



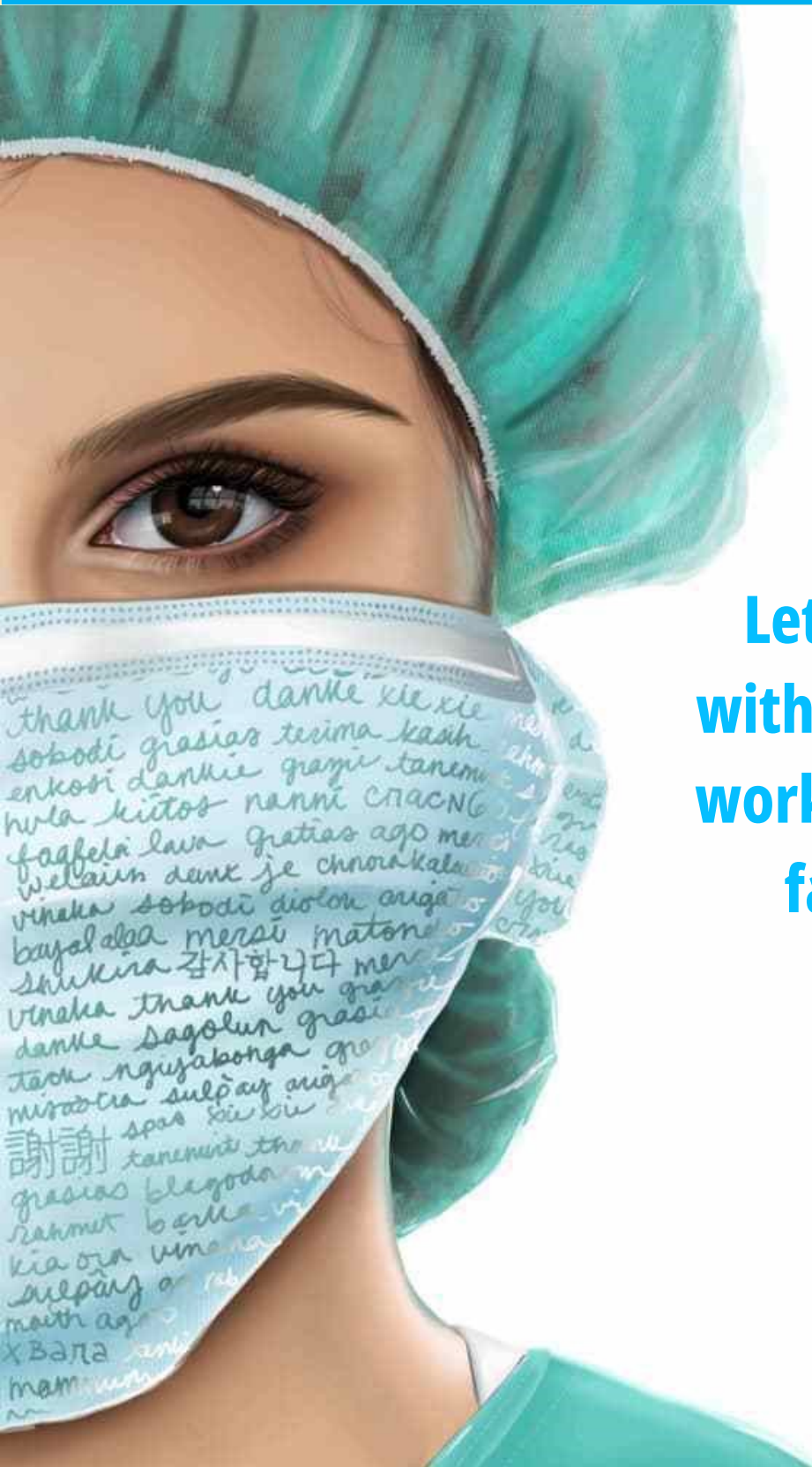
UNITED NATIONS
ALBANIA



COVID-19 RESPONSE

A Special Covid-19 Response Newsletter

Issue No 10 , May, 2021



**Let's show solidarity
with our nurses who are
working tirelessly in the
face of #COVID19**

#InternationalNursesDay
12 May 2021

@chiara.art

Latest news: A third shipment of 40,800 doses of Astra Zeneca COVID-19 vaccine arrived at Mother Teresa Airport, Tirana, as the final batch of a total of 120,000 doses that Albania signed up to receive through the [COVAX mechanism](#).

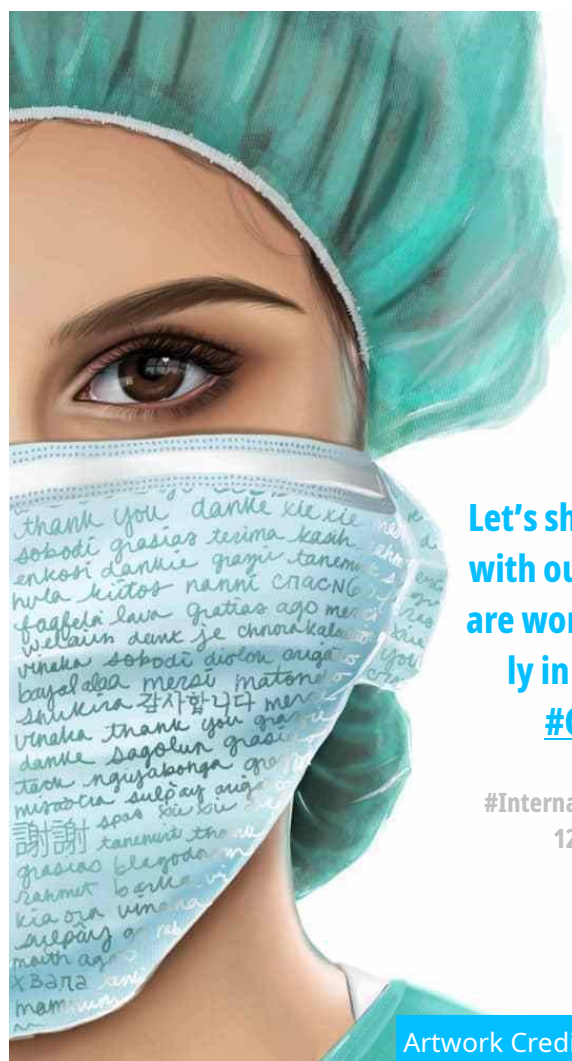


Arrival of 3-rd shipment of COVAX vaccines; Photo: MoHSP

Albania has joined COVAX as a self-financing country. As of 31 May, COVAX has shipped 77 million COVID-19 vaccines to 127 participants; nearly a quarter of those countries would not have been able to start vaccination if it had not been through the COVAX Facility. [Read more here.](#)



WHO supports people quitting tobacco to reduce their risk of severe COVID-19. The pandemic has led to millions of tobacco users saying they want to quit. If you are a smoker please consider joining communities of quitters and commit to quit today. Here is [the link to join](#). And, remember, quitters are winners!



Let's show solidarity with our nurses who are working tirelessly in the face of [#COVID19](#)

**#InternationalNursesDay
12 May 2021**

Artwork Credit: UN / Chiara Fiori



"Thank you for the difference you are making, everyday and everywhere!" - said Dr. Gerald Rockenschaub, WHO Representative and Head of Country Office in Albania, as he greeted the participants of an event with Albanian Order of Nurses on occasion of the International Day of the Nurse.

"Albanian nurses and health professionals are in the front line of efforts to combat Covid-19, working round the clock to keep us safe" - he added.



RC Fiona McCluney visited the accommodation units and sanitary services installed at the Kapshtica Border crossing

UN Resident Coordinator in Albania Fiona McCluney visited the accommodation units and sanitary services installed at the Kapshtica Border crossing in the framework of the EU funded project “Addressing COVID-19 Challenges within the Migrant and Refugee Response in the Western Balkans. The United Nations through IOM and UNHCR are working to ensure that the rights of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees are protected, and that migration and asylum management systems remain operational.



Protecting People ; Photo: UNDP Albania

With support from UNDP the Child Rights Centre Albania organized a roundtable consultation for the Protocol of Social Worker on protection of children from violence.

The Protocol comes as a necessity to create a clear picture of implementing the most effective interventions when treating cases of violence against children and adolescents.

The protocol provides detailed guidance for all social workers working at local level on the immediate response required to address cases of violence against children and adolescents, especially in the times of COVID-19.

UNICEF Albania continues to support and assist the public-school system for blended learning during COVID-19 and beyond. Providing thousands of free video lessons and the most advanced learning management system platform for online learning for the Albanian public-school system”; a project supported by UNICEF and MOESY through the financial support of the Netherlands Government through the SDG Acceleration Fund and implemented by Akademi.al.



UN Resident Coordinator with Minister of Education, Ambassador of Netherlands in Albania, UNICEF Representative meet with Akademia.al

Thanks to USAID funding UNICEF supported local authorities in Kukës to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in children and families, focusing on the most vulnerable.

School and preschool institutions have been supported with cleaning and disinfection supplies to ensure measures are in place to support healthy hygiene behaviors and practices.

Personal hygiene kits were delivered to vulnerable families and children in Kukes, to ensure critical hygiene supplies were available to support implementation of key hygiene practices at family and community level in the context of COVID-19.



Thanks to USAID funding UNICEF supported local authorities in Kukës
US Ambassador and UNICEF Representative visiting kindergarten nr 1 in Kukes.



LGBTIQ Activists in Tirana ; Photo: UN Albania

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continues to run a series of regional COVID-19 webinars focusing on Europe and Central Asia. The last webinar addressed linkages in terms of COVID-19 response and digitalization, presented an array of digital-technology solutions applied in agriculture, their inter-connectivity and potential benefits, and the factors hampering their implementation during the pandemic. Access and register to FAO Webinars [here](#).



UNDP in Partnership with Aleanca LGBTI provided free health check-up for LGBTI community members ensuring medical care for the most marginalized members of the LGBTI community, especially transgender people and those with complex medical conditions. Medical assistance is being provided to the most marginalized LGBTI community members, with a particular focus on those at risk of contracting COVID-19.

In addition, thanks to this cooperation the LGBTIQ members are receiving mental health support. Online and face to face psychological counselling is being provided via a safe and secure anonymous online chat platform at www.soslgbt.al website. Also, Case-by-case counselling will be offered at Alliance community center through a psychologist. Meanwhile, food packages were provided to the most vulnerable LGBTI people in Albania. 90 of the most vulnerable LGBTI people in Tirana, Vlora, Lezha, Durres, Korca and Shkodra are provided with monthly food packages for a period of two

EVERYONE NEEDS ACCESS TO VACCINES SO NO ONE GETS LEFT BEHIND

#ONLY TOGETHER

UNITED NATIONS ALBANIA

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