The convenience and ease of urban mobility defines the quality of urban life in a city. Public transport is essential for urban mobility as it is the most space efficient mode to move vast numbers of people. The COVID pandemic urges cities to make the public transport facilities safe and it offers at the same time an opportunity to reconfigure future transport policy and practice for the benefit of the global environment and individual citizens alike.

#BACKTOTHECITY

Cities are at the core of the present Covid19 pandemic: density and urban life foster the spread of the virus. But at the same time, better basic infrastructures in urban areas help to fight the virus. Cities are in the front line to deal with the virus and to find new ways to live with it. Local stakeholders and decision makers from public entities, from private companies and citizens have shown a huge amount of creative ideas how to continue with urban life in the Covid19 situation.

This guide book “Back to the City”, is a compilation of those ideas and gives advise and valuable hints for decision makers to tackle the Covid-crisis in urban areas. It has been designed in a cooperation from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and CEPT University under the BMZ funded project “Sustainable Urban Development - Smart Cities”, in India.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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Standing in public buses and trains puts the safety of commuters and staff to risk and are a violation to physical distancing. Modify your public buses and trains with a seat configuration that ensures enough distance among passengers. #nostandeespolicy, #111seatprototye #sitedownplease
Auto-Screening gates

Thermal screening and hand-sanitation can take a lot of time and may cause massive queues especially at transit nodes. **Introduce automatic screening gates at entry/exits of transit nodes with bullet thermal image screening cameras and automatic hand sanitation devices.**

#healthytravellers #autoscreeninggates #healthcheckup
Now is the time to fully digitize the public transport to eliminate in-person contact and paper based tickets. 

Introduce smart cards and app based ticket solutions for your transit system and work to overcome the divide of different systems within your city.

#smartcards, #contactlesspayment, #integratedtransitsystem
There is a high need to control the crowd at railway stations in future and enable social distancing among travelers.

**Make use of tactical urbanism strategies to create holding areas for passengers maintaining a minimum of one metre gap while walking on the platforms.**

#tacticalurbanism, #queuebasedentry, #safetravel
It has become very difficult for commuters to maintain physical distancing in paratransit modes of travel like e-rickshaws as most of the daily commuters depend on them. Support the modification of e-rickshaw to include separate seating compartments with the help of transparent physical barriers.

#modifiedshareauto, #quickwins, #socialdistancing
SUMMARY

Modify your public buses and trains with a seat configuration that ensures enough distance among passengers.

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