

**28 March** 24,000 doses of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines arrive to Kosovo through the COVAX facility with support from UNICEF and WHO. The arrival of the first contingent of COVID-19 vaccines in Kosovo was received at the airport by government officials led by Prime Minister Kurti and Minister of Health Vitia, the EU and Quint Ambassadors, the UN Development Coordinator, UNICEF and WHO Representatives. This first delivery is part of the initial allocation of 100,800 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to be delivered to Kosovo through May 2021 through COVAX. The COVAX facility aims to ensure equal distribution of COVID-19 vaccine for everyone around the world.

[LINK](#)



**UNITED NATIONS  
KOSOVO TEAM**



**UN Kosovo Team - In Brief, March 2021**

**30 March** Glauk Konjufca, the new Speaker of Assembly of Kosovo, the UN Development Coordinator met with members of the UN Kosovo Team. Furthering cooperation in fighting COVID-19, socio-economic recovery, and sustainable development and working with the Sustainable Development Council of the Assembly were among the main topics discussed. [LINK](#)

**30 March** Strengthening the fights against COVID-19 and building back better was one of key priorities discussed at first meeting with new Prime Minister Albin Kurti, new Minister of Health Arben Vitia, the UN Development Coordinator and the UN Kosovo Team. Implementation of the UN Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 and getting back on track with the Agenda 2030 were other joint priorities agreed upon. [LINK](#)

**1 April** In continuing the support to the Government's efforts to contain the spread of the COVID-19, UNOPS signed a contract with Ministry of Health on the implementation of the 1,5 million euro soft-loan provided by the Council of Europe Development Bank. The aim is to enhance operational capacity of the Ministry of Health through construction of the warehouse for the central vaccine storage and procure specific equipment and supplies in support of vaccination process. [LINK](#)

**29 March** Flagship milestone to accelerate the institutionalization of learning official languages in Kosovo was achieved through Conference organised by IOM gathering both local and international representatives and stakeholders to discuss key developments and future of the official languages in Kosovo. The aim of the initiative is to enable curricular and extracurricular learning of official languages, as well as to enable certification of language knowledge on professional level for certified professionals, able to especially translate between Serbian and Albanian. The event was hosted by the Office of Language Commissioner (OPM) and Faculty of Philology and organized within the framework of the project 'Building Societal Connections and Support to Reconciliation and Social Cohesion' supported by the British Embassy Pristina and implemented by IOM. [LINK](#)

**19 March** 10,000 extraction PCR kits, 2 PCR machines and 2 Extraction machines to regional labs in Kosovo delivered by WHO. [LINK](#) The delivery is part of the 'Return to (New) Normal in Kosovo: Strengthening resilience through a safe and inclusive return to normality in health and education in the wake of COVID-19' project, financed by the British Embassy through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) of the United Nations



**Highlights:**

- 24,000 doses of AstraZeneca - Oxford COVID-19, delivered to Kosovo through COVAX facility.
- New Prime Minister Kurti and Minister of Health Vitia met with UN Kosovo Team
- New Assembly Speaker Konjufca received a delegation of UN Kosovo team
- Ministry of Health and UNOPS signed a contract to strengthen fight against COVID-19 through a soft loan by Council of Europe Development Bank
- 29 March Conference organised by IOM, UK Embassy and the Office of the Language Commissioner of Kosovo to accelerate institutionalisation of learning of official languages in Kosovo, including establishment of Balcanistic Programme and Language Centre at Pristina University.
- 19 March 10,000 extraction PCR kits, 2 PCR machines and 2 Extraction machines to regional labs in Kosovo delivered by WHO.

For latest government measures against COVID-19, to be in force from 7 April please see [LINK](#)



<sup>1</sup>All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)





**3 March** The door-to-door campaign for catchup on regular immunization programme expanded into 6 more municipalities, including Mitrovica south, Podujevë/o, Pejë/Peć, Prizren, Klinë/a and Istog/k. Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities who missed regular vaccinations due to COVID-19 pandemic. [LINK](#)

The activity is part of the project 'Return to (New) Normal in Kosovo: Strengthening resilience through a safe and inclusive return to normality in health and education in the wake of COVID-19' financed by the British Embassy through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) of the United Nations

**1 March** 100th consultative meeting held with Department of Urbanism Vushtrri/Vučitrn and UN-Habitat, during the process of drafting Municipality Zoning Map. Same day with Municipality of Leposavić/q UN-Habitat helped in setting planning priorities, and more is to be captured in upcoming Municipal Development Plan through an interactive dialogue. 5 & 12 March UN-Habitat & CBM/PAX held community meetings with residents from Runik village Skenderaj/Srbica municipality on the component of Neighbourhood Based Plan Deliberation (NBPD). These activities are part of the Inclusive Development Programme, financed by SIDA. [LINK1](#), [LINK2](#), [LINK3](#) & [LINK4](#)



**3 & 4 March** 15 police officers from various police stations trained on firearms investigations. UNDP's Kosovo Safety and Security Programme (KSSP), the Kosovo Police Investigations Department and the Training Division, held a series of trainings with the Prizren and Gjilan/Gnjilane Regional Police Directorates. The CPIAT project is supported by the governments of Germany, British, Netherlands, Sweden, France, and Norway, through UN's Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). [LINK](#)

**10 March** To address challenges of children with disabilities in access to education, UNICEF Deputy Head of Office visited the municipality of Dragash/š Mayor Shaban Shabani and Director of Education Vloran Cenaj presenting opportunities related to the e-learning platform shkollat.org, ensuring equitable access to learning. [LINK](#)

**9-17 March** With the goal of defining priorities of Municipal Development Plans-MDP and to discuss approaches to mainstreaming gender into these plans, UN-Habitat, Ministry of Economy and Environment, and the Ministry of Local Government organised workshops with key stakeholders. [LINK1](#), [LINK2](#), [LINK3](#) & [LINK4](#)

**12 March** In ensuring a more effective investigation process through digitalisation, high-capacity servers were delivered to Kosovo Police - Department for War Crimes and Missing Persons. This support, both in technical but also human resources, availed by the UK and Swiss government, and implemented by UNDP, will serve to digitalize the archives of the Institute for Forensic Medicine. [LINK](#)

**15 March** In addressing the development plan of a cohesive social housing program in Kosovo, an inaugural meeting of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) for the Feasibility Study of a Social Housing Program in Kosovo was hosted by the Ministry of Economy and Environment (Department of Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing) and UN-Habitat. Project is being supported by the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) and Italian Fund for Innovative projects. [LINK](#)

**15 March** A guideline developed for reporters working in Kosovo titled: 'Journalism & Peace building', as a result of UN Women and Association of Journalists of Kosovo-AJK organised series of trainings for journalists. [LINK](#)



**22 March** Following up on the recommendations from the last workshop, focusing on formalizing local governance duties and responsibilities in the process of resolving the fate of the missing persons, a coordination meeting with municipal officials was organised by UNDP, with the government Commission of Missing Persons (GCMP) and the Ministry of Local Government (MLG). On this occasion, the GCMP website was presented, and will officially be launched on 2 April. Activity supported by British Government. [LINK](#)

**16-17 March** 49 representatives of Centres for Social Welfare-CSW from different municipalities, and the Department of Social Policies and Family, trained through two separate one-day workshops on Case Management of Children Victims of Child Labour.

**26 March** 21 prosecutors and judges (including 4 from Serb community) and 1 representative of the Academy of Justice (Senior Official for Trainings) trained on international standards for elimination of Child Labour (CL), also covering legal and institutional framework in Kosovo, the situation of CL in Kosovo, key challenges in identification, investigation, and prosecution of CL related cases, as well as the way forward. Both trainings are provided by the International Labor Organisation-ILO

**17 March** 80 health workers trained online on infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for vaccination team, by WHO.

**18 March** 65 teachers trained online on mental health in school settings, covering several Kosovo municipalities during March.

**24 March** UNICEF Head of Office, Japanese Embassy Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Mitsunori OGASAWARA and the Second Secretary Mrs. Kay KURIMOTO, visited the Municipality of Zubin Potok/Zubinpotok, meeting Mayor, Mr. Srđan Vulović and his team. They got to see the projects implemented in the kindergarten in fighting COVID-19 pandemic, and continued visit at Technical High School in North Mitrovica, with more than 1500 students, teachers, and support staff. Finally visiting NGO Domovik, where Mr. Ogasawara was interviewed regarding the projects implemented within the program 'Youth Solution for COVID-19'. [LINK](#)

**25 March** 14 members of the Kosovo's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) trained in preventing and combatting money laundering, including financial crimes stemming from corruption and organized crime with the help of UNDP Support to Anticorruption Efforts in Kosovo-SAEK team & Council of Europe's PECK III project. [LINK](#)

**29 March** started the vaccination against COVID-19 in sports hall '1 October' in Pristina, using the first batch of vaccine delivered through COVAX facility. [LINK](#)

**30 March** Institute for Public Health (IPH) supported by WHO carried out WASH assessments in 100 select schools in Kosovo. Findings will be analysed by IPH and report available by April-May 2021, including recommendations.

**30-31 March** 34 Education Inspectors trained in two separate two-day workshops on the role of monitoring and inspection of school performance in child protection and prevention of school dropout. The Training Module delivered by ILO was prepared and implemented in consultation with Ministry of Education, Science, and Innovation (Human Rights Unit and Education Inspectorate).

**31 March** Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA) tool piloted in Kosovo by UNDP. It will provide rapid and essential insights into Kosovo's digital strengths and weaknesses. It will also serve as a platform for active engagement between UNDP and other development partners, Kosovo institutions, businesses, and the civil society. [LINK](#)



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UN Kosovo Team - In Brief, March 2021







**8 March** In honour of International Women's Day 2021, within the joint advocacy of the recently launched local UN Network on Migration (UNMN) by the UN Kosovo Team, IOM shared stories of women migrants who have returned to Kosovo contributing to society, under the theme Migration as a Factor Contributing to Women's Empowerment. Links to the three stories: [LINK1](#) [LINK2](#) [LINK3](#)



Migration as a Factor Contributing to Women's Empowerment

**9 March** UNDP Kosovo featured stories on Kosovo women who are making a difference with their work. 1. Irzeme Ferati, a woman, the only police officer in Kosovo, a K9 dog trainer: [LINK1](#) & 2. A story on newly appointed interns with big dreams to make a change: [LINK2](#)



**14 March** 20 youth participated in a community dialogue organized Hajvali/Ajvaljija by IOM, addressing concerns and needs of the community. [LINK](#) This is the fourth such dialogue, implemented by IOM through the regional project 'Providing support to youth in local communities in Kosovo', financially supported by the Government of the British, and implemented in 10 municipalities throughout Kosovo.

**17 March** 190 persons from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were reached through a door-to-door campaign to increase awareness of the detrimental effects of school dropouts among young women. The campaign is organised by UN Women and implemented by IPKO Foundation and under the 'Return to (New) Normal in Kosovo: Strengthening resilience through a safe and inclusive return to normality in health and education in the wake of COVID-19' financed by the British Embassy through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) of the United Nations

**18 March** The multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism: Security and Gender Group (SGG), chaired by UN Women, issued a statement signed by embassies accredited to Kosovo, international organizations, and NGO-s in relation to the killing of Sebahate Sopi calling for concrete actions directed to Kosovo institutions to protect women. [LINK](#)

**25 March** UN Women in cooperation with the Association of Journalists of Kosovo marked the 'Reporting on Gender Responsive Budgeting Week'. The campaign included several activities such as informative articles, quote cards, concluding with a final workshop where concrete recommendations and actions will be drafted. [LINK](#)





**23, 24 & 30,31 March** 5 oxygen generators delivered to the hospital in South Mitrovica, while 15,000 PPE units delivered to the hospital in North Mitrovica. 97 tablets delivered to the municipalities of North Mitrovica and Zubin Potok/Zubinpotok for socially disadvantaged students to follow online education programs. 208 food and 208 hygienic packages delivered to South Mitrovica, North Mitrovica, Zubin Potok/Zubinpotok, and Zvečan/Zvečan for persons in vulnerable situations, by OHCHR and UNMIK



**29 March, 2021** - In a rare and reversed case of return migration, IOM Kosovo in collaboration with IOM Germany have successfully assisted the return of a German migrant who was residing in Kosovo, to his home in Germany. LINK Assistance was provided under the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) program.

The following deliveries are part of the 'Return to (New) Normal in Kosovo: Strengthening resilience through a safe and inclusive return to normality in health and education in the wake of COVID-19' project financed by the British Embassy through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) of the United Nations

**1 March** 150 women and girls with disabilities from Pristina, Gjilan/Gnjilane and Gjakova/Đakovica municipalities, are provided with access to distance learning through digital materials and assistive technologies, by UN Women. A set of training in professional development and capacity building to ease their access to the labour market. LINK.

**8 March** 20 young women from non-majority communities gathered in the Kosovo Assembly to listen to inspirational speeches and see their art works exhibited on International Women's Day. Under the global theme of: 'Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world', the event served as inspiration for participating young women to break social barriers. LINK Event organize by UN Women, the Office of the Assembly Speaker and IPKO Foundation. LINK

**22 March** UN Women with IPKO Foundation launched the Mapping Report and Platform identifying Peja/Peć, Gjakovë/Đakovica, Mitrovicë/a south, Pristina and Fushë-Kosovë municipalities with the lowest rates of school attendance by young women and girls, and with high rates of vulnerability to dropping out from school due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This platform revealed that poverty and early marriages are the main reasons for young women and girls school drop-out. LINK

**17 March** UNFPA Kosovo in coordination with the Department of Health of the Municipality of Pristina launched the E-Health Project for Essential Health Services delivered 186 tablets to health care providers of 16 Family Medicine Centres LINK. As follow up about 100 healthcare workers trained during 3 day sessions on E-Health LINK.





**4 March** International Mother Language Day marked with a virtual event in cooperation with the University of Pristina. Under the global theme of this year's 'Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society,' the virtual event organized aimed to highlight that languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion with a focus on leaving no one behind. This activity is organized in cooperation with University of Pristina, Faculty of Philology supported by UN Women, IOM through the joint UN Kosovo Team 'Youth for Kosovo' project funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund.



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**29 March** 8 returnee households with 48 family members received assistance, by IOM through its Return and Reintegration in Kosovo (RRK) V project, funded by the European Union Office in Kosovo and co-financed by the Ministry of Communities and Returns (MCR). [LINK](#)



**31 March** UN Development Coordinator and Head of IOM Office visited Gračanica/Gračanicë to meet with beneficiaries of Return & Reintegration project, as well as Community Stabilisation project funded by European Union [LINK](#). Minister of Communities and return Mr. Goran Rakic, joined in the visit of the beneficiaries on the field [LINK](#)



**29 March** Through the IOM's Community Stabilization Program (CSP) funded by the European Union, several businesses received assistance and support in equipment, training, and new technology [LINK1](#), [LINK2](#), [LINK3](#), [LINK4](#) & [LINK5](#). In addition 9 smart boards were granted to primary school 'Tefik Qanga' in the Ferizaj/Uroševac [LINK](#)



**10&11 March** 8 women (4 farmers & 4 entrepreneurs) from diverse communities supported in starting their own businesses. [LINK1](#) & [LINK2](#)



**22 March** Youth centre in Gračanica/Gračanicë received new computers, audio and video equipment, and office furniture, to encourage creative expressions of youth, access to information and other activities. [LINK](#)