Tunisia

- **Tunisia Reports Zero Case since March 2, 2020**

  Tunisia recorded zero new coronavirus cases for the first time (5th June 2020) since early March, WHO. Tunisia reported its first case on March 2, has confirmed 1,132 cases in all and 50 deaths.

People wearing protective face masks walk in the Habib Bourguiba avenue
in Tunis on 12 May after the easing of some lockdown measures (AFP/File photo)

Ref: https://www.ceicdata.com/en/tunisia/world-health-organization-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid2019-by-country-and-region

- **PGuard Robot for the Enforcement of the country's lockdown rules**

  Enova Robotics, a start-up based in Sousse engineers another innovation supporting the country in its fight against COVID-19. First seen on the streets of Tunis on March 24, PGuard, a robot ground vehicle, was acquired by the Ministry of Interior to assist with the enforcement of the country's lockdown rules. The device, controlled remotely by Tunisian officers, includes infrared and thermal cameras, an audio system, a GPS, and a sound and light alarm system that allows officers to request identification papers and issue verbal warnings to those breaching lockdown rules.

Ref: https://atalayar.com/en/content/innovation-heart-covid-19-crisis-tunisia

- **Tunisia-deploys-robot-to-care-for-coronavirus-patients- Robonurse**

  Medics have deployed a robot in a Tunisian hospital caring for coronavirus victims to limit contact between staff and infected patients, in a first for the North African country. The tall, single-limbed machine is mounted on wheels and is capable of taking pulses and checking temperatures and blood oxygen levels. It enables nurses, doctors and patients' relatives to make virtual bedside visits. The robot was designed and made in Tunisia by Enova, a start-up based in Sousse.

  Ref: https://english.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2020/5/2/robonurse-tunisia-deploys-robot-to- care-for-coronavirus-patients

- **Manufacturing PPE's**

  France's Orange Foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Tunisia has been supporting six Solidarity FabLabs in Tunis, Sfax and Gabes in the production of face shields for hospital staff, created by using laser-cutting machines. Sfax's Djagora FabLab alone has been producing 1500 shields daily since March 20. The Orange Solidarity FabLab concept targets young people aged 12 to 25 who have left conventional education and offers them the opportunity to pursue free training to develop digital and technological skills.

  Ref: https://atalayar.com/en/content/innovation-heart-covid-19-crisis-tunisia

- **Covid-19: Tunisia researchers use AI, X-rays to create online virus scan tool**

  Tunisian engineers have created a web-based platform that scans lung X-rays and evaluates whether patients are likely to be suffering from the novel coronavirus.

  While it's not the first initiative of its kind in the world, its creators say it is the first to be openly available. And though not a diagnostic tool, the technology provides a "90%" reliable indication of the probability of infection, they add.

  Teachers and students at the Tunisian engineering and technology institute INSAT have been developing the platform — Covid-19 Exam Ct/XR images by AI — since mid-March, with the support of German development agency GIZ, the Italian Society of Medical Radiology and US tech giant IBM.

  Thousands of X-rays of the lungs of both healthy people and Covid-19 patients have been fed into the platform, allowing artificial intelligence to learn to recognise the marks of the virus on the lungs. It is still in the test phase, under evaluation by Tunisia's health ministry. But if approved, the technology would be particularly useful in areas of the country that lack major hospitals and specialist doctors.

  Ref: https://www.thestar.com.my/tech/tech-news/2020/04/18/covid-19-tunisia-researchers-use-ai-x-rays-to-create-online-virus-scan-tool

- **Tunisia launches contact-tracing app to combat coronavirus**

  Tunisia has launched a contact-tracing mobile phone app that identifies and alerts users if they have been in close contact with someone who later reports positive for the novel coronavirus. The E7mi application, available on Android and awaiting validation for Apple's iOS, was developed by a Tunisian start-up specialised in digital marketing tools for foreign companies, the health ministry told AFP on Tuesday.

  If a user tests positive for Covid-19, Tunisia's Observatory of Emerging Diseases (ONME) contacts other users whose cell phones have been detected close to the infected user's device to notify them of the risk.

  Tunisia has been quick to utilise emerging technologies to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

  In late April, a Tunisian NGO set up a food bank that dispenses aid by text message to hundreds of needy families rendered more vulnerable amid the coronavirus pandemic.

  In March, the government began deploying robots to enforce the country's lockdown and help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

  Ref: https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/tunisia-launches-contact-tracing-app-track-coronavirus-spread

Tunisian police trucks spray disinfectant, as a measure against the Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic, outside a cathedral near Avenue Habib Bourguiba in the centre of the capital Tunis.

Ref: https://www.thestar.com.my/tech/tech-news/2020/04/18/covid-19-tunisia-researchers-use-ai-x-rays-to-create-online-virus-scan-tool