



**THANK YOU
KUWAIT**

**WHO KUWAIT NEWSLETTER
Q1/2023**

In this edition...

Despite its eventful start with several global emergencies emerging, WHO and partners remain committed to safeguarding health for all. In this edition of WHO Kuwait's newsletter, you can learn about:

Kuwait's contribution to safeguarding health in times of crises.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Joint WHO-Kuwait approaches to mitigating the negative impact of climate change on health.

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Efforts at building sustainable cities designed for humans, and respecting the environment.

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Collaborative Efforts to Safeguard Health for All in Times of Crises

On February 6, 2023, devastating earthquakes rocked parts of Türkiye and Syria, ultimately claiming thousands of lives, and causing a global emergency. In a nationwide demonstration of humanitarian support that ranged from individuals and families to civil society and the private sector, the people of Kuwait under the leadership of His Royal Highness the Amir, mobilized US\$97.7 million to support the UN's global appeal. Out of this and with thanks to the people of Kuwait, WHO and the Kuwait MoFA have entered into a **US\$15 million** partnership to **safeguard health for those affected by the earthquakes.**



WHO Director General and Kuwait Ambassador



Representatives of UN Agencies to the state of Kuwait launching a joint appeal on the earthquakes.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



These resources are a critical piece in WHO's ability to provide trauma care and rehabilitation, provide essential medicines, prevent disease outbreaks, access mental health and psychosocial support among other critical interventions. The global response to this emergency further underscores the importance of a

One UN approach to driving sustainable impact whether in humanitarian or development contexts around the world. Keeping with this mandate, the United Nations Agencies in Kuwait jointly launched the UN appeal which called on stakeholders everywhere to support earthquake victims.



WHO and Kuwait have a shared interest in a healthier world. On WHO's 75th anniversary, WHO renews its commitment for a healthier world, for all of us, by all of us.

Dr Assad Hafeez, WHO Representative to the state of Kuwait



HEALTH FOR ALL

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Preparing Kuwait's Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) 2023 – 2027



WHO meeting with Kuwait CCS Committee

The CCS is a framework that guides WHO's engagements with member states, usually defined as a 5 year strategy. In recent months, WHO has consulted with the Ministry of Health and a dynamic, multi-stakeholder, cross-industry committee to define the joint health targets for Kuwait's renewed CCS. In a milestone for WHO's joint efforts with the government of Kuwait, WHO's representative to the state of Kuwait, along with representatives from WHO

headquarters and regional office, met with the Kuwait's CCS committee to agree on the final set of priorities for the 2023-2027 strategic period. The committee, chaired by MoH Assistant Undersecretary of Public Health Affairs, approved Kuwait's CCS 2023 – 2027, ushering in a new phase of WHO cooperation with the country. The CCS was developed under the leadership the Assistant Undersecretary of Public Health Affairs at the MoH, with a set of priorities that align with Kuwait's Vision 2035 and National Development Plan, as well as the UN SDGs, WHO General Program of Work 13, WHO EMRO Vision 2023 and UN Strategic Cooperation Framework among other key strategic documents.

Assessing The Ministry of Health's Emergency Response Plan During COVID-19

In January 2023, a WHO mission led by the Director of Communicable Diseases and in collaboration with the WHO country office and MoH, conducted a joint review Kuwait's response during the COVID-19 pandemic. In January 2023, a WHO mission led by the Director of Communicable Diseases and in collaboration with the WHO country office and MoH, conducted a joint review Kuwait's response during the COVID-19 pandemic.



WHO and MOH discussing Kuwait's COVID-19 response

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Understanding the Kuwait Context and Tackling the Impact of Climate Change on Health



Stakeholder consultations

Human activity around the world has an impact on the environment and the environment has a direct impact on health.

The effect of this activity is often nuanced to the particular characteristics of a region, which means that climate change is happening in different ways and also affecting health in different ways around the world. Finding long-term actions that truly mitigate the negative impact of climate change on health requires an understanding of each country's context. WHO and the government of Kuwait are committed to understanding and mitigating negative impact of climate change on health. As part of these efforts, the WHO country office in partnership with Kuwait's Supreme Council of Planning and Development, held a consultation session with stakeholders from across sectors in Kuwait to identify research priorities on the correlation between climate change and health. The consultations which included the public sector, private sector, academia, and civil society, provided a platform to understand the priorities of a range of stakeholders and decision-makers. Ultimately, the consultation, along with other such initiatives, are aimed at bridging the gap between scientific evidence and policymaking.



In addition to research, WHO's work also includes efforts to promote healthier populations.



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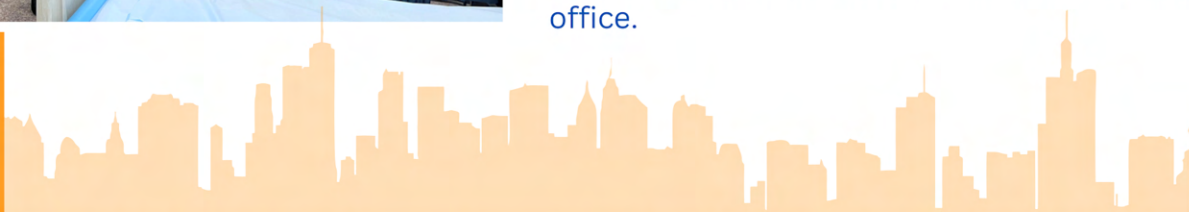
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Promoting Healthier Populations

Advancing Healthy Cities in Kuwait



Cities in all their forms are impacted by climate change and more than ever, the world recognizes the need to build cities that reduce negative impact on the environment. In line with the government of Kuwait's ambitions to build a sustainable living environment for the population, WHO recently conducted a mission to evaluate healthy cities in Kuwait. This mission was led by WHO's Regional Officer for Community-Based Initiatives & Healthy Cities in collaboration with the WHO Kuwait country office.



Combating the Prevalence of Non-Communicable Diseases

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) claim millions of lives yearly around the world, and are the result of a combination of genetic, physiological, environmental, and behavioral factors. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes NCDs as a major challenge for sustainable development. As part of the Agenda, heads of state and government committed to develop ambitious



national responses, by 2030, to reduce by one third premature mortality from NCDs through prevention and treatment (SDG target 3.4). In line with this global and national priority, WHO Kuwait joined the Gulf Federation for Cancer Control in a weeklong campaign which included advocacy for preventive measures such as early cancer screening. This advocacy is essential to ensure that the community understands what resources and support are available, but also to ensure that policy makers continue to understand the changing realities within the community.



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Supporting Vulnerable Communities

Advocating for the Disabled



Working with communities and advocating for health at the community level is integral to WHO's work. WHO Kuwait participated at the Annual Health Check-up for intellectually disabled athletes organized by Al Tomooh Sports Club. This was an important moment to work with stakeholders from across society, to raise awareness on WHO's policies and guidelines that help countries to better integrate vulnerable individuals.

Strengthening the Ecosystem for Healthy Ageing



WHO believes that every person – in every country in the world – should have the opportunity to live a long and healthy life. Unfortunately, this is not always the case, especially if the environmental conditions are not in place, from policy to infrastructure. Healthy Ageing is an important part of WHO's work and so in collaboration with the Geriatric Department at the Ministry of Health, WHO held a training of trainers workshop for a cohort of 27 national trainers across the spectrum of health care services. The training of trainers which was delivered by WHO Kuwait, with regional and global WHO experts, was aimed at strengthening the comprehensive services for elderly health in Kuwait through the WHO Integrated Care for Older Persons framework (ICOPE).



Health in Perspective

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Encouraging Physical Activity Amongst UN Staff

As the health champions in the UN system, WHO Kuwait organized a physical activity event aimed at promoting an active lifestyle among all UN staff in Kuwait. The event saw participation of staff members from various UN agencies and provided an excellent opportunity for UN staff to connect with colleagues and improve their physical health and well-being.



In 2023, WHO Celebrates 75 Years of Promoting Health and Wellbeing for All

“The WHO 75th Anniversary belongs to all of you, not just WHO Member States and staff, but to all people everywhere. Together, let's tell the story of health, and together let's increase momentum towards health-for-all.”
Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, WHO Director General

In 1948, countries of the world came together and founded WHO to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable – so everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health and well-being. 75 years later, the world can reflect positively on the collective efforts that have improved quality of life and safeguarded health. Once again, the world has the opportunity to come together with science, solutions and solidarity to tackle the health challenges of today—and tomorrow.



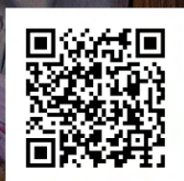
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