dichos bienes.  Ratificación de Ley de Emergencia Económica que incluye:  • Permite usar el 20% de las utilidades no capitalizadas de las empresas públicas para apoyar a la AFD con líneas de apoyo a MiPyMEs.  • Permite usar el 20% de las utilidades no capitalizadas del BNF para crear un fondo fiduciario de apoyo a las MiPyMEs administrado por AFD que puede ser usado por entidades supervisadas por la SBS y el Incoop.
Perú	03/24	Se han adoptado medidas para dar mayor celeridad a la operatividad del Fondo Crecer que tiene 800 millones de soles (US\$225 millones), y se ha creado el Fondo de Apoyo Empresarial por 300 millones de soles (US\$84,4 millones), a fin de inyectar liquidez a las micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas del país  Se han dado medidas para que las entidades bancarias puedan flexibilizar el pago de las deudas que tienen las personas y empresas, que suman un monto de 12.000 millones de soles (US\$3.378 millones) reprogramados. También la Sunat ha adoptado medidas en su sector, entre otras.
República Dominicana		
Surinam		
Trinidad y Tobago		
Uruguay	03/23	El sistema financiero podrá lograr garantías del Sistema Nacional de Garantías para la línea Siga Pyme por un monto de "hasta 2.500 millones de dólares" para el otorgamiento de préstamos, y se exonerará 70% de la comisión.

	<u> </u>	
	As of 25 March	En el Programa de Crédito Dirigido de la Agencia Nacional de Desarrollo se agregan como beneficiarias "a las micro y pequeñas empresas afectadas por la emergencia sanitaria para créditos cuyo destino sea capital de trabajo, a menos de 18 meses".  Loan payments for households and businesses that may be affected by the public health measures are to be deferred for up to 180 days. The fund that guarantees loans for SMEs will be expanded from US\$50 million to US\$500 million (utilizing financing from international organizations). That will allow to guarantee the SME loans totaling US\$2.5 billion. In addition, the rate of commission charged by the fund will be reduced substantially. BROU (the country's largest commercial bank, which is government-owned) will extend soft loans to enterprises. The financing available currently is US\$50 million, which may be augmented—also with financing from international organizations—to US\$120 million. In addition, direct credit program for micro and small enterprises will extend working capital loans of up to 18 months to the affected businesses at subsidized rates. Loan repayments for these enterprises are being suspended for at least 30 days.  Link
Venezuela		
Otras Multilaterales		

### 3. Medidas que favorecen Grandes Empresas

Country/Institution	Fecha	Measure
Argentina		
Bahamas		
Barbados		
Belice		
Bolivia		

Brasil		
Chile		
Colombia	03/11	El Gobierno toma medidas adicionales para aliviar el sector turístico y aviación incluyendo una línea de crédito de Bancoldex para la liquidez con cupo de USD 250.000, y extensión de plazos para la contribución del sector.
Costa Rica Ecuador	03/25	Banco Central pone a disposición RD\$ 10,000 millones (USD 188 millones) para préstamos a hogares, MIPYMES y comercio.
El Salvador		
Guatemala		
Guyana		
Haití		
Honduras		
Jamaica		
México		
Nicaragua		
Panamá		
Paraguay	03/26	Ratificación de Ley de Emergencia Económica: Las Empresas Públicas podrán solicitar al Banco Nacional de Fomento o al Tesoro Público líneas de créditos con el objetivo de financiar requerimientos temporales producto de la disminución de sus ingresos.
Perú		
República Dominicana		
Surinam		
Trinidad y Tobago		
Uruguay		
Venezuela		

## 4. Medidas que favorecen poblaciones vulnerables y/o excluidas

Country/Institution	Fecha	Measure
	03/19	Casi 9 millones de personas que tomaron créditos de consumo con el Estado serán eximidos de pagar la cuota durante dos meses.  Incremento por única vez en 3.000 pesos (unos 46 dólares) las pensiones de 5 millones de retirados que ganan el salario mínimo (18.500 pesos, USD 290), igual que las ayudas a 550.000 desempleados y a 4,3 millones de niños cuyas familias son pobres.
Argentina		Pago único para trabajadores de bajos ingresos por coronavirus. El Gobierno realizará un pago único de 10.000 pesos (158 dólares) en abril a trabajadores independientes de bajos ingresos e informales para ayudarlos con sus gastos durante la cuarentena obligatoria. El Gobierno creó un Ingreso Familiar de Emergencia que beneficiará a 3,6 millones de familias que no cobran un salario público o privado ni reciben asistencia directa del Estado, pensiones o programas de empleo. <u>Link</u>
Bahamas		
	03/18	RBC Royal Bank to provide relief to its Caribbean clients impacted by the pandemic. Personal banking clients in the Caribbean will benefit from an automatic three-month payment deferral on credit facilities. Business and Corporate banking clients are also eligible for the relief programme, following individual eligibility assessments.
Barbados		Prime Minister announced the establishment of a Household Survival Programme to help more 1,500 vulnerable families. The Government would provide up to BDS\$600 (USD 298) per month to each family through the Welfare Department and there will also be a 40% increase in all rates and fees paid by the Welfare Department to individuals.
Belice		
Bolivia	03/18	El Gobierno anunció medidas referentes al pago de créditos bancarios e impuestos a las utilidades Creación del Bono Familia que se pagará en abril y será de 500 bolivianos (USD 72,5) por cada hijo que vaya a primaria en el sistema fiscal.

	03/16	Adelanto del pago del medio aguinaldo para los jubilados, que será efectivizado en abril. Esto significará volcar 5.000 millones de dólares al consumo.  En estudio la ampliación de recursos para las asignaciones a las familias más pobres a través del programa "Bolsa Familia".
	03/23	
		Caixa dispone medidas en complemento a las anunciadas el 17 de marzo de 2020 por BRL 75,000 millones (~USD 15,000 millones) para préstamos y compra de cartera de bancos de mediano porte:  • 70% de sus empleados estarán de home office a partir
		de esa semana
	03/24	<ul> <li>Fondo de Garantía por Tiempo de Servicio (FGTS). Caixa está operacionalmente lista para ejecutar todos los desembolsos por celular.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Van a capitalizar a intermediarios que operen en redes con pequeñas empresas. Hará capitalización y compra de recibibles.</li> </ul>
	03/25	
Brasil		Bolsonaro retira decreto que permitía a compañías suspender salarios por 4 meses
טומטוו		<u>Link</u>
		<ul> <li>Medidas anunciadas Gobierno Federal:         <ul> <li>Auxilio emergencia por tres meses, de R\$ 600,00 (~USD 120), destinados a los trabajadores autónomos, informales y sin ingresos fijos.</li> <li>El auxilio puede llegar a R\$ 1.200 por familia (~USD 240). El proyecto prevé ainda que madres provedoras de família "uniparental" reciban dos cuotas.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		Línea de crédito emergencial para pagar hoja de pagos para PyMEs por dos meses:
		<ul> <li>El programa va a disponibilizar un máximo R\$20,000 millones (~USD 4,000 millones) por mes, por un total de hasta R\$ 40,000 millones en los dos meses del programa</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Se financiará hasta dos sueldos mínimos por trabajador, quedando a criterio de la empresa el pago superior a este.</li> </ul>

		<ul> <li>El financiamento estará disponible para empresas con ingresos entre R\$ 360 mil y R\$ 10 milhões por año (~USD 72 mil a 2 millones);</li> <li>Exclusivo para hoja de pagos;</li> <li>6 meses de período de gracia y 36 meses para pagar el préstamo;</li> <li>3,75% ao ano de intereses.</li> </ul>
Chile	03/19	Se garantiza el salario de las personas que no puedan ir a trabajar ni hacer teletrabajo.  Se pondrá en marcha un bono especial de 130 millones de dólares para 2 millones de personas sin trabajo formal y se creará un fondo de 100 millones de dólares para pymes afectadas y que será gestionado por los municipios.
Colombia	03/18	Giro de recursos a los programas de bienestar social para familias, jóvenes y ancianos vulnerables, además de la anticipación de un plan para devolverles a los sectores pobres el impuesto a las ventas (IVA).  Aplazamiento en los plazos del calendario tributario.  Medidas de los bancos frente al COVID:  Periodos de gracia en créditos  Créditos de liquidez para empresas  Reducción costos transferencias digitales y tipo de interés de tarjetas  Renegociación créditos y créditos blandos
Costa Rica	03/15	Mediante directriz, el presidente Alvarado instruirá a los bancos comerciales del Estado para que readecúen los créditos de deudores, incluyendo una posible moratoria en el pago del principal y/o los intereses por tres meses prorrogables, en particular para los sectores más afectados.  Prohibición de suspensión de servicios de agua por falta de pago en lo próximos 2 meses.  Contribuyentes pueden solicitar congelamiento de hasta 4 cuotas del impuesto sobre transferencias de bienes industrializados y servicios. Prórroga para presentación de declaración jurada de ISR de personas para 29 de mayo de 2020.  Se reducen a la mitad cuotas de los acuerdos de pago vigentes.  La DGII dejará de aplicar temporalmente la tasa a los acuerdos de precios por anticipado en el sector hotelero. Se permitirá dividir en cuatro pagos la liquidación del impuesto anual de la

		renta que deben efectuar en abril las empresas que cierran en diciembre.	
El Salvador	03/20	Banco Central: Normas Técnicas Temporales para incumplimientos y obligaciones contractuales: no cobro de penalidad por no pago de créditos. Otorgamiento de créditos, consolidación, reestructuración y refinanciamiento de deudas en condiciones favorables para afectados por COVID 19. Políticas crediticias orientadas prioritariamente a segmentos de consumo, vivienda, servicios y comercio. Mantenimiento de coberturas de seguro a afectados con impago de primas.  Suspensión del pago de cuota de energía eléctrica, agua, telefonía, internet y cable por 3 meses, a pagar en 2 años sin generar mora ni interés.  Congelación de cobro de créditos hipotecarios, personales y tarjetas de créditos y suspensión de pago de crédito a casas comerciales por 3 meses a afectados por pandemia.  Transferencia de \$300 para 1,5 millones de hogares con consumo de energía de 250kv/hora o menos (inversión aproximada de USD 450 millones).  Fijación de precio de productos de canasta básica.  Link	
Guatemala	03/18	Dotación de alimentos a comunidades vulnerables. Solicitud de reducción de Impuesto de Solidaridad (ISO) por un trimestre. Solicitud al Instituto guatemalteco de Seguridad Social (IGSS), IRTRA e INTECAP para diferir pagos de cuotas patronales por, al menos, tres meses.	
Guyana	03/19	A request was made to the World Bank for US\$5M under its Rapid Response Emergency Facility.  Ministry of Public Health has been provided with \$50M additional funds to assist its efforts.	
Haití			
Honduras	03/17	El gobierno garantizará el abasto de alimentos.  Determinación del precios máximos de venta de 30 productos de la canasta básica por un mes, prorrogable un mes más. <u>Link</u>	

Jamaica		
México		
Nicaragua		
Panamá	03/19	Proposal to the National Assembly to rationalize hygiene and cleaning products, and also adopts measures of flexibility with private and state banks.  Initiative to suspend for 90 days the payment of electricity, drinking water and mortgage and personal loans, among others. It also provides for the cessation of the collection of employer's social security contributions.
Paraguay	03/26	<ul> <li>Ratificación de Ley de Emergencia Económica. Medidas principales:</li> <li>Se incrementa el capital del Crédito Agrícola de Habilitación (entidad que da crédito a los campesinos de la base de la pirámide fundamentalmente) en Gs 120.000 millones (algo así como USD 18.5 MM).</li> <li>Se incrementa el capital de la AFD en Gs 120.000 millones (USD 18.5 MM)</li> <li>Suspende efecto de límites para AFD. El más importante, la AFD pueda aceptar operaciones que le generen resultados negativos.</li> <li>subsidio del 25% del Salario Mínimo Legal Vigente a trabajadores en situación de informalidad. Este beneficio podrá ser otorgado hasta dos veces por el mismo monto, y será abonado a los beneficiarios a través de entidades de pago.</li> </ul>
Perú	03/24	El Gobierno dará el equivalente a 380 soles (US\$105) a cada familia que vive del sector informal -representan más del 70% de la economía peruana- para paliar sus pérdidas durante los 15 días de cuarentena decretados. Se calcula que son unos 9 millones de personas. Se incluirán a los trabajadores independientes que viven del "día a día" como beneficiarios del bono extraordinario de 380 soles (US\$106).  Link
República Dominicana		
Surinam		

Trinidad y Tobago	03/23	The fiscal package (TT\$5 billion, USD 0,74 billion, or about 3½ percent of GDP) announced include (i) salaries for up to 3 months for temporarily unemployed workers; (ii) VAT and income tax refunds to individuals and SMEs; (iii) liquidity support to individuals and small businesses via credit union loans at reduced interest rates and long repayment periods; and (iv) grants to hoteliers to upgrade of their facilities.	
Uruguay			
Venezuela	24/03	Venezuela prohíbe despidos en empresas y suspende cobros de créditos durante 6 meses por coronavirus Link	

#### Resumen por Tipos de Medidas

Tipos de Medidas	País
Aumento del gasto en Inversión (infraestructura)	Argentina Chile Colombia Guatemala México
Control de las tasas de interés a las MiPyMes	Argentina
Subsidios Población Vulnerable (créditos subsidiados)	Argentina Bolivia Brasil Chile Costa Rica El Salvador Guatemala Perú
Moratoria temporal de Créditos	Bahamas Brasil Bolivia Chile Colombia Paraguay

	Uruguay El Salvador Venezuela Trinidad y Tobago
Moratoria temporal del pago de Impuestos	Bolivia Colombia Costa Rica Chile El Salvador Guatemala Panamá República Dominicana Trinidad y Tobago
Suspensión temporal del cobro y sanciones por no pago de los servicios públicos (congelación de tarifas)	Bolivia Colombia El Salvador
Aumento de la liquidez (mayor generación de crédito) Crédito a MiPyMes	Argentina Brasil Chile Colombia Guatemala Honduras Paraguay Perú República Dominicana Trinidad y Tobago Uruguay
Intervención en el mercado cambiario (reducción volatilidad de la tasa de cambio)	Barbados Brasil Colombia
Intervención en el mercado monetario (incremento de la liquidez y reducción tasa de interés)	Brasil Colombia Chile Costa Rica México Perú República Dominicana Uruguay

Suspensión transitoria de los ajustes regulatorios del sistema financiero (Basilea III)	Chile
Aumento de impuestos y retenciones	Ecuador
Control de precios a los bienes de primera necesidad	Argentina El Salvador Honduras Panamá
Suspensión transitoria de los aportes a la seguridad social	Costa Rica Uruguay
Aceleración de pagos a proveedores del Estado	Chile
Líneas especiales para sectores altamente afectados (Líneas aéreas, turismo)	Colombia
Pagos a sectores vulnerables	Argentina Barbados Bolivia Chile Paraguay Perú

## 2. EUROPA / EUROPE

## **Economic and Financial Policy Responses against COVID-19**

**Europe Overview** 

Key measures taken by European Institutions and most affected countries until March 27, 2020.

#### 5. Monetary, Fiscal, and Macroeconomic Measures

Country/Institution	Measure	Date
European Central Bank	<ul> <li>Almost all constraints that applied to the ECB's asset-purchase programmes have been removed or significantly loosened for the 810-billion-dollars asset-purchase program, including         <ul> <li>a self-imposed limit to buy no more than a third of any country's eligible bonds</li> <li>expanding the criteria for eligible securities under the new programme to securities with a maturity of more than 70 days, compared with its previous restriction to buy only sovereign bonds with maturities between one and 30 years</li> <li>Giving flexibility to the rule requiring bond purchases to be made in proportion to the relative size of each country's economy and its contribution to ECB capital.</li> </ul> </li> <li>810-billion-dollars asset-purchase program (Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program) targeting public and private-sector assets will be conducted until the end of 2020. On top of the extra USD129bn it promised to purchase the week 03/09.</li> <li>The ECB's bank supervisory arm will let euro zone banks fall short of some key capital and cash requirements, to keep credit flowing to the economy (estimated USD129bn of extra bank capital).</li> </ul>	March 19
European Commission	<ul> <li>Full flexibility in the EU fiscal framework for countries to finance measures needed to contain the coronavirus outbreak and mitigate its negative socioeconomic effects</li> <li>USD40 billion "Corona Response Investment Initiative" directed at investing in health care systems,</li> </ul>	March 19 March 13

	<ul> <li>SMEs, labour markets and other vulnerable parts of our economies.</li> <li>Approved countries to provide wage subsidies or tax deferrals to firms suffering from the economic shutdown in response to the pandemic</li> </ul>	
European Multilaterals		As of March 25
Italy	<ul> <li>Fiscal rescue package of up to USD27bn (8.1bn dollars in spending measures to help families and firms).</li> <li>VAT payments for SMEs extended until June 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Fiscal credit for SMEs of 50% of cost of disinfecting their workplace</li> </ul>	March 18
Spain	Fiscal rescue package of up to USD18.3bn 6-month deferral of company tax and social security payments for SMEs impacted by the virus	March 18
Germany	USD 160bn of supplementary budget for social spending Fiscal rescue package of up to USD13bn Companies affected by coronavirus can defer tax payments.	March 23 March 18
France	Fiscal rescue package of up to USD48.6bn  Deferred and reduced company tax and social security payments for USD37.8 bn, payroll charges for companies, and outright cancellation for firms at risk of bankruptcy.	March 18
UK	<ul> <li>Bank of England:</li> <li>Bank rate reduction of 65 basis points to new historic low of 0.1%.</li> <li>Plus, new QE program of USD236 bn purchase of UK bonds.</li> <li>New Term Funding scheme with additional incentives for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (TFSME), financed by the issuance of central bank reserves. 4-year credit to lend to SMEs</li> <li>Reduced the UK countercyclical capital buffer rate to 0% of banks' exposures to UK borrowers</li> <li>One-year abolition of property taxes for all companies in affected sectors.</li> <li>VAT tax deferrals for 6 months</li> </ul>	March 19 March 18

	USD21.2 bn of direct fiscal spending to stimulate the economy	
	Austria: 10.8 billion dollars in tax deferrals  Greece:	March 18
Others	<ul> <li>Government creates USD 4bn financial support package.</li> <li>Tax and social security payments suspended until 31 July for 200,000 businesses.</li> </ul>	March 19 March 19
	Portugal: Payment of all tax and social security obligations due in Q2 can be delayed until 31 Jul - 31 Aug.	
	Sweden: businesses tax deferrals for up to a year for USD29.7bn.	

## 6. Large Enterprises Measures

Country/Institution	Measure	Time
European Central Bank	Pandemic Emergency Purchase Program expands the range of eligible assets under the corporate sector purchase programme (CSPP) to non-financial commercial paper, making all commercial papers of enough credit quality eligible for purchase under CSPP.	March 19
European Commission	Temporarily removal of all countries from the list of "marketable risk" countries under the Short-term export-credit insurance Communication. This will make public short-term export credit insurance more widely available in light of the current crisis linked to the coronavirus outbreak. The amendment further expands on the flexibility introduced by the Commission's State aid Temporary Framework with respect to the possibility by State insurers to provide insurance for short-term export-credit.	March 27
Germany	<ul> <li>USD120bn in loans available to companies hit by the coronavirus pandemic provided via KfW.</li> <li>(i) A loan programme covering up to 90% of the risk for loans for companies of all sizes. Eligible</li> </ul>	March 25, 2020

	loans may have a maturity of up to 5 years and can reach €1 billion per company, depending on the company's liquidity needs.  (ii) A loan programme in which the KfW participates together with private banks to provide larger loans as a consortium. For this scheme, the risk taken by the State may cover up to 80% of a specific loan but not more than 50% of total debt of a company.  The measures will allow the KfW to provide liquidity in the form of subsidised loans to companies affected by the Coronavirus outbreak. Loan amount per company is linked to cover its liquidity needs for the foreseeable future, loans will only be provided until the end of this year and are limited to a maximum six-year duration. KfW will ensure that the advantage offered by the subsidised loans is passed on to the companies that need the liquidity.  Economic stability fund:  USD 108 billion dollars economic stability fund to take direct equity stakes in companies.  USD 432 billion dollars in loan guarantees to secure corporate debt at risk of defaulting  Subnational: Bavaria has launched a USD1.08bn fund to buy stakes in struggling companies.	March 23 March 18 March 18
UK	HM Treasury and BOE launched the Covid Coporate Financing Facility (CCFF). CCFF will purchase commercial paper of up to one-year maturity from businesses which had an investment-grade credit rating or similar precrisis. The scheme will last at least 12 months. The facility will offer financing on terms comparable to those prevailing in markets in the period before the Covid-19. USD389bn package of loan guarantees and direct lending from the Bank of England for companies of all sizes.	March 23 March 18

#### 7. MSMEs Measures

Country/Institution	Measure	Time
European Central Bank	-	As of March 27

European Commission	<ul> <li>Temporarily removal of all countries from the list of "marketable risk" countries under the Short-term export-credit insurance Communication. This will make public short-term export credit insurance more widely available in light of the current crisis linked to the coronavirus outbreak. The amendment further expands on the flexibility introduced by the Commission's State aid Temporary Framework with respect to the possibility by State insurers to provide insurance for short-term export-credit.</li> <li>UDS1.1 billion will be redirected from the EU budget as a guarantee to the European Investment Fund to incentivize banks to provide liquidity to SMEs and midcaps</li> <li>USD8.6 billion of working capital lending for 100,000 European firms, backed by the EU budget, by enhancing programmes for guaranteeing bank credits to SMEs.</li> </ul>	March 27
European Multilaterals	<ul> <li>EIB: Up to USD 43.2 billion can be mobilized at short notice, backed up by guarantees from the European Investment Bank Group and the European Union budget. The financing package will go towards bridging loans, credit holidays and other measures "designed to alleviate liquidity and working capital constraints for SMEs and mid-caps. The proposed financing package consists of:         <ul> <li>Dedicated guarantee schemes to banks based on existing programmes for immediate deployment, mobilising up to USD 21.6 billion of financing.</li> <li>Dedicated liquidity lines to banks to ensure additional working capital support for SMEs and mid-caps of USD 10 billion;</li> <li>Dedicated asset-backed securities (ABS) purchasing programmes to allow banks to transfer risk on portfolios of SME loans, mobilising another USD 10.1 billion of support.</li> </ul> </li> <li>EBRD: USD1.1 billion "Solidarity Package" for European companies: new and additional funding for existing clients, comprising emergency liquidity, working capital and trade finance. The planned</li> </ul>	March 18

	measures will include an expansion of trade finance and short-term finance of up to two years through financial institutions, specifically in support of SMEs. The Bank will seek to provide short-term working capital facilities of up to two years for other corporates and energy developers and balance sheet restructuring and short-term liquidity support for municipal, energy and infrastructure clients.	
Italy	<ul> <li>One-off payments of USD540 per person for the self-employed</li> <li>Government support for companies paying redundancy payments to their staff</li> <li>Cash bonus for Italians still working during the lockdown</li> <li>Suspension of payments of loans for SMEs until September 30<sup>th</sup> if SMEs with substantial loss of revenue</li> <li>Loan guarantees for businesses</li> <li>Support to Alitalia, the national carrier the state has already provided US972m in loans to since 2017</li> </ul>	March 18
Spain	<ul> <li>USD108bn of state loan guarantees for business aimed at ensuring liquidity, especially for small and medium-sized companies. First USD 25 billon are to cover guarantees operating loans with a limited maturity and size. They limit the risk taken by the State to a maximum of 80% for self-employed workers and SMEs and of 70% for larger enterprises. To achieve this goal, the measures also involve minimum remuneration and safeguards to ensure that the aid is effectively channelled by the banks or other financial institutions to the beneficiaries in need.</li> <li>USD2,160m line to support export</li> <li>USD432m soft loan credit programs for SMEs through ICO (public bank)</li> </ul>	March 25 March 18
Germany	<ul> <li>USD120bn in loans available to companies hit by the coronavirus pandemic provided via KfW.</li> <li>(i) A loan programme covering up to 90% of the risk for loans for companies of all sizes. Eligible loans may have a maturity of up to 5 years and can reach USD 1.2 billion per company, depending on the company's liquidity needs.</li> </ul>	March 25

	<ul> <li>(ii) A loan programme in which the KfW participates together with private banks to provide larger loans as a consortium. For this scheme, the risk taken by the State may cover up to 80% of a specific loan but not more than 50% of total debt of a company. The measures will allow the KfW to provide liquidity in the form of subsidised loans to companies affected by the Coronavirus outbreak. Loan amount per company is linked to cover its liquidity needs for the foreseeable future, loans will only be provided until the end of this year and are limited to a maximum six-year duration. KfW will ensure that the advantage offered by the subsidised loans is passed on to the companies that need the liquidity.</li> <li>USD 432 billion dollars in loan guarantees to secure corporate debt at risk of defaulting.</li> <li>USD 65 bn Expanding its program of export credits and other guarantees to help companies (mainly</li> </ul>	March 18 March 18
	SMEs) in crisis.	March 19
France	<ul> <li>BPI (public bank) is taking active measures:</li> <li>increasing zero-collateral loans by USD3.2bn</li> <li>increase of amount of credit guarantee of up to 90% for a period of 6 years</li> <li>Reduce the application process times: SMES can borrow up to USD5.4m and medium-sized up to USD32.4m</li> <li>USD324bn of French state guarantees for bank loans to businesses</li> </ul>	March 18
UK	The UK will set up the so called "Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme" (CBILS) which will provide respectively:  (i) Under the first support scheme, guarantees that cover 80% of loan facilities for SMEs with a turnover of up to USD 60 million to cover their working and investment capital needs. This scheme will be implemented through the British Business Bank, a national promotional bank.  Under the second support scheme, direct grants to support SMEs affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The overall budget for this scheme is GBP 600 million (approximately € 654 million).	March 23  March 18

	<ul> <li>(i) With respect to the guarantee scheme, (i) the underlying loan amount per company is linked to the company's liquidity needs for the foreseeable future, (ii) is limited to a maximum six-year duration, (iii) and entails a guarantee premium that is at least as high as that set in the Temporary Framework. Furthermore, the scheme includes safeguards to ensure that the advantages of the guarantee are effectively passed on to the borrowers and that the lending is used to cover short-to-medium term liquidity needs.</li> <li>Grants will be available for smaller companies in the retail, hospitality, leisure and childcare sectors. Grants of up to 25,000 pounds for firms in these sectors, and grants of 10,000 pounds for 700,000 very small businesses.</li> <li>USD389.4bn package of loan guarantees</li> </ul>	
	Latvia: USD 300m of subsidised loan scheme and loan guarantee scheme: working capital loans at reduced interest rates with limited maturity and size and Guarantees at reduced guarantee fees on loans with limited maturity and size. The measures limit the risk per loan taken by the State to a maximum of 50%.	March 25  March 24  March 19
Others	<ul> <li>SME guarantee fund for new loans covering up to 70% of loan amount.</li> <li>Small business that see revenue fall by more than 30% will get up to 75% of their lost revenue covered by the state if they do not cut staff. The programme that will last for three months</li> <li>Greece:</li> </ul>	March 19 March 25
	<ul> <li>Affected businesses will pay only 60% of their rents for March and April.</li> <li>Debt collection operations are suspended.         Banks allow debt payments due in March to be suspended until September.     </li> <li>Total sum of measures to support affected by Covid-19 is EUR 4.8bn which is 2.5% of GDP</li> </ul>	March 27

 A new additional EUR 1.8bn support package for businesses, workers and freelancers. Together with the previously announced package, this brings the total sum of financial support to combat the economic impact of Covid-19 to about EUR 4.8bn. This amounts to 2.5% of Greece's GDP compared to 2% on average for such measures across other countries in the European Union.

March 19

 A 25% reduction in tax and insurance liabilities (excluding VAT), as long as they are paid on time and insure taxpayers have NOT taken advantage of the government's previously announced tax suspension measures.

#### Luxembourg

 Granting of guarantees on loans at favorable terms to help business cover immediate working capital and investment needs and continue their activities. The scheme is open to all companies, except those active in the promotion, renting and sale of building as well as holding of investments. March 19

March 18

#### Portugal:

- USD 3.2bn guarantees for loan in four key sectors catering, travel agencies, tourist firms and textile and clothing enterprises.
   Guarantees on operating loans with a limited maturity and size. They also limit the risk taken by the State to a maximum of 90%. Measures also involve minimum remuneration and safeguards to ensure that the aid is effectively channelled by the banks or other financial institutions to the beneficiaries in need.
- USD 216mn credit line for businesses who suffer 40% drop in sales within 3 months.
- Several banks temporarily suspended commissions on electronic payments.

#### Romania:

 Loan guarantees for investments: guarantees cover 90% of the loan value, for loans up to

USD 220 thousand, and 80% of those over USD 220 thousand.  • Working capital loans for which the interest is 100% subsidized.	
Austria: 9.7 billion dollars in guarantees and warranties	

## 8. Measures towards vulnerable or excluded population

Country/Institution	Measure	Time
European Central Bank		As of March 25
European Commission	European Globalisation Adjustment Fund could also be mobilised to support dismissed workers and those self-employed under the conditions of the current and future Regulation. Up to USD 193 million is available in 2020	March 18
European Multilaterals	-	As of March 25
Italy	<ul> <li>USD540m to support moratorium on mortgage payments if unemployed</li> <li>Financial support for Italian families that have children at home</li> <li>Financial support for taxi drivers and postal workers who are continuing to work providing urgent services during the outbreak</li> </ul>	March 18
Spain	<ul> <li>Moratorium on mortgage payments for people whose income has been hit by the crisis and a similar moratorium for utility bills.</li> <li>USD648m to help vulnerable people and those depending on social services</li> </ul>	March 18

Germany	Government is expanding the government-subsidised scheme (Kurzarbeitergeld).to compensate workers who are sent home by their employers during an economic crisis	March 18
France	USD10.8 bn mechanism to pay workers temporarily laid off by crisis-stricken businesses	March 18
UK	<ul> <li>USD8.2bn increase in the social security benefits payable to workers who lose their jobs.</li> <li>Job Retention Scheme: Public payment of up to 80% of wages of workers at risk during the crisis, capped at 2,500 pounds (2,912 dollars) per month if firms kept them on</li> <li>All households with difficulty paying mortgages will be offered a three-month payment holiday</li> </ul>	March 23 March 18
	<ul> <li>Weekly unemployment emergency payment of 350 euros.</li> <li>70% of workers wages - up to a maximum of 410 euros per week - for firms who can show their income has fallen by 25% and can try pay the rest of the salary.</li> </ul>	March 25 March 23
Others	<ul> <li>Greece:         <ul> <li>Temporarily unemployed workers to receive USD 864 grant in April.</li> <li>USD 216mn emergency funding is provided for the health system</li> <li>For affected employees and self-employed except the tax-free compensation of EUR 800 that the government will provide for April, all tax liabilities are suspended for the time being and the insurance debts on their nominal wages will be covered for 45 days.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	March 18  March 18
	<ul> <li>Austria: 20.52 billion dollars in emergency aid</li> <li>Portugal: <ul> <li>Government announces USD6.5 billion of coronavirus aid.</li> <li>Rules regulating the special temporary layoff regime are relaxed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

#### **Annex I - European Commission Temporary Framework**

#### Approved March 13, 2020

The Commission has adopted a Temporary Framework to enable Member States to use the full flexibility foreseen under State aid rules to support the economy in the context of the Coronavirus outbreak.

The Temporary Framework provides for five types of aid, which can be granted by Member States:

- (i) **Direct grants, selective tax advantages and advance payments**: Member States will be able to set up schemes to grant up to €800,000 to a company to address its urgent liquidity needs.
- (ii) State guarantees for loans taken by companies from banks: Member States will be able to provide State guarantees to ensure banks keep providing loans to the business customers who need them. These state guarantees can cover loans to help businesses cover immediate working capital and investment needs.
- (iii) **Subsidised public loans to companies**: Member States will be able to grant loans with favourable interest rates to companies. These loans can help businesses cover immediate working capital and investment needs.
- (iv) Safeguards for banks that channel State aid to the real economy: Some Member States plan to build on banks' existing lending capacities, and use them as a channel for support to businesses in particular to small and medium-sized companies. The Framework makes clear that such aid is considered as direct aid to the banks' customers, not to the banks themselves, and gives guidance on how to ensure minimal distortion of competition between banks.
- (v) **Short-term export credit insurance**: The Framework introduces additional flexibility on how to demonstrate that certain countries are not-marketable risks, thereby enabling short-term export credit insurance to be provided by the State where needed. The Commission will continue monitoring the situation and stands ready to amend the list of marketable risk countries if needed.

The Temporary Framework will be in place until the end of December 2020. With a view to ensuring legal certainty, the Commission will assess before that date if it needs to be extended.

[LINK] to document

## Annex II - Summary per Type of Measure

Type of Measures	Country
State Loans or Credit Guarantees for Enterprises	Germany
	France
	Italy
	UK
	Spain
Income subsidies for workers	Germany
	France
	Italy
	Spain
	Portugal
Tax Deferrals	Germany
	France
	UK
	Spain
Social Security Deferrals or Subsidies	Germany
	France
	Spain
Debt Repayment Holidays	Italy
	UK
	Spain

## 3. AMÉRICA DEL NORTE / NORTH AMERICA

## **Economic and Financial Policy Responses against COVID-19**

**US and Canada Overview** 

Key measures taken until March 27, 2020.

## 9. Monetary, Fiscal, and Macroeconomic Measures

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
US Goverment	03/06	Spending of \$8.3 billion. Funds to be used to bolster the country's capacity to test for coronavirus and fund other measures to stem an outbreak
US Government	03/19	Proposal: The Trump administration is considering to issue both 50-year and 25-year bonds to finance a \$1.3 trillion fiscal stimulus plan.  U.S. says will buy initial 30 million barrels of oil for strategic reserve.
US Government	03/24	<ul> <li>About \$500 billion in direct payments to people, in two waves of checks of up to \$1,200 per individual and \$500 per child making up to \$75,000 a year. Additional payments for families with children could push the total to \$3,000 for a family of four. Estimated cost: \$500 billion</li> <li>Some \$350 billion in loans to small businesses. Loans of up to \$10 million to cover employee salaries, rent and other costs.</li> <li>Up to \$500 billion in "liquidity assistance" for distressed industries. That figure would include \$25 billion in grants for airlines, \$4 billion for cargo carriers and \$3 billion for airline contractors to cover payroll costs. Government could get stock or equity in return. Executive pay above \$425,000 a year would be frozen two years. \$17 billion in loans for businesses important to maintaining national security.</li> </ul>

		<ul> <li>Republicans proposed \$150 billion for other industries</li> <li>At least \$75 billion for hospitals.</li> <li>Some \$250 billion for expanding unemployment insurance.</li> <li>\$150 billion for state, local and native American tribal governments.</li> <li>Link</li> <li>U.S. senators and Trump administration officials have reached an agreement on a massive economic stimulus bill.</li> <li>Link</li> </ul>
US Fed	03/17	The Fed will reopen the so-called Commercial Paper Funding Facility to underwrite the short-term loans that companies often use to pay for their operations. This includes \$10 billion from the U.S. Treasury's Exchange Stabilization Fund (ESF) to capitalize the new facility and help shield the Fed from losses.
US Fed	03/18	The Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility will make up to 1-year loans to financial institutions that pledge as collateral high-quality assets like U.S. Treasury bonds that they have purchased from money market mutual funds.  The US Federal Reserve allowed approved dealers in government debt, including the largest banks, to borrow cash against some stocks, municipal debt, and higher-rated corporate bonds.
US Fed	03/18	The US Federal Reserve allowed approved dealers in government debt, including the largest banks, to borrow cash against some stocks, municipal debt, and higher-rated corporate bonds.  Fed to buy commercial paper to ease market turmoil. The New York Fed will lend to a vehicle that will purchase highly rated three-month dollar-denominated commercial paper through the Fed's primary dealers. The US Treasury department will in turn provide the New York Fed with \$10bn of credit protection, to insure against losses.  The new programs mean the Fed will lend against student loans, credit card loans, and U.S. government backed-loans to small businesses, and buy bonds of larger

		employers and make loans to them in what amounts to four years of bridge financing.  A new "Main Street Business Lending Program" that will extend credit to small- and-medium sized businesses will also be announced "soon," the Fed said.
US Fed	03/19	Fed to buy commercial paper to ease market turmoil. The New York Fed will lend to a vehicle that will purchase highly rated three-month dollar-denominated commercial paper through the Fed's primary dealers. The US Treasury department will in turn provide the New York Fed with \$10bn of credit protection, to insure against losses.  The US Federal Reserve is broadening the swap lines to boost US dollar funding markets to additional countries including large emerging markets such as Brazil and Mexico as well as European nations including Denmark and Sweeden. New swap lines — lasting at least six months — would provide \$60bn each in dollar liquidity for the central banks of Australia, Brazil, South Korea, Mexico, Singapore and Sweden, as well as \$30bn each for the central banks of Denmark, Norway and New Zealand.
	03/23	The Federal Reserve Board announced a technical change to support the U.S. economy and allow banks to continue lending to creditworthy households and businesses.  The interim final rule will phase in gradually, as intended,
US Fed		the automatic restrictions associated with a firm's "total loss absorbing capacity," or TLAC, buffer requirements, if the levels decline. TLAC is an additional cushion of capital and long-term debt that could be used to recapitalize a bank if it is in distress. The change will facilitate the use of firms' buffers to promote lending activity to households and businesses.
		<u>Link</u>
US Fed	03/24	New programs to lend against student loans, credit card loans, and U.S. government backed-loans to small businesses, and buy bonds of larger employers and make loans to them in what amounts to four years of bridge financing.

		<b>Proposal:</b> A new "Main Street Business Lending Program" that will extend credit to small- and-medium sized businesses will also be announced "soon," the Fed said.
US Fed	03/25	BlackRock's Financial Markets Advisory unit will act as the investment manager for three new facilities: two Fedbacked vehicles that will buy corporate bonds, and a programme that will buy mortgage-backed securities issued by US government agencies.  BlackRock will also serve as investment manager for two new special-purpose vehicles that will buy primary and secondary market corporate bonds. The New York Fed will lend to both vehicles and the US Treasury Department will take an equity stake. <u>Link</u>
US/CB	03/20	The Fed said that it would increase the frequency of 7-day maturity operations from weekly to daily, starting on March 23, as part of its swap line arrangements with the Bank of Canada, Bank of England, Bank of Japan, European Central Bank and Swiss National Bank.
	03/18	The government will provide C\$55 billion (\$USD 38 billion) in additional aid to businesses and households through tax deferrals. The combined measures will put more than 3 percentage points of the country's annual output into circulation, officials said.
	03/25	Temporary wage subsidy for businesses for up to three months and taxpayers until August 2020 to pay their taxes. Support to exporters through the state-owned trade credit agency.
Canada	As of March 25	Canada's House of Commons agreed early on Wednesday to approve a C\$27 billion (\$18.8 billion) stimulus bill to help people and businesses deal with the coronavirus outbreak. The bill - which also includes C\$55 billion in the form of tax deferrals - must now be approved by the unelected Senate, <u>Link</u>
		Key measures adopted by the Bank of Canada include: i) reducing the overnight policy rate by 100 bps in March (to 0.75 percent); ii) an extension of the bond buyback program across all maturities; iii) launching the Bankers' Acceptance Purchase Facility that will conduct secondary market purchases of 1-month BAs issued and guaranteed

by any Canadian bank; iv) expanding the list of eligible collateral for Term Repo operations to the full range of eligible collateral for the Standing Liquidity Facility (SLF), except the Non-Mortgage Loan Portfolio (NMLP); v) supporting the Canada Mortgage Bond (CMB) market by purchasing CMBs in the secondary market; vii) announcing a temporary increase the amount of NMLP a participant can pledge for the SLF and for those participants that do not use NMLP; vii) announcing an increase in the target for settlement balances to \$1,000 million from \$250 million; viii) together with central banks from Japan, Euro Area, U.K., U.S., and Switzerland, announcing further enhancing the provision of liquidity via the standing US dollar liquidity swap line arrangements; and ix) the Bank of Canada will launch the Standing Term Liquidity Facility, under which loans could be provided to eligible financial institutions in need of temporary liquidity support.

Other measures in the financial sector include: i) OSFI, the bank regulator, lowered the Domestic Stability Buffer for D-SIBs to 1 percent of risk weighted assets (previously 2.25 percent); ii) under the Insured Mortgage Purchase Program, the government will purchase up to \$50 billion of insured mortgage pools through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC); iii) the federal government announced a \$10 billion (around 0.4 percent of GDP) credit facility at 2 Crown Corporations to lend to firms under stress; and iv) Farm Credit Canada will receive support from the federal government that will allow for an additional \$5 billion in lending capacity to producers, agribusinesses, and food processors.

#### 10. Large Enterprises Measures

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
	03/24	Under negotiation a nearly \$2 trillion emergency bill:
US Government		<ul> <li>Up to \$500 billion in "liquidity assistance" for distressed industries. That figure would include \$58 billion for airlines.</li> </ul>

<u>Link</u> Under negotiation agreement on a package of grants for passenger and cargo airlines and contractors worth \$32 billion.
The deal is expected to include \$25 billion in grants for passenger airlines, \$4 billion in grants for cargo carriers and \$3 billion for contractors like caterers. All funds would be directed toward payroll costs. The final deal is also expected to include another \$29 billion in loans for passenger and cargo airlines.
<u>Link</u>

## 11. MSMEs Measures

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
US government	03/24	<ul> <li>Under negotiation a nearly \$2 trillion emergency bill:</li> <li>Some \$350 billion in loans to small businesses. Loans of up to \$10 million to cover employee salaries, rent and other costs.</li> <li>Up to \$500 billion in "liquidity assistance" for distressed industries. That figure would include \$58 billion for airlines,</li> <li>Link</li> </ul>
US Banks	03/24	<ul> <li>Fed leans on community banks for virus relief:</li> <li>OceanFirst would grant 90 days of forbearance to customers on both mortgages and business loans.</li> <li>ANB Bank offer a three-month deferral on all commercial, home and car loans.</li> <li>Short-term loan modifications for customers hit by the current crisis will not be considered "troubled debt restructuring"</li> </ul>

# 12. Measures towards vulnerable or excluded population

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
US Government	03/24	<ul> <li>Proposal. Under negotiation a nearly \$2 trillion emergency bill:</li> <li>About \$500 billion in direct payments to people, in two waves of checks of up to \$1,200 per individual and \$500 per child making up to \$75,000 a year. Additional payments for families with children could push the total to \$3,000 for a family of four. Estimated cost: \$500 billion</li> <li>At least \$75 billion for hospitals</li> <li>Some \$250 billion for expanding unemployment insurance.</li> <li>Payments for jobless workers would increase up to \$600 per week per worker and laid-off workers would get those payments for up to four months. Regular benefits would be extended for an additional 13 weeks.</li> <li>A refundable 50% payroll tax credit for businesses affected. Tax write-off to encourage charitable deductions and encourage employers to help pay off student loans.</li> </ul>
US Government	03/18	<b>Proposal.</b> U.S. regulators are considering giving banks additional regulatory points for lending to mid- to low-income Americans.
US Government	03/20	The IRS is extending the federal income tax filing deadline to July 15 without incurring interest or penalties.
US Banks	03/20	Bank of America announced a number of relief efforts for small businesses and consumers, including deferred payments on credit cards, auto loans and mortgages as well as refunds for checking account fees. Requests for refunds and deferrals are handled on a case-by-case basis. <u>Link</u>
Canadá	03/18	Aid package C\$27 billion (USD18,6 billion)  The government will provide up to C\$900 every two weeks to workers who must stay home but do not qualify for

03/27	unemployment benefits, and a onetime special payment for low- and modest-income households, among other measures Canada will cover 75% of payroll wages for small businesses and give those companies access to one-year interest free loans so they can avoid laying off employees,
	<u>Link</u>

## **Summary per Type of Measures**

Type of Measures	Country	
Income subsidies for workers	US government proposal	
Tax Deferrals	US government	
	Canada	
Credit deferral	US Banks	
Credit support	FED	
U.S. Swap Facility	FED	
Liquidity facility	FED	
Credit Flow facility	FED	
Spending	US Government	
Aid Package	Canada	

# 4. ASIA/PACÍFICO Y OTRAS REGIONES / ASIA PACIFIC AND OTHER REGIONS

## **Economic and Financial Policy Responses against COVID-19**

Asia Pacific Overview

Key measures taken until March 27, 2020.

## 13. Monetary, Fiscal, and Macroeconomic Measures

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
Afghanistan	02/26	The government has allocated \$25 million in the budget to cover immediate expenses related to the epidemic. It is monitoring the situation closely and working on additional fiscal and support measures to be activated in response to the developing situation.  DaB is in discussions with money-service providers to ensure uninterrupted services, including transactions in foreign currency, and to encourage enhancement of their remote services.
Australia	03/22 as of 03/24	Fiscal stimolus for A\$66.4 billion (USD 38,5 billion). Any business with a turnover of less than A\$50 million (USD 29.85 million) will be eligible for A\$100,000 (USD 59,700) in assistance. Welfare payments for those who lose their jobs and those people already receiving welfare will be increased.
		Two economic stimulus packages have been approved in March 2020. The headline figure of the combined stimulus package amounts to a cumulative of A\$189 billion ( USD 117 billion, 9.7 percent of GDP) in net over FY2024, which includes support for households (A\$25 billion, USD 15,5 or 1.3 percent of GDP) and businesses (A\$38.8 billion, USD 24 billion or 2.0 percent of GDP), as well as balance-sheet support to ensure the flow of credit in the economy (up to A\$125 billion, USD 77.38 billion or 6.4 percent of GDP). The latter includes loan guarantees between the

03/19

Commonwealth government and participating banks to cover the immediate cash flow needs of SMEs (up to A\$20 billion, USD 12,38 billion or 1.0 percent of GDP). A package of RBA measures (A\$90 billion, USD 55,72 billion or 4.6 percent of GDP) is also included in the headline figure. Excluding the RBA measures, the total net fiscal package amounts to A\$101.6 billion (USD 62,9 billion or 5.2 percent of GDP) over FY2024. In addition, parliament approved an advance authorization of A\$40 billion (USD 24,76 billion) for unforeseen events.

In addition, the Commonwealth government has committed to spend an extra A\$2.4 billion (USD 1.49 billion or 0.1 percent of GDP) to strengthen the health system and protect the vulnerable people from the outbreak of COVID-19. The Commonwealth government has also agreed with the States and the Territories to share the public health costs incurred by the States and Territories in treating the COVID-19. Temporary measures to ensure the continuity of aged care, amounting to an additional A\$444.6 million, have been introduced.

The policy rate was cut by 25 basis points twice on March 3 and 19, to 0.25 percent. RBA has announced yield targeting on 3-year government bonds at around 0.25 percent through purchases of government bonds in the secondary market. To support liquidity, RBA will conduct one-month and three-month repo operations daily until further notice. Repo operations of longer-term maturities (six-months or longer) will be held at least weekly, as long as market conditions warrant. RBA has established a swap line with U.S. Fed for the provision of US dollar liquidity in amounts up to US\$60 billion. To allow banks to lend more to SMEs during the period of disruption caused by COVID-19, RBA has established a term funding facility of at least A\$90 billion (USD 55,7 billion) for SMEs lending, and the government is allocating up to A\$15 billion to invest in residential mortgage backed securities and asset backed securities. The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority has also provided temporary relief from its capital requirement, allowing banks to utilize some of their current large buffers to facilitate ongoing lending to the economy as long as minimum capital requirements are met. In addition, the Australian Banking Association has

		announced that Australian banks will defer loan repayments for small businesses affected by COVID-19 for six months. <u>Link</u>
Azerbaijan	As of March 25	Increased spending on public health (AzN 8.3 million). Announcent of support to the affected businesses in the amount of AzN 1 billion (USD 0,59 billion, 1 percent of GDP). Azerbaijan's government has provided \$5 million to the COVID-19 Fund as part of the WHO's Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan. On March 19, the CBA left the refinancing rate unchanged at 7½ percent, but raised the floor of the interest rate corridor (within a de facto floor system) by 125 bps to 6¾ percent. The authorities have announced their intention to extend the blanket deposit guarantee until December 4, 2020. The guarantee covers all manat (foreign currency) deposits within a 10 (2½) percent interest rate cap. The CBA, with the participation of the State Oil Fund, has conducted scheduled and extraordinary foreign exchange auctions, and has satisfied all demands for foreign currency at the announced 1.7 AzN/US\$ rate.
Bahrein	03/17 As of 03/25	On March 17, the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) expanded its lending facilities to banks by up to BHD 3.7 billion (USD 9,82 billion, or 26 percent of GDP) to facilitate deferred debt payments and extension of additional credit. The one-week deposit facility rate was cut (in two steps) from 2.25% to 1.0%, the overnight deposit rate from 2.0% to 0.75%, and the overnight lending rate (in one step) from 4.0% to 2.45%. Other key measures to support banks and their clients include: (i.) reducing the cash reserve ratio for retail banks from 5% to 3%; (ii.) relaxing loan-to-value ratios for new residential mortgages; (iii.) capping fees on debit cards; (iv.) requesting banks to offer a six-month deferral of repayments without interest or penalty and to refrain from blocking customers' accounts if a customer has lost his or her employment. The CBB is also following up with banks on suitability of banks' contingency plans.

#### <u>Link</u>

A BD 560 million (\$1.5 billion or 4.0 percent of GDP) stimulus package was announced on March 17. The package, effective for a period of three months from April, comprises seven initiatives: (i) payment of salaries for Bahrainis working in the private sector to be financed from the unemployment fund; (ii) payment of electricity and water bills for Bahraini individuals and companies; (iii) exemption of commercial entities from municipalities' fees; (iv) exemption of tourist facilities from tourism fees; (v) exemption of industrial and commercial entities from paying rent to the government; (vi) doubling of the size of the liquidity fund to support SMEs; (vii) and redirection of Tamkeen (a semi-autonomous government agency that provides loans and assistance to businesses) programs to support adversely affected companies, as well as restructuring of all debts issued by Tamkeen. In addition, to respond to urgent health needs created by COVID-19, the Cabinet has authorized the Minister of Finance and National Economy to withdraw from the general account up to BD 177 million or 1.3 percent of GDP.

#### Link

# As of March 25

To face expected increased demand for health care spending, the Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance is preparing a revised FY20 budget. Since March 11th, the Finance Division has allocated an additional Taka 2.5 billion (about US\$29 million) to the Health Services Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

#### Bangladesh

The government is also considering measures, including the expansion of existing transfer programs that benefit more vulnerable households, as well as mechanisms to support exporting industries. Increased allocation has been made to the Open Market Sale (OMS) program to ensure adequate food supply for lower-income class households, particularly those dependent on daily wages. The government also plans to declare a support package for different export-oriented industries employing in excess of 4 million workers. The National Board of Revenue has suspended temporarily duties and taxes on imports of

		medical supplies, including protective equipment and test kits.
		The focus of Bangladesh Bank has announced that it will buy treasury bonds and bills from Banks and issued circulars to delay non-performing loan classification, extend tenures of trade instruments, and ensure access to financial services. Effective March 24th, the repo rate has been lowered from 6 percent to 5.75 percent, while the CRR has been reduced to 4.5 percent from 5 percent on a daily-basis requirement and from 5.5 percent to 5 percent for the bi-weekly requirement.  Link
Brunei Darussalam	03/19	The Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) announced a six-month interim measures. Effective April 1, (i) businesses in the tourism, hospitality/event management, restaurants/cafes, and air transport sectors ("Affected Sectors") will be given a six-month deferment of their principal repayments of financing/loans; (ii) the deferment is also extended to importers of food and medical supplies; and (iii) all bank fees and charges (except third party charges) that are related to trade and for payments of transactions in those Affected Sectors will be waived for a period of six months. To encourage social distancing and promote the usage of digital banking, online local interbank transfer fees and charges will be waived for a period of six months for all customers. Banks are also encouraged to review their lending rates in this current environment.  Link
Cambodia	As of March 25	Additional fiscal resources to the health sector of around USD 70 million USD (around 0.2 percent of 2019 GDP) are expected. The government has announced a package of tax concessions, expenditure support, and credit support. Savings on current spending of about USD 30 million are also planned, and capital spending is to be streamlined by around USD 370 million.

		The National Bank of Cambodia has implemented four measures to improve liquidity in the banking system: (i) delaying additional increases in the Capital Conservation Buffer; (ii) cutting the interest rate in its Liquidity Providing Collateralized Operations, decreasing banks' funding costs in domestic currency; (iii) cutting the interest rate on Negotiable Certificates of Deposit (the collateral for LPCOs), to encourage banks to disburse loans; and (iv) lowering required reserves that banking and financial institutions must maintain at the National Bank of Cambodia both for local (riel) and foreign currencies.
	03/19	China is set to unleash trillions of yuan of fiscal stimulus. The spending will aim to spur infrastructure investment, backed by 2.8 trillion yuan (USD 394 billion) of local government special bonds. Key measures include: (i) Increased spending on epidemic prevention and control. (ii) Production of medical equipment. (iii) Accelerated disbursement of unemployment insurance. (iv) Tax relief and waived social security contributions. The overall fiscal expansion is expected to be significantly higher, reflecting the effect of already announced additional measures—including higher infrastructure investment and improvements of the national public health emergency management system—and automatic stabilizers.
China		China's central bank is in discussions to cut the interest rate banks pay on deposits for the first time since 2015, in a bid to help banks eke out higher profits as they are enlisted to help spur an economic recovery following the coronavirus outbreak. The PBC has taken key measures including: (i) liquidity injection into the banking system, including RMB 3 trillion in the first half of February, (ii) expansion of relending and re-discounting facilities by RMB 800 billion to support manufacturers of medical supplies and daily necessities (RMB 300 billion) as well as micro-, small- and medium-sized firms (RMB 300 billion) and the agricultural sector (RMB 100 billion) at low interest rates, (iii) reduction of the 7-day and 14-day reverse repo rates as well as the 1-year medium-term lending facility rate by 10 bps, (iv) targeted RRR cuts by 50-100 bps for banks that meet inclusive financing criteria which benefit smaller firms and

		an additional 100 bps for eligible joint-stock banks to support private SMEs, and (v) policy banks' credit extension to micro- and small enterprises (RMB 350 billion).
		Chinese banks have been told to extend loans to struggling companies, to reduce lending rates and increase their tolerance for bad debt created during the crisis. <u>Link</u>
	As of March 25	An estimated HK\$152 billion (USD 19,61 billion or 5.3 percent of GDP) of fiscal measures have been approved and are being implemented. Key measures include (i) establishment of a new Anti-Epidemic Fund (HK\$30 billion, USD 3,87 billion or 1.0 percent of GDP) to enhance anti-epidemic facilities and services; (ii) tax and fee reliefs and other one-off relief measures (HK\$51 billion, USD 6,58 billion or 1.8 percent of GDP); and (iii) cash payout to Hong Kong SAR permanent residents aged 18 or above (HK\$71 billion, USD 9,16 billion or 2.5 percent of GDP).
Hong Kong		Under the currency board arrangement, the Base Rate was adjusted downward to 1.50 and 0.86 percent on March 4 and March 16, respectively. The jurisdictional countercyclical capital buffer for Hong Kong SAR was reduced further from 2.0 to 1.0 percent on March 16. Key measures to provide financial relief include: (i) the introduction of low-interest loans for SMEs with 100 percent government guarantee; and (ii) other measures by banks to the extent permitted by their risk management principles, including delay of loan payment, extension of loan tenors, and principal moratoriums for affected SMEs, sectors, and households as appropriate. <u>Link</u>
	03/18	India's government and central bank are considering giving relief to banks, aviation and other hospitality sectors hit by the coronavirus outbreak by relaxing bad loan classification rules.
India	03/26	The government is discussing increasing timeline by 30-60 days to classify a loan as a bad loan. Currently, a debt not serviced for 90 days is classified as a bad loan. India's finance ministry announced a 1.7 trillion (\$22 billion) economic stimulus package. The package included delivering grains and lentil rations for three months to 800

## million people, some 60% of the world's second-most populous country. An additional 150 billion rupees (USD 2 billion, about 0.1 percent of GDP) will be devoted to health infrastructure, including for COVID-19 testing facilities, personal protective equipment, isolation beds, ICU beds 03/27 and ventilators. Some stimulus measures have been announced at the state level, the largest a 200 billion rupees (USD 2,67 billion) package in Kerala (2.5 percent of state GDP; 0.1 percent of India-wide GDP), which includes some direct transfers to poor households. The central government has also encouraged state governments to make direct transfers to unorganized construction workers from existing Labor Welfare Board funds India's central bank cut its key interest rate by a sizable 75 basis points to 4.4% from 5.15% to ease financing troubles caused by the coronavirus outbreak and help revive the economy. That's the lowest benchmark rate the Reserve Bank of India has charged on lending to commercial banks, its so-called "repo rate," since March 2010. The RBI will also allow banks a 3-month moratorium on payments of installments on loans. Link 03/18 Indonesia is reallocating a total of 17.17 trillion rupiah (USD1.13 billion) from the 2020 state budget for coronavirus response. Still defining the sectors to which the As resources should be relocated, having preference for SMEs. March 25 The government has announced two fiscal stimulus packages amounting to 33.2 trillion rupiah (about 0.2 percent of GDP). This first package comprises support to the tourism sector (tax cuts and discounts on airplane Indonesia tickets and jet-fuel) and to low-income households (social assistance and subsidy for home buyers). The package also aims to accelerate the roll-out of the Pre-Work Card, which provides periodic cash stipends for job seekers. The second package includes income tax exemptions to workers in the industrial sectors (with an income ceiling) and supports businesses through delayed payments for income tax and acceleration in VAT refund from April to September.

Bank Indonesia reduced the policy rate by 25 bps to 4.75 percent on February 20, 2020, and by another 25 bps to 4.5 percent on March 19. The Bank also announced other measures to ease liquidity conditions, including: (i) lowering reserve requirement ratios for banks; (ii) increasing the maximum duration for repo and reverse repo operations (up to 12 months); (iii) introducing daily repo auctions; (iv) increasing the frequency of FX swap auctions for 1, 3, 6 and 12 month tenors from three times per week to daily auctions; and (v) increasing the size of the main weekly refinancing operations as needed. To ease stock market volatility, the regulator OJK has introduced a new share buyback policy (allowing listed companies to repurchase their shares without a prior shareholders' meeting) and introduced limits on stock price declines. OJK has also relaxed loan classification and loan restructuring procedures for banks to encourage loan restructuring and extended the deadline—by 2 months—for publicly listed companies to release their annual financial reports and hold annual shareholders meetings. Link

As of March 25

Key measures include (i.) the disbursement of cash payments (USD 14-40) to 1.5 million poor households from March to June 2020; (ii.) extra funding for the National Committee on COVID-19, Tehran and other provinces (0.06 percent of GDP); and (iii.) refurbishing of schools in order to limit the spread of the virus. The government has also announced low interest rate loans and funds to cover employers' insurance for affected businesses, lending facilities for 4 million laid-off employees in firms disrupted by the virus and a three-month extension of the deadlines for tax payments. Sukuk bonds (0.5 percent of GDP) will provide part of the financing.

The Central Bank of Iran has (i.) announced the allocation of funds (0.06 percent of GDP) to import medicine; (ii.) agreed with commercial banks that they postpone by three months the repayment of loans due in February 2020; (iii.) offered temporary penalty waivers for customers with non-performing loans; and (iv.) expanded contactless payments and increased the limits for bank transactions in order to reduce the circulation of banknotes and the exchange of debit cards.

Iran

	1	
Iraq	As of March 25	Link  the Central Bank of Iraq has established a fund to collect donations from financial institutions with initial donations of \$20 million from the CBI itself and \$5 million from the Trade Bank of Iraq.  Link
Israel	As of March 25	The authorities announced a package of NIS 15 billion (USD 4,21 billion, about 1.1 of GDP), which includes NIS 2 billion (USD 0,56 billion) for health and other direct COVID19-related expenses and NIS 8 billion (USD 2,24 Billion) for public loan guarantees to SMEs. They also announced a series of expenditure and revenue measures including: (i) relaxation of requirements to obtain unemployment benefits and grants for laid-off workers; (ii) subsidies for the self-employed and SMEs; and (iii) deferred payments for income taxes, VAT, property taxes, social security contributions, and electricity and water bills. Key monetary policy measures include: (i) the announcement of government bond purchases up to NIS 50 billion (USD 14 billion); and (ii) repo operations to provide shekel liquidity to the banks. The Bank of Israel has taken measures to ease financial conditions for households and companies by: (i) increasing the loan-to-value cap on residence-backed loans (from 50 to 70 percent); (ii) raising the cap (from 20 to 22 percent) on the banks' loan portfolio allocated to construction companies; and (iii) allowing commercial banks to increase customers' overdraft credit facilities and suspend restrictions on accounts of customers with checks returned due to insufficient funds.  Link
Japan	03/09	Japan on Tuesday announced a second package of measures worth about \$4 billion in spending to cope with the fallout to the economy of the coronavirus outbreak, focusing on support for small and mid-sized firms. The government will also fund upgrades to medical facilities,

As of March 25

and subsidise working parents forced to go on leave because of closed schools.

Link

The Government of Japan adopted two emergency response packages (on February 13 and March 10), for a total amount of ¥446 billion (USD 4,13 billion, 0.1 percent of GDP). The packages included: (i) measures to contain the spread of the virus and enhance preparedness of the healthcare system (around ¥62 billion, USD 0,57 billion, or 0.01 percent of GDP); (ii) aid to households (about ¥223 billion, USD 2,07 billion, or 0.04 percent of GDP) such as enhanced paid-leave and compensation to working parents affected by the school closure; as well as (iii) measures to mitigate the economic impact (about ¥142 billion, USD 1,32 billion or 0.03 percent of GDP) including subsidies to firms who maintain employment during scale down of operations. The deadline for tax return filing and payment of personal income tax, gift tax, and consumption tax (for the self-employed) was extended from mid-March to mid-April. Tax payments for people and businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak are deferred. In addition, the ¥26 trillion (USD 0,24 trillion, about 4.8 percent of GDP) December 2019 stimulus package is being used to offset the adverse impact of COVID-19 on the economy as well as counter the economic slowdown. On March 19, the Government also launched "Intensive Hearing on the COVID-19's Impact on the Economy," attended by Prime Minister Abe and other key policymakers. To support the international response, the government has pledged ¥15 billion (about US\$140 million) as contributions to WHO and other international organizations. Japan has made a contribution of SDR14 million (US\$19 million) to the IMF's Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust.

03/16

Link

Cenbank Buying for 12 trillion yen (USD 112.6 billion). The BOJ decided to buy ETFs at an annual pace of around 12 trillion yen (USD112.55 billion), double the previous amount, until markets stabilise from the recent rout. It will also double the pace of purchases for Japanese real-estate trust funds (J-REIT) to 180 billion yen (USD 1,61 billion) per year. Other measures include doubling the pace of

		purchases for Japanese real-estate trust funds to 1.68 billion dollars besides setting aside 18.7 billion dollars for additional purchases of commercial paper and corporate bonds
	03/16	The Central Bank of Jordan reduced most policy rates by 50 basis points on March 3rd, and further by 100 basis points on March 16th. In addition, the Central Bank announced a package of measures aimed at containing the impact of the Coronavirus on the economy. The measures included: (i.) allowing banks to postpone the credit facilities installments granted to clients of sectors impacted by the virus; (ii.) pumping additional liquidity to the banks of JD 550 million by reducing the compulsory reserve ratio on deposits with banks from 7 percent to 5 percent.
Jordan		The Ministry of Finance announced a host of measure: (i.) the postponement, until the end of the year of the collection of sales tax on all domestic sectors, and imports related to health, and the supply of medicines; (ii.) the allocation of 50 percent of the maternity insurance revenues (JD 16 million, USD 22,57 million) to material assistance for the elderly and the sick; (iii.) the introduction of price ceilings on essential products; (iv.) the postponement of 70 percent of the value of customs duties for selected companies and the reduction of social security contributions from private sector establishments.
Kazakhstan	As of March 24	The anti-crisis package includes cash payments to the unemployed (\$95 per month per person), a lower VAT rate for food, as well as additional spending to strengthen the health sector and support employment and business. Subsidized lending will be provided under the state program ("Economy of Simple Things", KZT 1 trillion, USD 2,2 billion), along with actions to help small and mediumsized enterprises (SMEs) finance their working capital (KZT 600 billion USD 1,34 billion). An additional KZT 1 trillion (USD 2,2 billion) will be allocated to support employment under an "Employment Roadmap" program. SMEs and individual entrepreneurs are also eligible for new tax incentives.

		The National Bank (NBK) raised its policy rate from 9.25 percent to 12 percent and widened the interest rate corridor from 100 to 150 bps, after pressures on the tenge (KZT) intensified with the drop of oil prices. Banks have been instructed by the NBK and the financial supervisory agency to defer loan repayments and refrain from charging penalties and additional payments for overdue interest for borrowers affected by the emergency. There is also a regulatory loosening for lending to SMEs, with risk weights for SME exposure in tenge lowered from 75% to 50% and for FX loans from 200% to 100%. On March 23, authorities also ordered suspension of loan repayments for retail sector borrowers during the state of emergency.
Korea	03/04	Supplementary budget for 11.7 trillion won (USD 9.8 billion). Of the 11.7 trillion won proposed, 3.2 trillion won will make up for the revenue deficit while 8.5 trillion won will be extra fiscal injection.
	03/18	The finance ministry and the Bank of Korea announced moves that are expected to beef up dollar supply in the market by \$5 billion to \$10 billion.
	03/19	Financing for 50 trillion won (USD 39 billion). Emergency financing for small businesses and other stimulus measures. The government will issue loan guarantees for struggling small businesses with less than 100 million won (\$78,000) in
	As of March 24	
		Direct measures amount to 0.8 percent of GDP (approximately KRW 16 trillion, USD 13 billion). Health care measures: prevention, testing, and treatment costs, and loans and support for medical institutions. Measures for households: transfers to quarantined households, employment retention support, consumption coupons for low-income households, and emergency family care support. Measures for firms: loans and guarantees for business operation, and support of wages and rent for small merchants. Measures for local communities: local gift certificates and local government grants for costs of responding. Revenue measures: consumption tax cut for auto purchases; tax cuts for landlords who reduce rent for

commercial tenants; VAT reduction for the self-employed; and tax payment deferral covering a broad range of taxes for small businesses and the self-employed in medical, tourism, performance, hospitality, and other affected sectors. Effective March 16, stock short-selling in the equity markets was prohibited for a period of six months and rules on share buybacks were eased. The Bank of Korea (BOK) lowered the Base Rate by 50 basis points, from 1.25 percent to 0.75 percent, effective March 17, 2020. On March 19, the BOK announced it would purchase KRW 1.5 trillion in Korean Treasury Bonds. To strengthen financial support for SMEs, the BOK increased the ceiling of the Bank Intermediated Lending Support Facility by a total of KRW 5 trillion (about 0.26% of GDP) and lowered the interest rate to 0.25 percent (from 0.5-0.75 percent). The BOK also broadened the eligible collateral for open market operations and lending facilities and has started to conduct repo operations with non-banks. On March 24, President Moon announced a financial stabilization plan of KRW 100 trillion (5.3 percent of GDP). The main elements are: 1) expanded lending of both state-owned and commercial banks to SMEs, small merchants, mid-sized firms, and large companies (the latter on a case-by-case basis) including emergency lending, partial and full guarantees, and collateralization of loan obligations; 2) a bond market stabilization fund to purchase corporate bonds, commercial paper, and financial bonds; 3) financing by public financial institutions for corporate bond issuance through collateralized bond obligations and direct bond

As of March 24

The government has submitted to parliament a draft law that would allocate KD 500 million (\$1.6 billion or 1.4 percent of GDP) additional funds to support governmental entities' efforts in fighting the spread of COVID-19. The

relevant institutions.

purchases; 4) short-term money market financing through stock finance loans, BOK repo purchases, and refinancing support by public financial institutions; and 5) an equity market stabilization fund financed by financial holding companies, leading financial companies, and other

		details on how these funds will be disbursed have not been made public yet.  Following the U.S. Fed decision to cut interest rates to zero, the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) reduced interest rates on all monetary policy instruments by 1 percentage point and committed to provide liquidity as needed. The CBK is working with commercial banks to ensure uninterrupted access to financial services, including online banking, payment, settlement and electronic clearing systems, and access to disinfected banknotes. The CBK also set up a KD 10 million (\$31.9 million) fund, financed by Kuwaiti banks, to support government's efforts in combating the virus and instructed banks to support impacted businesses and SMEs. The CBK increased the limit for contactless payments to KD 25 from KD 10, suspended the fees on point of sales devices and ATM withdrawals for three months. Kuwait Banking Association announced that banks will postpone loan payments and cancel interest and any other fees for Kuwaiti clients, including the SMEs, for six months.
Lebanon	As of March 24	The Banque Du Liban (BDL) issued circular 547, allowing banks and financial institutions to extend exceptional five-year zero percent interest rate loans in Lebanese Pounds and in dollars to customers that already have credit facilities but are unable to meet their obligations, operating expenses, or pay the salaries to their employees during March, April and May 2020 as a result of the interruption of activity due to the COVID-19. BDL will in turn provide banks and financial institutions five-year zero percent interest rate credit lines in dollars equivalent to the value of exceptional loans granted.
Malaysia	As of March 25	A fiscal stimulus package of RM 6 billion (USD 1,36 billion, 0.4 percent of GDP) was approved on February 27, 2020. The measures include: (i) increased spending on medical equipment and personnel; (ii) temporary tax relief; (iii) a temporary reduction of the Employer Provident Fund (EPF) minimum statutory contribution rate from employees from 11 to 7 percent; (iv) targeted cash transfers; and (v) infrastructure investment and maintenance spending. Additional measures—electricity discounts and temporary

pay leave—amounting to RM 0.62 billion (USD 0,14 billion, less than 0.1 percent of GDP) were announced on March 16, 2020. A second stimulus package will be released on March 27, 2020. This package will reportedly include additional health spending and transfers to local governments to fight COVID-19. Furthermore, employees will be allowed special withdrawals from their EPF account for a 12-month period.

Several measures have been taken: (i) on March 3, 2020, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) lowered the Overnight Policy Rate (OPR) by 25 basis points to 2.50 percent, citing market disruptions, greater risk aversion and financial market volatility, and tighter financial conditions due to COVID-19; (ii) BNM lowered the Statutory Reserve Requirement (SRR) Ratio by 100 basis points to 2 percent effective 20 March 2020 and allowed each Principal Dealer to recognize MGS and MGII of up to RM1 billion (USD 0,23 billion) as part of the SRR compliance until March 2021. BNM expects these combined measures to release approximately RM30 billion (USD 6,93 billion) worth of liquidity into the banking system. BNM also allocated RM3.3 billion (USD 0,76 billion, 0.2 percent of GDP) to three financing facilities (available from March 6, 2020) in support of SMEs. Participating financial institutions will obtain a public guarantee; (iii) on March 23, 2020, the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) and Bursa Malaysia suspended short-selling until April 30 to mitigate risks arising from heightened volatility and global uncertainties. The SC also waived annual licensing fees for capital market licensed entities. (iv) on March 25, 2020, BNM announced measures temporarily easing regulatory and supervisory compliance on banks to enable them to support loan deferment and restructuring.

# As of March 25

Myanmar

Measures include: (i) the allotment of MMK 300 million (US\$0.2 million) to the Ministry of Health and Sports for additional health related expenditures; (ii) income and commercial tax payments due in the second and third quarters of the fiscal year have been made extendable to end of the fiscal year, and an exemption for the 2 percent advance income tax on exports to the end of the fiscal year has been announced; and (iii) a COVID 19 Fund worth MMK 100 billion (US\$70 million, 0.1 percent of GDP) has

		been established at the Myanmar Economic Bank to provide soft loans to affected business (particularly the priority garment and tourism sectors and SMEs) at a 1 percent per annum interest rate for a one-year period, with terms to be reassessed as needed.  The Central Bank of Myanmar cut the policy interest rate by 0.5 percentage points on March 12 and announced a further 1 percentage point cut to be effective April 1. Deposit auctions have been halted to maintain adequate liquidity in the interbank market.  Link
New Zealand	03/17	Fiscal stimolus for NZ\$12 billion (USD 7.3 billion). The fiscal package included wage subsidies, tax cuts, income support, investments into health and support for an aviation sector hit hard by travel restrictions. Key measures include: healthcare-related spending to reinforce capacity (NZ\$0.5 billion, USD 0,3 billion or 0.2 percent of GDP); a permanent increase in social spending to protect vulnerable people (total NZ\$2.4 billion, USD 1,45 billion or 0.8 percent of GDP over the next four years); a lump sum 12-week wage subsidy to support employers severely affected by the impact of COVID-19 (NZ\$9.3 billion, USD 5,62 billion or 3.1 percent of GDP); a permanent change in business taxes to help cashflow (NZ\$2.8 billion, USD 1,69 billion or 0.9 percent of GDP over next four years); and, support for the aviation sector (NZ\$0.6 billion, USD 0,36 billion or 0.2 percent of GDP). The government has also approved a NZ\$0.9 billion (USD 0,54 billion) debt funding agreement (convertible to equity) with Air New Zealand to ensure continued freight operations, domestic flights and limited international flights. The government is expediting urgent work on new income support measures for all workers above and beyond the wage subsidy scheme.
New Zealand (RBNZ)	03/23	Asset purchase programme up to NZ\$30 billion (\$17 billion) of New Zealand government bonds, across a range of maturities, in the secondary market over the next 12 months.
New Zealand (RBNZ)	03/20	The central bank announced emergency measures including term loans to banks and an agreement with the U.S. Federal Reserve to access up to \$30 billion to support the economy from the impact of coronavirus.

		The NZ government, the RBNZ and retail banks have also announced a number of financial measures to support SMEs and homeowners. These include a six-month loan moratorium to mortgage holders and SMEs affected by COVID-19 and a NZ\$6.25 billion (3.77 billion) business finance guarantee scheme for SME loans, in which the government covers 80 percent of the credit risk. The government has also announced a six month freeze on residential rent increases and increased protections for tenants for termination of tenancies.
Oman	03/19	The government announced several measures: the suspension of municipal taxes and some government fees (until end-August) and rent payments for companies in industrial zones (for the next three months), reduction of port and air freight charges, as well as postponement of loan servicing for borrowers of Oman Development Bank and SME support fund for six months.  The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) announced a set of policy measures effective immediately in terms of additional liquidity at OR 8 billion (US\$ 20.8 billion). The measures included: reduction in the interest rate on repo operations by 75 basis points to 0.5 percent, and extension of the period of repo operations to three months; reductions in the interest rates for other money market instruments; reduction in the capital conservation buffer by 50 percent; increase in the lending ratio by 5 percent; accepting with immediate effect requests by affected borrowers for deferment of loan installment payments for the next six months without adverse impact on risk classification of such loans; deferring the risk classification of loans related to government projects for six months.  Link
Pakistan	03/18	Central Bank has instructed banks to waive all charges on fund transfers through online banking channels for customers. Banks have been advised to facilitate their customers in using online banking while taking all necessary precautions to ensure the safety and security of customer's funds. SBP announced two new refinancing facilities: first, the 'Temporary Economic Refinancing Facility' (TERF) worth PKR 100 billion in bank refinancing to stimulate investment in new manufacturing plants and

## 03/24 machinery at 7 percent fixed for 10 years; second, the "Refinance Facility for Combating COVID-19" (RFCC) worth PKR 5 billion to support hospitals and medical centers the purchase of equipment to detect, contain, and treat COVID-19. On March 24, 2020, SBP cut the policy rate by 150 basis points, and announced that it will follow with regulatory measures in coordination with banks. A relief package worth PKR 1.2 trillion (USD 9,8 billion) has been announced including: (i.) an elimination of the import duties on imports of emergency health equipment; (ii.) relief to daily wage workers (PKR 200 billion, USD 1,75 billion), (iii.) cash transfers to low-income families (PKR 150 billion, USD 0,91 billion), (iv.) accelerated tax refunds to the export industry (PKR 100 billion, USD 0,60 billion), and (v.) financial support to SMEs (PKR 100 billion, USD 0,6 billion). The economic package also earmarks resources for an accelerated procurement of wheat in the coming weeks (PKR 280 billion, USD 1,69 billion), financial support to utility stores (PKR 50 billion, USD 0,30 billion), relief in fuel prices (PKR 70 billion, USD 0,42 billion), support for health and food supplies (PKR 15 billion, USD 9,1 million), electricity bill payments relief (PKR 110 billion, USD 0,66 billion), an emergency energy provision (PKR 100 billion, USD 0,6 billion), and a transfer to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) for the purchase of necessary equipment to deal with the pandemic (PKR 25) billion, USD 0,15 billion). As The government has announced a PHP 27.1 billion fiscal March 25 package (USD 0,52 billion) about 0.15 percent of 2019 GDP), which comprises the following measures: additional purchase of COVID 19 testing kits and health equipment; social protection for vulnerable workers; and support to the tourism and agriculture sectors. Financial assistance will also be provided to affected SMEs and vulnerable **Philippines** households through specialized microfinancing loans and loan restructuring. he BSP has announced a series of regulatory relief measures for the banking sector, including: (1) a temporary relaxation of requirements on compliance reporting, penalties on required reserves, and single borrower limits; (2) easier access to the BSP's rediscounting facility; and (3) a temporary relaxation of provisioning requirements

		(subject to the BSP approval). These relief measures are intended to encourage banks, in turn, to provide financial relief to their borrowers (e.g., temporary grace period for loan payments). Banks are also expected to suspend all fees and charges imposed on online banking platforms during the period of regulatory relief. <u>Link</u>
Qatar	As of March 25	Qatar's QAR 75 billion (\$20.6 billion or about 13 percent of GDP) package to reduce the effects of COVID-19 was announced on March 16. The program aims at shoring up small businesses and hard-hit sectors (hospitality, tourism, retail, commercial complexes, and logistics), including through six-month exemptions on utilities payments (water, electricity). Food and medical goods are exempt from customs duties for six months (provided that this is reflected in the selling price), and the price and profits for sanitizers and antiseptics have been set. Logistics areas and small and medium industries are exempt from rent payments for six months.  QCB has put in place mechanisms to encourage banks to postpone loan installments and obligations of the private sector with a grace period of six months. The Qatar Development Bank will postpone installments of all borrowers for six months. Government funds have been directed to increase investments in the stock market by QAR 10 billion (\$2.75 billion).  Link
Russia	As of March 23	Key measures include: (i) increased compensation for medical staff as well as for health and safety inspectors; (ii) individuals under quarantine to receive sick leave benefits and federal budget to guarantee unemployment benefits paid by regional governments; (iii) zero import duties introduced for socially important goods; (iv) subsidized and guaranteed loans for SMEs, retailers, and distributors; (v) 3-month grace periods for SME payments of social contributions and rent to the government; (vi) government guarantees for restructured loans; (vii) tax deadlines extended for tourism and aviation industries, as well as for SMEs and other affected industries; (vii) tourism

	03/26	companies not to pay contributions to the tourist sector reserve funds; and (vii) suspension of onsite checks by tax authorities. The authorities have released partial cost estimates for the measures, so far amounting to RUB 0.3 trillion (0.3 percent of GDP).  Central Bank of Russia introduced temporary regulatory easing for banks intended to help the transport and tourism sectors, and more favorable treatment for FX loans issued to pharmaceutical and medical supplies companies. Banks have been allowed not to worsen the credit classification of SMEs, thus avoiding additional loan loss reserves, and to value securities at their price from March 1. FX operations can also be valued at the exchange rate of March 1, except for those on open forex positions. The CBR has introduced a new RUB 500bn facility for SME lending and reduced the interest rate on the existing RUB 175bn facility. Measures for households include reduced risk weights on mortgages and allowing restructuring of bank loans for those with confirmed coronavirus infections, so long as banks' regulatory requirements are not impacted. Russia to tax bank deposits to fund coronavirus package. "1 per cent" of depositors would be affected by his decision to fund the measures through a tax on interest earned from deposits worth more than Rbs1m (\$12,900). The measure will impose a 13 per cent tax on interest earned on the deposits. Link
Samoa	As of March 25	The support for the private sector includes: a temporary exemption on import duties on most commonly bought food items for households; duty concessions to be applied to an expanded list of agricultural and fishing materials; a grace period of three months to be applied for all loan payments; and a six-month moratorium on pension contributions for the hospitality sector. Support for citizens includes: establishment of the Emergency Price Control Board to keep wholesale and retail prices in check and bring them down, if necessary; provision of financial assistance to members of the National Provident Fund in the form of a refund of their loan payments for March 2020; and a temporary reduction of utility bills (both electricity and water) for six months through September 2020.

		The Central Bank of Samoa (CBS) encourage commercial banks to reduce interest rates, and/or associated bank fees and charges. The proposed fiscal and economic response package includes provision of a three-month grace period to be applied for all loan payments. To compensate part of the losses in interest income, local commercial banks will receive payments from the government.
Saudi Arabia	03/20	A SAR 70 billion (\$18.7 billion or 2.7 percent of GDP) private sector support package includes the suspension of government tax payments, fees, and other dues to provide liquidity to the private sector and an increase in available financing through the National Development Fund. The authorities have also announced that they will reduce spending in non-priority areas of the 2020 budget by SAR 50 billion (USD 13,3 billion, 1.9 percent of GDP) to accommodate some of these new initiatives within the budget envelope.
		The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) announced a SAR 50 billion (\$13.3 billion, 1.9 percent of GDP) package to support the private sector, particularly SMEs, by providing funding to banks to allow them to defer payments on existing loans and increase lending to businesses. The central bank will also cover fees for private sector stores and entities for point-of-sale and e-commerce transactions for 3 months.
Seychelles	03/24	The Central Bank of Seychelles (CBS) reduced the policy rate by 100 bps to 4 percent and announced that a credit facility of approximately \$36 million will be set up to assist commercial banks with emergency relief measures to assist businesses and individuals. The CBS also announced that commercial banks, the Development Bank of Seychelles (DBS) and the Seychelles Credit Union have agreed to consider a moratorium of six months on the repayment of principal and interest on loans to assist businesses in impacted sectors. The six-month moratorium may also apply to individuals.
Singapore	As of March 25	On February 14, the 2020 Budget announced a package of measures amounting to \$\$6.4 billion to deal with the economic slowdown and the uncertainties of the COVID-19

outbreak. Funds to contain the outbreak, provided mainly to the Ministry of Health, amount to \$\$800 million. The Care and Support Package provides support to households (\$\$1.6 billion), including through a cash payout and an additional goods and services tax (GST) voucher. The Stabilization and Support Package provides support to businesses (\$\$4.0 billion), including wage subsidies as well as additional support for industries directly affected and self-employed persons.

On March 26, a supplementary budget was announced with additional measures worth over \$\$48 billion. The package includes an expansion of wage subsidies, a tripling of cash payouts to households, enhancement of financing schemes and setting aside loan capital of \$\$20 billion, and additional support to the most affected sectors.

03/26

On February 14, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) welcomed the announcements from banks and insurers including moratoriums on repayments for affected corporate and individual customers, extension of payment terms for trade finance facilities, and additional financing for working capital.

On March 19, 2020, the MAS announced the establishment of a US\$60 billion swap facility with the US Federal Reserve. The MAS intends to draw on this swap facility to provide USD liquidity to financial institutions in Singapore.

On March 26, the MAS announced that the first auction under the US\$60 billion MAS USD Facility with the Federal Reserve will be conducted on March 27, 2020, where US\$10 billion in 7-day funds will be offered. MAS will conduct another two auctions on March 30, where US\$12 billion in 7-day funds and US\$8 billion in 84-day funds will be offered. After this, regular weekly auctions will be conducted every Monday.

Singapore is to unleash a S\$48.6bn (\$33.8bn) stimulus package.

Singapore's president, has given in-principle support to draw up to S\$17bn from past reserves. The move, subject to parliamentary approval, would mark just the second time Singapore has drawn on this pool after taking S\$4.9bn to help finance a S\$20.5bn stimulus package during the global financial crisis in 2009.

		<u>Link</u>
Sri Lanka	As of March 24	The government has allocated up to 0.1 percent of GDP for quarantine and other containment measures, as well as US\$5 million (0.01 percent of GDP) to the SAARC COVID-19 Emergency Fund. The 2020 Q1 payment deadline for income tax, VAT and certain other taxes has been extended until end-April. Other measures announced include tax exemptions for imported masks and disinfectant, price ceilings on essential food items such as eggs, lentils and fish, as well as concessional loans and food allowances for low income consumers (beneficiaries of the Samurdhi program). The President has also established a special fund for containment, mitigation and social welfare spending, inviting local and foreign tax-free donations.  The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) reduced monetary policy rates by 25 basis points on March 16 and lowered the required reserve ratio on domestic currency deposits of commercial banks by one percentage point to ease liquidity conditions. The President has also announced a wideranging debt repayment moratorium, which includes a six month moratorium on bank loans for the tourism, garment, plantation and IT sectors, related logistics providers, and small & medium size industries, with reduced rate working capital loans for these sectors. There will also be a six month moratorium on leasing loans for three-wheelers, and a three-month moratorium on small-value personal banking and leasing loans. The interest rate on credit cards will be capped, for transactions up to a certain amount, with a reduction in the minimum monthly repayment. In addition, the President has announced that state-owned financial institutions will invest in treasury bonds and bills to stabilize the money market interest rate at 7 percent.
Thailand	As of March 25	In response to COVID-19, Cabinet has approved fiscal stimulus measures amounting to at least 3 percent of GDP or THB 518 billion (USD 15,92 billion) consisting of: i) health-related spending, including preventive and remedial measures; ii) cash handouts and soft loans for 3 million workers outside the social security system; and iii) support for businesses through soft loans from FIs and Social Security Office, lower withholding tax and higher tax expense deduction for SMEs, lower water and electricity

bills, and lower employees' and employers' social security contributions.

The policy rate was reduced by 50 bps from 1.25 to 0.75 percent during the first quarter of 2020. In addition, a number of measures have been approved: (i) additional loans for circulation capital as well as reductions in interest and/or fees to make sure that debtors can keep their businesses operational; (ii) low interest loans (at 2 percent interest for a period of 2 years, not over 20 million Baht per customer); (iii) relaxation of repayment conditions and debt restructuring by suspending the principal and reducing the interest rate for the debts to SFIs; and (iv) relaxation of the maximum limit of personal loans for emergency cases.

To lower the volatility of the government bond yield and ensure the normal functioning of the government bond market, the Bank of Thailand (BOT) purchased government bonds in excess of 100 billion baht (USD 3 billon) during 13-20 March 2020, and will do more if necessary. The BOT reduced and cancelled BOT bond issuance. The Ministry of Finance, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the BOT (i) set up a special facility to provide liquidity for mutual funds through commercial banks (BOT's preliminary estimate of eligible bond mutual funds is approximately THB 1 trillion); and (ii) set up a THB 70-100 billion Corporate Bond Stabilization Fund to invest in high-quality, newly issued bonds by corporates to assist in debt rollover. Link

### United Arab Emirates

The authorities have so far announced about AED 26.5 billion (\$ 7.2 billion or 1.8 percent of GDP) in various fiscal measures. These include: (i.) AED 16 (\$4.4 billion) approved by the federal government to support the private sector by reducing various government fees and accelerating existing infrastructure projects; (ii.) AED 1.5 billion (\$0.4 billion) to reduce government fees, provide additional water and electricity subsidies, and simplify business procedures; and (iii.) AED 9 billion (\$2.5 billion) announced by the government of Abu Dhabi as part of the ongoing "Ghadan-21" fiscal stimulus program. The new initiatives provide for water and electricity subsidies as well as credit guarantees and liquidity support to small-and medium-sized enterprises. In addition, the government of Abu Dhabi has announced a reduction or

		suspension of various government fees and penalties, as well as a rebate on commercial lease payments in the tourism and hospitality sectors.  The Central Bank of the UAE (CBUAE) has reduced its policy interest rate twice by a combined 125 basis points so far this year. Furthemore, on March 14, CBUAE has unveiled a AED 100 billion package (\$27 billion or 6.7% of GDP) comprising: i) zero-interest rate collateralized loans to banks (AED 50 billion, USD 13,5 billion); ii) allowing the use of banks' excess capital buffers (AED 50 billion, USD 13,5 billion); iii) 15-25 percent reduction in provisioning for SME loans; iv) increase of loan-to-value ratio for first-time home buyers by 5 percentage points; v) limiting bank fees for SMEs; vi) waiver of all payment service fees charged by CBUAE for six months; vii) raising the limit on banks' exposure to the real estate sector from to 30% of risk-weighted assets, subject to adequate provisioning.
Uzbekistan	As of March 24	The government announced an Anti-Crisis Fund of UZS 10 trillion (about USD 1 billion or 1½ percent of GDP) to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. It will: (i.) expand funding for healthcare, including for medicines, the costs of quarantines, and a salary supplement for medical employees; (ii.) increase the number of low-income families receiving social benefits; (iii.) provide assistance to affected businesses via interest subsidies;; and (iv.) finance public works in different regions to improve the infrastructure and support employment. The authorities also announced the temporary reduction of social contributions for individual entrepreneurs, postponing surcharges on tourism, extending the moratorium on tax audits, and delaying tax declarations for 2019 income taxes (until August). The central government also asked local governments to reduce taxes by 30 percent and provide a 6-month grace period on paying property tax. The central bank suggested banks defer loan payments for firms in sectors affected by COVID-19. Consequently, state-owned banks are extending maturities of loan repayments for the affected sectors, including for the national air carrier.
Vietnam	As of March 24	The government allocated 51 million USD for health spending from the central contingency budget. Announced

measures include: (i) 30 trillion VND tax and land rental payment deferrals (for 5 months) to support affected entities; (ii) affected firms are allowed to defer their contribution (due Mar-Jun) to the pension fund with no interest penalty for late payment; (iii) tax exemptions for medical equipment; (iv) lower business registration fee effective from Feb. 25 (one-year exemption of business registration tax for newly established household business; first 3-year exemption of business registration tax for SMEs); and (v) streamline tax and custom audit and inspection at firms. The government is also considering increasing health spending by 50 percent of the central contingency budget (800 million USD); continued exemption of agricultural land use tax for households and farmers; corporate income tax relief for SMEs; and preferential tariffs on key items.

The authorities announced a credit package totaling VND 250 trillion (USD 11 billion, about 3.3 percent of GDP) from the banking sector for affected firms and households. As of Mar. 3, banks have supported more than 44,000 customers, with outstanding loans of about VND 222,000 billion (USD 96 billion, by either rescheduling repayment, exempting, and reducing interest on existing debts, exempting and reducing fees (including interbank transaction fees for small amounts, and credit information subscription fees). Several fees for securities services have been also reduced or made exempt between Mar. 19 to Aug. 31 to support the stock market.

#### 14. Large Enterprises Measures

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
Australia	03/18	The Australian government said it would refund and waive charges to airlines such as domestic air traffic control fees worth A\$715 million (\$430 million), including A\$159 million upfront.

## 15. MSMEs Measures

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
Abu Dhabi	03/19	Abu Dhabi has announced a 5 billion dirham (USD1.36 billion) water and electricity subsidies for citizens and businesses.  Rental rebates are also being offered to restaurants, as well as the tourism and entertainment sectors for the next 3 months as temporary measures.
Australia	As of March 24	To allow banks to lend more to SMEs RBA has established a term funding facility of at least A\$90 billion (USD 55,7 billion) for SMEs lending, and the government is allocating up to A\$15 billion to invest in residential mortgage backed securities and asset backed securities. The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority has also provided temporary relief from its capital requirement, allowing banks to utilize some of their current large buffers to facilitate ongoing lending to the economy as long as minimum capital requirements are met. In addition, the Australian Banking Association has announced that Australian banks will defer loan repayments for small businesses affected by COVID-19 for six months.
Australia	03/18	The government unveiled an AUD 17.6 billion (USD 10,5 billion) stimulus package AUD 6.7 billion (USD 4 billion) for the cash flow of SMEs AUD 4.8 billion (USD 2.87 billion) for over six million welfare recipients and low-income earners (AUD 750, USD 448 one-off cash payment from March 31) Underwriting 50% of up A\$40 billion (USD 23.88 billion) in loans offered by local lenders to small and medium sized companies.
China	02/25	China will increase yuan re-lending and re-discount quotas by 500 billion yuan (USD 70 billion) to help smaller banks increase support to small and medium-sized businesses. China will also increase policy banks' loan quota by 350 billion yuan (USD 49 billion) to make loans targeting private, small and medium enterprises.  The government provided measured forbearance to provide financial relief to affected households, corporates, and regions facing repayment difficulties. Key measures include (i) delay of loan payments and other credit support measures for eligible SMEs and households, (ii) tolerance for

		higher NPLs for loans by epidemic-hit sectors and SMEs, (iii) flexibility in the implementation of the asset management reform, and (iv) easing of housing policies by local governments.
Hong Kong	As of March 25	Key measures to provide financial relief include: (i) the introduction of low-interest loans for SMEs with 100 percent government guarantee; and (ii) other measures by banks to the extent permitted by their risk management principles, including delay of loan payment, extension of loan tenors, and principal moratoriums for affected SMEs, sectors, and households as appropriate. <u>Link</u>
India	03/27	RBI introduced regulatory measures to promote credit flows to the retail sector and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and provided regulatory forbearance on asset classification of loans to MSMEs and real estate developers. CRR maintenance for all additional retail loans has been exempted and the priority sector classification for bank loans to NBFCs has been extended for on-lending for FY 2020-21. The RBI asked financial institutions to assess the impact on their asset quality, liquidity and other parameters due to spread of the COVID-19 and take immediate contingency measures, including BCPs, to manage the risks following the impact assessment.
Iraq	As of March 25	The Central Bank has announced a moratorium on interest and principal payments by small and medium-sized enterprises through its directed lending initiative (the "one trillion ID" initiative), and encouraged banks to extend maturities of all loans as they deem appropriate. The Central Bank also encouraged the use of electronic payments to contain the transmission of the virus, and instructed vendors to eliminate commissions on such payments for the next six months.  Link
Korea	03/19	Financing for 50 trillion won (USD 39 billion). Emergency financing for small businesses and other stimulus measures. The government will issue loan guarantees for struggling

small businesses with less than 100 million won (\$78,000) in
annual revenue to ensure they can easily and cheaply get
access to credit

16. Measures towards vulnerable or excluded population

Country/Institution	Date	Measure
	03/12	Stimolus for A\$17.6 billion (USD11.4 billion). The package will subsidise the wages of 120,000 apprentices, offer one-off cash payments for welfare recipients and give up to A\$25,000 (\$16,160) to small businesses. More than 6 million welfare recipients, notably pensioners and unemployed citizens, will get a one-off cash payment of A\$750 from March 31, he added.
Australia		The Commonwealth government has committed to spend an extra A\$2.4 billion (USD 1.49 billion or 0.1 percent of GDP) to strengthen the health system and protect the vulnerable people from the outbreak of COVID-19. The Commonwealth government has also agreed with the States and the Territories to share the public health costs incurred by the States and Territories in treating the COVID-19. Temporary measures to ensure the continuity of aged care, amounting to an additional A\$444.6 million, have been introduced.
Hong Kong	03/19	Hong Kong had announced cash transfers worth almost \$10 billion to its residents to cover for COVID-19 emergency
India	03/19	<b>Proposal:</b> The government is looking at cash transfers as one of the alternatives. Still not clear about the amount.
Japan	03/10	430.8 billion yen (USD 4.1 billion) aid package. The new package will fund improvements to medical facilities, ease the supply and demand of masks, promote working from home, and provide subsidies to working parents who must take leave because of closed schools.
New Zealand	03/18	The government unveiled a NZD 12.1 billion (USD 12.1 billion) stimulus package.  NZD 8 billion (USD 4.66 billion) for wage subsidies and income support, as well as funds to redeploy workers in the hardest-hit regions.
New Zealand	03/19	Government announced 03/17 a USD12.1 billion coronavirus relief package with a USD 8.7 billion injection into business and jobs.16,200 people applied for an

		,
		unemployment/protection subsidy on 3/19. Up to USD 585 available a week per full-time employee with the package
Turkey	03/19	President has unveiled a 100 billion lira (USD15.34 billion) relief package for coronavirus-affected sectors. How the money will be deployed still to be defined.  Value-added tax (VAT) and insurance premium payments for April, May and June will be suspended for retail, shopping mall, iron and steel, automotive, logistics and transportation, cinema, theater, accommodation, food and beverage, textile and garment, and event organisation sectors.  Accommodation taxes will also not be applied until November and the VAT rate on domestic airline flights has been reduced to 1% from 18% for a period of three months.  Loan payments for companies having cash flow difficulties due to the pandemic will be postponed for three months.  Credit payments to state-owned lender Halkbank by tradesmen and artisans whose businesses have been negatively affected will also be delayed for three months.  The package also foresees increasing the creditable amount from 80% to 90% for houses valued up to 500,000 lira and reduce the minimum down payment to 10%.  Turkey will also double the credit guarantee fund's limit to 50 billion lira and provide it to SMEs and companies with liquidity needs and collateral deficit.
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## **Summary per Type of Measures**

Type of Measures	Country
Asset purchase	New Zealand (RBNZ)
Fiscal Stimolus	Australia
	Singapore
	New Zealand
	Oman
Market support	New Zealand
Financing	Korea
Quantitative easing	Australia
Airline support	Australia
	Turkey
Dollar supply	Korea
Currency Buying	Japan
Supplementary budget	Korea

Lending quotas	China
Cash transfers	Hong Kong
	Iran
	Proposal in India
	Pakistan
Credit support to enterprises	Australia
	Hong Kong
	China
	Korea
	New Zealand
	Samoa
	Saudi Arabia
	Thailand
Subsidies	Abu Dhabi
	Israel
	New Zealand
	Pakistan
Credit deferral	Brunei Darussalam
	Korea
	Seychelles
	Sri Lanka
	Turkey
	United Arab Emirates
	Uzbekistan