



## COVID-19 IN AFRICA

### COLLABORATING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

In any crisis, civil society organisations (CSOs) can be essential in preventing and managing risks. In particular, CSOs can become trusted intermediaries with communities living in areas that are difficult to access. Their presence and interventions can complement and reinforce the actions of the State and provide an on-the-ground perspective of the realities facing different communities.



Many CSOs are already working to protect vulnerable populations and offer avenues for inclusive crisis management.



The multidimensional threats from COVID-19 make it essential to work with a range of expert groups and organisations.



Urgency and distress call for vigilance, as prospecting actors can take advantage of the situation to prosper.



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## Information



CSOs facilitate the transfer of information:

- Information gathering and collection
- Participation in field surveys
- Identification of vulnerable persons and those who should benefit from accompanying measures
- Warning signals in case of incidents
- Resource mobilisation
- Voice of the communities



## Prevention

CSOs strengthen prevention measures:

- Actions to raise awareness
- Relaying of best practices
- Coordination of solidarity movements
- Support for vulnerable or isolated people
- Support in local mediations
- Promotion of fundamental rights in a deteriorated environment