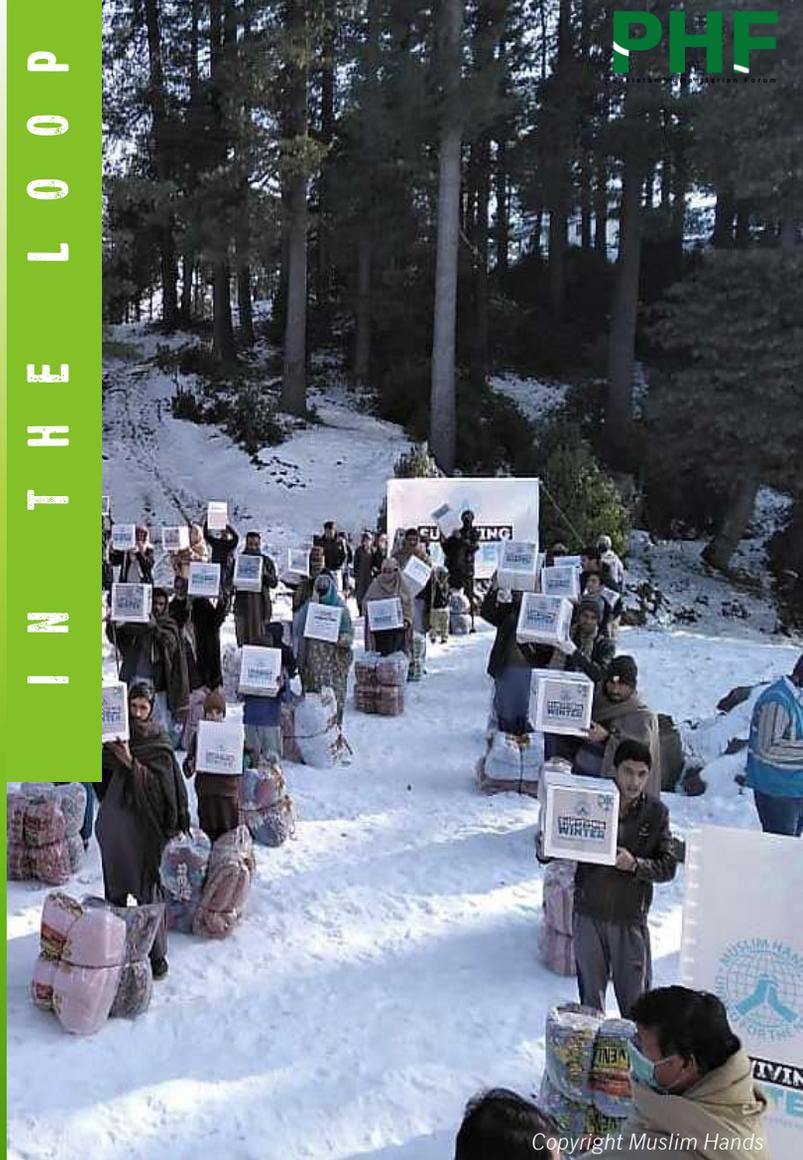


16 - 23 DEC 2020

PHF BULLETIN

IN THE LOOP



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PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

COVID-19 UPDATES

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health, Dr. Faisal Sultan said COVID-19 vaccination is expected to begin first quarter of 2021 in Pakistan. He added that the main reasons behind the worsening of the COVID-19 situation in different cities across Pakistan are the weather and living conditions.

In Pakistan, 75% of all Coronavirus cases have been among population less than 50 years of age. The 21-30 years age group has the highest prevalence of confirmed Coronavirus cases in Pakistan - over 23% of all infections have been reported in this age group.

In Pakistan, the age range of deaths from Coronavirus has been as young as 2 months and as old as 105 years. Of the total, 30% of Coronavirus deaths in Pakistan have been among female patients.

In Balochistan, as many as 36 staff members and prisoners in the district jail in Turbat city of District Kech have tested positive for COVID-19. The virus-infected jail staff had been quarantined in their homes and prisoners had been shifted to isolation places in tight security.

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has suspended all educational activities at madrassahs across the province in view of increasing positivity rate of COVID-19 cases during the second Coronavirus wave, till further orders.

A new Coronavirus strain has been identified in the UK that may be up to 70% more transmissible than the old variant, but it is not thought to be more deadly and vaccines should still be effective. The new variant contains 23 different changes, many of them associated with alterations in a protein made by the virus. The new variant is thought to have first occurred in mid-September in London or Kent, in the southeast of England.

A US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advisory panel voted to recommend Moderna Inc.'s Coronavirus shot for people 18 and older, paving the way for the second COVID-19 vaccine to be administered in the U.S. The CDC recommends vaccine providers monitor most patients for 15 minutes and those with a known history of anaphylaxis for 30 minutes. Vaccine administration sites are instructed to stock medications such as epinephrine in case any patient is observed having allergic reaction.



[Find more information for COVID-19 here](#)

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

PHF TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS UPDATES

PHF and NHN set up their first ever joint Working Groups during the COVID-19 pandemic to serve as the basic coordination tool among the PHF and NHN members.

FOOD, SECURITY & LIVELIHOOD WORKING GROUP UPDATES



The WG meeting was held on December 22nd, 2020. The group discussed progress on development of papers. It was decided that the main theme of the paper would be to map various challenges and decide which of those would be most relevant to the FSL sector. The group also decided to include the safety of social workers as one of the themes for the paper. The next meeting is scheduled on January 5th, 2021.

PHF-NHN JOINT LETTER TO DONORS FOR PHPF 2021

Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) and National Humanitarian Network (NHN) wrote a joint letter to several donors that plan to withdraw from the Pakistan Humanitarian Pool Fund (PHPF) in the year 2021.

The PHPF has been an instrumental tool during response to the COVID-19 crisis as well as natural disaster related emergencies across the country.

PHF and NHN jointly requested the donors to approach their capitals in convincing them to keep the PHPF functional during 2021, especially now that the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccines has begun in several countries. The PHPF is critical, given the surge in Coronavirus cases globally and warnings of a third wave.

HEALTH WORKING GROUP UPDATES



Health Working Group meeting is scheduled on December 29th, 2020.

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PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

TRANSFORMING LIVES- MEMBERS IN ACTION

Diakonie 
Katastrophenhilfe

STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOODS FOR THE VULNERABLE

by Daikonie Katastrphenhilfe

Raso is a 46-year-old male whose forefathers settled in the village Mau Akheraj in Union Council Vejhiar, Tehsil Mithi of District Tharparkar, Sindh, Pakistan decades ago. The village communities of Tharparkar face acute shortage of water, every alternate year, which makes it hard for them to cultivate crops and meet the basic needs of their families and maintain livestock.

Most of the population of surrounding areas worked as daily labourers before the pandemic, but almost 90 percent of them lost their livelihood due to lockdowns. Raso's family also suffered greatly due to the imposed restrictions. While everyone in the community suffered.

Raso and his family were faced with additional challenges due to his disability. The team of PVDP and DKH provided timely assistance to vulnerable households through provision of much needed ration and food packages.

Disabilities Exacerbating Challenges

Sharing the difficulties he faced due to COVID-19, Raso said "I am unable to do work, my wife and two daughters make embroidered handicrafts and sell different items to a middleman to generate some income, which is hardly enough to fulfil our basic needs. But during lockdowns, all markets were closed, and public transport was suspended. The middleman also refused to visit and buy handicrafts."

Impact of COVID-19

A novel Coronavirus was discovered during the month of December 2019 in China after which it spread to other countries. Pakistan reported its first case in February 2020. Due to government-imposed lockdowns in the country, markets schools and transport were closed, because of which the daily wagers were directly impacted. Raso's family was one of them. Before COVID-19 she was able to arrange for food and other domestic items by selling handicrafts, but during lockdowns they became totally dependent upon humanitarian assistance.

"Raso is paralyzed for the last ten years. Our family has struggled in getting proper treatment for him while simultaneously managing the household expenses." Raso's wife, Than Saropaan said.

"After receiving assistance from PVDP and DKH we breathed a sigh of relief because our primary concern was taken care of. I am thankful to PVDC and DKH for their timely assistance", Raso said.

-Raso

Than Saropaan had to look after the children-all under the age of ten- and was unable to make handicrafts during that time, and therefore had no income.

Gradually, she started earning a little by teaching handicraft work to her two daughters, Meena 16 and Darshna 14.

During household assessments by PVDP for implementation of DKH funded project in Union Council Vejhiar for COVID-19 and drought affected families, Raso's family was selected for food assistance. PVDP with the support of DKH provided the food ration to this family.

Continued on next page...

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

IN THE LOOP

TRANSFORMING LIVES- MEMBERS IN ACTION



Humanitarian Assistance By PVDC and DKH

Due to support provided by PVDP, Raso's wife and daughters could continue their handicraft work and were able to sell it after lockdown and even saved a little. They were also able to plough agricultural land during peak cultivation to further support their livelihood.

“After receiving assistance from PVDP and DKH we breathed a sigh of relief because our primary concern was taken care of. I am thankful to PVDC and DKH for their timely assistance”, Raso said.

Photo By: Daikonie Katastrphenhilfe
Raso, his wife and children sitting in the Mau Akheraj, District Tharparkar, Sindh

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

BUZZ OF THE WEEK



Climate Change could create millions of migrants in Pakistan by 2050.

The growing impacts of Climate Change have already pushed more than 18 million people to migrate within South Asian countries, but that could more than triple if global warming continues on its current path, researchers have warned. [Read more.](#)

Pakistan-born Ali A Zaidi has been appointed White House's Deputy National Climate Advisor in the Biden-Harris administration. [Read more.](#)

In a bid to ensure equitable opportunities of education for all children across the country, the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (MFEPT) is likely to finalise 'Pakistan Education Policy 2021' through a consultative process by March next year. [Read more.](#)



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OPPORTUNITIES FROM PHF MEMBERS

Advisor CC- Save the Children

Closing Date: December 31st, 2020

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

Manager Support Services- Save the Children

Closing Date: December 24th, 2020

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

Project Manager- Oxfam

Closing Date: December 25th, 2020

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

Conducting Audit for project Seeds GROW Phase 2- Oxfam

Closing Date: December 31st, 2020

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

Consultancy: Development and Broadcasting of videos using Puppetry on National and Regional TV channels Oxfam

Closing Date: December 30th, 2020

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

INGO REGISTRATION PROCESS UPDATE

Overall PHF Membership includes 38 INGOs. As per decision of Ministry of Interior, irrespective of date of expiry, all PHF members that received the MOU have applied for renewal of their MoU within the deadline (Jan 31st, 2020). The renewal process is ongoing.

12 PHF members have confirmed that they have received their renewed MOU.

As per the decision of Ministry of Interior, the deadline to apply for renewal of the MoU will be the same each year i.e. January 31st.

5 out of 8 PHF members who were awaiting decisions on their appeal representations, confirmed that they have received MOU from Ministry of Interior.

The Ministry of Interior website portal has not been updated and highlights an overall total of 75 MOUs issued/approved INGOs.

PHF engagement with key stakeholders and affected members is ongoing.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AT PHF

December 29th, 2020- 11:00 am- 12:30 pm
Health Working Group Meeting

January 05th, 2020
Food Security & Livelihood Group Meeting

COMMUNITY FOR LEARNERS

Early Rehabilitation in Conflicts and Disasters

Free Courses

This 3-hour curriculum provides practical guidance for rehabilitation professionals preparing to work in conflict and disaster response. Each of the nine courses in this series is based on a specific chapter in Humanity and Inclusion's Early Rehabilitation in Conflicts and Disasters Handbook.

How to Register

[Create your free account and get started today.](#)

Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development- UNSSC

An engaging online course designed to equip participants with an understanding of why policy coherence is important for achieving sustainable development, what coherent policymaking entails, and what are some specific tools, mechanisms and approaches that can be employed to foster policy coherence.

REGISTER NOW

Course registration opens on 15 November 2020 and closes on 15 January 2021.

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES



Development Aid News Digest

To read the latest edition of the Development Aid Digest, please [click here.](#)



To read the Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest by Inter Action , please [click here.](#)

WHO-Epidemiological Bulletin-Pakistan

To read the latest edition of the Development Aid Digest, please [click here.](#)

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORIES!!

Please share stories of your achievements, along with high-resolution photographs, to be featured in our section Transforming Lives-Members in Action!

Email us:

info@pakhumanitarianforum.org

GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK!

We would love to hear from you!

Share your feedback:

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