

Tec and U. of Edinburgh seek to contribute to COVID-19 strategy



Tec data science specialists are working on a project funded by the [University of Edinburgh](#) to **develop algorithms** that contribute to a more equitable distribution strategy for COVID-19 diagnostic tests in Mexico.

Yasmín Águeda Ríos, a researcher at the **School of Engineering and Sciences (EIC)**, indicated that the **intention of the project is to visualize** the municipalities in the country at highest risk during the pandemic via a [web platform](#).



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This was achieved through **optimal allocation calculations** developed by **EIC** scientists and posted on the [web](#), taking into account values such as: demographic density, poverty index (Coneval), COVID data, and hospital capacity for each municipality.

“Most tests in Mexico are distributed within large cities. As a result, it is possible that many low-income populations do not have access to this diagnostic method or to a nearby hospital with testing equipment,” said the professor from **the Tec’s Monterrey campus**.

The project seeks to provide information obtained using a scientific methodology, **so it can be used by those decision makers** implementing the pandemic strategy at different levels of government in Mexico.

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“We hope that this tool can help provide people in economically disadvantaged regions with more opportunities to be access protection against COVID-19,” said **Yasmín Águeda Ríos**.

The researcher from the **School of Engineering and Sciences** said that the platform was **made available to the public** on August 10, and is **constantly updated**. A second stage of the project is involved with the **development of statistics** and data validation.

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