SITUATION REPORT #14
COVID-19
16 APRIL 2020

16 APRIL 2020 by 09:00 hours

423 cases 1) 
397 cases 2) 
3720 cases tested 

47.4% female 
52.6% male 

272 homecare 
54 hospitalized 
71 recovered 

3 critical 
12 oxygen-therapy 
9 casualties 

58 cases 3) 
514 cases tested 

3 recovered 

Global statistics from WHO as per 16 April 2020 at 09:00 hours

1,918,138 confirmed cases 
123,126 deaths

1) Number of cumulative cases verified in Kosovo 
2) Statistics, as available by the Kosovo Institute for Public Health 
3) Recorded by Serbian health system
Highlights of data & information reported by Institute of Public Health and Ministry of Health, Pristina

As of 16 April of 2020, 09:00 hours, according to IPH there are 397 total cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. Number of verified casualties to COVID-19 in Kosovo is 9 cases.

Kosovo has entered the community spread phase of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Currently 12 patients are under oxygen-therapy and 3 are critical. 71 patients have fully recovered including Patient Zero. Currently under quarantine are the following municipalities: Prishtinë/Priština; Klinë/Klinë; Malishevë/Mališevo; Viti/Vitina, Mitrovica North, Zveçan/Zveçan, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Suharekë/Suva Reka, Prizren and following villages: Topaniçë/Topanica, Kamenicë/Kamenica Municipality; Korishë/Koriša, Prizren/Prizren Municipality, Smrekonicë/Smrekovnica, Vushtrri/Vučitrn and Vrapçiq/Vrapčić Gjilan/Gnjilane Municipality.

Tax Administration has set up an online system for companies to request permission for essential personnel working in grocery shops, pharmacies, internet, phone provider companies and supply chains, through their accounts on [http://www.atk-ks.org/edi-deklarimi-elektronik](http://www.atk-ks.org/edi-deklarimi-elektronik).

An independent interactive site has been established by an independent activist and software engineer Mr. Kujtim N. Hoxha for the purpose of correct information regarding schedule of movement in English, Albanian and Serbian in the link [https://kurmedal.com/](https://kurmedal.com/)
Public and Private Services

Currently all emergency and other core government functions continue to operate albeit with reduced capacity.

The Ministry of Health has created a special website 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).

Due to the new restrictions imposed, Municipality of Prishtine/Pristina is currently discontinuing hot meal social programming. The maintenance of public spaces, parks, streets and waste collection continues.

Measures by the government and public institutions

The Ministry of Health has introduced movement restrictions to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 from 15 April to 4 May: (i) a rotating timetable for personal movements; (ii) conditions for driving vehicles; (iii) personal movements for walking of pets and physical exercises; and (iv) clarification on the freedom of movement for international organizations. Personal movements during the prescribed 1.5-hour period are only permitted for purchasing food, medicine, hygienic products, dealing with banking/financial matters, and physical exercises. Driving in vehicles is only permitted if the market/pharmacy/bank etc. nearest to the home is more than 2 km away. All persons in movement (including for physical exercises) may not be accompanied by any other person, except (i) persons under 16 years; (ii) persons with disabilities. All persons in movement must (i) cover their mouth and nose, (ii) maintain a distance of two metres. Persons over 65 years are recommended not to leave their residence, except in emergency cases. No other travel/traffic is permitted, except for the following: medical emergencies, victims of domestic violence; attending funerals of close family members. Non-compliance is punishable by an administrative fine of 1000-2000 euro. Only essential staff of diplomatic missions and international organisations, as registered with ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Administration, and those involved in the work to combat COVID-19 pandemics are excluded from restrictions, including quarantine. Specific documentation as well as official ID must be carried all the time. Other staff are advised to respect the restrictions and use their national passport, or in case of UN staff they can also choose to use their LP, in order to abide by the new measures of restriction of movement.

During past 48 hours, 70 cases involving 125 persons have been reported by police of failure to comply with government-imposed restrictions in different locations all over Kosovo.

Distance learning program for classes 1-9, by MEST has been extended to preschool categories of children from 0-6 years old. Information available at https://masht.rks-gov.net/e-mesimi

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/. Every person, irrespective of nationality entering Kosovo is placed under mandatory 14-day quarantine/isolation. All public transportation and taxi services has been
Situation in K-Serb majority municipalities and in the north

There are 58 reported COVID-19 cases in northern Kosovo, and in K-Serb majority municipalities, with 3 individuals recovered. There have been 2 cases of casualties from K-Serb community. These two deaths of K-Serb individuals registered in hospitals in Kragujevac and Nis.

On 15 of April 2020, the mayors of the 4 north municipalities have held a joint press-conference to inform and advise the population of these municipalities of the new restrictions imposed by the government of Kosovo.

A health unit composed of one doctor and one nurse from Kosovo government health system, has been assigned in Bosniak Mahalla, in Mitrovica North from 13 April 2020. According to the Government of Serbia officials, by 17 April 2020, 75 additional physicians and 200 nurses will be deployed into Kosovo-Serbian majority areas in Kosovo.

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

As can be heard 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 by authorities and Central Bank of Kosovo. These 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.

Observations and concerns in Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities

The Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians communities have urgent need for support as they face the COVID-19 outbreak due to poor living conditions, limited access to water, health care and a general lack of coping capacities. There is a need for food and non-food assistance as thousands of families are affected exponentially, hence basic health and food assistance is a matter of urgency.

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 both health as well as social impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak but also distributing assistance directly to vulnerable groups and families.
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://openwho.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/](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.

**Gender Dimensions of the COVID-19 Outbreak**

Due to increase number of reported cases during COVID19 in Kosovo, today UN Women launched the campaign on Violence against Women, featuring video messages in three languages from Prime Minister, Speaker of the Parliament, Minister of Justice, Minister of Health and Head of UN Women Office. The campaign, which will be published in local TV channels and social media, aims to ensure the Domestic Violence survivors receive the needed support from institutions.

UN Women is closely monitoring the situation of domestic violence through regular communication with North Mitrovica Administrative Office who is coordinating activities of the Domestic Violence Coordination Mechanisms in the four municipalities. The GBV shelter in the North is not functional, however UN Women has received a list of supplies and equipment’s needed for its functioning.

The latest curfew measures have a specific impact on single parents, who in most cases are single mothers. UN Women is coordinating special support with UNKT and communicating with the Agency for Gender Equality, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Justice and is currently preparing a “best practice” document, which will be shared with the government.

**Humanitarian assistance**

UNFPA Kosovo continues to support vulnerable categories and together with Red Cross of Kosova, distributed the first batch of aid consisting of 800 packages of food and sanitary items to families in need in 28 Municipalities of Kosovo. This aid targeted those most left behind, families in need and persons with disabilities living in some of the remotest areas of Kosovo (including Northern Municipalities).
Juvenile justice responsive to COVID-19 pandemics

UNICEF Kosovo issued a press release on 13th of April for children in detention who are at heightened risk of contracting COVID-19 and called Kosovo Institutions and judicial authorities to reconsider replacing the pre-trial detention and educational measures for juveniles with those of home-based measures such as the home arrest or intensive supervision by the parents. UNICEF stated: “We call on institutions and other detaining authorities to urgently release all children who can safely return to their families or an appropriate alternative”.

Innovation

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) on establishing and launching the first online platform on early childhood care, development and education. Open Data Kosovo, a non-governmental organization, provided technical support in establishment and maintenance of this online platform. This platform will contain daily and weekly activities which are certainly going to help parents engage their children in activities that support their optimal development.

https://edukimihershem-rks.net/

UN SGs appeal to COVID-19 Pandemic globally

On April 11 the UN SG sent a public message to mark Easter, Passover and Ramadan: Renewing Faith in our Common Humanity in the Face of the COVID-19 Pandemic, calling on religious leaders for action to defeat this virus – “…with cooperation, solidarity, and faith in our common humanity”. For full message please see – https://bit.ly/34J49PN

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, 136 countries are supporting the appeal.

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/

The UN SG launched on 25 March a 2 billion USD global humanitarian response plan to fund the fight against COVID-19 in the world’s poorest countries. 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.

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 2.2 million people worldwide have raised the voice in support of the appeal by signing online https://avaaz.org/campaign/en/global_ceasefire_loc/
GIS representation of confirmed COVID19 cases in Kosovo

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

UNICEF
Website:      https://www.unicef.org/kosovoprogramme/
Facebook:     https://www.facebook.com/UNICEFKosovoprogramme
https://www.facebook.com/KosovoInnovations
Twitter:      https://twitter.com/UNICEFKosovo &
https://twitter.com/kosinnovations
Instagram:    https://www.instagram.com/unicef_innovations_lab_kosovo/

UNWOMEN
Facebook:     https://www.facebook.com/unwomenkosovo/
Twitter:      https://twitter.com/unwomenkosovo

UNFPA
Website:      https://kosovo.unfpa.org/
Facebook:     https://www.facebook.com/unfpakosovo/
Twitter:      https://twitter.com/UnfpaKosovo

UNHCR
Facebook:     https://www.facebook.com/unhcr.kosovo/
Twitter:      https://www.twitter.com/Refugees
Instagram:    https://instagram.com/refugees?igshid=6sgykcqdww

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/InstitutiiKosovesperAdministrarePublike
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](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

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

World Health Organization: [https://tinyurl.com/yx6vexyp](https://tinyurl.com/yx6vexyp)
Latest news on the United Nations’ response: [https://tinyurl.com/sf5ggwe](https://tinyurl.com/sf5ggwe)
WHO guidance for countries: [https://tinyurl.com/sz5zrl9](https://tinyurl.com/sz5zrl9)
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation: [https://tinyurl.com/tpr4rzc](https://tinyurl.com/tpr4rzc)

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