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PRESS RELEASE

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Switzerland enhances public awareness on prevention against COVID-19 in Kyrgyzstan

The Government of Switzerland through the Swiss project “Effective Management and Prevention of Non Communicable Diseases in Kyrgyzstan” is contributing to improve public awareness on preventive measures against COVID-19.

The project since April 2020 has achieved the following:

- **400'000 persons** living in rural municipalities were informed on preventive measures against COVID-19. The project jointly with Association of Village Health Committees created WhatsApp groups to disseminate information on preventive measures on COVID-19.
- **8'000 persons** contributed to an online survey on public awareness on COVID-19 and protective measures. This information is being used to adjust the communication strategy. More than half of respondents answered that they need additional information on coronavirus infection.
- Patients with diabetes, who belong to the most at risk group, were briefed on how to protect themselves against COVID-19. The project worked with the Endocrinology Centre of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic and **created a special online platform to help patients with diabetes**. Clinical protocols on COVID-19 for family doctors were printed and disseminated.
- National and regional TV channels broadcasted **TV programs on COVID-19 and protection measures for high-risk patients** who suffered from a non-communicable disease.

All video materials in Kyrgyz: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5T7Rq6mzsctOyDurohqzFw>
Facebook of the project: <https://www.facebook.com/ncd.kyrgyzstan>

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The Government of Switzerland provides assistance for the development of the Kyrgyz Republic to improve the well-being of the population. Over the last 25 years Switzerland has granted more than CHF 430 million to Kyrgyzstan in the form of technical, financial and humanitarian support.

For more information, please visit <https://www.eda.admin.ch/bishkek>.