

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

29th November – 5th December 2021



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December 6th, 2021

VACCINE STATISTICS



COVID-19 STATISTICS



Source: National Command and Operation Center (NCOC)

- Pakistan has approved the administration of coronavirus vaccine boosters to people of three groups from December 1, as the country braces for the Omicron variant, which was recently discovered in South Africa. The omicron variant is likely to spread internationally, posing a "very high" global risk where COVID-19 surges could have "severe consequences" in some areas, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Monday November 29th. In a bid to prepare ahead of the virus' emergence in the country, the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) has approved these guidelines for booster shots:
 - The booster dose will be administered to three groups healthcare workers, individuals above the age of 50, and those having a weak immune system — from December 1.
 - The booster jab will be given six months after the administration of the last dose.
 - The administration will be voluntary and free of charge.
 - The selection of vaccine will be as per individual choice/availability.
 - In case a person has tested positive for COVID-19, the booster dose will be administered after 28 days
- Federal Planning Minister Mr. Asad Umar warned on Monday November 29th that the latest concerning variant of the coronavirus, Omicron, will inevitably come to Pakistan and the country had only a few weeks to contain its threat. Addressing a press conference alongside Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Mr. Dr Faisal Sultan, Umar stressed the need for citizens to get vaccinated and complete their doses.
- The latest Covid-19 variant, Omicron, has spread to more than 30 countries across the globe. As a result, many countries have introduced new restrictions for foreign travellers to rein the latest variant. Pakistan has banned travel from six South African countries and Hong Kong due to Omicron. It includes South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Lesotho, Eswatini and Botswana.

A story of young girl who become the advocate of girl's education

By ACTED



Every girl is powerful, and the collective voices of young girls increase strength, independence, knowledge, confidence, and impact. Together with the power of education, they are a force. Saima was one of those young girls who have tenacity and passion to improve and was, therefore, a torchbearer for a lot of girls of her age. She learned basic life skills and for the first time in her life and got to know about her rights as a woman during the project Leave No Girl Behind (LNGB). Saima belongs to marginalized community in Sindh where people frown upon girls' right to education.

People of that area believes that women should stay in house and remain dependent on the male member of their house for any kind of support. Like a typical patriarchal structure, girls need permission from their male family members for any decision therefore, breaking the traditional barrier was a serious challenge for most of the girls.

For the coaches, the challenge was not only to convince the girls to join but also to create awareness about the importance of adolescent girl's education among the parents. Similarly, Saima had no access to education and development opportunities and was solely responsible for taking care of her siblings and helping her mother with the household chores.

The coaches at the centers played an important part in engaging not only the girls but also their parents. Their job was not limited to impart knowledge but also to provide guidance, motivation, emotional support and to be the role models for these girls. The coaching and the activities helped Saima to gain confidence and to become more self-aware. The coaches guided Saima and other girls to share their learning experiences with their family and friends.

Saima is now a proud graduate of Leaving No Girl Behind center which emphasized on girls' education as well as engaged community girls in play-based activities. Now Saima's top priority is to engage the parents of the girls in addressing the importance of education in the community.



Saima is posing for a picture during her advocacy campaign on girl's right to education in her community

Along with her parents, she went door to door to meet other parents in her community, to talk to them about the importance of girls' education and explain in detail the platform. She wants that her society focus more on the girl's education.

She is now mentors and shares her education and learning experiences with these girls. For Saima, LNGB turned out to be a life-changer by providing her with the knowledge and understanding about her rights which she thought were only reserved for the prerogative of her community. Like many others, this was the first time she found out that girls like her who come from an underprivileged society and can also have rights, be equally entitled to take part in education, sports, community activities and daily life decisions.

In a community where girl's education is considered unnecessary, Saima is steadfast in her mission to change this impression. Like her parents, the overall perception towards the importance of a girl's education is gradually changing and for Saima, it makes her more eager to help bring a change in other girls' lives as the coaches did for her own.

Confronting Gender Based Violence: Global Lessons for Healthcare Workers

This course introduces participants from the healthcare sector to gender-based violence (GBV), including global epidemiology of GBV; health outcomes; seminal research; and clinical best practices for GBV prevention, support, and management. A core curriculum is supplemented by lectures that contextualize the content with specific examples and programs from around the world. The core curriculum introduces learners to a global perspective on gender-based violence (GBV) and includes a review with Dr. Claudia Garcia-Moreno of the new WHO guidelines on responding to violence. Students who wish to receive Honors Recognition will complete the honors module, which expands on the core material and highlights special circumstances and programs.



Free Course



After taking the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the global epidemiology of leading forms of GBV and the evidence linking GBV to poor health.
- Articulate the challenges, strategies, and WHO guidelines for integrating GBV response within the health sector.
- Describe the components of a comprehensive clinical assessment, treatment, and management of a GBV survivor.
- Describe the appropriate psychosocial support and management of a GBV survivor.



Flexible deadlines

Reset deadlines in accordance to your schedule.



Shareable Certificate

Earn a Certificate upon completion



100% online

Start instantly and learn at your own schedule.



Beginner Level



Approx. 22 hours to complete



English

Subtitles: French, Portuguese (European), Russian, English, Spanish



CLICK HERE





The United Nations Development Programme's Pakistan office has said that the international body supported logistically under its Glacial Lake Outburst Flood-II (GLOF) project only five official delegates, who had prior approval by the government of Pakistan to represent the country at the global climate conference held early last month in Glasgow UK, [Read more](#)

Participants at an outreach event 'UNESConnect' held here pledged to support UNESCO's mission in Pakistan to mitigate climate change, increase access to education, leverage digital technologies to reduce inequalities, and preserve Pakistan's rich and diverse cultural heritage for future generations. Around 100 stakeholders including government representatives, diplomatic partners, civil society, stakeholders from development and [Read more](#)

Rejecting the speculations about the closure of educational institutions amid the emergence of the new COVID-19 variant, Omicron, in various countries, Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood categorically said that the schools will not be closed in Pakistan. Addressing the inaugural ceremony of inter-boards sports gala in the federal capital, Shafqat Mahmood said, "Schools will remain open and the examinations will be [Read more](#)

President Mr. Arif Alvi on Monday November 29th said prevention was most important for dental health and there was need to create awareness among masses regarding dental hygiene. He stated this while addressing as a chief guest at Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between Alvi Dental Hospital and Bringing Smiles Inc. of USA here at the Governor House. [Read more](#)

Afghanistan welcomed on Saturday Islamabad's decision to allow the use of Afghan trucks for transporting Indian wheat to the war-torn country after crossing into Pakistan via Wagah border in Punjab and travelling to Torkham in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which borders the Afghan province of Nangarhar. Pakistan's Ambassador to Afghanistan Mansoor Ahmad Khan informed Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi of the decision during a meeting with him on Saturday. [Read more](#)

Sindh's food department plans to start procuring wheat from March 15 instead of its usual procurement exercise schedule that begins from the middle or by late April. "We have serious plans to start the procurement drive by March 15 instead of April in order to capitalise on the early harvesting trend in the Mirpurkhas zone of lower Sindh," Haleem Shaikh, the provincial food secretary. [Read more](#)

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Saturday said Pakistan would host a session of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) Council of Foreign Ministers on December 19 with a focus on highlighting the need for urgent assistance and mobilization of resources to avert a humanitarian crisis and economic collapse in Afghanistan. "If we don't pay timely attention, half of [Read more](#)



PHF - UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER- DECEMBER 2021

MEDIA ROUNDTABLE /LAUNCH OF COVID-19 SNAPSHOT

December 8th , 2021

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

To confirm your participation, please contact:

Zartasha.Niazi@pakhumanitarianforum.org

saima.safdar@pakhumanitarianforum.org



PHF Twitter November's Analytics



UNHCR NGO Innovation Award 2022 for Women-led Organizations 15 January 2022 (23:59 CET)

The UNHCR's NGO Innovation Award ("the Award") celebrates the efforts and accomplishments of NGOs who developed innovative approaches for protection and delivery of services to refugees and other persons of concern to UNHCR. This award is for partners who have developed innovative approaches for protection and delivery of services to refugees and other persons of concern to UNHCR. The 2022 Award will focus on women-led organizations and girl-led organizations working with or supporting refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons and host communities.

If you are interested, please [click here](#).

Launch of Oxfam briefing note on refugee vaccine access

**A PEOPLE'S VACCINE FOR REFUGEES:
ENSURING ACCESS TO COVID-19
VACCINES FOR REFUGEES AND
OTHER DISPLACED PEOPLE.**

10.00 AM TO 11.00 AM CENTRAL EASTERN TIME | 7TH DECEMBER 2021

OXFAM LAUNCH EVENT

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on people's health and livelihoods globally. We need to take active steps to ensure that no groups are excluded from vaccine coverage.

Speakers:

- Shanan Sivaguru (Danny) Srikandarajah**
CEO, Oxfam UK
- Fadel Fakh**
Executive Director, Labanero Center for Human Rights (LCH)
- Najeba Wazefadost**
Co-Founder, Asia Pacific Network for Refugees (APNR)
- Lukendo Mbokani Mpasha**
Founder, One Youth One Heart Initiative

OXFAM International

OXFAM pleased to invite you to the launch of the briefing note, the event "A People's Vaccine for Refugees: Ensuring access to COVID-19 vaccines for refugees and other displaced people" on **Tuesday 7th December** at 10:00 - 11.00 AM CET (Central European Time).

All participants must register in advance for this webinar at:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wcdCLxwMR02mokN7hHMsBQ

IASC Mapping of Good Practice in the Implementation of Humanitarian-Development Peace Nexus Approaches, Synthesis Report

7 December 3.45 - 5.15 PM GVA/21:45pm BKK

The IASC results group 4 has released their report IASC Mapping of Good Practice in the Implementation of Humanitarian-Development Peace Nexus Approaches, Synthesis Report, which includes case studies from Afghanistan. The report will be discussed in a briefing on Tuesday which will be an opportunity to discuss the findings and recommendations of the report. It will also be an opportunity to consider the next steps to ensure successful nexus approaches and take stock of the support provided by the IASC to humanitarian-development collaboration.

WebEx meeting link: <https://ocha.webex.com/ocha/j.php?MTID=m2815cc00a32ab2f4fc99e23aba5b128e>

Meeting number: 2425 881 8240

Password: 12345

A People's Vaccine for Refugees: Ensuring access to COVID-19 vaccines for refugees and other displaced people Oxfam, Tuesday 7 December, 10:00 - 11.00 AM CET/16:00BKK

Registration: **All participants must register in advance for this webinar**

at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wcdCLxwMR02mokN7hHMsBQ

Strategy 2022-2023 - Asia-Pacific Regional Cash Working Group

The Asia-Pacific region is marked by an increased number of climate-related disasters which point to the need for greater emphasis on inter-agency preparedness and early action. In this context, along with global commitments of increasing the use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) and establishing links with national social protection systems, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, political and economic crises in the region, CVA is a key component in humanitarian and development [Read More](#)

World Migration Report 2022

The vast majority of people continue to live in the countries in which they were born —only one in 30 are migrants. In most discussions on migration, the starting point is usually numbers. Understanding changes in scale, emerging trends and shifting demographics related to global social and economic transformations, such as migration, help us make sense of the changing world we live in and plan for the future. The current global estimate is that there were around 281 million international migrants in the world in 2020, which equates to 3.6 per cent of the global population. Overall, the estimated number of international migrants has increased over the past five decades. The total estimated 281 million people living in a country other than their countries of birth in 2020 was 128 million more than in 1990 and over three times the estimated number in 1970. [Read More](#)

Disaster Risk Insurance: 5 Insights From The Philippines

The Philippines is expected to incur, on average, \$3.5 billion in asset losses each year from typhoons and earthquakes alone, and 74% of the population is exposed to multiple natural hazards. Building on a decade-long partnership with the Philippines to reduce the economic impact of disasters, in 2017 the Bank helped the country transfer \$200 million of typhoon and earthquake risk to a panel of international reinsurers. In 2018, the government renewed this insurance program and doubled the amount of coverage. [Read More](#)

Weathering The Storms: Covid-19, Disasters And Internal Displacement In The Asia-Pacific In 2020

With a focus on the Asia Pacific region and based on the experience of four case study countries during 2020 – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines and Vanuatu – this report collates knowledge on how COVID-19 and disasters affected IDPs and internal displacement. The report describes how IDPs, and efforts to address displacement and assist and protect IDPs, were affected by the pandemic and government responses as COVID-19 and disasters converged. [Read More](#)

Youth Leadership In Climate Policy Workbook And Facilitator's Guide

A recent Plan International global climate change survey found that young people are very concerned about climate change and yet are often not taught how to engage in climate policy processes. Many don't know about the Paris Agreement or how to get involved in climate processes in their country. This prevents their voices from being heard.

The Youth Leadership in Climate Policy Workbook and Facilitator's Guide aims to address this gap and strengthen young people's knowledge and skills so they can engage in climate policy. [Read More](#)





Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest, Thursday, December 2, 2021

InterAction has published “Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest” as of Thursday, December 2, 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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