

PHF WEEKLY BULLETIN

7th March 2022 – 13th March 2022

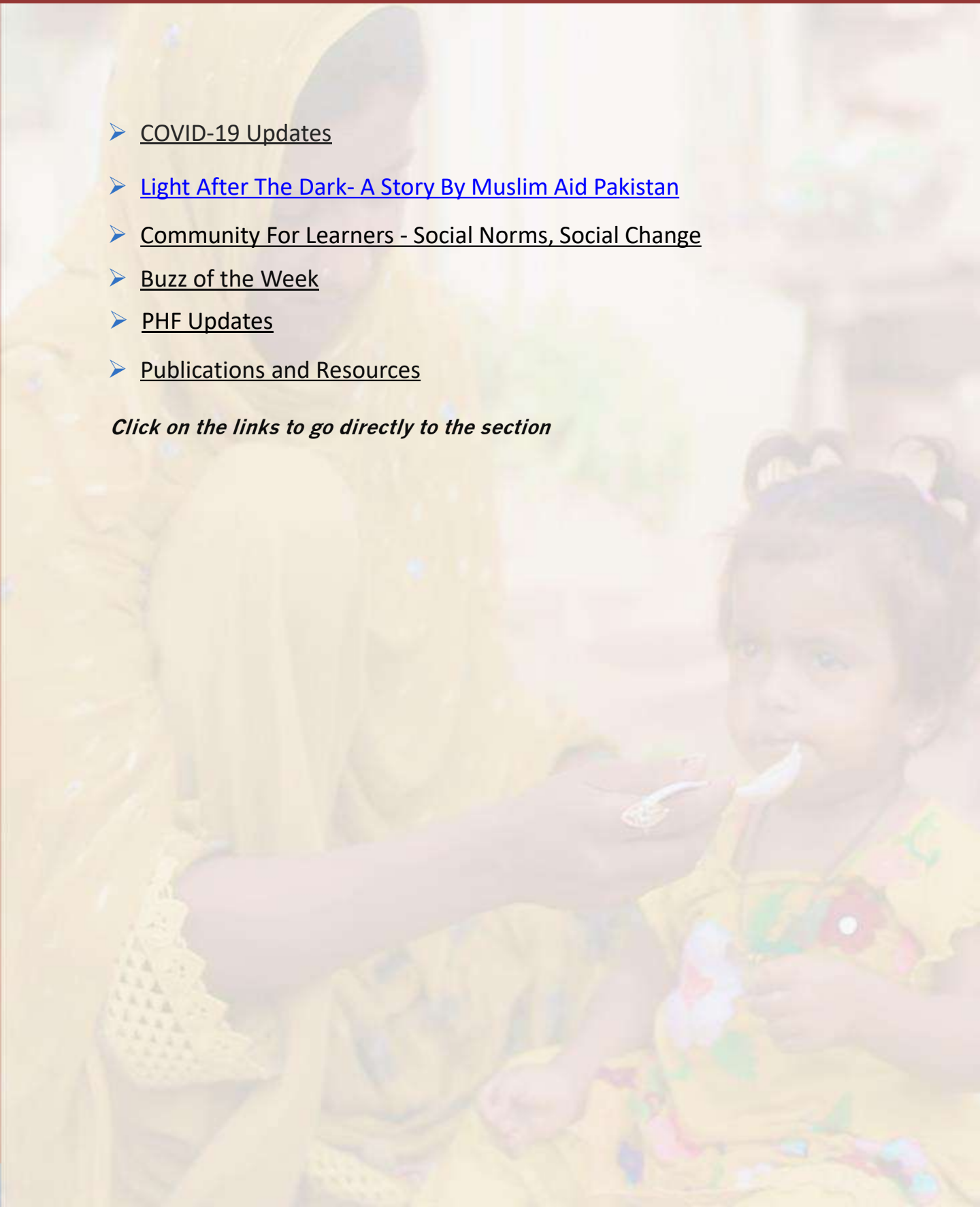


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IN THIS ISSUE

- [COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Light After The Dark- A Story By Muslim Aid Pakistan](#)
- [Community For Learners - Social Norms, Social Change](#)
- [Buzz of the Week](#)
- [PHF Updates](#)
- [Publications and Resources](#)

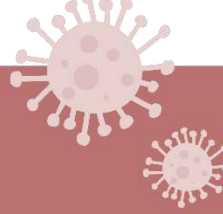
Click on the links to go directly to the section





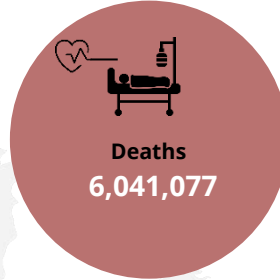
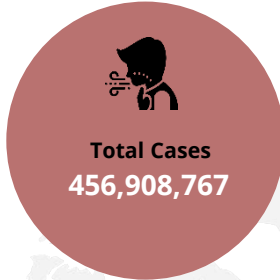
COVID-19

Situation Report



GLOBAL UPDATES

As of March 13th, 2022



Source: Johns Hopkins University (JHU)

- As the COVID-19 pandemic stretches into a third year, many experts are expressing cautious optimism that Canada has passed the need for lockdowns and the widespread safety protocols that marked much of the last 24 months. Ontario's masking policy is set to end in most indoor places on March 21- two years to the day that the U.S.-Canada border closed to non-essential travel as the original SARS-CoV-2 strain spread. [Read more](#)
- Two years after the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, changing the world overnight, relief and hope are creeping back in after a long, dark period of loss, fear and deep uncertainty about the future. The world is finally emerging from a brutal stretch of winter dominated by the highly contagious omicron variant. [Read more](#)
- The number of people being admitted to hospital with Covid began rising last week, and on 9 March 1,521 were admitted in England – the highest number since the end of January. Scientists say the rise is because the BA.2 version of Omicron is more transmissible, more people are mixing socially and the effectiveness of booster vaccines is starting to wane. [Read more](#)

NATIONAL UPDATES

VACCINE STATISTICS

As of March 13th, 2022



COVID-19 STATISTICS



Source: National Command and Operation Center

- Unexplained deaths of birds including crows, kites and pigeons in Karachi, Islamabad and other cities indicates the presence of West Nile Virus (WNV), which is spread by a species of mosquitoes present in Pakistan, and cause West Nile fever in humans, infectious diseases. According to World Health Organization (WHO), West Nile Virus (WNV) can cause neurological disease and death in people. [Read more](#)
- Pakistan logged the lowest number of daily COVID-19 deaths since January 11 as three patients infected with the virus died during the last 24 hours, the National Command and Operation Centre's (NCOC) data showed Sunday morning 13th March. [Read more](#)
- The World Health Organisation (WHO) has donated vehicles and equipment worth over Rs120 million to boost the public health care emergency response system of the Sindh government during the COVID-19 pandemic. The WHO also handed over IT equipment, office furniture and medical equipment to the Sindh Government's Health Department to strengthen the essential health care services [Read more](#)

Light After the Dark

By Muslim Aid



Bringing Back Life To The Residents Of Deewan Shah Village of District Harnai, Balochistan

Oct 07 was a warm day in Deewan Shah – a small village in District Harnai. It was a Thursday, and people were sound asleep when their lives were changed suddenly.

Around 3 am a jolt of 5.9 with the depth of 9 KM, followed by an aftershock of 4.9 with a depth of 12 KM hit the district and left the devastating circumstances for the population. Bibi Sabra is one of those among people who has severely hit by the devastating earthquake. She lives with her sister and has no source of income as they mostly rely on Zakat by the family and relatives. Since a long ago, she has been suffering permanent disability and her sister takes care for her all sort of needs.

Sabra was asleep when the earthquake hit the town. When she woke up, was shaken and couldn't went out of the house. Everything around her was shaking and then heard of the things collapsing down "I was afraid if the dooms-day has come ", says Sabra.

Her house is still standing, but just barely. "I was very afraid to go inside the house and worried about how to survive day to day life, But I am thankful to Muslim Aid Pakistan who are helping us in rehabilitation of our house, provided food and non-food items".



The emergency team- Muslim Aid Pakistan assess the damage and loss of Sabra's house

Also, the wheelchair has been provided to Sabra so that she can live life with less dependency and more dignity. Where this earthquake left hundreds of injured people and thousands of households affected, it left the fact more dominant that District Harnai is one of the poorest districts of the country with the lack of infrastructure and administrative facilities.

"I was very afraid to go inside the house and worried about how to survive day to day life, But I am thankful to Muslim Aid Pakistan who are helping us in the rehabilitation of our house, provided food and non-food items".

Social Norms, Social Change

Social Change is the transformation of institutions, values, and behaviors. It's essential for the realization of human rights and social justice. Offered through a partnership of UNICEF and University of Pennsylvania, this course explores how to eliminate harmful practices such as child marriage, female genital mutilation, and other forms of gender-based violence. The course consists of two parts, focused on theoretical aspects and practical implementation. The course is taught by Cristina Bicchieri, Professor of Social Thought and Comparative Ethics.



What you will learn (excerpt)


- Distinguish between different types of social practices
- Use a variety of tools to understand, measure and influence collective practices
- Create new beneficial norms and eliminate harmful ones
- Outline how issues such as child marriage and gender-based violence can be addressed

How you will learn

Both courses together take roughly 22 hours to complete. The lectures consist primarily of videos and readings. Each chapter of the courses also includes an optional discussion prompt. To receive a passing grade, learners must answer 70% of the quiz questions correctly. Learners rated the course 4.7 out of 5 stars.

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. 9 hours to complete**

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



CLICK HERE





Underscoring the need for limiting global warming, Pakistan, Tuesday called for leveraging climate finance in ways that maximizes synergies between climate action, development and conflict prevention. “Unless we act, climate change will jeopardize land, water, resources and jobs and perhaps exacerbate conflicts,” Ambassador Munir Akram told a UN Security Council [Read more](#)

In an apparent balancing act, Pakistan will send emergency aid to Ukraine as a message of solidarity to the war-stricken people. A decision to this effect was taken by the federal cabinet through circulation of an emergency summary for allocation of about Rs60 million along with two aircraft to deliver aid goods in Poland. Because of the rapidly deteriorating situation, Ukraine had already raised an international appeal for global assistance to address humanitarian needs. [Read more](#)

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Thursday said Pakistan would continue cooperation with the United Nations Human Rights machinery for the promotion and protection of all human rights and realization of the sustainable development agenda. In a meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Ms. Michelle Bachelet, the foreign minister underscored Pakistan’s commitment to the promotion and protection [Read more](#)

While hot and dry weather conditions have been prevailing in Karachi since past several days, a sudden rise in diarrhoeal diseases especially in children is witnessed and reported in the city hospitals prompting health experts to issue a warning and advising the general public to drink boiled water and take extra preventive measures. The health experts believe that the changing weather conditions are giving a rise to diarrhoea mainly among children. [Read more](#)

The largest IT solution provider in the country has said that Pakistan should focus on local software development and for achieving that objective, it must facilitate international companies by maintaining consistency of policies. At present more than 90 per cent public and private sector companies in the country use SAP solutions for streamlining their operations. [Read more](#)

Pakistan on Tuesday launched the country's National Gender Policy Framework, an initiative aiming to empower women across the nation and intensify the gender's participation in the public sphere. The International Women's Day was observed throughout the country. Prime Minister Mr. Imran Khan addressed an event in Rawalpindi said that empowerment of women was a key to success. [Read more](#)

The Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC) on Thursday agreed to register students enrolled in the three public sector medical colleges of Balochistan. The PMC wanted the students to take fresh tests for registration with the commission — a condition protested by the students. [Read more](#)

PHF Organizes Virtual Session To Mark International Women's Day

The Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF) marked International Women's Day by organizing a virtual session on current year theme **"breaking the bias and gender stereotypes"**. The virtual session was attended by eminent speakers, intellectuals, development and humanitarian practitioners. MNA Shandana Gulzar Khan participated in the session as a keynote speaker, said a press release issued here Wednesday.



Farhan Ahmed Khan, Chair Executive Committee PHF and Country Director CESVI, Dr. Farah Naureen, Country Director Mercy Corps and Member PHF Executive Committee, Ms. Taheeni Thammannagoda, Head of ECHO and Ms. Ayesha Wadood from UN Women Pakistan also participated in the virtual session.

During the concluding remarks, Shahid Kazmi, Country Coordinator, Pakistan Humanitarian Forum highly appreciated all the panelists and participants for their time and support. He mentioned PHF is bringing all the stakeholders to the table and planning to work in collaboration to strengthen the humanitarian and development sector of Pakistan to attain the targets which are mentioned in vision 2025 and another policy framework. [Read more](#)

Media Coverage of the Webinar Session

Urdu Point

International Women's Day

<https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/phf-organizes-virtual-session-to-mark-interna-1481597.html>

National Herald Tribune

International Women's Day 2022

<http://dailyhnt.com/epaper/page.php?id=1&edition=lahor&dt=11-03-2022>



PAK NGOs

Stakeholders emphasize collective action to ensure gender equality and to break gender stereotypes

<https://pakngos.com.pk/collective-action-to-ensure-gender-equality-and-to-break-gender-stereotypes/>

← Aeen-(10-3-22)...



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.](#)

Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge Hub

UN Women, in collaboration with the Australian Government just launched the WRD Knowledge Hub, which includes:

- Searchable [Library](#) and [Toolbox](#) for accessing tools, guidance and publications
- [WRD Policy Tracker](#) to monitor national and regional progress on achieving gender-responsive and inclusive DRR laws, policies, strategies and plans
- [WRD Expert Register](#) to help identify experts on women's leadership and gender equality in disaster and climate risk reduction and resilience from different regions

[Read more](#)

Partnerships and Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

This study commissioned by the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR) and International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) focusses on the important role played by partnerships in addressing allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) against aid workers. This study contains number of recent cases analysis; it was reviewed by GCPS Consulting and UNHCR provided technical support.



The objectives of the study were as follows:

- To examine in what ways the nature of relations between partner organizations (UN, NGOs, donors) has affected the quality of the response to allegations of SEA, in particular the impact on survivors, communities, and programme continuity.
- To identify and document good practice and learning in partnership response to SEA cases.
- To provide findings that may inform ongoing efforts by donor governments, UN Agencies and NGOs to collectively strengthen the framework for prevention of SEA.

This report can be accessed [here](#)

Gender Responsive Conflict Analysis (GRCA)

Gender Responsive Conflict Analysis guidance note was developed simultaneously to an extensively GRCA process conducted by United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and for the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on the behalf of United Nations Country team (UNCT). The analysis process started in March 2021 and concluded in September 2021, it initially developed for the UNCT in Afghanistan; the guidance note has global applicability.

The guidance note can be accessed [here](#)

Afghanistan Crisis update: Women and Girls in Displacement

The factsheet is the first in a series that will examine the changing situation in Afghanistan as additional data become available. It was produced by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), using data from UNHCR, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other sources. Given the rapidly shifting situation in the country, estimates are likely to change over time. Trends or events taking place after 2021 will be reflected in future factsheets of this series.

This report can be accessed [here](#).

Life and Death: NGO access to financial services in Afghanistan

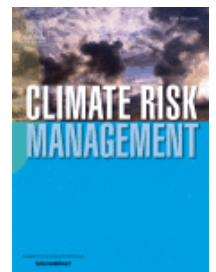
This report addresses these gaps by mapping out available payment channels (via a range of financial service providers [FSPs] spanning those of a formal or regulated nature, through those that are more informal or partially regulated) for transferring humanitarian funds into, and around, Afghanistan for NGO use.

It explores the extent to which each of these channels allows for access to physical cash required to carry out humanitarian operations to scale in the country. It also seeks to ascertain how such transactions can be scaled up and safeguarded in light of the absence of a fully functional central bank, alongside severely hindered trade and other economic activities.

This latest publication was commissioned by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) with the financial assistance of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and can be found [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](#).





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