



Photo: WHO staff delivering an orientation session on COVID-19 to health staff, CHWs, CHS and NGO partners in Qadis district of Badghis province.

Situation report  
MAY 2020

AFGHANISTAN  
Emergency type: protracted emergency



**3.7M**  
AFFECTED<sup>1</sup>



**86,426**  
DISPLACED<sup>2</sup>



**298,000**  
RETURNEES<sup>3</sup>



**383**  
IEHK KITS<sup>4</sup>



**77**  
OUTBREAKS<sup>5</sup>

## KEY FIGURES

394	WHO STAFF IN THE COUNTRY
60	HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS
2.1M	OUTREACH (POPULATION REACHED)
<b>HEALTH FACILITIES</b>	
2,865	TOTAL NUMBER OF HEALTH FACILITIES
3	TOTAL NUMBER OF HEALTH FACILITIES AFFECTED
5	HEALTH WORKERS, PATIENTS AND OTHERS KILLED
8	HEALTH WORKERS AND PATIENTS INJURED/DETAINED
0	HEALTH FACILITIES RE-OPENED
<b>DISEASES<sup>5</sup> (JAN-MAY)</b>	
2,754,098	ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION CASES
623,751	ACUTE DIARRHEA CASES
242	MEASLES CASES DURING OUTBREAK
30	CCHF DURING OUTBREAK
51	MUMPS DURING OUTBREAK
58	DOG BITS DURING OUTBREAK

## SITUATION UPDATE

- A total of 27,021 families from five regions of Afghanistan were displaced in May
- Total number of refugees/returnees from Iran and Pakistan summed up to 16,351 individuals and 12,362 families in May. They settled in five regions across Afghanistan
- 97 kits (Trauma [A+B], IEHK basic, IEHK supplementary, cholera kits and NCD kits) were distributed to 124,600 beneficiaries
- Thirteen CCHF cases and no deaths due to the outbreak were reported in May
- COVID-19 cases showed an increase in all provinces with Kabul and Herat reporting the highest numbers. As of May, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan reached 29,640 with 639 total deaths and 9,869 total recoveries
- A total of 4702 trauma cases (road traffic accidents and occupational injuries are excluded) were reported in May, of which 3250 were OPD and 1452 were IPD
- Four Emergency Response Planning (EPR) meetings took place in every province in the west region. Every province in the north region held five EPR meetings and a health cluster meeting was held in the last week of April. The south region conducted a health cluster meeting focusing on COVID-19, while EPR meetings were conducted in the east region and in the provinces of the southeast region.
- Some 1,219 individuals were vaccinated in the east region, including returnees and host communities and 257 individuals were vaccinated in Gulan refugee camp in the southeast, in May
- The provincial COVID-19 response taskforce committee meetings were conducted regularly at the regional and provincial levels. WHO staff actively participated in these meetings

<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview, humanitarian programme cycle, December 2019

<sup>2</sup> OCHA AFGHANISTAN Snapshot of Population Movements (Jan-May, 2020)

<sup>3</sup> OCHA AFGHANISTAN Snapshot of Population Movements (Jan-May, 2020)

<sup>4</sup> OCHA AFGHANISTAN Snapshot of Natural Disasters Events (Figures Updated based on WHE Data)

<sup>5</sup> WHE data on Outbreaks

## Public health concerns

- Shortage of emergency supplies and low technical capacity to combat and monitor COVID-19 cases, particularly in the west region
- Weak inter-sector support from DoPH to control COVID-19 outbreak in the north region and difficulty in monitoring HFs in insecure areas
- Need for improved follow up and monitoring in the south region
- Rapid increase in COVID -19 cases in the east region weakened the Health Cluster's ability to engage with communities. Limited monitoring visits and shortage of supplies to address COVID-19 cases continues in the east region
- Disrupted immunization process continues due to COVID-19 outbreak in all regions
- Insecurity continues to affect the provision of health services in the southeast region

## Health needs, priorities and gaps

- In addition to laboratory equipment and supplies, there is an increasing need for patient beds to admit COVID-19 cases that are on the rise in all regions, especially in the West
- Quality of services in COVID-19 hospitals including low capacity of health workers in the north region need to be addressed
- Hard to reach districts in the south region need PHC and trauma care services
- Significant WASH related needs were reported at some HFs in Nangarhar, Kunar and Nursitan in the east region
- Addressing lack of health care services in the southeast refugee areas is a main priority

## WHO action

- A total of 12,012 consultations were made by eight mobile health teams, delivering health services for the IDPs in Herat province. Some 1,461 consultations were made by two mobile health teams, delivering services for IDPs in Badghis province
- A total of 14,590 OPDs were reported to the regional health cluster by health partners in the east region, including HFs at Torkham. Age vaccination data was provided for all OPDs reported. Of the total OPDs reported, 4,370 were Pakistani Refugees from Gulistan Refugee Camp of Khost province
- The protection cluster in the north region identified 2,000 persons with specific needs (PSN) from 75 IDP and returnee communities as well as host communities in the north and north-eastern regions. These persons could be potentially more impacted by COVID-19 than others
- Some 3,166 surveillance staff were trained on cases definition and case investigation for active surveillance by WHO-PPOs in five provinces in the north region, in May
- In close coordination with DoPHs, WHO organized and conducted an ICU training for the southern region health staff in Kandahar province. A total of 16 participants were trained. In addition, 18 health staff of Aino Mena Hospital/COVID-19 isolation ward were trained on IPC through WHO support
- Herat Medical School with support from WHO and the surveillance department conducted a situation analysis of COVID19 in Herat province. The analysis was shared with WHO County Office
- WHO's team conducted monitoring visits in Kandahar and Zabul provinces
- Health/nutrition services were provided to IDPs by eight mobile teams in Herat province and two mobile health teams in Badghis province. Some 21 Rapid Response Teams (RRT) in Herat, 10 RRTs in Ghor, 5 RRTs in Badghis and 6 RRTs in Farah province were contracted through BPHS implementing agencies. WHO maintained effective surveillance and response in the east region through supporting the NDSR system. A total of 73 (32 NGR, 23 KNR, 10 NUR, 8 LGN) sentinel/reporting sites were established and assisted in the east region
- A total of 250,000 leaflets and posters were distributed by WHO in the south region during May

## Health cluster

- Health Cluster Coordination Meeting was held on May 20. The meeting focused on addressing the rapid increase of COVID-19 cases in Afghanistan. The Health Cluster provided services to a total of 19,833 beneficiaries (16,144 male and 3,689 female) in May

Gratitude: WHO is grateful for the continuous support of our generous donors: USAID, ECHO, CHF, Japan, Republic of Korea and CERF

