



WHO  
Foundation

# Impact Update

June 2026





# Introduction

Across the world, as global health threats evolve, the World Health Organization responds.

WHO is at the center of a large-scale emergency response to the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda. There is no authorized treatment and no vaccine for the Bundibugyo strain of the virus. This means containing its spread is through a speedy emergency response and public health measures such as tracking and tracing the contacts of infected patients and isolating those already being treated.

After declaring the outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, WHO released nearly US\$ 4 million in emergency funding. It has dispatched more than 17 tons of medical supplies from its warehouses, delivering personal protective equipment (PPE), Ebola supplies, medicines, body bags, tents, and other critical materials. Expert staff and field laboratories are in the region — engaging with local healthcare staff, training medics how to best protect themselves and their patients — and testing suspected cases as rapidly as possible.

WHO is at the center of the response to this and similarly urgent health emergencies. It guides international infectious disease coordination and helps to maintain essential health services, from vaccination and outbreak response to trauma care and treatment for chronic conditions.

In addition to meeting urgent needs, WHO prevents further suffering by strengthening disease surveillance and early warning systems, including community-based surveillance to detect outbreaks early and protect displaced populations.

The focus remains clear: act early, reach those most at risk, and prevent local crises from becoming wider health emergencies.

With your support, this work continues every day, delivering care, protection, and hope to people in the most difficult circumstances.

Protecting the health of people in humanitarian emergencies demands commitment, resilience and resources and it is also one of the most valuable gifts we can give.



Pakistan's First National Polio  
Vaccination Campaign of 2026,  
2-8 February 2026.

# Vaccinations

Vaccination is one of the most effective ways we can protect people during health emergencies. In fragile and conflict-affected settings, routine immunization programs are disrupted, leaving children and communities exposed to diseases that can spread quickly and cause severe illness or death. Vaccines not only prevent outbreaks of infectious disease, they protect children's development, helping them attend school, and grow up without the long-term consequences of a disease that could easily be prevented.

In Yemen, WHO-supported health workers continue door-to-door vaccination campaigns to protect children from polio despite ongoing conflict and limited access to care. In 2025 alone, 29 confirmed polio cases were reported across 10 governorates, highlighting the urgency of reaching children in hard-to-access areas to prevent the spread of a disease that can cause lifelong paralysis.

In Pakistan, a nationwide measles and rubella campaign supported by WHO protected millions of children, while also integrating polio vaccination to strengthen immunity in vulnerable communities. By combining efforts, health workers were able to reach more children more quickly, protecting them against multiple diseases and reducing the risk of future outbreaks.

Largest catch-up initiative delivers over 100 million childhood vaccinations



Catch-up vaccination campaign,  
South Gaza - 09 April 2026.

## Key statistics / WHO work



WHO supported health emergency responses in  
**79**  
countries in 2025, including large-scale immunization campaigns.



More than  
**1 million**  
people vaccinated against mpox across 11 countries in Africa, contributing to bringing the outbreak under control.



More than  
**38 million**  
people were protected through vaccination efforts, including yellow fever campaigns across multiple countries.



In South Sudan, over  
**910,000**  
doses of oral cholera vaccine delivered, reaching more than 90% of people in targeted high-risk areas.



Over  
**32 million**  
people reached through emergency vaccination campaigns, including cholera, Ebola, and mpox responses.



WHO supported the restoration of **routine childhood vaccinations** disrupted by conflict, protecting children against measles, polio, and other diseases.



More than  
**6,000**  
children under 3 years old in Gaza were reached during a WHO-supported five-day catch-up vaccination campaign targeting children under three years old.



In crisis settings such as Gaza, at least  
**600,000**  
children are protected from polio through multiple vaccination campaigns.

“

**Parents couldn't protect their children from airstrikes or hunger. But they believed they could protect them from polio, and they did.**

”

**Dr Refqa Skaik**

WHO Surveillance Officer, WHO, occupied Palestinian territories

In crisis settings, vaccination is closely linked to broader outbreak control. In countries such as Sudan and South Sudan, disruptions to routine immunization have contributed to the spread of diseases including measles, cholera, and polio. WHO has supported the restoration of vaccination services and delivered over **910,000** doses of oral cholera vaccine in high-risk areas, helping protect communities where outbreaks can spread rapidly.

WHO is also supporting vaccination as part of the global response to emerging threats. During

the mpox outbreak, WHO coordinated vaccine rollout across multiple countries, supporting the delivery of more than **one million** vaccine doses in Africa and helping bring the emergency under control in many settings.

The need remains urgent. As conflict and displacement continue to disrupt health services, millions of children are at risk of missing routine vaccinations. Sustained support is essential to rebuild immunization systems, respond quickly to outbreaks, and ensure that life-saving vaccines reach the people who need them most.

“

**Vaccines are a miracle of science and medicine – and they have protected generations of families and communities across our Region. But we cannot take this protection for granted.**

”

**Dr Saia Ma'u Piukala**

WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific

Oral cholera vaccination,  
Bangwe, Blantyre District,  
Malawi, 2 March 2026.

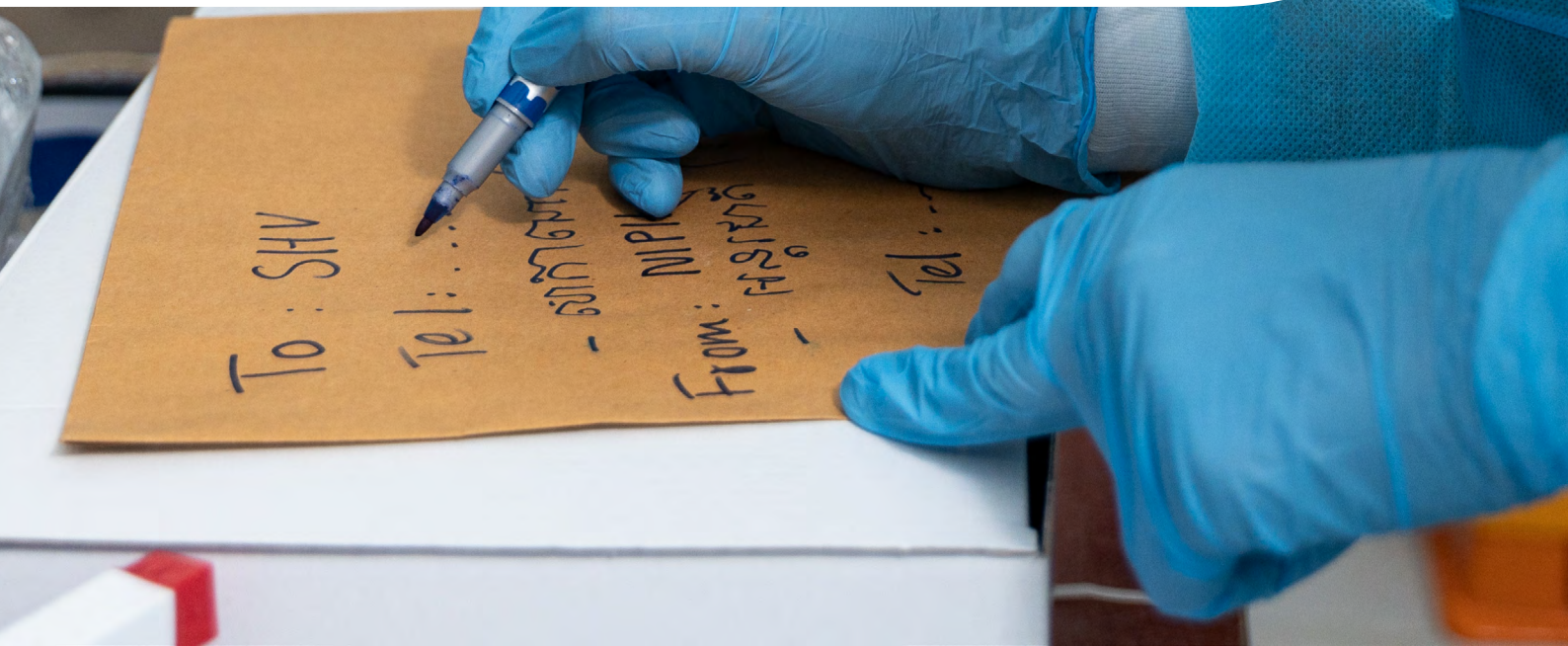
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# Disease Detection

Surveillance is how WHO and its partners stay one step ahead of disease. It allows health workers to detect outbreaks early, track how diseases spread, and understand how they are changing, so the right treatments and vaccines can be deployed in time. In emergencies, this becomes both more difficult and more urgent. Displacement, damaged infrastructure, and overcrowded shelters increase the risk of outbreaks, while making it harder to monitor and respond.



In the Americas, health workers responding to rising measles outbreaks are actively tracing cases, reviewing vaccination records, and identifying where the virus is spreading through unvaccinated communities. In 2025 alone, nearly **15,000** confirmed measles cases were detected across **13** countries, showing how early detection on the ground can prevent further spread.

WHO's global surveillance systems operate at scale, connecting data from countries, laboratories, and frontline health workers to identify risks before they escalate. These systems help guide everything from outbreak response to vaccine strategy, ensuring that action is taken quickly and based on evidence.

## Key statistics / WHO work



More than  
**1 million**  
disease signals monitored globally in 2025.



**56,356**  
confirmed mpox cases reported across 100 countries between January 2025 and February 2026.



**450**  
potential health threats contained before wider spread.



Since April 2025, WHO has supported  
**179**  
laboratories in 136 countries, improving mpox testing, genomic sequencing, and outbreak response capabilities.



**100**  
new public health events detected across 34 countries in the African Region.



**71%**  
of outbreaks detected within 7 days.

In conflict settings, this work is even more critical. In the Middle East, WHO is strengthening early warning systems and community-based surveillance in shelters, helping detect outbreaks in environments where disease can spread rapidly. Globally, surveillance of diseases such as mpox continues to track transmission across

borders and populations, ensuring coordinated international response.

With your support, WHO is helping ensure outbreaks are detected early, responses are faster, and diseases are contained before they can spread further.

# Trauma Care



In emergencies, trauma care can mean the difference between life and death. Conflict and disasters can overwhelm hospitals within hours, leaving injured patients without access to surgery, emergency care, or basic treatment. Without access to health services, treatable injuries can become fatal.



WHO and ECHO have deployed surgical teams to Marib General Hospital authority in Marib to strengthen emergency care and save lives.

A doctor carefully removes the cast from a patient's arm, checking the injury and ensuring the healing process is on the right track.

Across crisis settings, the scale of trauma is immense. In the Middle East conflict, millions of people have been displaced and tens of thousands injured, placing enormous pressure on already fragile health systems. Healthcare has come under attack and health workers are drawing on all their resilience to deliver services to patients. In the face of ongoing conflict, WHO has mobilized sufficient medical supplies

for around 50,000 patients in Lebanon and more than 100,000 people in Gaza. Needs are ongoing. An estimated 43 000 of the 172 000 people injured in Gaza since October 2023 have sustained life-changing injuries.

WHO supports frontline hospitals, emergency teams, and supply chains to ensure care reaches those who need it most.

## Key statistics / WHO work



**US\$ 44 million**

in emergency supplies dispatched to 77 countries.



**Thousands** of patients evacuated from conflict zones for specialized care in 2025



Trauma and surgical supplies delivered sufficient for

**10,000**

procedures.



Emergency Medical Teams facilitated over

**3.5 million**

medical consultations in crisis settings, including the Gaza Strip and Sudan.



Medical convoys delivering supplies to treat up to

**110,000**

patients in Gaza.





WHO coordinates a network of volunteer Emergency Medical Teams, hospital networks, and logistics systems to deliver trauma care quickly. This includes supporting mass casualty management, ensuring safe childbirth in emergencies, and securing medical evacuations when specialized care is not available locally.

This support is often the difference between survival and loss. It means access to surgery

after injury, safe delivery for mothers, and a second chance for critically ill patients through evacuation and specialized treatment.

The need remains urgent. As conflicts continue and disasters increase, sustained support is essential to strengthen trauma care systems, protect health facilities, and ensure life-saving care reaches those who need it most.





Community Health Promoters

# Mental Health

“

**From that night on, I became restless. The fear kept coming back. I felt like I was losing my mind. I always wanted someone beside me. I was scared I might die suddenly. Watching the news made it worse. I'd imagine our house being swept away.**

”

**Flood Survivor**, Nepal, speaking to WHO

Health emergencies leave lasting psychological impacts on individuals, families, and entire communities. Conflict, displacement, and loss can lead to anxiety, depression, and long-term trauma, especially when people are cut off from support systems.

In Poland, WHO-supported programmes are helping Ukrainian refugees access mental health and psychosocial support after being displaced by war. Families dealing with trauma and loss are receiving care that helps them stabilize, cope, and begin rebuilding their lives in unfamiliar and often difficult conditions.

Across emergencies, the need for mental health support continues to grow. WHO integrates mental health into frontline response, ensuring that care is available alongside physical health services.

## Key statistics / WHO work



Mental health support provided in  
**40**  
health emergencies in 2025.



More than  
**1,000**  
health workers trained in mental health and psychosocial support.



At least  
**1.1 million**  
people reached with mental health services in Gaza.



Mental health services integrated into primary care and emergency response systems.

WHO's approach focuses on practical, accessible care. This includes training frontline workers in psychological first aid, establishing services in primary health care settings, and providing community-based and remote support where access is limited.

For many people, this support helps them process trauma, reconnect with others, and begin to rebuild a sense of normal life. It also supports health workers themselves, who often face extreme stress while responding to crises. With your support, WHO is helping people not only survive emergencies, but begin to heal.



# Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)

In emergencies, people living with chronic conditions face immediate and life-threatening risks. Diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension require continuous treatment. When health systems are disrupted, access to medicines and care can disappear overnight.

In conflict-affected areas, patients with chronic conditions are often cut off from life-saving treatment when supply chains break down or facilities close. Without access to medicines such as insulin or hypertension drugs, manageable conditions quickly become life-threatening.

The scale of disruption is significant. Across multiple crisis settings, shortages of essential medicines and supplies are being reported, while damaged infrastructure and displacement make it difficult for patients to continue treatment.

U Kyi, a 65-year-old man displaced by the Myanmar earthquake, has been living in a temporary shelter for months, managing chronic pain and high blood pressure while coping with

fear, uncertainty, and sleepless nights. At a WHO-supported clinic, he receives both medical care and psychosocial support, helping him regain stability after losing his home and access to regular care.

“  
They gave me painkillers and medicine for my blood pressure. It helps me get through the day.  
”

U Kyi

## Key statistics / WHO work



**Essential medicines**, including insulin and cardiovascular treatments, in short supply in multiple crisis settings.



More than **half of essential medicines** unavailable in some settings such as Gaza.



WHO assessing continuity of NCD services including **dialysis** and **chronic disease care** in conflict-affected regions.



**Thousands of patients supported** through medical evacuations to access specialized care



Mobile health unit supported by WHO in areas affected by the 2025 floods in Punjab, Pakistan, 22 February 2026  
Mobile units deployed by WHO with support from CERF deliver essential health services to communities hardest hit by the 2025 floods in Punjab.  
© WHO

For many people, this is about everyday survival. Many of us rely on pharmacies and routine care to manage chronic conditions. In emergencies, these services can disappear, leaving patients without the treatment they depend on.

WHO works to restore access by strengthening supply chains, supporting primary health care systems, and integrating NCD care into

emergency response. This includes delivering medicines, supporting health facilities, and coordinating referrals and evacuations where needed.

The need remains urgent. Without sustained support, millions of people living with chronic conditions risk being left behind in emergencies.

# Thank You

Thank you for supporting the WHO Foundation and for standing with people facing crises around the world. Your generosity helps the World Health Organization save lives, vaccinate children, contain deadly outbreaks, and sustain health systems under extraordinary pressure. Your contributions help WHO respond to conflict, disease outbreaks, and climate-driven disasters across multiple regions. and give hope to families living through some of the hardest moments of their lives.

Your support remains essential.

Please consider sharing this Impact Update with your network. Together, we can help WHO reach further and respond faster wherever health is at risk.



## About WHO

The World Health Organization is more than a name. It is thousands of public health professionals working across more than 150 country offices, six regional offices, and headquarters in Geneva. WHO teams include doctors, scientists, epidemiologists, logisticians, midwives, and emergency responders.

With a presence in nearly every country, WHO works with governments and public health institutions to:

- Track and respond to disease outbreaks and public health emergencies
- Forecast influenza strains to guide vaccine production
- Coordinate global responses to HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and other major diseases
- Protect women and children through vaccination, maternal care, and reproductive health services
- Improve survival from heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and other noncommunicable diseases through evidence-based guidance
- Lead the international health response in humanitarian emergencies

## About the WHO Foundation

Founded in 2020, the WHO Foundation brings together donors, businesses, and individuals from around the world to help the World Health Organization respond faster and reach further.

Working to support WHO, the Foundation helps to:

- Save lives in emergencies by delivering supplies, trauma care, and rapid health response
- Fight major diseases including cancer, diabetes, heart and lung disease, HIV, hepatitis C, and tuberculosis
- Protect communities through vaccines and outbreak surveillance for diseases such as measles, polio, and cholera
- Support mental and brain health through expanded access to care, suicide prevention, and wellbeing initiatives
- Promote health every day, from nutrition and food safety to maternal and women's health
- Confront climate-related health threats linked to extreme weather and environmental change
- Harness innovation, including digital tools and data systems, to strengthen health care worldwide

This work is powered by collaborations with a wide range of organizations: from global corporations and foundations to innovative start-ups, non-profit organizations and philanthropists. Together, we are helping build a healthier, more resilient future for all.

For more information, visit the WHO Foundation donations page or contact:

[donations@who.foundation](mailto:donations@who.foundation)