

## Emergency Humanitarian Action

### KEY UPDATES:

- ◆ The influx of refugees from Pakistan's North Waziristan Agency has become static with a total of 12,340 families displaced in Khost and Paktika provinces
- ◆ Health service provision for refugees in Khost and Paktika, including vaccinating children against polio and measles, has successfully continued
- ◆ There is a significant increase in the number of consultations at health facilities and a measles outbreak in Gulan refugee camp with 18 mild cases without complications or deaths
- ◆ 123 people have died and 872 wounded civilians have been admitted to nearby health facilities as a result of heavy fighting in central and northern Helmand province between Afghan forces and opposition forces
- ◆ Nine health facilities are located in active fighting areas in Helmand and four facilities remain completely blocked
- ◆ Four midwives from Sangin, Kajaki and Nawzad districts have resigned as a result of the conflict

### PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- ◆ Measles vaccination campaign completed in five flood-affected provinces: 321,750 boys and girls under 10 vaccinated
- ◆ With WHO's support, Emergency NGO trained 17 surgeons from 13 provinces on mass casualty management and trauma care in Kabul 6-17 July
- ◆ Health cluster performance M&E workshop conducted on 20 July by the Geneva Global Health Cluster Secretariat: The results of the cluster performance assessment questionnaire focusing on how well the cluster is achieving its core functions were analyzed and discussed with partners and a set of recommendations was reached
- ◆ WHO provided Helmand hospitals with two emergency trauma kits and 10 basic health kits
- ◆ WHO and partners vaccinated 32,260 children under 10 against polio in Khost
- ◆ 8,936 children have been vaccinated against polio and 5,739 against measles in Paktika
- ◆ WHO has pre-positioned enough life-saving medications for 25,000 patients in Khost and Paktika
- ◆ The construction of a triage room has been completed in Farah provincial hospital
- ◆ Initiatives for establishing new mobile clinics to meet the increasing demand for medical services and psychosocial counseling in Khost and Paktika are in progress
- ◆ The Disease Early Warning System (DEWS) has been initiated: enhanced surveillance activities in the provinces, a measles outbreak detected in Khost – MSF has initiated a measles vaccination campaign in the camp
- ◆ 809 patients have been treated by IMC-operated health facilities in Paktika and 1,444 patients treated by HNI-TPO facilities in Khost



Health service delivery in Paktika

### Measles vaccination campaign in flood-affected provinces:

- ◆ 321,750 children under 10 vaccinated
- ◆ 5 provinces, 13 districts covered



Measles vaccination campaign in flood-affected districts reached hundreds of thousands of children

## MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS:

- ◆ The measles outbreak in Gulan Camp in Khost is an alarming signal emphasizing the need to implement more intensive health care initiatives in high-risk districts
- ◆ There is a rise in diarrhoea cases in Gulan camp in Khost and access to high-quality water is a concern
- ◆ The overall low incidence of diarrheal disease is a good indicator of successful basic water and sanitation services in high-risk locations. However, the possible outbreak of waterborne diseases among refugees and host community is a major challenge
- ◆ The increased number of casualties in the past two months indicates a need for more preparation and readiness for mass casualty management among high-risk provinces

## KEY MESSAGES:

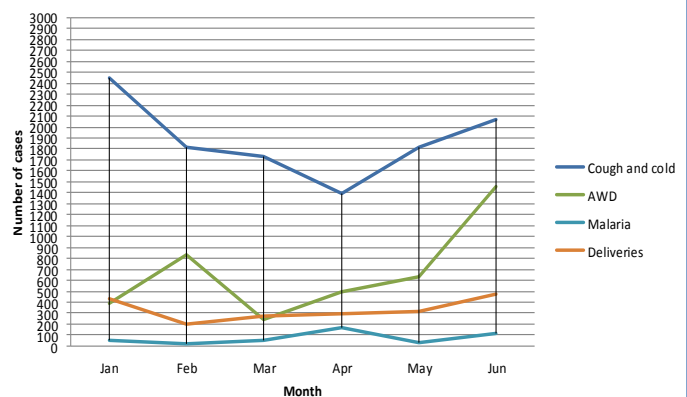
- ◆ Maternal and child health services are a key priority in order to avoid unnecessary loss of life of newborns and pregnant women
- ◆ Mental health issues must be addressed as part of a comprehensive emergency response
- ◆ Continuing enhanced surveillance is key for detecting and controlling outbreaks on time
- ◆ A coordinated cluster approach is essential for successful emergency response

**41,196 children under 10 from North Waziristan vaccinated against polio in Khost and Paktika**



Polio vaccinators stop cars arriving from Pakistan to vaccinate children

**Disease trend in Matun district of Khost province over the last 6 months**



Polio vaccination teams at Gulan camp in Khost

**Biweekly Programme Update**  
**Emergency Humanitarian Action WHO Afghanistan**

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