

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

Support FDI retention and preserve supply chains

Targeted “investor retention initiative”

	Brazil	APEX Brazil listed Covid-19 related measures to business and set up a Covid-19 market intelligence tool providing economic and trade updates by sector.	
	Egypt	GAFI is providing electronic services and facilities to investors.	https://gafi.gov.eg/English/MediaCenter/News/Pages/The-General-Authority-for-Investment-and-Free-Zones.aspx
	Ethiopia	Active support to repurpose production lines and advocacy for government support measures: waiving licensing requirements to allow companies to go ahead with new production lines, and expedited forex approval and flexible use of companies’ own forex to import raw materials.	https://twitter.com/AbebeAbebavehu/status/124241324543129088
	Ghana	Measures for retaining established investors.	https://www.fdiintelligence.com/article/77151
	Ireland	Consultancy and training support through grants and restructuring schemes.	https://www.idaireland.com/how-we-help/covid19-support-and-updates
	Jordan	Establishment of facilitation measures in special economic zones and streamlined regulatory procedures.	https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/business/story/Jordan_Investment_Commission_announces_facilitations_for_private_sector_investors-SNG_170833994/
	Saudi Arabia	Established a Covid-19 Response Center at Ministry to support companies’ continuity.	https://www.misa.gov.sa/en/initiatives-and-services-introduced-by-saudi-arabian-government-authorities-to-support-businesses-during-the-emerging-covid-19-pandemic/
	Scotland	Established contact center for all national and foreign companies to support business’ continuity.	https://www.sdi.co.uk/
	South Africa	Government mandated the IPA to act as an interface with key companies	No link available
	Tunisia	Established a support unit to support companies’ continuation and to send updates.	http://www.investintunisia.tn/En/covid_19-permanent-support_50_201_D407

Waiver from market restrictions or Ease entry restrictions in sectors most affected by the crisis (e.g., financial, travel, tourism, health, energy, etc.).

	China	Removed the cap on foreign equity ownership of securities and fund management firms.	http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-04/01/c_138938273.htm?utm_campaign=Marketing_Cloud&utm_medium=email&utm_source=USCBC+News+Overview+4.1.2020&%20utm_content=http%3a%2f%2fw ww.xinhuanet.com%2fenglish%2f2020-04%2f01%2fc_138938273.htm
	Ethiopia	Allowing companies in export-oriented industrial parks to supply locally	https://twitter.com/AbebeAbebavehu/status/124241324543129088
	India	Removed limits of foreign investments to some Government Securities market segments. Introduced a new 'Fully Accessible Route' (FAR) for foreign investments. No limits on foreign investment in a list of specified securities.	https://www.research.hsbc.com/R/20/NMzxFNqCyrq

Subsidies/state aid to businesses

	Armenia	Allocated partial reimbursement of loans to firms to cover the salaries of their workers. Amended the Labor Code to allow employees to receive compensation from employers equal to the minimal hourly rate set for the minimum wage, flexible working hours, etc.	http://asbarez.com/193112/pashinyan-unveils-economic-aid-package-amid-state-of-emergency/
	Australia	Refund package in support for the country's aviation sector in domestic and regional security charges, and air service charges. For regional carriers, the package includes support in critical standing costs, regulatory compliance and minimum operational capability.	https://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/mccormack/media-release/additional-new-support-critical-regional-aviation-services-through-covid-19

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

		Introduced a 15-month business incentive to support business investment by accelerating depreciation deductions. Applied a deduction of 50% of the cost of an eligible asset on installation.	https://www.ato.gov.au/General/New-legislation/The-Australian-Government-s-Economic-Response-to-Coronavirus/
	Bahrein	Suspended the payment of utility bills for individuals and businesses' for 3 months from April 2020.	https://www.moh.gov.bh/COVID19/Details/3969
	Barbados	Financial support to keep active the regional airline LIAT during the COVID-19 crisis.	https://buzz-caribbean.com/news/barbados-pumps-3million-to-keep-liat-flying/
	Brazil	Emergency financial support for Brazilian civil aviation.	https://www.demarest.com.br/en/provisional-measure-no-925-2020-emergency-measures-for-brazilian-civil-aviation-due-to-covid-19-pandemic/
	Canada	Established a Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) for the private sector.	https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/canada-outlines-measures-to-support-the-economy-and-the-financial-sector.htm
	China	Introduction of financial and fiscal measures to the private sector (e.g., tax cuts, borrowings at cheaper rates) and incentives for retaining workers.	http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202003/14/content_WS5e6cc405c6d0c201c2cbe540.html ; https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/china-plans-pump-trillions-economy-repercussions-200320011858775.html ; https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-02-17/coronavirus-china-s
	Czech Republic	Provided financial assistance to businesses affected by the COVID-19 outbreak, with credit guarantees and postponed tax payments for 3 months.	https://www.iif.com/covid-19
	Denmark and Sweden	Allowed credit guarantees to protect SAS airline from the COVID-19 outbreak.	https://www.thelocal.se/20200317/sweden-and-denmark-offer-3-billion-kronor-to-protect-sas
	Dominican Republic	Financial support (USD 229.4 million) to the most damaged sectors, included tourism.	https://www.efe.com/efe/america/economia/republica-dominicana-lanza-un-paquete-de-medidas-economicas-por-el-coronavirus/20000011-4199277
	El Salvador	Suspension of the payment for utility bills, telephone and internet quota for three months, which will be paid over two years.	https://www.iagua.es/noticias/europa-press/salvador-suspende-pago-agua-y-electricidad-coronavirus
	European Union	Temporary framework for state aid with direct grants, guarantees on loans, subsidized interest rates for loans and export/credit insurance.	https://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/what_is_new/sa_covid19_temporary-framework.pdf
	Denmark	Compensation for damages caused by cancellations of large public events.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_454 ;
		Coverage for 75% of employees' salaries if firms committed not to lay off workers. This program will last for three months.	https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/danish-corona-hit-firms-get-state-aid-to-pay-75-of-salaries/
	Estonia	Established a scheme to enable the provision of public guarantees on loans and the granting of loans at favourable terms to support businesses' continuation, excepted some activities (e.g., as agriculture, tobacco, cloning and genetic modification).	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_559
	France	State guarantees on commercial loans and credit lines to enterprises with up to 5,000 employees and scheme to banks on portfolios of new loans for all types of companies.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_503
		Financial support in deferring tax payment and refund scheme for coronavirus damage to airlines.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_514
	Finland	A package of economic measures totaling €15 billion, of which €400 million allocated to companies.	https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/article/-/asset_publisher/10616/hallitus-esittaa-laajoja-taloustoimia-koronavirusepidemian-haittojen-minimoimiseksi
		Pension Premium loan of 600 million euro to support the 56% state-owned flag carrier.	https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-finland-finnair/update-2-finnish-government-to-back-finnairs-600-mln-euro-loan-idUSL8N2BD1PZ
	Hungary	Exemption schemes in social security contributions for the employers in the most affected sectors.	https://bbj.hu/coronavirus/orban-announces-measures-to-safeguard-economy-from-covid-19_179970
	Ireland	Financial support scheme to international companies that expect 15% decline in turnover after the coronavirus outbreak and employ more than 10 full time employees in the manufacturing sector.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_557
		Direct grants and repayable advances to support the production and supply of medical devices. Beneficiaries will make the equipment available only to the Italian government and at fixed market prices.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_507

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	Italy	Employees of companies that have interrupted their activities will be entitled to receive a benefit of 80% of the salary paid by the state. This measure would be valid up to nine weeks and no longer than August 2020.	https://www.fieldfisher.com/en/locations/italy/insights/decreed-law-no-18-of-17-march-2020-new-%E2%80%98social-shoc
	Germany	Financial measures that offer: 1) Loan programs to cover up to 90% of the risk for loans for companies; 2) Guarantees on loans at favorable terms to help business; 3) Direct grants, repayable advances or tax and payment advantages.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_504 ; https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_517 ; https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_524
	Latvia	A subsidized loan scheme that entails: (a) guarantees at reduced guarantee fees on loans with limited maturity size (risk is limited to a maximum of 50%); (b) working capital loans at a reduced interest rate with limited maturity and size.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_508
	Luxembourg	€300 million scheme to support companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_516
		Scheme to enable the granting of guarantees on loans to support selected companies' continuation affected by coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is open to all companies, except those active in the promotion, renting and sale of building as well as holding of investments. The scheme wants to cover (i) liquidity needs for the foreseeable future, (ii) the guarantees will only be provided until the end of this year, (iii) the guarantees are limited to a maximum six-year duration, and (iv) companies pay guarantee premiums.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_540
	Netherlands	Economic measures to: (i) deferral on tax payments for VAT, personal income tax, payroll and corporate income tax payable for companies impacted with coronavirus. (ii) halting tourist tax; (iii) wage subsidies; (iv) support for self-employed; (v) emergency counter; (vi) business loans guarantees; (v) assistance to Qcredit etc.	https://meijburg.com/news/additional-corona-crisis-measures-government-emergency-package-covering-jobs-and-economy
		Widened Entrepreneur Financing Guarantee (Garantie Ondernemersfinanciering) scheme to increase the GO's guarantee ceiling from 400 million to 1.5 billion euros and giving a 50% guarantee on bank loans and bank guarantees.	https://www.rvo.nl/subsidie-en-financieringswijzer/garantie-ondernemingsfinanciering-go
	Slovenia	Introduced a package of measures: (i) wage subsidy; (ii) up to 50% salary subsidy to self-employed; (iii) establishment of a guarantee scheme for business (financial cannon); (iv) accelerated payments to government suppliers.	https://www.gov.si/en/news/2020-03-24-prime-minister-janez-jansa-together-with-ministers-presents-a-package-of-anti-corona-measures-to-help-the-population-and-the-economy/
	Spain	Established two guarantee schemes on new loans and refinancing operations directed to self-employed, SMEs and larger companies affected by the coronavirus outbreak. The measures cover guarantees on operating loans with a limited maturity and size. They also limit the risk taken by the State to a maximum of 80% for self-employed workers and SMEs and of 70% for larger enterprises.	https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_520
	Hong Kong, China	Package of financial aid to the aviation sector and waivers of air traffic control charges for the 2019-20 fiscal year.	https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/hong-kong-economy/article/3076465/coronavirus-hong-kong-reveals-hk1-billion-package
		Implemented an Anti-epidemic Fund with USD 710 million to support the construction industry, through subsidies to eligible contractors and service construction workers.	https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202003/19/P2020031900552.htm?fontSize=1
	India	USD 22.6 billion stimulus with deferral of taxes for the most hurt industries such as aviation, hospitality and small companies.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-india-stimulus/india-outlines-22-6-billion-economic-stimulus-to-help-poor-hit-by-lockdown-idUSKBN21D0YK
	Indonesia	A rescue package to support consumer spending and tourism in the country, plus 30 percent corporate tax discount for the next six months.	https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/coronavirus-how-countries-are-bracing-up-for-economic-slowdown/story/398639.html
	Iran	Established a program to promote online shopping by enrolling 100 businesses. Extended loans and utility payments to small businesses	https://www.wsj.com/articles/irans-coronavirus-strategy-favored-economy-over-public-health-leaving-both-exposed-11584272132
	Israel	Created a fund to help local companies affected by the coronavirus crisis.	https://nocamels.com/2020/03/israel-1b-fund-assist-companies-coronavirus/
		Provided local businesses with soft loans, giving priority to local producers.	https://www.iif.com/covid-19

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	Kazakhstan	Tax incentives to support large trade and public facilities. Exemptions from property tax for one year and suspension of interest on tax debt for one quarter and postponing the deadline for submitting tax reports.	http://www.government.kz/en/news/o-merah-podderzhki-vremenno-zakrytyh-obektov-rasskazal-r-dalenov
	Malaysia	Support for tourism industry with 15% discount on utilities bills for 6 months.	https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/coronavirus-how-countries-are-bracing-up-for-economic-slowdown/story/398639.html
		Loan scheme for larger companies of up to 80% of the sum borrowed.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-malaysia-sumulus/malaysia-announces-58-billion-stimulus-package-to-cushion-impact-of-coronavirus-idUSKBN2140W4
		Adopted debt measures to bail out local airlines.	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-25/malaysia-said-to-explore-debt-measures-m-a-to-bail-out-airlines
	New Zealand	Provided loans to Air New Zealand. The 52% state-owned flag carrier will be able to use the money if its cash reserves fall below a certain undisclosed level over the next two years, while the government will be able to turn the loan into shares in the airline.	https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/political/412197/coronavirus-government-offers-900m-loan-for-air-new-zealand
		A USD 7.3 billion stimulus package to fight the pandemic. This amount will be allocated for wage subsidies, income support, business tax relief and the rest to the airline industry. These measures will be followed by separate measures for Air New Zealand.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-newzealand/new-zealand-goes-hard-with-73-billion-stimulus-to-rescue-economy-amid-virus-slowdown-idUSKBN21405Z
	Norway	Financial support with credit guarantees to airlines, under the condition that commercial lenders supply 10%, with the government providing the remaining 90%.	https://it.reuters.com/article/credit-rss/idUSKBN21B0ST
	Qatar	Financial and economic incentives for the private sector, encouraging banks to postpone loan installments and obligations for six months and to provide additional liquidity to banks operating in the country.	https://portal.www.gov.qa/wps/portal/media-center/news/news-details/hhtheamirdirectsthestartofimplementingapackageofdecisionsandmeasuresstocombatthespreadofcoronavirus
	Saudi Arabia	A private sector financing support program with a total value of USD 13.3 billion. The program includes deposits of USD 8 billion in banks to finance companies and allow delay in payments by SMEs for a period of six months, providing concessional finance.	https://www.iif.com/covid-19
	Singapore	USD 33.7 billion stimulus to fight coronavirus: offset up to 50 percent of wages in the food services sector; while the aviation and tourism sectors receive up to 75 percent of co-founding. Support package to the aviation industry to provide rebates on landing and parking charges, as well as rental relief for airlines, ground handlers and cargo agents. Suspended the property tax payment to the tourism sectors for one year.	https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/health-environment/article/3077083/singapore-unveils-us337-billion-stimulus-fight
		Enhanced a job support fund: Firms receive wage subsidies of between 25 per cent and 75 per cent for all local workers for 9 months.	https://www.straitstimes.com/politics/151b-boost-to-enhanced-jobs-support-scheme-amid-covid-19-outbreak-government-to-subsidise
	South Korea	Extended loans worth a total of USD 250 million to airlines facing a liquidity crunch due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus outbreak through the state-run Korea Development Bank.	https://en.vna.co.kr/view/AEN20200217001600320
	Taiwan, China	Allowed subsidies and loans to airlines with a financing plan of USD 986 million.	https://www.straitstimes.com/business/economy/governments-offer-airlines-aid-as-coronavirus-drives-deeper-flight-cuts
	Thailand	Financial program for retaining employees to airlines while services are suspended.	https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1888230/seven-thai-airlines-to-seek-b16bn-bailout
	Tunisia	Postponement and suspension of tax payments.	https://www.leconomistemaghrebin.com/2020/03/22/coronavirus-23-mesures-financieres-fiscales-soutien-entreprises/
		Advantageous loans for particularly affected industries, including hotel industry, transport, cultural sector, restaurants and travel agencies.	https://www.leconomistemaghrebin.com/2020/03/22/coronavirus-23-mesures-financieres-fiscales-soutien-entreprises/
		Establishment of a fund: (i) for acquisition of own funds of failing companies and (ii) to buyback units of investment funds in strategic companies in difficulties.	https://www.leconomistemaghrebin.com/2020/03/22/coronavirus-23-mesures-financieres-fiscales-soutien-entreprises/
		Assistance for purchasing medical equipment and tax exoneration of entities participating in the medical supply chain.	https://www.leconomistemaghrebin.com/2020/03/22/coronavirus-23-mesures-financieres-fiscales-soutien-entreprises/
		Establishment of a fund for the culture sector.	https://www.leconomistemaghrebin.com/2020/03/22/coronavirus-23-mesures-financieres-fiscales-soutien-entreprises/

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	Turkey	USD 15.5 billion stimulus package to provide three-month deferral of loan payment by firms and financial support to the companies affected due to the virus outbreak. Social security premiums will be postponed by six months for retail, steel industries, shopping malls; entertainment and hospitality sectors, food and beverage businesses, textiles as well as event organization sectors.	https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/coronavirus-how-countries-are-bracing-up-for-economic-slowdown/story/398639.html
	UAE	A USD 27 billion economic plan for providing: (i) water and electricity subsidies for citizens and industries. (ii) SMEs credit guarantee scheme. (iii) to establish market funds to enhance liquidity. (iv) 20 per cent refund on rent paid by tourism and entertainment sector.	https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/coronavirus-how-countries-are-bracing-up-for-economic-slowdown/story/398639.html
	United States	Covid-19 stimulus package of USD 2 trillion, to provide (i) loan guarantees for passenger air carriers, for other large businesses, authorizing the government to take equity stakes in them and loan guarantees for small businesses, (ii) retention loans for SMEs; (iii) corporate aid; (iv) tax benefits for businesses; (v) loans and loan guarantees for passenger airlines and for cargo carriers; (vi) grants to support strained health care providers and to stockpile medicines and (vii) higher medicare reimbursement for doctors and hospitals.	https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/04/us/politics/coronavirus-emergency-aid-congress.html
	Vietnam	USD 1.16 billion stimulus package. The package includes delayed tax payments, reductions of land fees and increase in state spending on infrastructure projects.	https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-vietnam-economy/vietnam-announces-1-16bln-stimulus-package-to-help-virus-hit-businesses-state-media-idUSL4N2AW2UX
		Temporary suspension for social insurance contributions for firms with more than 50% of labour force being temporarily on leave. This suspension is applicable to enterprises in service of passenger transport, tourism, accommodation, restaurant and other special industries experiencing difficulties due to COVID-19.	https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2020/03/temp-suspension-statutory-contributions-vn-covid19
Regulatory flexibility to reduce costs and support repurposing businesses			
Waive, freeze, reduce or delay license renewals and fees (e.g. registration, licensing, work permit, penalties for late filing)			
	Bahrain	Exempt all individuals and businesses from municipal fees for three months from April 2020; exempt all businesses from industrial land rental fees for three months from April 2020.	https://www.constructionweekonline.com/business/263808-bahrain-issues-114bn-stimulus-to-counter-covid-19-economic-impact
	Canada	Suspended the issuing and renewal of all business licences, all building permit issuance and inspections except for emergency inspections.	https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/affected-city-services/
	Hong Kong	Waived fees for business registration. Annual return registration fees would be waived for two years.	https://www.taxathand.com/article/13026/Hong-Kong/2020/202021-budget-contains-limited-tax-measures
	India	Waived late filing fees at the company registry.	Companies Fresh Start Scheme, 2020. General circular 12/2020
	Italy	Extension of identity documents validity close to expiring date until August 31 and extension of certificates that expire during this time until June 1.	http://www.governo.it/it/approfondimento/coronavirus-il-decreto-legge-2-marzo-2020/14225
	Malaysia	Waived listing fees for companies seeking to list on capital markets for a 12-month period.	https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/malaysia-issues-stimulus-package-combat-covid-19-impact/
	Saudi Arabia	Extended the Iqama period to expats for three months without charge. Enabled employers to refund the fees of issued work visas that were not used during the ban on entry and exit. Enabled employers to extend exit and re-entry visas that were not used during the ban on entry and exit from the Kingdom for a period of three months without charge.	https://www.khaleejtimes.com/coronavirus-outbreak/120-billion-riyals-saudi-arabia-stimulus-package-to-benefit-expats-private-sector-covid19

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	UAE	A renewable six-month suspension of work permit fees. Reduction of work permit fees for establishments that have a registered workforce of 1 to 6 workers. Reduction of the fees of the ministry of economy. Suspension of collection of administrative fines by the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization for a period of 6 months, which can be extended.	https://www.khaleejtimes.com/coronavirus-outbreak/covid-19-in-uae-sheikh-mohammed-announces-additional-dh16-billion-stimulus-package
	UAE/ Abu Dhabi	Exemption to all commercial and industrial activities from Tawtheeq fees until the end of this year. Suspension of real estate registration fees until the end of this year. Reduction of industrial land leasing fees by 25 percent on new contracts. Exemption to commercial vehicles from annual registration fees until the end of this year.	https://home.kpmg/ae/en/home/insights/2020/03/tax-flash-dubai-and-abu-dhabi-roll-out-economic-stimulus-packages-in-times-of-covid-19.html
	UAE/ Dubai	Renewal of commercial licences without mandatory renewal of lease contracts. Reduction of 25 percent for the payment required by government fees for obtaining and renewing licenses. Reduction of municipality fees imposed on sales and exemption of fees charged for cancellation of public events scheduled for 2020. Freeze of fees charged for the sale of tickets and market fees on all facilities operating in Dubai. Reduction of utility bills.	https://home.kpmg/ae/en/home/insights/2020/03/tax-flash-dubai-and-abu-dhabi-roll-out-economic-stimulus-packages-in-times-of-covid-19.html
	United States	The state of Maryland suspended or deferred all registrations, permits and licenses until the end of the state of emergency; San Francisco has deferred collection of business license fees.	https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus https://sfmayor.org/article/mayor-london-breed-announces-moratorium-commercial-evictions-small-and-medium-size
	Vietnam	Suspension in land-use fees until October 31, 2020.	https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/vietnam-issue-incentives-counter-covid-19-impact/
Extension of deadlines (e.g. tax filing, business licenses and permits, inspection)			
	Albania	Suspension to submit financial statements for business who have to do so, until June 1 2020.	https://kryeministria.al/newsroom/plani-financiar-per-perballimin-e-pasojave-te-covid-19/
	China	Simplified the procedure of mergers under the Competition Authority.	https://cms.law/en/nld/publication/while-doctors-fight-covid-19-authorities-battle-fraud-price-hikes-and-unfair-competition
	Denmark	Suspended time limits for merger control by 14 days.	https://www.en.kfst.dk/nyheder/kfst/english/news/2020/20200318-time-limits-for-merger-control-are-suspended-for-14-days/
	India	Extended the contribution period towards Employees State Insurance or ESI.	https://www.livemint.com/
	Philippines	Suspended any merger control related procedure for the duration of the quarantine.	https://phcc.gov.ph/press-releases/public-advisory-interruption-reglementary-periods-filing-pleadings-payment-fines-covid19/
	Saudi Arabia	Postponed the payment of some government services fees, municipal fees and taxes due on business owners, for a period of three months.	https://www.khaleejtimes.com/coronavirus-outbreak/120-billion-riyals-saudi-arabia-stimulus-package-to-benefit-expats-private-sector-covid19
	South Africa	Adjusted the merger control timeframe.	https://reaction.bowman.co.za/rs/vm.ashx?ct=24F76D19D3EB0AEDC1D089A5D524961AD9BE7BB3D38714DD4CF371647BF8D90DDD7803A
	UAE	Suspension of collection of administrative fines for a period of 6 months, which can be extended.	https://www.khaleejtimes.com/coronavirus-outbreak/covid-19-in-uae-sheikh-mohammed-announces-additional-dh16-billion-stimulus-package
	United States	90 days extension for tax payment to all businesses and individuals.	https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus
		Provisions allowing for extension of tax filing deadlines adopted across states.	https://www.atr.org/rules https://www.aicpa.org/content/dam/aicpa/advocacy/tax/downloadabledocuments/coronavirus-state-filing-relief.pdf
	Vietnam	Extended the tax payment deadline by five months for businesses impacted by COVID-19.	https://www.aseanbriefing.com/news/vietnam-issue-incentives-counter-covid-19-impact/
Simplification of professional licensing/accreditation/visa and work permit for doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals			

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	United States	Developed a model legislation ("The Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioner Act (UEVHPA)") to recognize out-of-state licenses for a variety of health practitioners during a state of declared emergency. Participating states must maintain a registration system under which all volunteer practitioners must register.	https://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/covid-19-occupational-licensing-in-public-emergencies.aspx
Waiver from licensing requirements/speed up approvals for manufacturers of health-emergency/"essential" products (e.g. masks, sanitizers, medical robes) to respond to demand.			
	United States	Reduced regulatory barriers to testing for COVID-19. This allows companies and state health departments to use their own testing without waiting for federal regulatory approval from the FDA.	https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/17/politics/federal-government-cutting-red-tape-coronavirus/index.html
		Relaxed regulations on transportation of health related goods and food to ensure delivery of Waived provisions of the internal revenue law with regard to distilled spirits. Provided exemptions and authorizations to distilled spirits permittees who wish to produce ethanol-based hand sanitizers during the emergency period.	https://www.ttb.gov/news/covid-19-hand-sanitizer?fbclid=IwAR0GDVvzgosH9hzZApGhc7CQdtz4fUcWCRltrCcw9b3Rci3g47pf5-t0-Yk
Ensure access to critical inputs/supplies			
Price Controls			
	Argentina	Maximum prices for 30 days (extendable) on food products, personal hygiene products, medicines and medical supplies.	https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/los-ministros-de-economia-y-de-desarrollo-productivo-anunciaron-un-paquete-de-medidas-para
	El Salvador	Maximum prices on masks and antibacterial gel. Maximum prices on Beans, rice, corn, eggs, and whole milk powder.	https://www.defensoria.gob.sv/la-defensoria-del-consumidor-fija-precios-de-mascarillas-y-gel-antibacterial-para-frenar-abusos/
	France	Maximum prices on hand sanitizer.	http://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200307-coronavirus-france-caps-price-hand-sanitiser-gel-pharmacies
	India	Availability of masks and hand-sanitisers at the right price and in the right quality.	https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/218645.pdf
	Laos	Maximum prices on face masks.	https://www.thestar.com.my/news/regional/2020/02/10/commerce-ministry-of-laos-sets-price-ceiling-for-face-masks
	Malaysia	Maximum prices on face masks.	https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/576681/covid-19-govt-sets-new-face-mask-ceiling-price-bans-export
	Paraguay	Maximum prices on gloves, face masks, hand sanitizer.	https://www.hoy.com.py/nacionales/coronavirus-fijaran-precios-maximos-en-farmacias-de-forma-temporal
	Philippines	Fixed prices ("freeze prices") of emergency medicines and medical supplies and food products for 6 months.	https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/03mar/20200317-MC-77-RRD.pdf https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/03mar/20200317-MC-77-RRD.pdf ; http://www.da.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ac01_s2020.pdf
	Romania	Maximum prices of medicines and medical equipment, on strictly necessary foods and on public utility services.	https://www.digi24.ro/stiri/actualitate/document-romania-a-intrat-in-stare-de-urgenta-ce-prevede-decretul-semnat-de-presedintele-klaus-iohannis-1276292
	Sint Maarten	Maximum prices on latex and silicone gloves, hand sanitizer, masks, disinfecting wipes and sprays, rubbing alcohol	http://www.sintmaartengov.org/PressReleases/Pages/Establishment-of-maximum-prices-in-connection-with-the-coronavirus.aspx
	South Africa	Changes in prices for food products, personal hygiene products, medical supplies subject to the increase of input costs, and profit margins.	https://www.businessinsider.co.za/coronavirus-in-south-africa-everything-we-know-about-covid-19-in-sa-2020-3

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	Spain	Fixed price of liquid petroleum gas for 6 months.	https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2020-3824
	Sri Lanka	Maximum prices on Dhal and a tin of canned fish.	http://www.asianews.it/news-en/New-anti-coronavirus-measures-taken-as-number-of-cases-reaches-49-49593.html
	Thailand	Changes in prices of face masks and hand-sanitizing gel, subject to approval from authorities.	https://www.thestar.com.my/news/regional/2020/02/04/thailand-approves-price-controls-for-face-masks-amid-virus-scare
Monitor (and if warrantied, investigate) price gouging			
	China	Voluntary monitoring e-commerce platforms to monitor prices of goods like protective gear and hand sanitizer.	https://www.gibsondunn.com/coronavirus-antitrust-implications-of-covid-19-response/ ; https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/14/technology/coronavirus-purell-wipes-amazon-sellers.html
	Italy	Monitoring of unjustified and substantial increase in prices health protection/sanitation products.	https://agcm.it/media/comunicati-stampa/2020/3/PS11716-PS11717
	Greece	Investigation to companies on the increase in the retail prices of healthcare materials such as surgical masks, disposable gloves, antiseptic wipes and antiseptic solutions.	https://www.epant.gr/en/enimerosi/press-releases/item/840-press-release-investigation-in-healthcare-materials.html
	Latvia	Monitoring by supervisory institutions on first necessity goods and services and developing regulations to prevent dishonest traders from abusing the situation.	https://bnn-news.com/with-covid-19-panic-authorities-to-perform-monitoring-of-prices-to-control-dishonest-traders-210999
	Poland	Monitoring online prices to combat potential anticompetitive conduct in the food and personal hygiene sectors.	https://globalcompetitionreview.com/article/1222468/coronavirus-round-up-cma-clarifies-approach-to-cooperation?utm_source=03%2f27%2f20-20%3a38%3a37-065+-+UK+tribunal+suggests+expediting+and+referring+trucks+appeal&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=03%2f27%2f20-20%3a38%3a37-065+-+UK+tribunal+suggests+expediting+and+referring+trucks+appeal&utm_term=UK+tribunal+suggests+expediting+and+referring+trucks+appeal&utm_content=139667&gator_td=73eGQtMtBmFKJNUXZVsHTAbKoP7Mk7P7oxOYEiOqX5916XNAtjIT3DbxKFVVf5TIZeASTCRIQozLkNLFKnOoih7KYzE0kegsKBtDM%2fnuijJOldPEKuGiMqoGtZDLI07fxjZqs8ft02qBY3zr8IJVoEHKe%2b%2bzF0sQ5Ow%2fbsvrevab5uOSkY4zE08wRpDC%2bQRcSfjF7%2fdNOqFIGuNou11LuTe8fk%2fGDdQTVbaUKLEelo5mHDcyjus37fW3t6wtvnnq9vBuUY3JhwM%2fyPIIFtM7Q%3d%3d
	United Kingdom	Monitoring efforts on prices of health supplies.	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-statement-on-sales-and-pricing-practices-during-coronavirus-outbreak
	United States	Price gouging laws to investigate on the increase of prices.	https://www.paulweiss.com/practices/litigation/antitrust/publications/state-ags-respond-to-covid-19-related-price-gouging?id=30827 https://www.gibsondunn.com/coronavirus-antitrust-implications-of-covid-19-response/
		Voluntary monitoring by e-commerce platforms on prices of goods like protective gear and hand sanitizer. Removed listings and ban sales of products like facemasks and sanitizer.	https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/14/technology/coronavirus-purell-wipes-amazon-sellers.html https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/mar/03/amazon-struggles-to-halt-tide-of-coronavirus-profiteers
Allow information sharing, cooperation or collaboration for urgent marketplace issues among competitors			
		Implementation of a small business relief package by the Australian Banking Association (ABA), together with banks.	https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/australian-banking-association-small-business-relief-package?utm_source=linkedin&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=aba_relief

Investment Climate Policy Measures to COVID-19

Updated: April 6, 2020

	Australia	Coordination of flight schedules with Virgin Australia and Qantas Airways on ten important regional flight routes during the COVID-19 pandemic. This will enable airlines to share revenues from providing services on the routes, conditional on airlines charging fares no	https://www.acc.gov.au/media-release/acc-authorises-regional-express-to-coordinate-with-other-airlines
		Medical technology companies are allowed to coordinate the supply and potential manufacture of medical equipment needed to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.	https://www.acc.gov.au/system/files/public-registers/documents/Interim%20Authorisation%20Decision%20-%202025.03.20%20-%20PR%20-%20AA1000479%20MTAA_0.pdf
		Wholesalers of medicines will be able to co-operate to facilitate distribution of essential medication and pharmacy products after being granted interim authorisation by the AC.	https://www.acc.gov.au/media-release/medicine-wholesalers-to-co-operate-on-access-to-pharmaceutical-products
		Measures to keep Australia's telecommunications networks operating effectively during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as support consumers and small businesses.	https://www.acc.gov.au/media-release/nbn-co-telcos-to-coordinate-on-demand-surge-and-consumer-support-package?utm_source=linkedin&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=nbn_telcos_coordinate
		Coordination of supermarket operators to ensure consumers have reliable and fair access to groceries during the COVID-19 pandemic.	https://www.acc.gov.au/media-release/supermarkets-to-work-together-to-ensure-grocery-supply
	Canada	Accommodated laws for pro-competitive collaborations between companies to support the delivery of affordable goods and services.	https://www.canada.ca/en/competition-bureau/news/2020/03/statement-from-the-commissioner-of-competition-regarding-enforcement-during-the-covid-19-coronavirus-situation.html ; https://www.mccarthy.ca/en/insights/articles/crisis-cartels-covid-cures-merger-clearance-how-covid-19-pandemic-challenging-canadas-competition-laws
	European Union	Information sharing between suppliers to better forecast oversupply/undersupply. Allowed suppliers to coordinate distribution of scarce products to cope with the coronavirus outbreak. Defined guidelines on the applicability of Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to horizontal co-operation agreements.	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2011:011:0001:0072:EN:PDF https://www.competitionpolicyinternational.com/vestager-allows-suppliers-to-coordinate-to-combat-coronavirus/
	Germany	Easing antitrust laws to allow extensive cooperation between companies	https://lebensmittelpraxis.de/handel-aktuell/26802-kartellamt-ausnahmeregeln-moeglich-2020-03-20-12-58-31.html
	Mexico	Suspended investigation on the collaboration agreements between economic agents that, are necessary to maintain or increase supply, and that are not intended to displace its competitors.	https://www.cofece.mx/postura-cofece-ante-emergencia-sanitaria/
	New Zealand	Suspended enforcement action against businesses who are cooperating to ensure supply with essential goods and services during this unprecedented time.	https://comcom.govt.nz/news-and-media/media-releases/2020/covid-19-commerce-commission-approach-to-essential-goods-and-services-business-cooperation
	Norway	Temporary exemption from competition laws to allow hard-hit airlines, to cooperate during the Corona epidemic.	https://www.newsinenglish.no/2020/03/18/airlines-allowed-to-cooperate/
	South Africa	Measures to improve cooperation within the healthcare sector and applied to practices with the "sole purpose of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic."	https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/202003/43134rg11059gon358.pdf
	United Kingdom	Temporary suspension of certain antitrust provisions regarding information sharing for supermarkets that allow collaboration on deliveries between retailers in remote areas during the outbreak.	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/supermarkets-to-join-forces-to-feed-the-nation ; https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-cma-approach-to-essential-business-cooperation
	United States	Shortened reviews of cooperative efforts by companies aimed at speeding up the delivery of critical supplies like virus testing kits, ventilators and protective equipment to no more than a week.	https://www.competitionpolicyinternational.com/doj-ftc-speed-antitrust-reviews-for-firms-teaming-up-on-covid-19/