**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Azores, Portugal***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Antonio Monteiro  [asousamonteiro@gmail.com](mailto:asousamonteiro@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Airports and ports closed. Everybody in quarantine. |
| António Franco  [antonio.l.franco@eda.pt](mailto:antonio.l.franco@eda.pt) | 23 April 2020 | * Almost all flights to the Islands were stopped right after the 1st cases of COVID-19, as all travelling is banned and one can only travel with special permit from the Regional Health Authorities. All travellers arriving the Islands are obliged to pass a 15 day quarantine in a hotel. Social distance measures are in place, all non-essential services are closed, restaurants work only by take-away, a large part of the population are working from home (those whose work suits this possibility) or are in lay-off. Since the community transmission of the vírus was detected, all municipalities were put in isolation, and travelling between municipalities required a special certificate from one's company justifying the need to move for working purposes. |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Antonio Monteiro  [asousamonteiro@gmail.com](mailto:asousamonteiro@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Prophylactic isolation or transfer to main island hospital, if needed. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Antonio Monteiro  [asousamonteiro@gmail.com](mailto:asousamonteiro@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Maritime cargo service keeps working the same; one flight a day for cargo and mandatory passengers. |
| António Franco  [antonio.l.franco@eda.pt](mailto:antonio.l.franco@eda.pt) | 23 April 2020 | * All supermarkets, pharmacies and health care system are running and the supply chain as well, including by boat and by air from Portugal Mainland. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Antonio Monteiro  [asousamonteiro@gmail.com](mailto:asousamonteiro@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Non-refundable funds for enterprises; non-refundable funds for enterprises to maintain workforce. |
| António Franco  [antonio.l.franco@eda.pt](mailto:antonio.l.franco@eda.pt) | 23 April 2020 | * The Regional Government has created several financial mechanisms to support different sectors of activity affected by the pandemic (including fishing industry, agriculture, and tourism). The National Government has approved supporting actions to companies to prevent firing of personal, by supporting 2/3 of the lay-off monthly payments. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Antonio Monteiro  [asousamonteiro@gmail.com](mailto:asousamonteiro@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Exit home for a short period for exercise; TV shows. |
| António Franco  [antonio.l.franco@eda.pt](mailto:antonio.l.franco@eda.pt) | 23 April 2020 | * There are professional support lines to which one can call to clarify doubts and try to deal with the anxiety associated with the confinement. |

1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Antonio Monteiro  [asousamonteiro@gmail.com](mailto:asousamonteiro@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Azores is taking advantage of the fact of being islands; they were ‘shut-down" after the first confirmed case of Convid-19 and quarantine was imposed. Until now, there are only 12 cases. All imported via the last flights before closure. No local contagious. |

1. If applicable, how are the lockdown measures being relaxed?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  |  |  |

1. Is there anything else you want to share?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Respondent | Date | Response |
|  |  |  |

**

*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*