

Wigs, maps for navigating through the lockdown and positive encouragement -

Standards Department's response to confinement



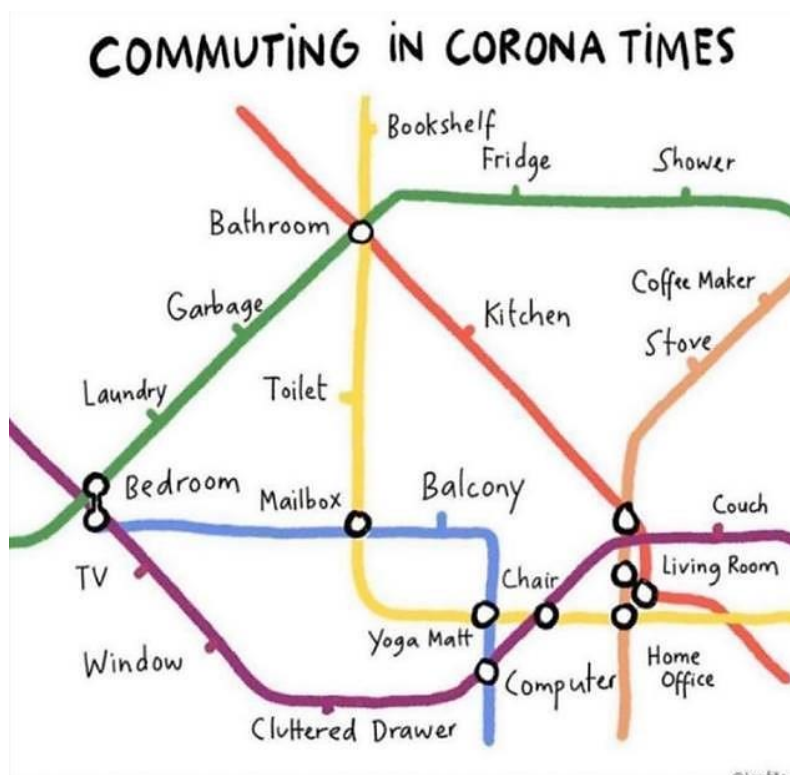
In addition to producing great work, the Standards Department is known for its creative team photos and generating a positive and fun work environment. The team spirit is proving to be an important anchor in getting through the challenging times we currently face.

For the team not only to stay connected, but also to provide a time and safe space where team members can voice their issues, concerns, fears and frustrations during COVID-19, we set up zoom meetings every Monday, Wednesday and Friday to check in on everyone.

At present, the team is scattered and working from Paris, Japan, Australia, Norway and Germany. We found a time slot that works for everyone and spend the hour discussing OIE matters, work progress and how everybody is feeling. For some laughter and interest, every session follows a theme too. We've celebrated 'hats and wigs', 'South American', 'Japanese', 'Tell a joke' and 'Casual Friday' sessions to name a few. It is a great opportunity to break up the days which, let's be honest, do not provide much variety and social entertainment.

For those of us who are isolated from their loved ones, these calls also provide an additional comfort because the team genuinely cares about each other and everybody provides positive encouragement. These times are challenging but we'll get through them and come out even stronger as a team (and potentially with interesting new hair styles).

Navigating through COVID-19 is hard, follow the map below for some guidance 😊:



We wish to thank our colleague Jeannine Fischer for submitting this article to the OIE News Team.

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