11 APRIL 2020 by 09:00 hours

224 COVID-19 cases 1)  
118 Female  
106 Male  
2876 cases tested  

520 persons in quarantine  
130 home care  
170 self-isolation  

44 hospitalized  
52 fully recovered  
5 intensive care  
2 critical  
7 casualties  

33 COVID-19 cases 2)  
28 hospitalized in Mitrovica north 3)
As of 11 April of 2020, 09:00 hours, according to IPH there are 224 total cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. Number of verified casualties to COVID-19 in Kosovo is 7 cases.

Currently 2 patients are under intensive care. 52 patients have fully recovered including Patient Zero. Currently under quarantine are the following municipalities: Klinë/a; Malishevë/Mališevo; Vitë/Vitina, Mitrovica North and Zveçan/Zvecan and following villages: Dumnicë e Poshtme/Donja Dubnica, Podujevë/Podujevo Municipality, Dumnicë e Epërme/Gornja Dubnica, Podujevë/Podujevo Municipality, Llaushë /Lauša, Podujevë/Podujevo Municipality, Topanicë /Topanica, Kamenicë/Kamenica Municipality; Korishë/Koriša, Prizren/Prizren Municipality and Vrapçiq/Vrapčić Gjilan/Gnjilane Municipality.
The government took early measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. Since then, new measures have gradually been introduced to mitigate and contain COVID-19. The government declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency on 15 March. Curfew schedule continues to be from 17:00 to 06:00 hours. With the general curfew scheduled to expire on 13 April 2020, the Ministry of Health, announced that there will be a continuation of curfew and other measures, tailored to specific municipalities. In addition, the municipality of Malisheve/Mališevo from April 11 has decided to enforce a daily curfew of 14:00 to 06:00 hours.

The list of the pharmacies operating during curfew hours will be updated daily on the link https://bit.ly/3avP32k

While general observation is that the curfew is respected, a lot of movement of vehicles and persons during the day and after 17:00 hour curfew is noticed despite the presence of the Police to ensure continued compliance. On 6 April, Municipality of Prishtinë/Priština decided to further limit the movement of people in squares and pedestrian areas with the help of Kosovo Police. In this context, the government has imposed strict enforcement of all the measures introduced since 16th of March to combat the COVID-19 outbreak. Violation of these measures are being sanctioned with a warning, monetary fines ranging from 250-8000 EUR or imprisonment for up to 8 years depending on the severity of the violation.

During past 48 hours, 84 cases involving 145 persons have been reported by police of failure to comply with government-imposed restrictions in different locations all over Kosovo. Respecting the curfew and other measures to restrict movement is the most effective means to prevent a sharp increase of new COVID-19 infections, above all: stay-at-home, self-isolate, keep social/physical distance and frequent washing of hands.

Distance learning program continues every weekday from 09:00 hours and ending at 16:00 hours, covering full curricula for classes 1-9. More information and instructions are available at https://masht.rks-gov.net/e-mesimi

Decision by the Association of Kosovo Municipalities

Following the decision of the Constitutional Court to annul the measures taken by the government against the COVID-19 outbreak from April 13, the Association of Kosovo Municipalities in a meeting held on 10 April has agreed that from 13 April, the following will be in place:

• The curfew hours will be the same in all municipalities of Kosovo.
• Mayors will be informed directly by the National Institute of Public Health (NIPH) on the COVID-19 related situation in Kosovo.
• Mayors will call for the Emergency Fiscal Package to be implemented as soon as possible to combating the spread of COVID-19.
• The government should expedite the distribution of PPE and other medical supply to the Main Family Medicine Centers
• Mayors will request to increase of the number of tests for people suspected of having COVID-19.
• Mayors will ask for removal of administrative barriers for municipalities in purchasing of equipment to combat the spread of COVID-19.
• Municipalities will request the government to find a solution regarding agricultural produce. It recommends to the government to buy products from farmers and then distribute them to municipalities, as needed.
• Mayors will request that all workers of the Main Family Medicine Centers, Waste management Companies, Municipal Information Officers and other employees of the administration, and municipality tellers become a part of Emergency Fiscal Package.
• Mayors will call against stigmatization of people infected with COVID-19
Public and Private Services

Currently all emergency and other core government functions continue to operate. Municipalities continue to provide civil documentation, albeit with reduced capacities. According to the Ministry of Health, all other medical services in the University Clinical Center are functioning normally in care provision for chronically ill patients as well as those seeking different medical help. The Ministry of Health has created a special website [https://www.kosova.health/en/](https://www.kosova.health/en/) with current official Kosovo statistics, and measures taken to prevent further transmission of the disease. Also, visitors at the website can do an interactive self-evaluation to verify for COVID-19 symptoms. There is also a possibility to register for volunteering at the same website. An emergency phone line is: 038 200 80 800 (0.02 cents per minute).

Travel and Transport

Most international air travel to Kosovo is suspended as of 16 March 2020. Military flights and airplanes carrying cabin crew allowed to land in Pristina Airport for outgoing passengers. There is an exception for incoming medical flights and MEDEVAC. Schedule for limited outgoing flights can be found at [http://www.airportpristina.com/](http://www.airportpristina.com/). Travel by land is restricted to all travelers except Kosovo passport holders, staff of diplomatic/consular missions, international organizations, foreigners with residence in Kosovo, and freight. Every person, irrespective of nationality entering Kosovo is placed under mandatory 14-day quarantine/isolation. Intercity transport is suspended as well as organized international transport of passengers. All public transportation has been discontinued. Taxi services are available during 06:00 hours to 17:00 hours.

Situation in K-Serb majority municipalities and in the north

There are 33 reported COVID-19 cases in northern Kosovo, and in municipalities with Serbian majority, as reported by Serbian health system.

The quarantined municipalities of North Mitrovica and Zvečan/Zveçan will restrict all movement from 12.00 - 06.00 hours for the next 14 days, with exceptions for food supplies, crisis management and medical reasons. A full ban on movement will be imposed over the upcoming weekend. Current curfew hours for Zubin Potok/Zubinpotok and Leposavić/q are weekends from 15:00 to 05:00 hours and weekdays from 17:00 to 05:00 hours.

The Government of Serbia has provided 250 trucks with food assistance for the K-Serb inhabited municipalities.

Observations important to health, socio-economic and human rights dimensions of COVID-19 outbreak

As can be seen from signals from banks, the business community as well as calls from civil society and reports from vulnerable groups, the social and economic impact of COVID-19 will be significant. Some early measures have been taken authorities and Central Bank of Kosovo. This needs to be expanded and an integrated comprehensive socio-economic response developed.

It is of utmost important that Human rights are upheld in the context of the ongoing health and sanitary crisis in Kosovo, as elsewhere. Vigilance needs to be observed for instances of discrimination and stigma, as well as limitations to fundamental freedoms such as freedom of movement, expression, assembly and association, and the right to privacy.

Overall, while measures to contain the health crisis in Kosovo do not seem to disproportionately affect the enjoyment of human rights, they should remain as non-intrusive as possible and in line with requirements of legality and necessity, and in accordance with international human rights law.
Who is the lead agency for health related coordination with Ministry of Health. Overall coordination is led by the UN RC/DC. WHO remains in daily contact with Ministry of Health and Institute of Public Health in supporting an effective response. WHO and a few other UNKT agencies are members of the inter-institutional crisis management group.

WHO hosts trainings on 6 different topics to support a more effective COVID-19 response

https://open-who.org/courses/

Socio-economic impact assessment and recovery framework

The COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) developed by the UNKT outlines the immediate needs and gaps of the public health measures as well as initial socio-economic needs, including the financial costs. The SPRP is available on global platform https://covid-19-response.org/ for donors and partners to view while allowing for a global overview of each affected countries needs to ensure efficient allocation of mobilized resources. The SPRP is a living document and will be updated as the situation develops.

UNKT in coordination with Word Bank is launching a series of assessments to measure the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. UNDP will lead a rapid socio-economic assessment with UN Women and UNFPA to ensure the gender dimensions of the COVID-19. First results available end April. Consequent assessments may be sectoral or focusing on cross cutting priorities such as labor market, productive sectors or specifically vulnerable groups. The assessments will inform the development of an integrated UN interagency recovery framework to respond to the impacts of COVID-19. The UN recovery framework will be available next week and is hoped to serve both government as well as international community in Kosovo.

Observations and concerns in Roma communities:

The curfew has had some positive impact on restricting movements and group gatherings as until now, the awareness and knowledge about COVID-19 and prevention measures was very limited. This points to the urgency to ensure that appropriate information reaches this particular population and that channels of communication is established with respective municipal emergency headquarters. Living conditions including e.g. density, limited access to water, increases vulnerability to COVID-19 exponentially.

Roma communities have reported significant needs for assistance, food and non-food items. As in cases of many vulnerable and exposed communities, thousands of families have close to zero socio-economic cushion to cope in situation of crisis. Many of them complement social assistance with scrap collection/recycling, something which now is being seriously affected by the current situation, hence basic health and food assistance is becoming increasingly urgent.

In addition to UN assistance, Red Cross and NGOs such as Mother Theresa (below), CoE has provided some assistance to vulnerable Roma communities.

United Nations Family in Kosovo

UN remains operational both working from home as well as in the field directly helping vulnerable groups. Coordination mechanisms are established with partners and support intensified not only to authorities to respond effectively to the COVID-19 outbreak but also distributing assistance directly to vulnerable groups and families.

Response of the UN system in Kosovo

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UN agencies implementing campaigns and providing capacity building

The joint UN Women, UNFPA and WHO campaign “Supporting Nurses and Midwives” has ended. More than 15,000 persons have been reached on UN social media channels through the campaign.

On 10th of April, UNICEF held a virtually organized training on Ethics Essentials and Fraud with more than 30 NGO representatives, implementing partners of UNICEF projects and staff members. The training was held by the Ethics Focal Point in UNICEF Zvečane/Zvecan Office. UNICEF in partnership with Kosovo Education Network and Ministry of Education, have certified 31 teachers on Peace Building and Conflict Resolution. This activity forms a part of the UN joint project financed by the Peace-building Fund (PBF).

Response to Increasing GBV/DV and Support to Shelters and other Gender Dimensions of the COVID-19 Outbreak

In response to the increased number of domestic violence cases during the COVID-19 outbreak, UN Women has initiated a Domestic Violence awareness raising campaign aiming to empower survivors to report violence and seek assistance. The campaign will feature high level figures, including the Assembly Speaker who through her address in the campaign will ensure survivors that institutions are operational 24 hours and at their service despite COVID-19 situation.

Asylum Seekers, refugees and migrants

Currently 86 asylum-seekers are accommodated in the Asylum Center in Magure/Magura, 84 in Vranidoll/Vranidol and 16 in Tauk Bahçe in Prishtinë/Pristina (Temporary Accommodation Center for Readmitted Persons). UNHCR has finalized the works on providing internet connection to the asylum seekers in the Asylum Center in Magure/Magura and endeavored in designing virtual activities from now on for them. The internet connection in Vranidoll/Vranidol will be operational in the course of next week.

On 10 April, 31 persons are reported to be accommodated in the Quarantine for Foreigners (part of the detention center in Vranidoll/Vranidol).

Internally Displaced Persons and Voluntary Returnees

This week, IOM, through the EU-RRK V project, assisted 24 additional vulnerable families with food and non-food items in the municipalities of Peja/Pec. This counts to total of 74 families assisted so far. Beneficiaries have also received WHO information materials on COVID-19 protection measures. This additional support was capacitated by the EU Office in Kosovo in the context of emergency assistance to help families in need in response to the corona virus outbreak.

UNHCR and partners are identifying persons we care for with potential to benefit from the emergency fiscal package, announced by the Government, and assisting them to apply on the on-line platform. UNHCR continued distribution of assistance, food and hygienic items, to vulnerable returnee families including gender-based violence survivors. So far, 52 returnee families with 204 members benefited from UNHCR assistance. UNHCR and its partners advocacy for inclusion of UNHCR Persons of Concern in their humanitarian aid programmes has positive results enabling internally displaced persons and returnees to benefit assistance from different donors.
International responses to COVID-19 Pandemic in Kosovo and globally

EU could be making available up to 160 million euro for Kosovo in a period of 2 to 6 months through macro-financial assistance, budget support & IPA grants 2 support private sector, agriculture & alleviate poverty. EUSR discussed this opportunity with the respective Minister of Finance and Minister of Economy, Employment, Trade, Industry, Entrepreneurship and Strategic Investments. The International Monetary Fund has approved a 51.6-million-euro loan for Kosovo to tackle the economic crisis caused by the new coronavirus and address urgent balance of payments issues.

The UN launched on the last week of March a 2 billion USD global humanitarian response plan to fund the fight against COVID-19 in the world’s poorest countries. Coordinated by the UN’s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, this interagency plan brings together existing appeals from WHO and other UN partners. Properly funded, it will save lives and arm humanitarian agencies and NGOs with laboratory supplies for testing, and with medical equipment to treat the sick while protecting health care workers. Already an estimated 1 billion USD have been committed by UN member states.

On 6 April, the UN SG launched an appeal "for peace in homes around the world" and to world leaders to reinforce efforts to combat and prevent gender-based violence which is increasing globally as a result of COVID-19. Currently, 124 countries are supporting the appeal.

The UN SG’s call for global cease-fire on 23 March 2020 backed by among other dignities by Pope Francis, UN Messengers of Peace https://bit.ly/2RokW5p and heeded by various warring parties as ceasefire was declared in Philippines, Yemen, Cameroon, Colombia, as well as fragile truce in parts of Middle East. More than 2 million people worldwide, have raised the voice in support of the appeal by signing online https://avaaz.org/campaign/en/global_-ceasefire_loc/

The UN Secretary General has launched a report “Shared responsibility, global solidarity”: “Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19” on 31 March 2020, with recommendations geared to empower governments & propel partners to act urgently http://unkt.org/2020/03/31/shared-responsibility-global-solidarity-responding-socio-economic-impacts-covid-19/

GIS representation of confirmed COVID19 cases in Kosovo as per 11 April 2020, 08:30 hours

Developed by UNMIK JARU
For more information, visit or contact UN Kosovo Team (15 Agencies and the Coordination Office)

Web: www.unkt.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/UNKosovoTeam
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNKosovoTeam
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/unkosovoteam/

UN Development Coordinator Ulrika Richardson
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNKT_DC

UNDP
Website: https://www.ks.undp.org/content/kosovo/en/home.html
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Kosovo
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNDP_Kosovo

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WHO
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/WHOEurope
Twitter: https://twitter.com/WHO_Europe

Kosovo authorities

Ministry of Health:
Website: http://msh.rks-gov.net/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Ministria-e-Shëndetësisë-597689407055317

Institute of Public Health:
Website: www.niph-rks.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/InstitutiiKosovesperAdministratrePublike
WHO, UNICEF and UNDP partnered with WhatsApp with the aim is to get real time health information to billions around the world on COVID-19: The WhatsApp Corona-virus Information Hub provides simple, actionable guidance for health workers, educators, community leaders, nonprofits, local governments and local businesses and offers general tips and resources to reduce the spread of rumors and connect with accurate health information: https://www.whatsapp.com/coronavirus
Or join WHO’s Health Alert on WhatsApp:

For Arabic send "ابحرم" to +41 22 501 70 23 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017023?text=ابحرم
For French send "salut" to +41 22 501 72 98 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017298?text=salut
For Spanish send "hola" to +41 22 501 76 90 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017690?text=hola
For English send "hi" to +41 79 893 18 92 on WhatsApp wa.me/41798931892?text=hi

From 1 April 2020 Viber chatbot on COVID-19 is also available in English, Arabic and Russian
https://viber.com/coronavirusinfo Information provided is sourced or verified by WHO.

To stay up to date with the latest information, please visit:

World Health Organization: https://tinyurl.com/yx6vexyp
WHO guidance for countries: https://tinyurl.com/sz5zrl9
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation: https://tinyurl.com/tpr4rzc

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