

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

21st February 2022 – 27th February 2022



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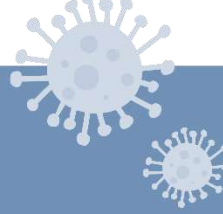
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COVID-19

Situation Report



GLOBAL UPDATES

As of February 27th, 2022



Total Cases
435,229,976



Deaths
5,948,460



Total Vaccine Doses Administered
10,486,752,953

Source: Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

The country is “in a different world” from when the COVID-19 pandemic started, Boris Johnson, Prime Minister of England has said on 24 February, meaning the last remaining restrictions can begin to be lifted from next week. He further added that “I think it is important that people should feel confident again and people should feel able to go back to work in the normal way. [Read more](#)

The number of new coronavirus cases around the world fell 21 percent in the last week, marking the third consecutive week that COVID-19 cases have dropped, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday 22nd February. The highest number of new COVID-19 cases were seen in Russia, Germany, Brazil, the U.S., and South Korea. [Read more](#)

New Zealand now has one of the highest levels of Covid-19 transmission in the world, researchers have said – an extraordinary turn around for a country that had managed to dampen the virus's spread throughout much of the pandemic. Despite its success at suppressing coronavirus throughout much of pandemic, country is now battling the Omicron surge. [Read more](#)

NATIONAL UPDATES

VACCINE STATISTICS

As of February 27th, 2022



COVID-19 STATISTICS



Source: National Command and Operation Center

Pakistan continues to plummet as the graph showed a steep drop – from 105,675 cases reported on February 1 to 37, 212 on February 26 – the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) data showed Saturday morning. The daily case count drops Pakistan's COVID-19 positivity ratio to 2.75%. [Read more](#)

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) Wednesday revised the policy for inbound passengers as the country continues to report a decline in new COVID-19 infections. The forum stated that the inbound policy was reviewed after which it was decided to ease restrictions with effect from 0001 PST, February 24, 2022. [Read more](#)

Keeping in view the declining trend of COVID-19 infections in Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Tuesday relaxed the virus-related travel restriction for Pakistanis traveling to Dubai and Sharjah. The passengers arriving from Pakistan will only need to present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate with a QR code linked to the original report for verification purposes, for a test conducted within 48 hours. [Read more](#)

Improving Access to Primary Education in Pakistan, One Family at a Time

By Relief International



Laiba, Nazia, Salma, and Sania, Afghan refugees between the ages of 7 and 8, we're unable to go to school in Pakistan. Now through an ongoing RI program aimed at creating more equitable access to education, all four are excelling at their local primary school.

There are an estimated 2.5 million Afghan refugees residing in Pakistan including all registered refugees, undocumented refugees, and Citizen Cardholders. Most of these refugees have fled violence and terror in the hopes of finding the safety and a higher standard of living. The reality is often more difficult. Finding work in Pakistan is very hard for Afghan refugees, leaving many adults with menial jobs making small wages and struggling to cover the costs of shelter, food, and support for their families.

For the approximately 300,000 primary school-aged (5-11 years) child refugees in the country, it is also hard, with the majority unable to access local schools for education. This was the case for Laiba, Nazia, Salma, and Sania; four cousins between the ages of 8 and 9 whose families live and work together in the Peshawar region of the country.



“We were having fewer opportunities... for our children in Pakistani Schools” states Najeeba, mother of Salma & Sania.

Afghan families often do not have the money or institutional knowledge to navigate the educational system in their new country alone, frequently resulting in their children missing out on the chance of going to school.

Relief International is changing this in the Peshawar, Nowshera, and Swabi regions of Pakistan through an innovative program that aims to create more equitable access for Afghan children in Pakistani government primary schools.

The project involves enrollment campaigns where RI staff teach the local Afghan community about the enrollment process for schools; a school readiness program where children can go to “catch up” educationally to their peers already attending school at no cost to their families; and a mainstreaming process where the Afghan children then join the Pakistani school fully, taking classes with other children their age.

Between 2019 and 2021, 1341 boys and 1690 girls have taken part in the program in 70 schools throughout the region.

Improving Access to Primary Education in Pakistan, One Family at a Time

By JEN



RI staff members talked with Najeeba and Rozeena, the girls' mothers.



“A few days after admission in school, I observed a very positive change in my daughter’s behavior,” states Rozeena, Laiba and Nazia’s mother.

Laiba, Nazia, Salma, and Sania all took part in the program, beginning with RI’s staff going to their family homes to discuss educational opportunities for the girls. “[RI Staff] came to our house and had a detailed meeting with us about our daughter’s right to education,” states Najeeba.

After numerous conversations with their parents, all four girls were enrolled in the school readiness program.

“They exhibited good manners and a polite attitude towards us and their brothers and are helping in domestic work after they return from school,” Rozeena continues.

All four girls excelled in the school readiness program, and were then mainstreamed into the local school. “When I conducted a proper assessment of the girls [during the mainstreaming process], I found them to be outstanding and Promoted them [one step ahead] to Grade One instead of Nursery” states Ms. Tamseela, Head teacher of the Government Girls Primary School in Pawaka.

Najeeba and Rozeena are incredibly proud of their daughters’ success. “We will [continue to] send our daughters to school because we know that the education will contribute to their futures.”

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 behavior 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



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Beginner Level



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English

Subtitles: English



HOW TO
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The climate change ministry has prepared a report about variability in climate and rain pattern in the last ten years that would help formulate policies to tackle these issues in the coming years. There is a southward spatial shift in monsoon rainfall occurrence over Pakistan while an eastward shift in moderate to heavy monsoon rainfall events. [Read more](#)

Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Climate Change Mr. Malik Amin Aslam said that incumbent government is committed towards pursuing green pathways by adopting and promoting green mobility concept at all levels, where e-vehicle are being encouraged as sustainable and more affordable mode of transport in the country. Malik Amin told the participants that another way to cut heat-trapping carbon emissions and to pursue carbon neutrality pathway, such as e-vehicles [Read more](#)

President Dr. Arif Alvi Monday said that making education common for all is the key to development for Pakistan and virtual education is the only rapid way to achieve this goal. The president urged the universities to broaden the scope of their education systems by promoting virtual dissemination of knowledge in order to increase the number of graduates in the country. [Read more](#)

Rain with cool breeze in the provincial capital Lahore and its adjacent areas and other cities of Punjab on Friday night turned the weather cold while Met Office has predicted similar weather conditions for the next 24 hours. Rain was also reported in different other cities of the Punjab province including Sialkot, Okara, Kasur, Zafarwal, Pattoki, Nankana Sahib and several other cities, compelling the citizens to stay indoors and wear warm clothes. [Read more](#)

Senior officials of Pakistan and Afghanistan will meet at the Torkham border on Monday to discuss issues for smooth flows of trade and pedestrians, large part of a scheme aimed at enhancing bilateral ties with the landlocked country. Huge facilitation in truck movements is expected to increase bilateral trade especially imports from Afghanistan. [Read more](#)

Healthcare professionals at an interactive session on Sunday urged the print and electronic media journalists covering health issues to follow the ethics of journalism, publish and air verified news, and enhance their capacity and understanding of health issues to report accurately, without hurting the sentiments of healthcare professionals, patients and their attendants. [Read more](#)

The European Union's Special Representative for Human Rights, Eamon Gilmore, who just wrapped up his visit to Islamabad has pointed out that there are still three areas where the government needs to focus upon. He, however, praised Pakistan for taking some forward steps while making new laws. In the area of education, Gilmore said that a large number of children are out-of-school and are being placed in a cycle of disadvantage while the society misses the [Read more](#)

Invitation - Regional Expert Roundtable on “Gender Equality in Nationality Matters and the Prevention of Statelessness” on International Women’s Day. March 8th,2022

Time: 10:00 – 12:00 BKK time

The event, organized by the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP) and UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), aims to explore the implications of gender-discriminatory provisions in nationality laws in the region, and ways to address prevailing norms and existing inequalities, especially how to create a conducive environment for ensuring legislative frameworks.

Registration: https://unwomen.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kexHCRD9S76L6g4eveTNUQ

WEBINAR- International Women’s Day March 8th,2022

Time: 3:00 PM-5:00 PM (Pakistan Standard Time)

Theme/Topic: Break the Bias- Perspective of Pakistan (Role, Initiatives, Legislation and Future Plans for Women Social and Economic Empowerment)

How long: 1 hour 45 minutes

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lcOyqrj8vHdI4y-vyaDaENgHEbZuz4C-Q>



*Soap-making training at HH level in District Peshawar under COVID-19 response.
@Care International*



Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

The Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report assesses the impacts of climate change, looking at ecosystems, biodiversity, and human communities at global and regional levels. It also reviews vulnerabilities and the capacities and limits of the natural world and human societies to adapt to climate change. [Read more.](#)

Media Report-Qatar National Sports Day-Punjab

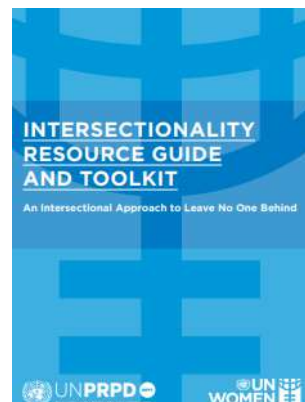
Qatar Charity celebrated Qatar National Sports Day with its registered 50 Orphans from district Rawalpindi in Islamabad. QC organized different sports and competitions for girls and boys. These sports were included cricket match, football competition, basketball, tug of war, running race, badminton competition and balloons blown. The objective of this day is to highlight the importance of sports and exercise in daily routine of life and raise awareness among children about physical and mental health. [Read more](#)



INTERSECTIONALITY RESOURCE GUIDE AND TOOLKIT

An Intersectional Approach to Leave No One Behind

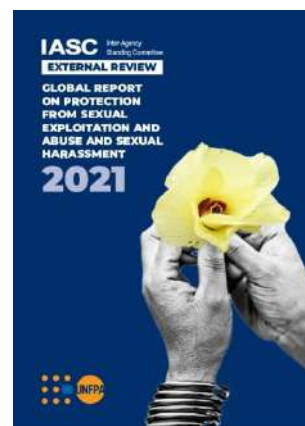
UN women and Partners have released a guide this guide and toolkit to help both organizations and individual practitioners and experts to address intersectionality in policies and in programmes. It may be used by individuals or teams to assess their own knowledge, attitudes and practice, at a programme level as a supplement to existing design, adaptation and assessment processes or at a policy level to better understand and address the different and intersecting effects of policy on marginalised persons. [Read More](#)



2021 IASC EXTERNAL REVIEW OF PSEA/SH

The IASC External Review of Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment was commissioned by the 2021 IASC PSEAH Champion, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director Dr. Natalia Kanem.

The purpose of the review was to provide an independent assessment of the progress since the IASC review of PSEA in 2010 and to consider the impact and effectiveness of the IASC approach to PSEAH. The scope of the review is global. [Read More](#)



UN Migration Network Working Group 6 on Access to Services Promising Practices

The Thematic Working Group 6 has produced a new document on promising practices in the provision of essential services to migrants. The document provides practical examples on how migrants are included in the provision of services in the field of health, housing, education, vocational training, and basic public services such as water and sanitation. A dedicated section of the report also includes examples of multi-sector migrant services in the context of the pandemic of COVID-19. The case studies are contributions from national and local governments, partner agencies and other stakeholders. They focus on government policies, national or local legislation, international agreements, and programs or interventions with particular emphasis on local and grass-roots level.

[Read more](#)

Asian Preparedness Partnership (APP) Private Sector Engagement Study

The APP established by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) is a multi-stakeholder regional partnership that includes countries from South and Southeast Asia to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. The study analyzes the potential of the private sector as an emerging actor in disaster risk reduction and management.

To access the study, please see [here](#).

START Network Quarterly Learning Brief

The quarterly brief summarizes the network's key learnings from Q4 of 2021 and examines how START can improve evidence and learning through considering success from a community perspective and ways to make the network more agile.

To access the study, please see [here](#).



START Network publication on drought impact-based forecasting

Drought is particularly susceptible to multi-hazard influences. Forecasting impacts and establishing relationships of drought can be challenging. To read about the START Network's work with local organizations and the academia on impact-based forecasting on drought, please see [here](#).



Plan International Asia Pacific report - Life Through Letters: Experiences and Dreams from Young People during the Covid-19 Pandemic in Asia Pacific

This report from Plan International Asia Pacific explores the perspective of young people on the global COVID-19 pandemic. As news coverage has and continues to predominantly focus on responses by governments and organizations, this report brings to the fore the experiences, insights and efforts of young people as local agents of change.

To read the report, please see [here](#).





Development Aid News Digest

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



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