

Public Health Department, International Higher School of Medicine

Main completed and current research projects

Recently completed projects

#	Title	Funding/partner institution	Abstract
1	Health Risk Assessment From Exposure to Adverse Environmental Factors (mercury-containing products and other substances) 2019-2022	Médecins sans Frontières (MSF, Doctors without Borders) and the Kyrgyz Ministry of Health (MOH)	<p>Due to the heavy exploitation of heavy metals by the USSR, Kyrgyzstan has been left with a legacy of environmental contamination. Within the Batken region, Khaidarkan is home to one of the world's largest and last primary mercury mines, which is still operating at low capacity at the time of writing.</p> <p>The content of mercury in the soil in 81.6% of the samples studied exceeded the MPC (2.1 mg/kg) five-fold, and the maximum excess of mercury in the soil was 12.1-fold. The highest concentrations of mercury in soil were recorded in the central, northern, and southeastern parts of the residential zone.</p> <p>Biomonitoring and HHRA were conducted to inform a human health intervention program. The intervention program was developed jointly by TIFO, MSF, MOH, and the local stakeholders.</p> <p>Because of the continuous demand for Hg, SHL will need to continue to monitor for harmful Hg concentrations. XRF and conversion factors for Hg, As and Sb were established as a quick and cost-effective screening and monitoring tool</p> <p>https://doi.org/10.3390/app12041943</p> <p>.</p>

2	Health of Ethnic Minorities in Kyrgyzstan: Socio-economic Determinants and Lifestyle Factors 2017-2021		A cross-sectional study was carried out among rural and urban populations of the Kyrgyz Republic with the aim to find out the impacts of socioeconomic and lifestyle factors on the health of minorities. A stratified random sample of 1000 rural and urban inhabitants was surveyed. The study showed differences in the health of minorities in Kyrgyzstan. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2021.489092
3	Monitoring of Salt Iodization and Public Health in Kyrgyzstan 2017-2023		The quality of state monitoring of salt iodization and the health of the population in the Kyrgyz Republic were evaluated. The survey of 2000 households was conducted on knowledge, attitude and practice of the use of iodized salt. Currently, the study results are being prepared for publication

New projects

#	Title	Funding/partner institution	Abstract
1	Canadian Mines/Global issues: An Examination of the Policy Context, and the Social, Health, and Environmental Effects of Canadian mining in Three Focal Communities in Brazil, the Kyrgyz Republic and Philippines	Canadian Institute of Health Research, University of Alberta, University of Ottawa, Athabasca University (Canada), NGO Viramudo (Brasil), University of the	The study is aimed at the examination of the social, health, and environmental effects of Canadian transnational mining practices—situated in their policy contexts—on three focal communities in Brazil, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Philippines. A cross case mixed methods study will be conducted focused on a Canadian mine in Brazil, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Philippines, with specific attention to local Indigenous and other minoritized communities. The roles that regulatory guidelines (e.g., international trade and investment agreements (IIAs);

	2023-2027	Philippines- Baguio (Philippines) , CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy (USA)	international, domestic, and corporate policies; codes of conduct) play in the social, environmental, political, and health impacts of Canadian mining industries will be assessed. Recommendations, engender knowledge exchange, and inform policies, and practices will be given on the base of collected evidence.
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