



World Health Organization

Situation report
MAY 2019

AFGHANISTAN

Emergency type: protracted emergency



X-Ray Machine at Khost Provincial Hospital, provided by WHO.



2 M
AFFECTED¹



147,962
DISPLACED^{1,2}



208,476
RETURNEES^{1,3}



05
IEHK KITS



151
OUTBREAKS¹

KEY FIGURES

394	WHO STAFF IN THE COUNTRY
60	HEALTH CLUSTER PARTNERS
1,6M	OUTREACH (POPULATION REACHED)
HEALTH FACILITIES	
2,865	TOTAL NUMBER OF HEALTH FACILITIES
98	TOTAL NUMBER OF HEALTH FACILITIES CLOSED
13	HEALTH WORKERS AND PATIENTS KILLED
17	HEALTH WORKERS AND PATIENTS INJURED/DETAINED
27	NUMBER OF HEALTH FACILITIES RE-OPENED
DISEASES ¹	
3,091,249	ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION (ARI) CASES
663,447	ACUTE DIARRHEA CASES
320	SCABIES
629	ARI CASES DURING OUTBREAK
237	CHIKEN POX

SITUATION UPDATE

- In May 2019, 3,074 people fled their homes due to conflict, bringing the total number of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) to 139,716 in 2019.
- Humanitarian support for Badghis IDPs will end by June 2019, but limited health services will be provided, including provision of malnutrition screening and primary healthcare, with a focus on scaling-up permanent health facilities (Basic Packages of Health Services (BPHS) instead of mobile health teams.
- In the first five months of 2019, 54 attacks on healthcare were reported, resulting in the closure of 98 health facilities, where only 27 of them were re-opened. 13 healthcare workers and patients were killed and 17 others injured.
- In May, 64 outbreaks were reported with a total caseload of 368 from 10 different diseases.
- According to the Directorate of Refugees and Repatriations (DoRR) and UNHCR, 1,196 families crossed the border and settled in Khost province in May 2019, due to conflict in North Waziristan of Pakistan.
- Health cluster provided health emergency response to the IDPs of Chapadar in Kunar, and Khogyani and Sherzad districts in Nangarhar through mobile team and fixed Health Facilities of BPHS partners.
- WHO has been providing emergency health supplies to health facilities, and built, and where required upgraded, trauma care wards at different health facilities across the country.
- War and conflict across the country has affected health services and caused displacement of people from their homes to safe places, putting a strain on the already overstretched health facilities in secure areas.

¹ Since January 2019

² Only conflict related IDPs

³ OCHA AFGHANISTAN Snapshot of Population Movements (Jan to Apr 2019)

Public health concerns

- Vaccination activities have been banned in the Southeast region and some locations in the South and the East regions by anti-government elements. The ban, coupled with low routine immunization coverage, poses greater public health risks. In the Eastern region there have been consecutive outbreaks of Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD).
- Unavailability of trained and skilled health workers, especially female health workers, in remote and hard-to-reach areas, prevents many women from accessing health facilities.
- Weekly surveillance data from all surveillance sentinel sites across the country, including among IDPS in Herat and Badghis Provinces show a high number of diarrheal cases continuously.

Health needs, priorities and gaps

- According to Inter-cluster quarterly pipeline tracking report, there is \$1 million USD shortfall in funds, which requires the Health Cluster to divert resources to cover the most pressing needs.
- According to the projections of Afghanistan Humanitarian Needs Overview 2019, throughout the year, 1.9 million people will be in need of emergency health services due to conflict, natural disasters and a lack of basic services.
- War and conflict in region affected the health services and caused displacement of people from their homes to safe places.
- There is lack of ambulance services in Zerok, Bermal, Gomal, Omna, Tarwe and Wormamay districts of Paktika province.

WHO action

- WHO distributed 5 Inter-agency Emergency Health kits' basic module for replenishment of regional warehouses in Southeast region.
- WHO distributed 1 Cholera Kit for Paktika Province.
- WHO supported the implementation of vaccination in Torkham Zero point, IOM Transient Camp, UNHCR Encashment Centre with a the new strategy of all age vaccination for polio at Torkham crossing point.
- WHO, through supporting National Disease Surveillance and Response system, maintained effective surveillance and response system in the Eastern region by establishing 73 sentinel/reporting sites and provided continuous assistance for their activities.
- National Nutrition surveillance system has been supported and strengthened by the provision of technical support to 19 sentinel sites (4 in Nangrahar and 5 each in laghman, Kunar and Nuristan Provinces).
- While the construction of one infectious disease ward (IDW) was completed in Jawzjan, the work of two similar wards in Zabul and Takhar provincial hospitals started recently.
- Similarly, construction work of two blood bank facilities in Kabul Wazir Akbar Khan and Jamhoriyat Hospitals was inaugurated.

Health cluster

- In May 2019, a total 410 refugee families from North Waziristan of Pakistan, residing in Laman area of Bermal district of Paktika Province were relocated to Gulan refugee camp in Khost Province. More than half (275) of the total 410 refugee families received non-food items (NFI) and food items, while the remaining families were waiting for assistance.
- A total of 1,196 new Pakistani families sought refuge in Khost Province, fleeing the conflict in Pakistan. These families are in urgent need of shelter, NFI, food and healthcare services.

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