

Capstone Project - The Battle of Neighborhoods (Part 1)

Project proposal: Mapping of vulnerable populations - Covid-19

To overcome the health crisis in the best possible conditions, the Moroccan authorities are mobilizing all the resources and goodwill of the country today. In order to contribute to this national effort, we formulated the project "Mapping of vulnerable populations to Covid-19", the details of which are presented here.

General objectives of the project

1. Facilitate the operation of confinement of the population, in particular the most vulnerable fringes in socioeconomic and epidemiological terms,
2. Direct the mobilization of public resources (financial and in-kind aid) to the areas where the needs are most pressing,
3. Identify potential clusters for the spread of the epidemic and guide a possible targeted testing policy.

Expected products

1. maps for the use of public authorities are available, making it possible to identify on the scale of neighborhoods the areas of socio-economic and epidemiological vulnerability.
2. Numerical estimates will be available on the number, statistical and geographic distribution of the households most vulnerable, in socio-economic and epidemiological terms, to the spread of the virus.

Background and rationale

The government has ordered the general containment of the population from March 20, 2020, for a period of at least until June 10, 2020. The success of this containment operation faces several constraints, among which the two main ones are:

- A significant part of the Moroccan working population is made up of informal workers whose income is generated on a daily basis. Operating in the informal economy and not being banked, they have no savings / hoarding and are difficult to reach for direct aid from the state. On the other hand, a section of the Moroccan population does not have easy access to quality information. These include illiterate people. These obstacles do not materially allow this section of the population to follow the confinement instructions.
- A significant part of the Moroccan population is included in the fringe at risk, the most vulnerable to the epidemic. These are people over 60 and people with chronic diseases (diabetes, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, immunodeficiency).

Thanks to the general census and the surveys carried out by the the High Commissioner for the Plan, the government has data whose exploitation at the present time would make it possible to clarify the public decision and to facilitate the organization, planned at central level, coordinated and implemented in the local level, action by public authorities and national solidarity.