

AFGHANISTAN EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT

No. 27 | March 2023



World Health
Organization
Afghanistan

Key Figures (Monthly)

524,486

People reached with
emergency health services

8,498

People received trauma
care services

15.24MT

Medical and Non-Medical
supplies provided

489

Health workers trained

107

Surveillance support teams
deployed to outbreak areas

Summary of Outbreaks (March 2023)

1,287

COVID-19 confirmed cases

12,075

Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD)

890,487

Acute Respiratory Infection

3,884

Measles

59

Pertusis

62

Dengue fever



WHO Health Emergencies Programme Team Lead, Dr Alaa Abuzeid (right), at Lezhdeh village, Farkhar District, Takhar Province.

Highlights

This March 2023, 524,486 people were served in health facilities and hospitals supported by WHO; and 489 health workers received training. There were 4,000 rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) for acute watery diarrhea (AWD) received in Kabul warehouse as preparedness to the next season of AWD. The COVID-19 immunization campaign implementation continued in the 17 participating provinces until March 9th. The target population for this campaign was all adults ≥ 18 years which have not yet received the full primary series of COVID-19 vaccine doses or have not yet received a booster dose. In March, a total of 10,601 samples which were tested for COVID-19; 1,040 samples were reported positive.

WHO continues to support in the provision of trauma care, emergency care, and physical rehabilitation services across the country by providing medical/non-medical supplies to 204 critical trauma care facilities and 67 blood banks, in addition to capacity building and full operational support of a rehabilitation center in Paktya. In March 2023, about 2976 (1518 girls and 1458 boys) malnourished children with medical complications received medical care at 127 IPD-SAM centers, and 65 (44 female and 21 male) health staff trained in the management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications.

Also in March, the number of people who received trauma care services was 8,498 and 23,022 patients received post trauma rehabilitation. WHO provided 15.24 metric tons (MT) of medical and non-medical supplies in March 2023, which benefited 112,100 people in 34 provinces, through 11 health facilities and three provincial prisons across the country.

Health Cluster Coordination

In March 2023, 54 Health Cluster partners reached 1,465,753 people with humanitarian health services through 990 health facilities in 307 districts of all 34 provinces.

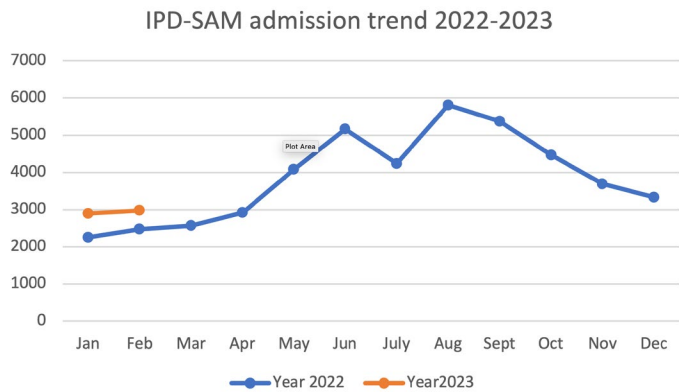
Following the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) directive, which was issued on March 4, 2023, to convert mobile health and nutrition teams (MHNTs) into fixed/static health facilities within a month, WHO, as the Health Cluster lead agency, and the Health and Nutrition Cluster conducted coordination meetings with the MoPH's Minister, Deputy Minister, and other MoPH officials. The goal was to discuss the concerns of humanitarian partners and the effects of this decision on the provision of health services, as well as to advocate for the rationalization of MHNTs.

The Health Cluster drafted "Costing Guideline for the Humanitarian Health Project" to determine the unified salary scale for healthcare workers and costing of primary healthcare services in humanitarian health projects. Necessary consultation with the partners will be considered for the finalization of the guide. The Health Cluster team conducted mapping of AWD treatment centers/units and Oral Rehydration Points (ORPs), and available resources across the country to ensure preparation is in place for timely response to the AWD outbreak in 2023.

Nutrition in Emergencies

In March 2023, about 2,901 (1,537 girls and 1,364 boys) with medical complications admitted and treated in 127 WHO-supported IPD-SAM centers (116 hospitals and 11 Comprehensive Health Centers plus), an increase of 20% compared to February 2022.

WHO is helping strengthen the national capacity to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition. A total of 65 health staff members (44 female) were trained in the management of severe acute malnutrition with medical complications, and 280 bedside chairs and 100 modules of PED/SAM kit (equipment) were donated to 50 IPD-SAM centers this month.



Beneficiaries of 127 WHO-supported IPD-SAM centers for March 2023 (Total 2,901)

2,901 Under 5

1,364 boys

1,537 girls



Girls of Mangal ha village, Chahar Dara District, Kunduz Province

Trauma and Physical Rehabilitation Care Services

WHO is supporting the provision of trauma care, emergency care, and physical rehabilitation services across the country by providing medical/non-medical supplies to 204 critical trauma care facilities and 67 blood banks, in addition to capacity building and full operational support of a rehabilitation center in Paktya. WHO-supported facilities for March 2023 served 8,498 and 23,022 patients received post trauma rehabilitation. Trauma and emergency assessment in 32 health facilities are completed; total of 50 health facilities in the country are selected.

Trauma Care Services provided at WHO-supported facilities (March 2023)	
2,652	people received physiotherapy
5,455	people received psychological counselling
2,063	people who received blood transfusion
10,837	people who received minor surgical operation
2,015	people who received major surgical operation

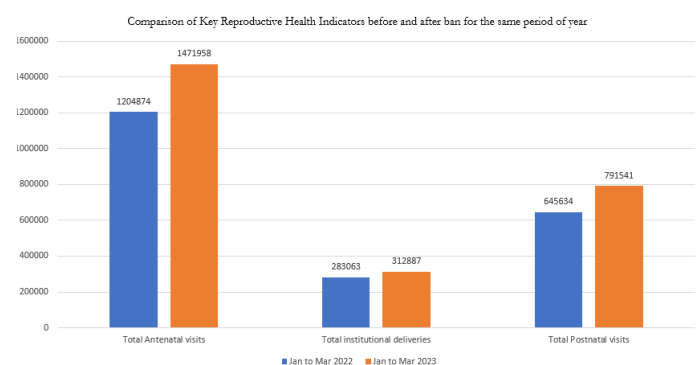
Beneficiaries of trauma care services at WHO-supported facilities for March 2023 (Total 8,498)

Over 18: 3,123 Male, 1,254 Female

Under 18: 2,538 Male, 1,254 Female

Reproductive Health

WHO continues to deliver Reproductive Health care to the women of Afghanistan. In March, a comparison of key reproductive indicators was conducted and then the data of the first quarter of 2023 was compared with the same period in 2022. Key findings indicate that the ban on women working in NGOs and girls attending education at the University level, did not affect health service delivery.



Infectious Hazard Preparedness/ Surveillance

WHO has been working closely with health authorities and partners on its national disease surveillance response (NDSR) for early detection and verification of alerts. WHO has deployed 121 surveillance support teams (SSTs) which are actively investigating outbreaks and response activities related to public health hazards in 34 provinces. Regular updates on disease outbreaks are available in the weekly situation reports in this link: [Afghanistan's infectious disease outbreak situation reports.](#)

Monthly summary of infectious disease outbreaks in Afghanistan March 2023

Outbreaks	AWD	ARI	COVID-19	Pertussis	Measles	Dengue
Monthly new cases (% change compared to Jan)	12,074 (↑24.4)	890,487 (↑7.4)	609 (↑104.9)	59 (↑68.6)	3,245 (↑19.6)	62 (↑93.8)
Monthly New deaths (CFR%)	3 (↑0.02)	270 (↑0.03)	4 (↑0.31)	NA	12 (↑0.31)	NA
Cumulative cases	273,369	5,057,584	210,567	1,163	86,869	1,392
Cumulative deaths	97	1,609 (-.-%)	7,883	15	418	2

Date	Name of Training	Type of participant	Location of Training	Province	Participants
11- 16 March	Revising and development Anastasia Curriculum	Director and Anastasia teacher	Ghazanfar institute hall, Kabul	22 Kabul, 2 Herat, 2 Nangarhar, 2 Kandahar and 2 Balkh	30
26 Feb - 02 March	Radiology Training	Radio log, X-Ray technician and Trainers	Ibn-e Sina training hall, Kabul	30 Kabul, 1 Herat, 1 Kunduz, 1 Nangarhar, 1 Balkh	34
04-16 March	Research Methodology Refresher Training	Trainers from hospitals	ANPHI hall, Kabul	All participants were from Kabul	35

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and Drug Addiction

1. Training

Date	Name of Training	Training Contents	Participants	Location	Participants
04 – 09 March, 2023	mhGAP IG training	Introduction, assessment, management and follow up of mental, neurological and substance use disorder in non-specialized health care	Doctors from Kunar province are working in PH, DHs, BHCs, MHTs and SHCs	Kabul	53
11 – 16 March, 2023	mhGAP IG training	Introduction, assessment, management and follow up of mental, neurological and substance use disorder in non-specialized health care	Doctors from Kunar province are working in PH, DHs, BHCs, MHTs and SHCs	Kabul	44
18 – 23 March, 2023	mhGAP IG training	Introduction, assessment, management and follow up of mental, neurological and substance use disorder in non-specialized health care	Doctors from Kunar province are working in PH, DHs, BHCs, MHTs and SHCs	Kabul	35

2. MHPSS (meetings, guidelines, etc.)

- In March, three training sessions with a total of 153 doctors from PHCs, DHs, and PHs who attended the 6-day training on Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP)for eastern region that included provinces of Laghman, Kunar, Nuristan and Nangarhar.
- WHO continues with the monitoring of the national mental health hospital and supporting the operations through its partner HealthNet TPO focusing on the improvement of services

Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) at Health Facilities

No	Project	Site	Location (District and province)	Activities
1	Implementation of WASH activities in 24 health facilities.	Please see Appendix-I (List of 24 HF)	24 districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of bore well: 24 new bore well and No. of water supply network with reservoir: 24 No. of toilets construction/rehabilitation with septic tanks: 24 No. of solar power system for water supply purposes: 24 No. of incinerator: 11 Water quality testing
2	Minor WASH rehabilitation in 31 TFUs	Please see Appendix-II (List of 31 HF)	9 provinces (Annex-I)	Minor rehabilitation of water supply, sanitary, electrical and other systems.

Operational Logistical Support (OLS)

WHO provided 15.24 metric tonnes (MT) of medical and non-medical supplies in March 2023, which will benefit 112,100 people in 34 provinces, through 11 health facilities and three provincial prisons across the country, including:

- 15 Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) to eight health facilities across seven provinces, including for Herat Regional Hospital, Mazar Teaching Hospital, Nangarhar Teaching Hospital, as well as three Provincial Prisons located in Herat, Farah and Nimroz, the GBV Center in Kabul, and the clinic located at the Kabul International Airport.
- 64 Reproductive Health Kits in five district, provincial and regional hospitals in the provinces of Hirat, Balkh, Kunar, Nimroz and Ghor.
- 60 WHO Trauma and Emergency Surgery Kits (TESK) to six Regional and Provincial Hospitals in six provinces (Balkh, Nangarhar, Kunar, Nimroz, and Ghor).
- 397 Cholera kits to 35 provinces, including Bamyan, Daykundi, Farah, Kunduz, Sar-e-Pul, Takhar and Uruzgan.

- 100 PED-SAM kits in four provinces, to the following health facilities: Herat Regional Hospital, Mazar Teaching Hospital, Ata Turk National Hospital, Indira Ghandi Children’s Hospital and the Want District Hospital in Nuristan.

Health Information Management

The Health Information Management Team has been working to coordinate the collection, collation and dissemination of data and information from the core interventions of the WHE. The HIM Team maintains the following datasets, and analysis: Trauma Care, Health Resources and Availability Mapping System (HeRAMS), Partner Reporting, Medical Supplies and Outbreak Response (for Surveillance). Data is currently available from 11 Implementing Partners, at 125 Health Facilities and from 7 Hospitals. Collated data is disseminated through a publicly hosted portal at <https://dashboard.whe-him.org/>, current plans are to expand dissemination tools with more tools.



WHO Health Emergencies Programme Team Lead, Dr Alaa Abouzeid, conducting a field visit at Akhondzada BHC at Chila Mazar, Kunduz province.

For more information about WHO’s work in emergencies, contact:

- Dr Alaa AbouZeid, Health Emergencies Team Lead, WHO Afghanistan, Email: abouzeida@who.int**
- Ms Joy Rivaca, Head of Communications, WHO Afghanistan, Email: caminadej@who.int**
- Mr Mohamed Kakay, External Relations & Partnerships Lead, WHO Afghanistan, Email: kakaym@who.int**
- Mr Grattan Lynch, Communications Officer, WHO Afghanistan, Email: lynchg@who.int**

WHO’s work in emergencies is supported by the following donors and partners:

