4 APRIL 2020 by 22:00 hours

140 total number of COVID-19 confirmed cases (1
Female 65
Male 75
520 are under mandatory quarantine
43 hospitalized
23 fully recovered
5 in severe condition, of which 2 are critical
1 case of casualty

Global statistics from WHO at 20:00 hours

1,056,159 confirmed cases
57,206 deaths
207 countries, areas or territories with identified cases

As of 4 April of 2020, 22:00 hours, there are 140 total cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. One 82-year-old man has died. Five patients are in severe condition, out of which two are critical. 23 patients have fully recovered. Currently under quarantine are the following municipalities: Klinë/a; Mališevë/Mališevo; Viti/Vitina, Mitrovica North and Zvečan/Zveçan 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. declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency on 15 March. Curfew schedule continues to be from 17:00 to 06:00 hours.

• Licensed pharmacies will operate after 17:00 hours with a rotational on-duty shifts. The list of the pharmacies operating during curfew hours will be updated daily on the link - https://bit.ly/3avP32k
While, the curfew is well respected, there are a lot of movement of vehicles and persons during the day. Police are present on the streets to ensure continued compliance but need to be reinforced. 64 persons have been arrested by the police for non-complying to curfew measures within the last 72 hours. Respecting the curfew and measure 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.

Today a new schedule of e-learning classes was published on local media with longer schedule. Based on this information by MEST, a more complete curricula will be offered from 6 April, starting at 09:00 hours and ending at 16:00 hours, covering full curricula for classes 1-9. This is different from initial two weeks of distance learning only contained native language (Albanian, Turkish and Bosnian) classes and mathematics. After broadcast on TV the material becomes available on the subsequent YouTube channel of RTK.

1) Statistics, as available by the Kosovo Institute for Public Health
Travel and Transport

Most international air travel to Kosovo is suspended as of 16 March 2020. According to the government decision of mandatory quarantine for each incoming traveler. 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. 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.
Currently all emergency and other core government functions continue functional. Approximately 300 volunteers are helping the health workers coordinated and instructed by the Ministry of Health. Municipalities continue provide civil documentation, albeit with reduced capacities. The Ministry of Health has created a special website https://www.kosova.health/en/ with current official Kosovo statistics, and measures to be 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 aspirational: 038 200 80 800 (0.02 cents per minute).

Situation in northern Kosovo

There are 23 reported COVID-19 cases in northern Kosovo, including a person who passed away two days ago after being transferred to Niš. Mitrovica North and Zvečan/Zveçan are quarantined effective from 3 April 18:00 hours until further notice. Measures include restriction of movement in and out of the two municipalities except for health care, supply of food, medicines and other necessities to the population, as well as employees of the public administration engaged in activities to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Persons confirmed to be infected by COVID-19 will be referred to temporary accommodation at the Student Center in Mitrovica/e North, where they will be under constant professional, medical supervision. The Government of Serbia is considering assignment of temporary employment of doctors and nurses in majority Serb areas. A facility for examination of suspected patients and for future mass-testing is being set up in North Mitrovica as reported on 27 March. On 29 March, curfew hours were extended on weekends to 15:00 to 05:00 hours while weekday curfew remains 17:00 to 05:00 hours.

Observations important to health & socio-economic impact of COVID-19 outbreak

The UN family is receiving repeated messages from NGOs and vulnerable populations about increasing need for food and non-food items and that the institutional assistance of the slight increase of social assistance, is not enough. Roma communities in Gjakova/Dakovica 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. This calls for urgent short-term socio-economic response in terms of eg expanded safety nets, social protection measures and/or cash transfers.

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 eg density, limited access to water, increases vulnerability to COVID-19 exponentially. In addition to UN assistance, Red Cross and NGOs such as Mother Theresa (below), CoE has provided some assistance to vulnerable Roma communities (https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/roma-local-governance/-/covid-19-romacted-assists-the-most-vulnerable-in-the-community ).
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

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/](https://open-who.org/courses/)

Socio-economic impact assessment and recovery framework

UNKT in coordination with Word Bank and other partners is launching a series of assessments to measure the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. UNDP will lead with UN Women and UNICEF a rapid assessment with 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 also inform the development of an integrated UN interagency recovery framework to respond to the impacts of COVID-19. The UN framework is hoped to serve both government as well as international community in Kosovo.

Urgent medical supplies

UNDP is procuring ventilators with financial support from Norway, Switzerland and possibly Luxembourg. On 3 April, a truck of 4 tons of PPEs was donated by UNICEF to Ministry of Health to distribute to all municipalities.
On 30 March, UNOPS today signed a 5 million EUR contract with the EU Office in Pristina, for procurement of emergency supplies in close coordination with UN DC Office, WHO and Ministry of Health to procure medical supplies to strengthen the COVID-19 response.~

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

UN Women is monitoring the DV situation in close communication with Kosovo Police. Data extracted from the National Database on DV cases from January till March this year shows a total of 839 cases out of which 521 are women, and 121 are men. Majority of cases are from urban areas. The month of March saw an increase in DV cases compared to last year. It can be assumed that this is a result of COVID-19 measures. As isolation and quarantine are imposed, and households are placed under strain, the risk of violence increases.

UN Women is in the process of securing clothes, beds and bed linen for DV survivors and children in shelters. Electronic devices will be provided for children to follow distance learning. In a joint UNKT, effort DV Shelters have received food, hygienic kits and other goods to meet their needs. They have expressed their appreciation to the UN Kosovo Team for being one of the first responders to their needs amid the pandemic.
Asylum Seekers, refugees and migrants

Based on the information provided by the Asylum Center officials, no new asylum-seekers are recorded during the last few days, while two asylum-seekers left Kosovo to an unknown direction. Currently, 87 asylum-seekers are in Magure Asylum Centre, 84 in Vranidoll and 16 in Tauk Bahce in Prishtine/Pristina (Temporary Accommodation Center for Readmitted Persons). UNHCR supported two (2) individuals under subsidiary protection to collect their social assistance provided by the Government.

The number of new arrivals in the Detention Center, which now is functioning for the required quarantine, has increased to 28 individuals.

Returnees and IDPs

UNHCR protection monitoring reports concern related to inability to obtain medicines for chronic illnesses as expressed by few returnee families. Several K-Serb returnee families engaged in agriculture are not able to sell their product due to movement restrictions, consequently will quickly become vulnerable. UNHCR assisted three gender-based violence survivors and three returnee families with 47 members, with one-month food package and hygienic kits. UNHCR continues to coordinate with authorities and humanitarian community for inclusion of person of concern in assistance programmes. As a result, 45 families of persons of concern were assisted in several municipalities.

This week, IOM, through the EU-RRK V project, assisted 30 additional vulnerable families with food and non food items in the municipalities of Fushe Kosova/Kosovo Polje, Obilic/c, Gracanica, Peja/pec, Kline/a and Istog/k. This marks the completion of the first leg of 50 families to be assisted. Along with packages beneficiaries have also received WHO leaflets and posters on COVID 19 protection measures. 201 more packages are to be distributed as of next week. This additional support was approved by EU Office in Kosovo in as emergency assistance to help families in need as a result of COVID-19.

Volunteering

Under the joint UN youth project financed by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), 30 UN Community Volunteers of diverse ethnic backgrounds from 15 municipalities in Mitrovica and Pristina regions, are now engaged in online COVID-19 prevention awareness raising activities. UN Community Volunteers have been provided with ad-hoc online creative content conveying messages in local languages related to COVID-19 risks and preventive measures and shared widely across their peers/communities through social media.

Innovation

Innovation Centre Kosovo (ICK) organized hackathon Hack the Crisis Kosova on 2-4 April engaging researchers, institutions, private sectors, startups and tech enthusiasts to find innovative solutions for COVID-19 pandemic. UNDP Kosovo is one of the donors and will award the prize for the “MOST PROMISING IDEA”. The award ceremony will be held on Sunday 5 April. Learn more at: https://hackthecrisiskosova.com/

NGO Open Data Kosovo, has independently produces a website with information on COVID19 https://opendatakosovo.org/covid-19 available in the form of data graphs and most important information regarding COVID19 outbreak in Kosovo.

International responses to COVID-19 Pandemic in Kosovo and globally

EU’s announced a support package for Kosovo: Euro 5 million for immediate needs in cooperation with UNOPS); 50 million to ease socio-economic impact, and up to 13 million in budget support. The US government through USAID has committed a first tranche of $1.1 million to, through WHO and UNICEF cover immediate needs to increase national capacities in responding to the COVID-19 outbreak.
The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) has allocated CHF 500,000 to help Kosovo fight the COVID-19 virus, the Swiss Embassy in Kosovo said. With support from UNDP, the funds will be used to purchase ventilators which are expected to reach Kosovo by mid-April.

On 31 March 2020, a joint global statement by UNHCR, IOM, OHCHR and WHO, was released, calling for protection of Refugees and Migrants, reminding of LNOB during the COVID-19 Pandemic: “We cannot allow fear or intolerance to undermine rights or compromise the effectiveness of responses to the global pandemic. We are all in this together. We can only defeat this virus when each one of us is protected.” Globally, UNHCR launched a $255 million appeal on 26 March as part of the wider UN appeal. On 3 April, Sony responded positively to the appeal, the first private sector to respond.

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 [link](http://unkt.org/2020/03/31/shared-responsibility-global-solidarity-responding-socio-economic-impacts-covid-19/)

The UN SG’s call for global cease-fire on 23 March 2020 backed by among other dignities by Pope Francis 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. The appeal has been signed by more than 1.5 million people online [link](https://avaaz.org/campaign/en/global_ceasefire_loc/)
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
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

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 "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)