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# PHF BULLETIN

9<sup>th</sup> August – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021

I N T H E L O O P

# PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

I N T H E L O O P

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## COVID-19 UPDATES

Pakistan reported a COVID-19 positivity ratio below 7% for the first time in over two weeks amid the fourth wave of the pandemic. Pakistan witnessed a significant decline in coronavirus cases over the past 24 hours, with the country reporting a positivity ratio of 6.8%. According to the statistics issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), Pakistan reported 3,711 new cases of the virus Sunday after the country conducted 54,204 tests.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has again revised its travel rules for residents flying into Dubai from six countries Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Nigeria, and Uganda saying they are no longer required to carry Covid-19 vaccination certificate for entry into the emirate, it emerged on Tuesday.

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Asad Umar on Thursday said Pakistan had reached the milestone of administering 40 million Covid-19 vaccine doses. Umar added that Islamabad had become the first city of the country where half of the population had received the Covid jab.

South Korea's daily increase in coronavirus infections has exceeded 2,000 for the first time since the start of the pandemic, continuing an alarming spread despite the enforcement of strict virus restrictions in large population centers. Health Minister Kwon Deok-cheol on Wednesday pleaded for people to stay home during the holiday break around Liberation Day on Friday.

In a bid to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Punjab government of Pakistan has extended the ongoing lockdown in various areas of the province till August 31, a notification from the province's primary and secondary health department said. No indoor gathering or event/ceremony will be allowed during the lockdown.

According to the official data, Rawalpindi is at the top among others where the positivity rate has increased to 12.5, followed by Lahore 9.8, Faisalabad 5.9 and Multan 5.6. Health officials and medical experts have showed serious concern over the blatant violation of Covid guidelines on Independence Day.

The US could soon see more than 200,000 new cases of Covid-19 every day as the Delta variant spreads at a rapid pace, particularly among unvaccinated people, the director of the National Institutes of Health predicted. Health experts say the solution is to vaccinate as many people as possible, because the vaccines provide good protection against severe disease.

Australia's biggest city of Sydney recorded its deadliest day of the COVID-19 pandemic on Monday, while residents in Melbourne face a nightly curfew and a further two weeks of lockdown amid a surge in infections. New South Wales state Premier Gladys Berejiklian said seven people in Sydney had died from COVID-19 in the past 24 hours, surpassing the state's previous record daily toll from earlier this month.

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## 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 meeting of health working group was held on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Updates on vaccination, Delta variant/fourth wave and ongoing rise in COVID cases were discussed. Ongoing Flood Emergency, its Implications and Response Activities were also discussed. Updates on draft technical were shared with the group.

### FOOD, SECURITY & LIVELIHOOD WORKING GROUP UPDATES



The meeting of FS&L working group was held on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The ongoing fourth wave of COVID 19 and its implications, the impact of ongoing spell of heavy rainfall and updates on ongoing drought situation were discussed. Members experience and challenges regarding vaccination (Sensitization/Mobilization, Logistic Support, Mobile Vans for Vaccination) were also discussed.

## COMMUNITY FOR LEARNERS

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Free Course

### Protecting Children in Humanitarian Settings

This course examines how children's social environments at different levels, such as the family, community and societal levels, influence children's adversity, development and resilience. Course participants will engage in critical thought about current international child protection practice and how to strengthen it.

This course is aimed at child protection practitioners who work internationally in humanitarian settings and is also designed for those who want to learn more about, or start working in, the sector.

#### What you'll learn:

- How humanitarian crises can affect children's wellbeing and development
- What risk and resilience mean in the context of child development and child protection and what factors influence these at the individual, family, community and societal levels
- The importance of taking issues of context, agency, relationships and prevention into account when designing interventions

[How to Register](#)

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## TRANSFORMING LIVES MEMBERS IN ACTION

### Saving Lives

by Médecins du Monde



A 32-year-old Fouzia was brought to the 24/7 Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (BEmONC) center of Rural Health Center Gomal in Tank district in active labor. The BEmONC center is supported by Médecins du Monde (Mdm) with the financial assistance of German Federal Foreign Affairs. Fouzia appeared to be in severe labor pain, and her high blood pressure made things more challenging. She came from a small village Kot Azeem in Tank District, located one hour from the health facility. She shared her previous experience of two miscarriages, both of which happened in her second trimester. But it was for the first time in her life, she came to the health facility for antenatal consultation and delivery.

Mdm clinical team received Fauzia and realized that she was expecting twin babies. Such a case is usually referred to be handled in a Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and New-born Care (CEmONC) set-up, considering the potential complications. However, there was no time for a referral as she was brought to the clinic at the last minute.



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The team informed the attendants of the patient about the situation and potential complications. The trained professional team of Mdm, was able to handle the situation skillfully, and both babies were delivered safely within 20 minutes.

The medical team continued to observe the condition of the mother for another two hours before she became stable and later was discharged from the clinic. The next day, the team followed-up and learned that both babies and their mother were in good health and stable.

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*The family expressed gratitude for the services provided by Mdm with dignity, respect, and care.*

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### BUZZ OF THE WEEK



The media in Pakistan can play the role of a game changer in championing the cause of nutrition by disseminating accurate messages about maternal and child nutrition. Child undernutrition is caused, not just by lack of adequate nutritious food, but by frequent illness, poor feeding and care practices, and lack of access to health and other services. [Read more](#)

The global climate crisis poses a number of threats to the well-being and prosperity of the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The country already witnesses several climate- and weather-related natural hazards due to its geographical diversity and a varied tropical, continental climate (hot summers and cold winters). Pakistan experiences recurring heatwaves and droughts, riverine and flash floods, landslides, and sea storms or cyclones. [Read more](#)

Under the stewardship of Prime Minister Imran Khan, the nation has given top priority to putting in place steps and measures that can be helpful in lessening the debilitating impact of climate change. The climate change phenomenon has already started having devastating impact globally and Pakistan is among the top 10 countries which have been bearing the brunt of this climatic onslaught during the last twenty years. [Read more](#)

Qatar Charity (QC) implemented various water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) projects in Pakistan's Sindh province this year, benefitting 27,550 people. The implementation of the WASH projects comes as part of QC's continued efforts to contribute in addressing the water problem and providing safe drinking water to the vulnerable in the province. [Read more](#)

Doctors and health workers in Pakistan are going for booster shots (more than one vaccine) in order to strengthen their defense system against the Delta variant of COVID-19 and to prevent themselves from getting re-infected. Later they explained that they received booster shots because their colleagues and health workers were testing positive despite completing their vaccination course. [Read more](#)

Pakistan reported no case of polio in the past six months which has never happened before. According to the focal person for polio eradication Brigadier Shehzad Baig, Pakistan has come closest ever to achieve the goal of polio eradication with no wild polio cases in the last six months and consistent decline in the number of positive environmental samples. [Read more](#)

Adviser to the chief minister on industry Abdul Karim has said about 15,000 jobless educated youth will get employment in the industrial sector, enabling them to earn their livelihood with dignity and honour. He claimed that the country's economy was improving as all the indicators were encouraging. "Incentives given to the entrepreneurs by the government will prove beneficial for the country's feeble industrial sector." [Read more](#)

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## OPPORTUNITIES

### Call for Proposals - Climate Innovation Challenge

**Closing Date: 30 August 2021**

💡 Are you an innovator in climate resilience?

✍️ Do you have the determination to try out new ideas?

👉 Are you ready to help build climate resilience in your community?

The Climate Innovation Challenge (CIC) aims to crowdsource innovative and disruptive technology solutions from around the world for resilience in South Asia.

For more details, please [click here](#).

### CDAC Regional Programme and Insights Lead – Asia Pacific

**Deadline for applications, Friday 27 August 2021, 6pm UK time.**

CDAC is a global network of leading media development organisations, NGOs, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, UN agencies and specialised communications entities. The Focal Person for Asia-Pacific will lead on developing CDAC's approach in the region; engage with members and partners on National CCEA Platforms to set the direction and focus; and, support the roll-out of CDAC's global multi-year strategy.

For more information, and for application details, please [click here](#).

## WEBINAR AND TRAININGS

Progress has been made, but the humanitarian system – as a whole – is not accountable to the communities it serves. To help practitioners understand the current state of accountability to affected populations (AAP) and how they can be part of strengthening accountability and inclusion, PHAP is organizing a series of events together with the IASC Results Group on Accountability & Inclusion. To join the four webinars touching on different aspects of accountability and inclusion, bringing together global and local perspectives:

### Making collective accountability to affected Populations a Reality

**8 September 2021, 14:00-16:00 CET**

### Practitioner insights: Applying guidance on Accountability and Inclusion

**5 October 2021, 14:00-16:00 CET**

### Accountability and Inclusion in the Covid-19 response: lessons for the future

**2 November 2021, 14:00-16:00 CET**

### Complaints and feedback mechanisms: Making much-needed changes

**7 December 2021, 14:00-16:00 CET**

[Register Now](#)

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## PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

### UNHCR - Pakistan Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise - DRIVE update 31 July 2021

The Chief Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CCAR), the Ministry of SAFRON, and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), with the support of UNHCR, will commence a mandatory exercise, "Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise" (DRIVE), from 15 April 2021 for registered Afghan refugees who are Proof of Registration (PoR) cardholders in Pakistan. [please click here.](#)

### UNHCR - Pakistan Overview of Refugee and Asylum-Seekers Population as of July 31, 2021

It features a breakdown of registration and voluntary repatriation activities, highlights the population trend, and includes a map reflecting the total number of registered refugee and asylum-seekers population in Pakistan by NADRA and UNHCR disaggregated by sex and age as well as the number of returnees from Pakistan to Afghanistan since 2002. [please click here.](#)

### WHD campaign launch #TheHumanRace

OCHA and humanitarian partners launched the World Humanitarian Day campaign #TheHumanRace – a global challenge for climate

action in solidarity with the people who need it most. The film, Strava Challenge and website are now live and available in all 6 official languages. The campaign will of course also be promoted well beyond Strava and people who don't wish to take part physically can also sign up to support the call to action. Please find all campaign content here- [please click here.](#)



### Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

InterAction has published "Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest" as of August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. To access the digest, [please click here.](#)



### Development Aid News Digest

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



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