

PHF BULLETIN

29 Mar – 04 Apr 2021

IN THE LOOP



PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

IN THE LOOP

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PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

IN THE LOOP

COVID-19 UPDATES

A joint study on the origins of COVID-19 of World Health Organization (WHO) and China stated that transmission of the virus from bats to humans through another animal is the most likely scenario.

An executive of China National Pharmaceutical Group (Sino-pharm) said the company will need to assess results from overseas Phase III clinical trials to see if its two-shot COVID-19 vaccine would need a booster shot amid concerns that the new virus variants might weaken protection of vaccines designed against older strains.

Prime Minister Imran Khan on Sunday called on people to strictly follow the SOPs relating to COVID-19 and avoid going to “super spreader” events such as weddings as well as restaurants as the country cannot afford complete lock down. He added that the third wave is much more intense than the first two waves.

The Prime Minister’s Adviser on Health Dr. Faisal Sultan said Pakistan will receive over 1 million doses of Sinopharm and CanSino vaccines from China next week. Pakistan is currently vaccinating frontline healthcare workers and senior citizens using Sinopharm doses donated by China.

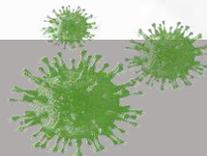
The Punjab Government has tightened restrictions across the province to control the spread of the COVID-19, especially in Lahore, such as bans on mass transit, wedding ceremonies, indoor and outdoor gatherings and other recreational activities. The restrictions will be effective from April 1 to April 11. In Lahore alone, police has registered 120 cases against various violations of Coronavirus SOPs.

Overall COVID-19 positivity was highest in Islamabad at 15.97%, followed by Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) at 15.40%, Punjab 14.63%, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 11.25%, Balochistan 3.69%, and Sindh 3.08%.

The Islamabad administration will seal another 11 residential areas and ban all gatherings, including outdoor marriage ceremonies. Similarly, the District Administration Peshawar will impose smart lockdown in 32 areas of Peshawar to curb the spread of COVID-19.

In Quetta, Balochistan, the district administration-imposed Section 144 in the city for 15 days with immediate effect to ban all public gatherings in the wake of increasing cases of Coronavirus.

[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.

HEALTH WORKING GROUP UPDATES



The next working group meeting will be held on April 6, 2021, where participants will provide an update on the progress of consolidation and developing the working paper.

FOOD, SECURITY & LIVELIHOOD WORKING GROUP UPDATES

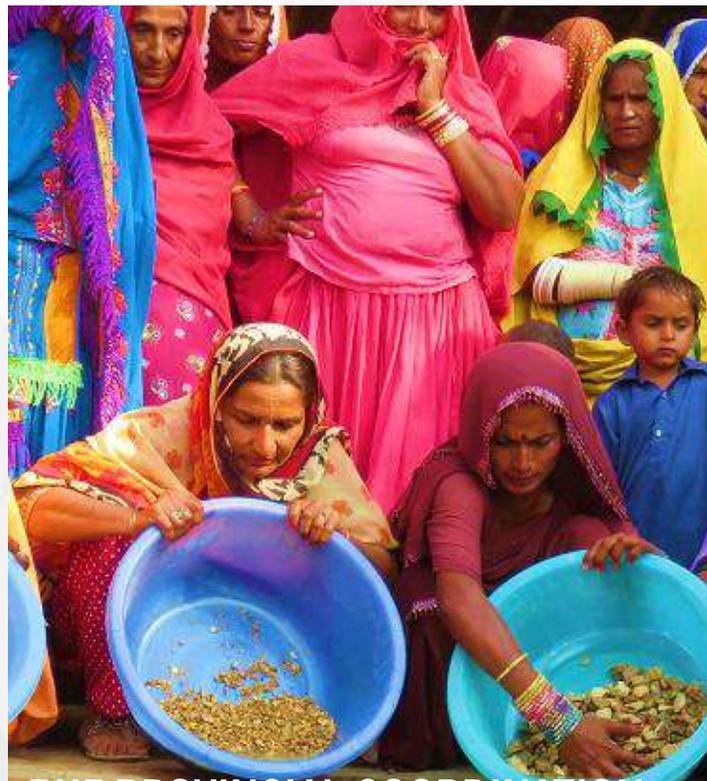


Working Group meeting was held on March 30th, 2021. The 3rd wave of COVID-19 and increased cases in major cities were discussed. The impact of the paper and the possibility of presenting it at higher level was also deliberated.

PHF DONORS ENGAGEMENT

Keeping in view the third wave of Covid-19 pandemic in Pakistan, rapidly escalating to alarming levels and its consequent implications on vulnerable communities, PHF has scheduled a joint coordination meeting between PHF Ex-com and the donor organizations in Pakistan on April,13, 2021. The purpose of the meeting is to apprise the

donor community of the immense contribution of PHF members in development work and emergencies such as the Covid-19 response, challenges faced at the grass-root and policy level and recommendations to improve the response capacity of PHF members. The meeting will be held virtually.



PHF PROVINCIAL COORDINATION

PHF Punjab Provincial Coordination Meeting was held on March 30th, 2021. Members shared their monthly progress in the meeting. Issues related to NOCs, taxation and bringing stock into the country were highlighted by the members.

The next KP and Balochistan Provincial Coordination Meetings are scheduled on 8th April 2021 virtually. Action plan and 4ws matrix will be discussed in the meeting.

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

TRANSFORMING LIVES
MEMBERS IN ACTION



ALLEVIATING THE PLIGHT OF PREGNANT WOMEN

by Medecin du Monde (MdM)

A 20 year old poor young woman was taken by her family to a private hospital in Tank for maternity services. To the utter dissatisfaction of the woman, the hospital asked for Rs. 20,000 in advance. Extremely distressed, the woman sat in one corner, as another woman approached her and consoled the family. On her advice, the family rushed to the maternity home managed by Medecin du Monde (MdM) BEmONC center in RHC, Gomal where reproductive health services are provided free.

The well-trained professional team of MdM received the patient and provided the necessary services. The woman breathed a sigh of relief as a healthy baby girl was safely delivered. Further examination and tests revealed that the mother and baby had blood incompatibility that put the baby at high-risk.

The young mother and her new-born baby stayed at the BEmONC Centre for four hours while the doctor treated her for severe side effects. The medical team diligently monitored their condition. Upon satisfactory progress, she was discharged with counselling on care and precautions to take at home. Both the mother and her family were pleased and expressed gratitude for MdM and its staff members. The mother said, “thank you for taking care of us. I don’t have words to express what it meant for us”.



*“Thank you for taking care of us.
I don’t have words to express what
it meant for us!”*



PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

BUZZ OF THE WEEK



The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada held a series of sensitisation and information sharing sessions in Islamabad to strengthen climate change reporting. [Read more](#)

Prime Minister Imran Khan pleaded the case of Pakistan and other developing countries in his article wrote for The Times – a British daily based in London, urging developed states to seek a holistic approach to tackling climate change, one that also included financial commitments. [Read more](#)

The policy paper on 'Human Rights to Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)' by WaterAid says that there is no legislation that expressly and holistically recognises the human right to WASH in Pakistan. [Read more](#)

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$300 million loan to finance the construction of a 300-megawatt hydropower plant that will increase the share of clean energy in Pakistan and improve the country's energy security. [Read more](#)

The relevant authorities, at both tiers of the government, acknowledge the need to collectively assess the critical issue of food security within the country, as well as in the region, and devise a strategy to deal with the problem highlighted for Afghanistan in a fashion that its own food security is not compromised. [Read more](#)

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation, Dr Sania Nishtar joined the high-level ministerial roundtable with Ministers from around the world as part of expert panel on "Financing SDG2: Addressing Hunger and Malnutrition in the wake of COVID-19". [Read more](#)

Pakistan has shown a dismal performance when it comes to gender parity, according to the 'Global Gender Gap Report 2021' published by the World Economic Forum on Wednesday, slipping two spots since last year to rank 153rd out of 156 countries on the index. [Read more](#)

The National Assembly Standing Committee on Federal Education, Professional Training, National Heritage and Culture approved all the budgetary proposals of the Ministry relating to Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for the next Financial Year 2021-22. [Read more](#)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

Project Officer, Islamabad- Oxfam

Closing Date: April 14th, 2021

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

Project Coordinator, Jamshoro- Oxfam

Closing Date: April 14th, 2021

[Click here to Apply Now!](#)

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

INGO REGISTRATION UPDATE

Overall PHF Membership includes 37 INGOs

23 organizations have signed MOU, one organization is registered with SECP.

8 organizations are waiting for MOI's response after applying for renewals in January 2020 – their MOUs expired in 2020.

5 organizations have been in appeal since September 2018. MOI review committee has called them for their final presentation in end of April 2019. So far, no decision is reported on these appeals

As per decision of MOI, irrespective of date of expiry, all PHF members who are in receipt of a MOU have applied for renewal of their MoU within the deadline of Jan 31st, 2021.

PHF engagement with key stakeholders and members is ongoing.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AT PHF

April 6th, 2021- 11:00 am- 12:00 pm
Health Working Group Meeting

April 8th, 2021- 11:00 am- 12:30 pm
Provincial Coordination Meeting - KP

April 8th, 2021- 3:00 pm- 4:30 pm
Provincial Coordination Meeting-
Balochistan

April 13th, 2021- 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm
Food Security & Livelihood WG Meeting

COMMUNITY FOR LEARNERS



Free Course

Global Health: Ebola, COVID, and Beyond

Whether you seek a career in international health or medicine, volunteer to serve those less fortunate, or work in an institutional setting such as a clinic, hospital, or public health agency, it is important to understand the sources and movement of diseases.

The world continues to grow smaller, with international travel, a global economy, and a changing environment contributing to the emergence of new diseases and the spread of existing ones. Understanding these connections -and how they impact the farthest reaches of the globe – is becoming an essential skill in international development, humanitarian assistance, business and commerce, and at all levels of healthcare.

What you'll learn

- ✓ Why local health issues affect us globally
- ✓ What influences a society's health
- ✓ How multidisciplinary teams address global health
- ✓ Which organizations contribute to global health
- ✓ What SARS, Ebola, Zika, and COVID-19 have taught us

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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I N T H E L O O P

PUBLICATION AND RESOURCES



Development Aid News Digest

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



Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest, 30 March 2021

InterAction has published “Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest” as of 30th March 2021. To access the digest, [please click here](#).

Policy Note: Global Trends in 2021: How COVID-19 Is Transforming International Development by Center for Global Development

[Click here to download](#).



Global Gender Gap Report 2021

Another generation of women will have to wait for gender parity, according to the World Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Report 2021. [Click here to download](#).

SHARE YOUR 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

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

We would love to hear from you!

Share your feedback:
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