

Impact Update

September 2025

Your support helps change lives,
thank you for making it possible.



Letter from the CEO



Warmest greetings from the WHO Foundation, Thank you again for your steadfast support. At a time when global crises can feel overwhelming, I am grateful to share how the World Health Organization is making a real difference every day.

WHO's emergency teams remain on the ground in the toughest places, often at great personal risk. In the recent deadly earthquake in Afghanistan, WHO staff pulled together an emergency team within hours and airlifted 23 metric tonnes of medicine to the disaster zone within a day. In Gaza, even after an attack on a WHO warehouse and guesthouse, staff kept working, delivering medicines, trauma supplies, and surgical equipment. In Sudan, the world's largest displacement crisis, WHO continues to deliver care to hospitals and communities cut off from routine services. Beyond emergencies, WHO works with governments and manufacturers to make lifesaving medicines affordable.

My own journey in the global health world began 20 years ago with lowering the cost of HIV treatment. Today, we celebrate progress like WHO's approval of lenacapavir, a breakthrough medicine to prevent HIV infection, taken only twice a year. With nine countries, WHO is helping two million people access it at lower cost.

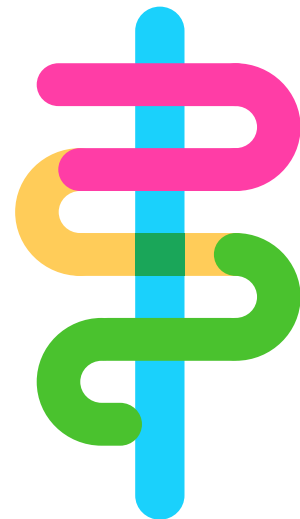
“
This impact is only possible because of you. Your generosity, advocacy, and belief in the work of WHO help bring health within reach for more people worldwide.

”

Yours with gratitude.

Anil Soni
Chief Executive Officer
WHO Foundation

WHO and You, Champion of Health for All



Access to healthcare is everyone's right, yet millions are still denied it.

The World Health Organization (WHO) stands with all of us, whether you live in a city with world-class hospitals or in a rural village where healthcare is hours away. Working in over 150 countries, the WHO supports health systems, responds to emergencies, and improves access to essential care. Guided by science, solidarity, and compassion, WHO is there for people facing health crises and those struggling to access basic services.

These past months, WHO teams all over the world have:



Helped mothers deliver safely, even in conflict zones



Contained outbreaks and prevented disease outbreaks after natural disasters



Developed affordable and innovative emergency care solutions

Behind every number is a person whose life has been saved, a family protected, or a community made stronger. Every generous donation you gave, every appeal you shared, every message of support you sent, has helped WHO build a healthier world for us all.

“
Ultimately, health is an investment in people, stability and prosperity.
”

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
WHO Director-General

Protecting Women and Children

Health matters at every stage of life, particularly during pregnancy, infancy, and early childhood. At these moments, the right care, the best nutrition, and disease prevention efforts save lives and shape futures.

Every 7 Seconds

A mother or newborn dies needlessly. These are not accidents; they are preventable tragedies caused by broken systems. No woman should have to die giving birth in 2025. With the right care, lives can be saved. Midwives, contraception, and skilled birth support help in preventing unnecessary deaths and avoiding complications.

WHO leads the global effort to protect women and children through maternal care, vaccination, and reproductive healthcare.



A strong return on investment: Every US\$1 spent on vaccines returns

US\$54

in better health and productivity.



Vaccines protect against more than 30 deadly diseases. You can make that possible for more children. In 1975, only 20% of children were vaccinated. Today, more than

80% are protected from deadly diseases like measles, polio, and pneumonia. That's almost 6 lives saved every minute.



An urgent gap persists:

14.3 million

children have never received a single vaccine, and over 30 million, most of which in conflict zones, have missed their measles vaccinations.

In 2025, WHO has helped:

Vaccinate



63,000

women and girls in earthquake-hit Myanmar against tetanus, diphtheria, and cholera.



Deliver hygienic birth kits and life-saving health information to pregnant women in Myanmar.

Support the medical treatment of more than



17,000

severely malnourished children with medical complications in Sudan.

Supported Nepal to vaccinate more than



1.46 million

girls against cervical cancer in a single week.



Publish a compendium of maternal care that includes a comprehensive guidance to ensure women are treated with respect and care - not abuse and neglect when giving birth.

**Your gift today
helps mothers
and children
live healthier,
safer lives, and
strengthens our
shared future.**



A mother and her child after vaccination at Yalobi Nursing Station, Waya Island. The WHO Division of Pacific Technical Support works closely with Fiji's Ministry of Health and Medical Services to ensure remote communities in Fiji have access to essential health services, especially vaccination.



“

Fatima is not just a health worker. She is an angel who brought light back into my life.

”

These are the words of Maloka, a mother from a remote village in Tharparkar, Sindh, who knows firsthand the pain of loss. Maloka's first child died from neonatal tetanus, a preventable disease.

When she became pregnant again, Fatima, a female health worker, known locally as a 'Lady Health Worker,' stepped in. She made sure Maloka received the tetanus vaccinations, advised her on safe delivery practices and provided antenatal care. Maloka explained:

“She came to my home, vaccinated me, and told me, ‘This time will be different. You and your baby will be safe,’”

Fatima prepares to administer tetanus-diphtheria vaccine in a remote area of Sindh.

That simple sentence gave action to a life-saving tetanus vaccination, changing everything for the new mom. Today, Maloka is able to hug her healthy 1-year-old son, living proof that prevention works.

A nationwide effort to save mothers and newborns

Maloka's story is part of a much larger movement. With the support of WHO and Pakistan's government the fight against maternal and neonatal tetanus has transformed health outcomes across the country.

Today, 190 million people, that's 80% of Pakistan's population, live in areas where the spread of neonatal tetanus is under control.



WHO Delivers in Conflict Zones

Health emergencies demand speed, courage, and persistence. WHO leads the way on all three by acting quickly and effectively with multiple partners to save lives and improve health outcomes.

This work is increasingly dangerous.

From January to July 2025:

- 212 attacks on healthcare were recorded in Ukraine, and 5 in Russia.
- In Gaza, attacks on health facilities killed 929 people and destroyed vital medical warehouses.



Despite the danger, WHO staff continue to:



Respond to

32

graded emergencies worldwide.



Evacuate more than

7,500

patients from Gaza since October 2023.



Dispatch

US\$7.71 million

in supplies to 48 countries.



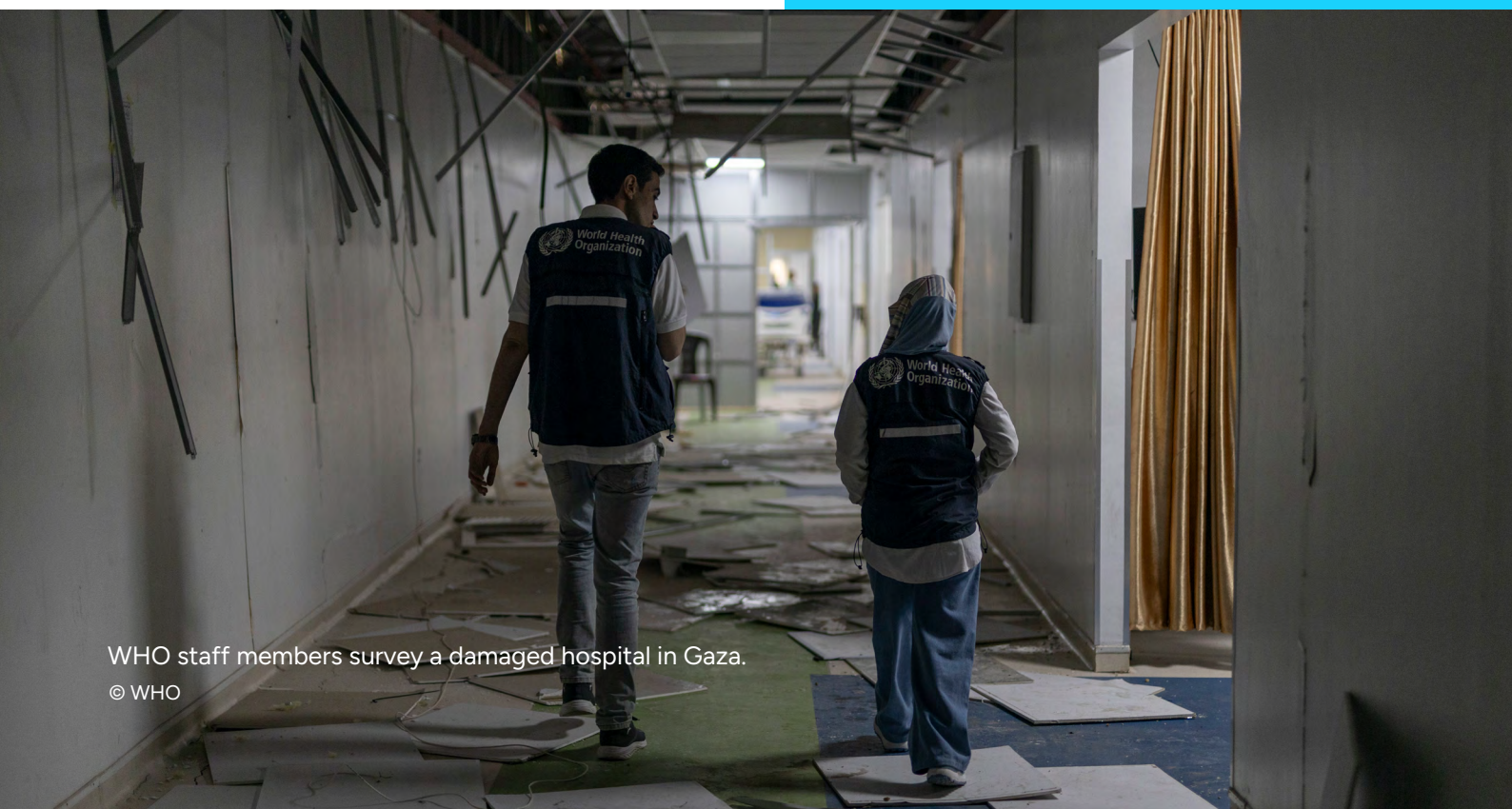
Launch OpenWHO.org, with over

6,000 hours

of emergency training accessed this year.

WHO staff members survey a damaged hospital in Gaza.

© WHO



Gaza

A Crisis Deepens

“
Parents tell us
their children
cry themselves
to sleep from
hunger,
”

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
WHO Director-General

Gaza's 2.1 million residents now face starvation on top of conflict and displacement. In July, nearly 12,000 children under five experienced acute malnutrition, the highest monthly figure ever. A reported 99 people (including 29 young children) have already died from malnutrition this year. Severe acute malnutrition centers are full, and food supplies are insufficient following blocks to humanitarian access. Since 27 May, at least 1,600 people have been killed and nearly 12,000 injured while trying to collect food from distribution sites.

Some 94% of hospitals in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed, leaving over 14,800 people in urgent need of specialised care from overstretched facilities. And 95% of households face severe water shortages, contributing to the spread of diseases.

WHO remains central to sustaining Gaza's health system and services.

WHO's 2025 response includes:



Supplying

2.8 million liters

of fuel to keep hospitals and ambulances running.



Delivering enough medical supplies for

5.3 million

treatments and surgeries



Coordinating with 87 partners for over

390,000

weekly consultations.



Delivering

6,000 units

of blood to hospitals in early August.



Transporting

100 trucks

of medical supplies since 25 June, including medicines and surgical equipment.



Continued to call for increased humanitarian aid flows, in line with international humanitarian law, and the protection of health workers, patients, and civilians.



The majority of people in Gaza are displaced due to the conflict.
© WHO

Sudan

The
Forgotten
Crisis

“

This crisis is devastating Sudan's health system. Hospitals lack supplies; health workers face threats and unpaid work for 24 months; diseases are spreading. Urgent funding [is] needed to provide essential care to millions of vulnerable people,

”

Dr. Shible Sahbani

WHO Representative to Sudan

Sudan's civil war has triggered a catastrophic health emergency. Some 30.4 million people need humanitarian assistance. Over 20.3 million urgently need healthcare.

Half of Sudan's population is expected to experience acute food insecurity this year. This includes 770,000 children under five at risk of severe acute malnutrition.

Widespread shortages of medical supplies, as well as attacks on health facilities and personnel, health services are extremely difficult to access, leading to many preventable deaths.

WHO's Response

WHO hasn't given up on the people of Sudan. It delivers essential resources and frontline services, even in the toughest areas. It continues to call for unrestricted humanitarian access, the protection of healthcare sites, and funding to support human health.

In 2025, WHO has:

Supplied over

**2,520 metric tonnes**

of medicines and medical supplies to health partners across all 18 states.

Treated

**123,600 patients**

in WHO-supported mobile clinics.

Deployed

**87**

rapid response teams to provide emergency health services and respond to disease outbreaks.

Helped to vaccinate over

**10 million children**

against polio and measles, and introduced malaria vaccines for 148,000 children.

Sent 16 mobile mental health teams to internally displaced persons sites, reaching

**12,000 people**

Treated more than

**17,000**

severely malnourished children with medical complications in WHO-supported nutrition centres.

A WHO-supported mobile clinic in a school serves patients displaced from Khartoum as well as the host community in Sudan.



WHO Fights Disease Worldwide

WHO is on constant alert, tracking outbreaks, issuing guidance, and coordinating rapid responses to keep the world safe.



A child receives oral cholera vaccine in Baqa'a shelter for internally displaced people in Gedaref, October 2024.

© WHO/Omer Tarig

Cholera

We Cannot Be Complacent

Cholera can kill fast but is preventable. In early 2025, nearly 306,000 cases and 3,522 deaths were reported in 28 countries, mostly in Africa. But the real numbers are likely to be higher. It's a particular risk for people who lack clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

WHO's cholera response is saving lives. For example, new cases of cholera in Sudan decreased from 1,500 a day in May to 30 a day by July. While cholera-related deaths in South Sudan have been reduced by 38%.

WHO's work this year included:



Supporting the vaccination of

13.8 million

people in Sudan.



Helped 15 countries run 37 vaccination campaigns, reaching

28 million people.



Cut daily cholera cases in Sudan from 1,500 in May

to 30 in July.



A child presents his mpox rash to a health worker at Kavumu Hospital in South Kivu province, Democratic Republic of Congo.

© WHO/Guerchom Ndebo

Mpox

Containing the Spread

Mpox has reached 76 countries. In the first half of 2025, over 30,000 mpox cases and 119 deaths were reported globally. Actual figures are almost certainly higher. Mpox can be detrimental for people with weak immune systems, particularly in children and people with compromised immunity like pregnant mothers, those who suffer from HIV, and other vulnerable communities. Without rapid containment, outbreaks can spread within communities and through travel.

WHO's declaration of a global health emergency unlocked resources to respond quickly and efficiently. But significant funding gaps threaten vaccine deployment, outbreak surveillance, and treatment.

In the past year, WHO has:



Worked with over

100

local and international organizations to strengthen community engagement to prevent the spread of mpox.



Delivered

3.2 million

mpox vaccine doses, providing hope for the future.



Deployed

500+ experts.



Provided

6,700

diagnostic kits to seven of the most affected countries.



Delivered guidance and training to support vaccine deployment, including ways to maximize limited supplies.

WHO Leads in Humanitarian Emergencies



Two powerful earthquakes devastated central Myanmar, disrupted health services & put thousands at risk of life-threatening injuries and disease outbreaks.

Myanmar

Two major earthquakes in March killed over 3,500 people and destroyed health facilities already weakened by conflict. Within 24 hours, WHO coordinated the delivery of 74 metric tonnes of life-saving medicines and surgical supplies. WHO also continues to lead efforts to sustain and strengthen healthcare services in earthquake-affected areas, including critical HIV services.

No major disease outbreaks have been reported in earthquake-affected areas but recent monsoon flooding has increased the risk of it happening, and spreading fast. Understandably, widespread emotional distress is also linked to the prolonged emergency. While unexploded shells and landmines continue to pose increasing risks to the community.

Since the earthquakes WHO has:



Dispatched

77 metric tonnes

of essential health supplies.



Mobilized emergency vaccination and mobile clinics, administering

120,000

tetanus and diphtheria doses, nearly

35,000

oral cholera vaccines, and measles-rubella, polio, rabies, and typhoid vaccines.



Deployed rapid response teams to detect disease outbreaks.



Worked with partners to reach

87,000

people with health services in the first seven weeks alone.



Conducted health education sessions to prevent dengue prevention, reaching over

17,000 people.



Started integrating mental health and psychosocial support into health services.

The WHO Hub for Global Health Emergencies Logistics

When disaster strikes, every hour counts. WHO's logistics hub ensures that life-saving resources reach those in need, fast. From January to May 2025, it delivered over US\$7.71 million worth of emergency supplies to 48 countries.

These pre-positioned stockpiles mean WHO can respond within hours, just as it did after the earthquakes hit Myanmar.



Sudan Virus Outbreak

A Rapid, United Response

Earlier this year, Uganda faced an outbreak of the deadly Sudan virus. With WHO's technical and financial support, including US\$2.5 million from its emergency fund, the outbreak was contained in just 42 days, with only 14 confirmed cases and 4 deaths.

WHO's efforts included:



Deploying

68

experts to affected districts.



Setting up treatment centers and isolation units.



Training community health workers to counter misinformation.

“

Uganda's swift and coordinated response, backed by WHO's technical and operational support, has been crucial in containing the Sudan virus disease outbreak. This demonstrates how strong leadership and collaboration can save lives and protect communities,

”

Dr Kasonde Mwinga

WHO Representative to Uganda

Emergency Preparedness

Strengthening the Caribbean

The Caribbean is no stranger to hurricanes, earthquakes, and disease outbreaks. This year, PAHO/WHO opened a new Emergency Operations Centre in Barbados to coordinate life-saving health responses across 13 countries.

It also launched a Joint Emergency Response Operations System linking Ecuador, Guatemala, Colombia, and El Salvador, giving real-time emergency data to decision-makers.

“

This Emergency Operations Center strengthens our collective capacity to coordinate rapid responses, monitor emerging threats in real time, and provide timely, life-saving support across the Caribbean

”

Dr Jarbas Barbosa

PAHO/WHO Director



Thank You

Thank you for donating to the WHO Foundation and for sharing our messages of solidarity. Your support helps WHO save more lives, vaccinates more children and gives hope to people in crisis. Please share this Impact Update with your network.

WHO

WHO is more than a name, it's more than 8,000 public health professionals working across 150+ country offices, six regional offices, with headquarters in Geneva. They are doctors, scientists, epidemiologists, logisticians, midwives, and emergency responders.

WHO has a footprint in nearly every country in the world. Together with public health institutes and governments, it:

- Forecasts flu strains for vaccine production.
- Tracks COVID-19 and other disease outbreaks.
- Coordinates HIV and TB responses.
- Protects women and children's health through scientific advances, health equipment, training and advocacy.
- Improves survival rates for heart disease, cancers and diabetes through evidence-based training, guidance and public health measures.
- Leads the health response in international emergencies.

Find out more: Visit the [WHO Foundation](#) donations page or email:

donations@who.foundation

About the WHO Foundation

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

We work hand-in-hand with the World Health Organization (WHO) to help them:

- **Save lives in emergencies** – delivering supplies, basic emergency care, and rapid response when crises strike.
- **Fight major diseases** – tackling cancer, diabetes, heart and lung disease, kidney conditions, HIV, Hepatitis C, and TB.
- **Protect with vaccines** – strengthening immunization systems and tracking outbreaks like measles, rubella, and polio.
- **Support mental & brain health** – expanding access to care, suicide prevention, self-care, and workplace wellbeing.
- **Promote health every day** – from good nutrition and food safety to reproductive health and women's health.
- **Confront climate threats** – preparing for health risks linked to extreme weather and environmental change.
- **Harness innovation** – using digital tools and AI to strengthen care worldwide.

Our work is powered by **partnerships** with a wide range of actors, from global corporations and foundations to innovative start-ups, advocacy groups, and philanthropists. Past and current partners include technology companies, healthcare innovators, sustainability leaders, and private sector coalitions committed to improving health outcomes worldwide.