

Gender-based violence during COVID-19

Kyrgyzstan response March-June 2020 Disaster Response Coordination Unit (DRCU) activated on 16 March 2020 on request of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to assist the country in emergency preparedness and response to COVID-19 and in preparing for early recovery:





- 18 March 2020 the first case of the COVID-19 in Kyrgyzstan
- 25 March 2020 the curfew came down to Bishkek, Osh and Jalal-Abad cities, along with the outbreak zones: Nookat and Sukar rayons
- Since March 18 to June 16: 2472 infected; 1847 recovered; 474 health workers infected; 28 died
- Majority cases are in Bishkek and Osh cities, Nookat rayon, Naryn city
- Complete lockdown ended on 1 June, 2020

Services for women and girls subject to violence:

- Support to Government to strengthen multi-sectoral coordination for elimination of violence against women and girls through development of a coordinated algorithm for response to GBV
- Support to coordination of **online psychological services** during COVID-19 lockdown, training of psychologists and hotline operators
- Support in development and design of required procedural documents (SOPs, leaflets) for operators and psychologists to provide online support to women and girls

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Инициатива «Луч света» мобильное

приложение

Support to crisis centers:

- Adaptation of regular services of crisis centers and • arranging **alternative (safe) spaces** to provide support to GBV survivors with consideration of COVID-19 prevention and protection measures. A shelter organised in Bishkek city
- Work with established **emergency GBV mobile groups** to • provide services to GBV survivors during lockdown

Gender mainstreaming in COVID-19 response:

- Supporting Ministry of Labour and Social Development with • gender experts to help mainstream gender issues into COVID-19 response, including in communications
- Conducted a rapid assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on • women and vulnerable groups





Raising awareness:

- Informing on preventive measures available and accessible to women on gender-based/domestic violence in COVID-19 context, safety measures, hotlines (112, 111, 103, 118) and other support (leaflets, posters, social media, WhatsApp)
- Reducing stigma and discrimination (women health workers, women and girls) also through social media
- Youth engagement for digital solution: hosted an online hackathon
- Producing information videos on where women can turn for help



Supporting civil society:

- Support to UNITE civil society movement and their media campaign for joint communications and advocacy for eliminating and addressing violence against women in COVID-19 context to raise awareness for response and to prevent violence (includes social media outreach and challenges, videos, live chats)
- Rapid mapping of grassroots community groups that demonstrate activism during COVID-19 crisis
- Working with activists on local level to empower them to use IT channels for COVID-19 prevention







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Thank you!