IARM 24th Congress in Kyrgyzstan, 2029

Congress President
Dr Kenesh Dzhusupov

Kyrgyzstan is a landlocked country in eastern Central Asia, set in the Tian Shan and Pamir mountain ranges. It borders Kazakhstan, China, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. As of February 2026, the population was about 7.41 million, and more than half of them live in rural areas. That makes the country a natural setting for a congress on rural health. The majority rural population and the mountainous terrain raise real questions about access to care, which are directly relevant to your association's mission.

The country is known for its mountain landscapes and nomadic heritage. That offers delegates cultural and scenic programmes such as the Issyk-Kul region and mountain villages.

Kyrgyzstan is a lower-middle-income country, with an economy that has grown moderately on the back of remittances and gold mining. It ranks around 117th on the Human Development Index. Health system capacity and rural outreach are therefore live topics for exchange.

Health priorities of Kyrgyzstan today and over the next three years focus on reducing the NCD burden, strengthening primary healthcare and its integration with public health, reducing rural–urban access gaps through telemedicine and workforce incentives, improving financial protection, and building climate-resilient health systems.

We propose the Congress title: **Rural Health Equity in the Digital Age - Bridging Mountains, Connecting Care.**

The next **24th IARM Congress** will be supported by:

1. **International Higher School of Medicine** (IHSM, https://ism.edu.kg/), a private educational institution and one of the leading medical universities in Kyrgyzstan. **Dr Kenesh Dzhusupov**, MD, PhD, a new IARM Board member, serves as Head of the Public Health Department at IHSM.

2. **Akhunbaev Kyrgyz State Medical Academy** (KSMA, https://www.kgma.kg/en), a leading medical research and higher educational institution.
3. **National Institute of Public Health** (NIPH, https://nioz.kg/), the former Kyrgyz Research Institute of Epidemiology, Microbiology, and Hygiene, is today the main research institution at the Ministry of Health.
4. **Kyrgyz Ministry of Health** (https://med.kg/?locale=en).