

COVID-19 ADVISORY GUIDELINES

This infographic is designed to visualize the planning recommendations of mass gatherings during the ongoing pandemic to reduce the risk and spread of COVID-19.

CONSIDERATION OF COVID-19 SITUATION OF THE HOST

IAYG recommends against mass gatherings in areas with sustained community transmission, as determined by national and local health authorities, since these areas have a higher risk of COVID-19 being spread.



ASSESSMENT OF RISKS RELATED TO THE EVENT

The venue, participants, interactions, duration, and healthcare response should be taken into consideration when planning the event.

CAPABILITY TO ENFORCE SAFETY MEASURES

We recommend that these steps be taken first:

- Modify the characteristics of the event (in-person to virtual and indoors to outdoors, etc.), and
- In the event where risk cannot be fully mitigated, enhance preparedness to assist public health authorities.





BEFORE AN EVENT

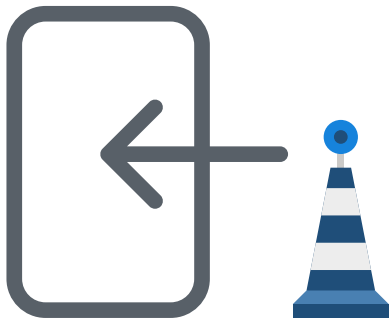
Event organizers should have a directory containing contact numbers/hotlines of relevant health authorities.

A protocol for contacting and collaborating with public health officials should be developed with regards should a case of COVID-19 be reported after an event.

FOR THE EVENT

If possible, we recommend that events be held entirely virtually at this time, and we are prepared for all levels of technical support.

To limit the number of people attending the event, portions of the event should be held virtually or online if possible, while prospective attendees may participate in the same manner mentioned. [6]



It is much safer to hold gatherings outdoors since indoor environments with poor ventilation are risky. [1]

In response to the previous point, the following strategies are recommended

- Regulation of the flow of people to and from the venue
- Limit attendance or seating capacity as well as block off sections or rows to maintain physical distancing
- Use multiple entrances and exits and remind participants to remain separated, where applicable

Avoid having multiple people handle a single piece of equipment, as COVID-19 can spread through surfaces.

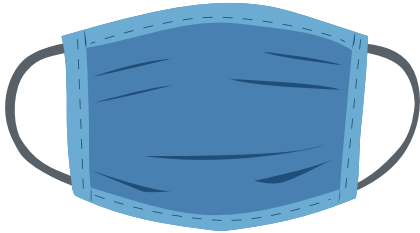
Disinfection of high touch surfaces should be done on a regular basis. These include handles, posters, and equipment. Areas that cannot be disinfected should be regularly closed. [3]

- Alcohol solutions of 70% alcohol are strongly recommended [4]



FOR ATTENDEES

IAYG recommends the following protocols for in-person events



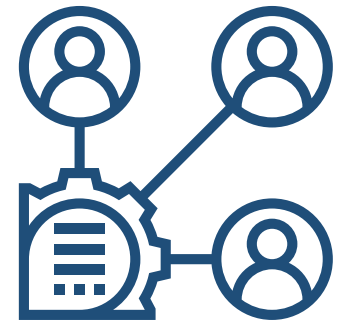
- Physical distancing of at least 2 meters
- Regular hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds, alcohol with 70% concentration can be used as a substitute. [2]
- Wear a mask that fully covers the nose and mouth at all times. [5]
 - A surgical mask is preferred (see graphic to the left), but cloth masks can be used if surgical masks are not available.
 - Masks with valves are not recommended. [5]

Encourage people with symptoms, close contact with COVID-19 cases (e.g. those with family members in the medical profession), those from areas with community transmission, those >65 years old, and those with pre-existing illnesses to no longer attend the event.



POST-EVENT PHASE

Communication lines should be prepared for the stakeholders of the event: organizers, participants, and local health authorities, in case that it is necessary. IAYG is able to assist with contacting stakeholders if that is necessary.



Disclaimer from WHO: The WHO believes that areas with community transmission should consider cancelling a mass gathering since it may intensify the spread of the disease, however, they issued a disclaimer that it has no mandate to enforce any postponement or cancellation of events, as it only advises best practices based on evidence available at present.

The IAYG Family wishes everyone the best of health and safety at this unique and challenging moment.

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Resources / References

- [1] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/deciding-to-go-out.html>
- [2] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>
- [3] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/event-planners-and-attendees-faq.html>

- [4] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html>
- [5] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>
- [6] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/event-planners-and-attendees-faq.html>