

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

17th January 2022 – 23rd January 2022

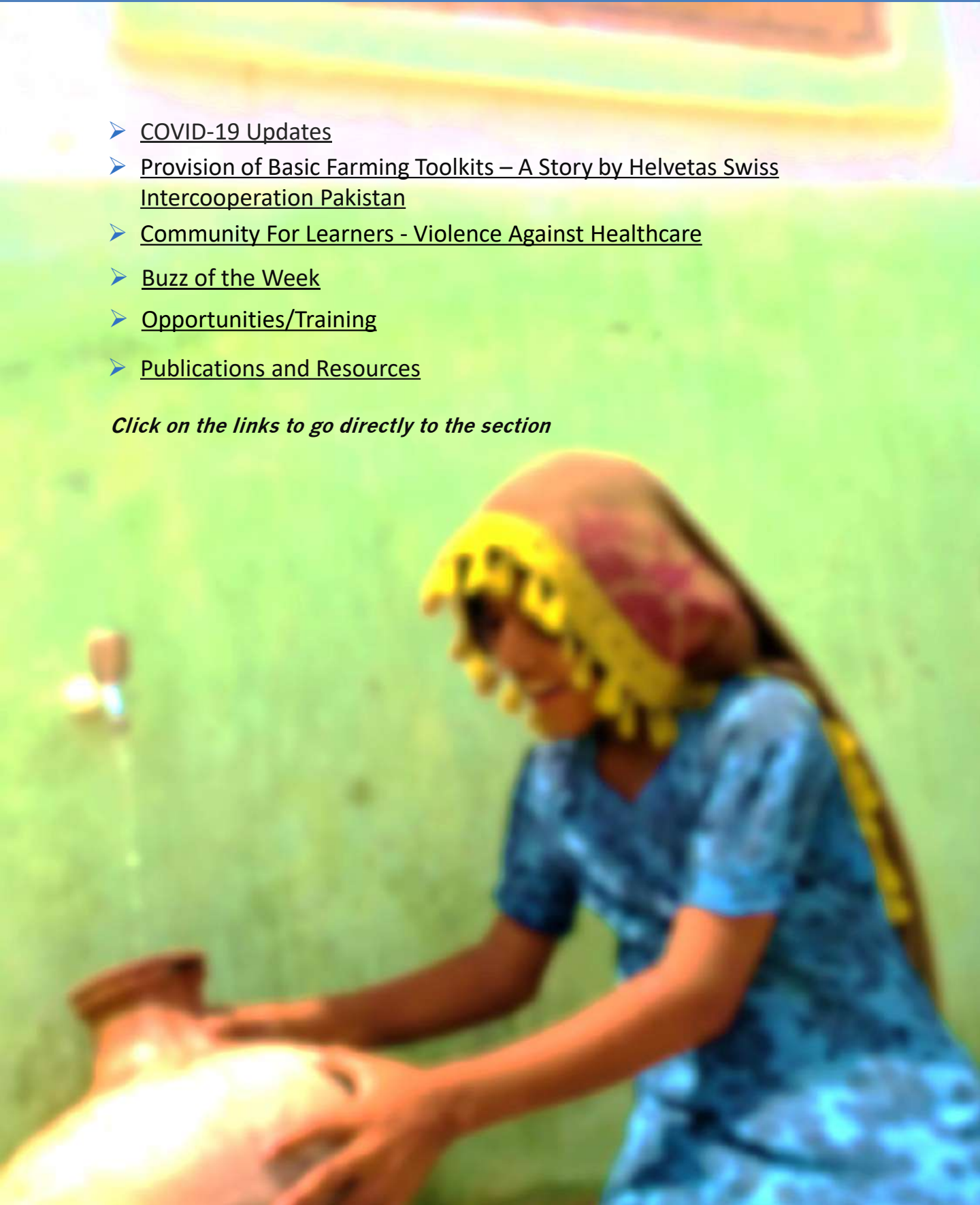


@Weltbuegerhilfe

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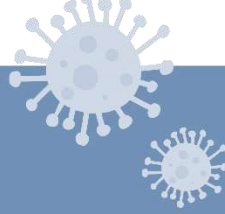
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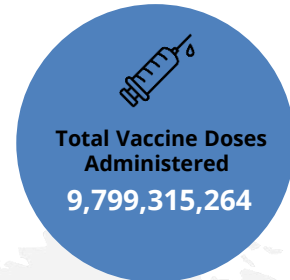
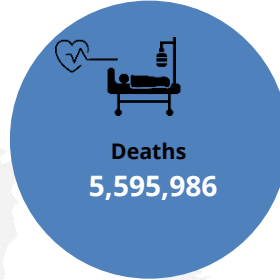
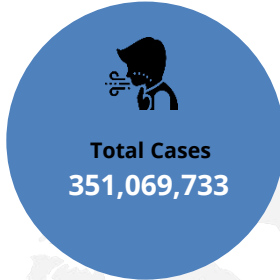
COVID-19

Situation Report



GLOBAL UPDATES

As of January 25th, 2022



Source: Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

- The Omicron variant has moved the COVID-19 pandemic into a new phase and could bring it to an end in Europe, the WHO Europe director said Sunday 23rd January. Once the current surge of Omicron currently sweeping across Europe subsides, "there will be for quite some weeks and months a global immunity, either thanks to the vaccine or because people have immunity due to the infection, and also lowering seasonality." [Read more](#)
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has said through a statement on international travel regulations that the international travel ban should be lifted or eased since the strict measures have proven to be ineffective. "Lift or ease international traffic bans as they do not provide added value and continue to contribute to the economic and social stress experienced by States Parties," [Read more](#)
- Colombia has approved a China-developed COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use, the company announced on Sunday. The authorization makes the vaccine available in South America, providing more aid and options for global cooperation against the COVID-19 pandemic, [Read more](#)

NATIONAL UPDATES

VACCINE STATISTICS

As of January 25th, 2022



COVID-19 STATISTICS



Source: National Command and Operation Center

- As the country witnessed a surge in COVID-19 cases, the government on Saturday announced that passengers seeking to travel outside of Pakistan can get free booster doses. People who are going abroad will get free booster jabs by showing their travel documents at vaccination centres, [Read more](#)
- Expressing serious concerns over the worsening COVID-19 situation in Karachi and other parts of the country, the Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) Tuesday warned that the next two to three weeks could be critical for the country. The PMA urged the government to act quickly as Karachi's COVID-19 positivity rate reached 40%. [Read more](#)
- Despite more than two years into the pandemic, Pakistan is yet to form a uniform policy for the diagnosis of various infections including Covid-19. Nearly 80 percent of the testing kits imported from different countries are substandard and do not produce accurate results. [Read more](#)

Provision of Basic Farming Toolkits

by Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation Pakistan



To till the soil, to water the land, to plant the seeds and then to tend it, all needs some basic equipment or some farming tools, without which the land refuses to give out its best. As the female members of the low-income, hotel-associated families which Helvetas' project ERA-COVID-19 has been assisting, showed interest in raising kitchen gardens as well as some poultry, hence the project first trained the ladies on how to raise a kitchen garden/ poultry and then provided them with seeds (and poultry). In the training, they were also taught how to use the gardening tools and how to care for both the garden as well as the tools, to extend the usage.

These were mostly families having 3 or 5 Marla backyard space and were eager to try their hand at kitchen gardening. A total of 454 sets of farming toolkits were distributed amongst the interested families. The toolkits included a pickaxe, spade, sickle, hand forks, trowel, watering cans, head pan, and cutter. The tools as well as the high-yielding, quality seeds, aided the families immensely, so much so that the gardens literally bloomed on the faces of the ladies as well.



“Feeding a family of 13, our daily expense on just vegetables would usually amount to Rs. 450-500. After receiving the seeds, the training and the toolkits from Helvetas, my family helped me in raising a beautiful kitchen garden. We grow tomatoes, okra, cucumber, bottle gourd, beans, and chili. My son helped me calculate and we realised that we got to save Rs. 25 thousand in the past three months”. Tahira, w/o Ahmed Hussain – a hotel staff member in Satal, Madyan.



Violence Against Healthcare

At the global level, there are many countries marked by violence affecting health care. The 'Health care in danger' project aims to establish practical measures and recommendations that can be implemented on the ground by policy-makers, humanitarian organizations and health professionals. In view of the multiplicity of actors and latitudes concerned, it is essential to be able to make available the tools needed to make informed decisions, guide behaviour in high-risk areas and provide everyone the means to create and optimize the dialogue between humanitarian professionals and health on the one hand and relevant authorities or other armed actors.

This course covers various topics such as ethics, rights and responsibilities of the staff of health and pre-hospital personnel, issues related to international law and humanitarian law, international human rights, caregivers and patient safety as well as the role of communities to address and reduce violence against health care.



Free Course



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. 15 hours to complete



English

Subtitles: English





In a northern region of Pakistan, a landscape marked by snow-capped mountains and glaciers, Indigenous customs used to access meltwater have long enabled subsistence. The people of the Hunza Valley (the Hunzakutz) once solely depended on the land and its natural resources, with glacial meltwater forming a principal connection between communities and the environment. [Read more](#)

Pakistan has urged world leaders to ensure that the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) general allocation of \$650bn of new special Drawing Rights (SDRs) are utilized for the recovery of developing economies. While announcing the new fund in August, IMF Managing Director Kristaline Georgieva too had said that the SDR allocation will provide additional liquidity to the global economic system, [Read more](#)

Punjab school education department has said that schools in the province will not be closed for now, as the decision on their closure will be based on COVID test results. "Schools are not being closed for now. Tests will be conducted first in schools," the education department said in a statement after the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) revised guidelines for educational institutes. [Read more](#)

Pakistan President Dr. Arif Alvi has stressed the need for technological expertise in the healthcare system, saying that the healthcare system of the country must focus on the preventive side of health rather than curative. He also said that 80 percent of the component in dentistry can be online. Several nursing courses and programmes can also go online to increase the quantum of nursing staff in the country, he added [Read more](#)

Punjab Health Minister Dr. Yasmin said the Polio campaign will start in nine districts of the province from January 24; she said this while talking on the occasion of the distribution ceremony of Naya Pakistan Qaumi Sehat Cards among residents of UC-71 in NA-125 here on Saturday. She said last year six polio campaigns were conducted in Punjab. By the blessings of the Almighty, Punjab did not report a single Polio case in one year. [Read more](#)

Pakistan has urged the United Nations to take note of the urgent and critical situation in Afghanistan facing one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world as the war-torn country's assets abroad remain frozen. "150 million people have been pushed back into extreme poverty, over 40 countries are facing debt distress and over 20 countries are facing food insecurity and millions of people in conflict zones in Africa and Afghanistan face starvation and massive fatalities," [Read more](#)

Pakistan and Iran on Wednesday agreed to increase bilateral support and cooperation to address economic and human rights issues in the post-COVID-19 pandemic world. He said Afghanistan was undergoing a terrible disaster in which both Iran and Pakistan had been hosting millions of Afghan refugees [Read more](#)



Grant Funding For Exploring Changing Forms Of Gender Issues In Urban Contexts Of Pakistan January 26, 2022)

This grant funding is open to all legally registered Pakistani WROs, as well as women's and human rights experts/community practitioners in the social development sector. Other social and academic institutions may also apply, provided the proposal is launched by emerging, young professionals or in association with a WRO(s), who have the potential to utilize the body of knowledge produced for their programming or community actions for women's and girls' rights.

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

U.S Department of State Funding Opportunity for NGOs: FY 2022 Request for Concept Notes for NGO Programs to Refer Eligible Refugees to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program January 28th 2022

Projects may focus on any region or nationality(ies), PRM will prioritize those that seek to refer greater numbers of 1) LGBTQI+ refugees (particularly from Afghanistan) 2) at-risk individuals in Central America, and/or 3) Uyghurs, Hong Kong refugees, Burmese dissidents, Haitians and other key refugee populations as specified in the FY 2022 Report to Congress."

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

Call for good practices on Early Warning Systems with focus on multi-hazards February 28th 2022

This Call aims at collecting experiences, lessons learned and key aspects of existing MHEWS to inform the design of new or strengthening of existing EWS. More specifically, the Call will allow compiling different experiences, in terms of policy changes, research advances and practices that highlight key components of MHEWS. For any inquiries and questions, partners can contact wiagoodpractices@gmail.com

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

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 – registration for Side Events 23 to 28 May 2022, in Bali, Indonesia, and hosted by the Government of Indonesia and UNDRR- Application for side events: 31st January 2022

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is a multi-stakeholder forum providing an avenue to share knowledge and discuss the latest developments and trends in reducing disaster risk. It is a critical mechanism to review progress on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. During the Platform, governments, the UN system and other stakeholders convene to identify ways to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

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

Operations & Response Director, WV Afghanistan February 5th , 2022

The Operations & Response Director provides overall humanitarian leadership to the operations team in WV Afghanistan (WVA). He/she has primary responsibility for directing the response from strategy to implementation, inclusive of performance and oversight of all aspects of the response.

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

Call for Registration and Contributors for the 2022 Asia-Pacific Humanitarian Partnership Week

31 January 2021 to 4th February 2022

Registration for the 2021 Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week is open. This virtual 5-day event follows up on the recommendations made in the 2020 Regional Humanitarian Partnership Week, which examined the future of humanitarianism in the Asia Pacific region. This year we ask you to share your experiences and thoughts on key humanitarian questions from inclusion, protection climate, and humanitarian action and risk. Don't hesitate to invite your networks.

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

Sign up to ICVA's Regional Working Groups



ICVA has a range of working groups for members covering our focus areas of Forced Migration; Humanitarian Financing, Humanitarian Coordination, climate change, etc. The working groups are listed on ICVA's website. If colleagues from member organizations in the region are interested in joining any of the mailing lists, please reach out to the ICVA secretariat (secretariat@icvanetwork.org), with your contact focal point, and which group you would like to join. Your contributions would be much valued. If you have any contact updates for the Asia Pacific Mailing list, please don't hesitate to reach out to: keya.sahachaudhury@icvanetwork.org

For more information, please visit ICVA's [website](#).

AFGHAN HUMANITARIAN REFUGEE RESPONSE



IASC RG4 Podcast series The Nexus Collection

In the latest in the podcast series on the nexus Financing the Nexus: Is it Really All about the Money? listen in on Jeremy Rempel, co-chair of IASC Results Group 5 (Financing) as he looks at the nexus financing question from the humanitarian point of view. Hear from Jo Scheuer, Representative of UNDP in Mali, about what sort of development financing enables development actors to engage with a nexus approach in protracted crises (and what type of financing makes nexus-ing really difficult). And listen to Cushla Thompson from the OECD, talking about what donors are already doing to walk the walk on the nexus – and what she would like to see them do next.

For the newly launched podcast in the series, see [here](#).

Research on integrating climate change adaptation & disaster risk reduction in law & policy

Research from IFRC Disaster Law and the School of Law of University College Cork explored how climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) can be effectively integrated through law and policy.

The research conducted in Fiji, the Philippines, Dominica, and Kenya – all countries vulnerable to climate change, informed the drafting of a final Global Synthesis Report, consolidating the findings and providing recommendations for law and policymakers. [Read More](#)

Launch of the UNHCR Operational Strategy for Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

UNHCR has launched its Operational Strategy for Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability 2022-2025. The overarching objectives of this strategy are to mitigate the impact of the climate crisis on the people we serve, strengthen their resilience to climate-related and other environmental risks – including by preserving and rehabilitating the natural environment in displacement settings – and minimize the environmental footprint of our assistance.

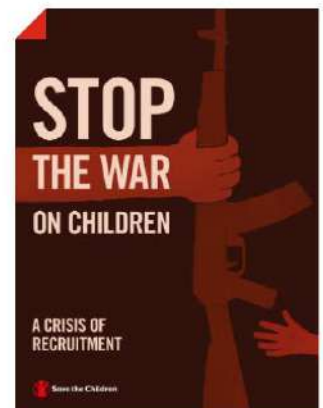
This strategy is grounded in our Strategic Framework for Climate Action, launched earlier this year, and aims at operationalizing its second Pillar of Action – Operations. This will feed into the realization of regional Climate Action Plans that will ground our ambitions in context-specific needs and realities.

[Read More](#)

Stop the War on Children series: A crisis of recruitment

Save the Children has launched its latest report in its series Stop the War on Children series: Children at risk of recruitment and use by armed forces or armed groups.

There has been a rise in the number of verified incidents of children recruited and used by armed forces and groups, and the number of groups recruiting children has also increased. This report focuses on investigations from Afghanistan, Syria, and Yemen. [Read More](#)





Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest, Thursday, January 20, 2022

InterAction has published “Humanitarian Policy & Practice Digest” as of Thursday, January 20, 2022. To access the digest, [please click here](#).

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