The Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, which started in December 2019 in Wuhan, China, quickly spread around the world. As of 25 November 2020, there had been more than 59,000,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including more than 1,397,000 deaths[[1]](#endnote-1). Preventive measures put in place in most OECD countries and LMICs have proven effective to slow Covid-19 spread but were insufficient to entirely take control of the pandemic. LMICs have intervened at earliest stages of the pandemic than OECD countries, and this has helped keep cases and death tolls lower than in other parts of the world[[2]](#endnote-2). However, LMICs are not spared by the resurgence of the pandemic and by the novel economic recession that 2020 will witness. As of 22 November, 18 countries in the African region had undergone an increase in Covid-19 cases of more than 20% in the previous week.

1. https://covid19.who.int/?gclid=CjwKCAiAnvj9BRA4EiwAuUMDf2iNlVCFSaph\_71il5VPWz9oJP1QxQplcWj\_KsKIot0JKjZufHRYsRoCZl4QAvD\_BwE [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. The impact of COVID-19 and strategies for mitigation and suppression in low- and middle-income countries, Walker et al., Science 24 Jul 2020:, Vol. 369, Issue 6502, pp. 413-422, DOI: 10.1126/science.abc0035 [↑](#endnote-ref-2)