### SITUATION REPORT #15
#### COVID-19

**18 APRIL 2020 by 09:00 hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>480</td>
<td></td>
<td>454</td>
<td>4124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>215</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>13 oxygen therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>female</td>
<td>male</td>
<td>3 intensive care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>307 homecare</td>
<td>12 casualties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>63 hospitalized</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84 fully recovered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
<td>66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>584</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Global statistics from WHO as per 18 April 2020 at 09:00 hours**

- Confirmed cases: 2,078,605
- Deaths: 139,515
As of 18 April of 2020, 09:00 hours, according to IPH there are 454 total cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. Number of verified casualties to COVID-19 in Kosovo is 12 cases.

Kosovo is in the community spread phase of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Currently 3 patients are under intensive care. 84 patients have fully recovered including Patient Zero. Currently under quarantine are the following municipalities: Prishtinë/Priština; Klinë/a; Malishevë/Mališevo; Viti/Vitina, Mitrovica North, Zvečan/Zveçan, Ferizaj/Uroševac, Suharekë/Suva Reka, Prizren and following villages: Topanica /Topanica, Kamenica/Kamenica Municipality; Korishë/Koriša, Prizren/Prizren Municipality, Smrekovnica, Vushtrri/Vučitrn and Vrapčić Vrapčić Gjilan/Gnjilane Municipality.

Kosovo Ministry of Health confirmed that that Serbian government will donate 1,000 coronavirus tests to the Kosovo Institute of Public Health.
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).

On 15 April Ministry of Finance and Transfers published a call for applications for wages compensation. This support is part of the government COVID-19 fiscal emergency measures. Those that qualify can either apply online, or in person at the employment centers in their respective municipalities. The deadline for applications is 15 May 2020. Information available in Albanian and Serbian at https://mf.rks-gov.net/page.aspx?id=3,2,860

On 15 April, Language Commissioner called on institutions for a timely translation of measures on COVID-19 pandemic in official languages, so that information is accessible to all communities and any possible confusion is avoided. Now information is available in official languages over https://bit.ly/3buwFak

Government decided to allow municipalities to work on several ongoing projects which have started earlier based on the request of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities. Projects include, capital investments, investments in infrastructure, construction and maintenance services.
Situation in K-Serb majority municipalities and in the north

There are 71 reported COVID-19 cases in northern Kosovo, and in K-Serb majority municipalities. 66 are hospitalized.

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.

Serbian Orthodox Church has announced that this year Easter mas, will be serviced without congregations.

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 Egyptital 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 remotely 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.

Response of the UN system in Kosovo

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/ 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.

Gender Dimensions of the COVID-19 Outbreak

The campaign countering violence against women with empowering video messages in three languages (Albanian, Serbian, English) have reached more than 200,000 individuals through traditional and social media broadcast.

Video messages that aim to ensure institutional support to the victims of domestic violence through messages by the Kosovo Prime Minister, Speaker of the Parliament, Minister of Justice and Minister of Health will be broadcasted in other media channels in the following days. LINK - https://bit.ly/2xu4Lgg

Acknowledging the disproportionate effect that COVID-19 is having on women and girls, the Security and Gender Group (SGG) issued a joint statement addressing the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Finance, with specific recommendations on measures.

Asylum Seekers, refugees and migrants

Currently 87 asylum-seekers are present in the asylum center in Magure/Magura, 84 in Vranidoll/Vranidol and 16 in Tauk Bahce. So far, all five asylum-seekers who were tested on COVID-19 resulted negative. As a result of UNHCR support on installing internet in Magure/Magura asylum center UNHCR and partners have increased virtual activities with the asylum-seekers. Installation of the internet access in the asylum center in Vranidoll/Vranidol is in the process.

No new arrivals have been reported by the border Police. However, three people on the move (foreigners) have been sent to the quarantine in Vranidoll/Vranidol. Currently, 28 persons are in the quarantine in Vranidoll/Vranidol.

Internally Displaced Persons and Voluntary Returnees

UNHCR continued with the provision of assistance to the most vulnerable returnees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). So far, UNHCR assisted 263 returnees with food and hygienic items and 306 IDPs and residents in collective shelters with hygienic items. UNHCR and partners are still identifying Persons of Concern (POCs) that could potentially benefit from the emergency fiscal package and assisting them to register with respective employment offices and to apply for the fiscal package. Advocacy interventions for inclusion of returnees and IDPs in assistance programmes are ongoing with authorities and with humanitarian community.

Humanitarian assistance

This week, IOM, through the EU-RRK V project, assisted 44 additional vulnerable families with food and non-food items in the municipalities of Peja/Pec and Kline/Klina. This counts to total of 118 families assisted so far. Along with packages beneficiaries have also received WHO leaflets and posters on COVID-19 protection measures. This additional support was approved by the EU Office in Kosovo in the context of emergency assistance to help families in need in response to the corona virus outbreak.
UNICEF Innovations Lab organized First Virtual PONDER workshop on debunking fake news and myths around COVID-19 implemented by partners PEN and IPKO Foundation. 58 youth, including from marginalized and non-majority communities, 6 mentors were engaged during the 1-week programme, divided: 1. Critical thinking and fake news 2. Reading and interpreting images 3. Writing stories in Wikipedia. The video tutorials were produced in both Albanian and Serbian languages and communication tools through social media used for interaction between groups of young people and respective mentors.

The Office of the United Nation Development Coordinator (UN DC) in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport (MCYS) and supported by the PBF funded Youth and trust building Project launched online outreach event “Thursday’s Variety” aimed at engaging youth to address ‘hate speech’ and mis-information: The first “Thursday’s Variety” featured a virtual solo concert by Shpat Deda, accompanied with video messages targeting hate speech, and against mis-information from the Minister and the UN DC. More than 7000 people watched. The concert can be viewed at https://bit.ly/3aiQqR9. Similar frequent events targeting youth are planned every second Thursday.

Financial support and contributions to UN’s global fight against COVID-19

UK Government announced a package of 252 million USD committed to different UN agencies WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, UNFPA, as well as to the IFRC and NGOs.

Denmark has contributed to WHO with 15 million USD additional resources over the last month. A UN Development System Trust Fund for COVID-19 recovery has been launched in response to the UN SG’s vision for socio-economic recovery with initial commitment of 40 million USD from Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway. Kosovo will benefit with an initial 1 million USD.

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/3cr39m1

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=6sgykcqdqww

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/InstitutiiKosovesperAdministratePublike
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 "ابحَرِم" to +41 22 501 70 23 on WhatsApp wa.me/41225017023?text=ابحَرِم

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:

- WHO: [https://tinyurl.com/yx6vexyp](https://tinyurl.com/yx6vexyp)
- Latest news on the UNs’ 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)

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

Contact: Shpend Qamili, Communications Officer, UNDCO shpend.qamili@un.org