## MYANMAR

More information is available on the [WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia](https://www.who.org) website.

The Flash Appeal is appealing for US$ 201 million for UN agencies and NGOs to meet the most urgent needs.

### Assessments and Events
- No outbreaks have been reported.
- Between 8-14 June, 1191 cases of acute respiratory infection, 863 cases of acute diarrhoea and 708 cases of trauma/injuries were reported.
- Ten cases of measles were reported last week, and 4 more this week (only 4 cases from under 5 year olds).

### Actions
- The measles vaccination campaign reached more than 8000 children up to 10 years. Teams are now moving to villages for routine immunization of children up to one year.
- WHO and Health cluster partners are working in the Post-Nargis Joint Assessment. The Village Tract part of the assessment will be completed by 20 June, and analysis of data is due to start on 21 June.
- WHO is setting up three offices in the Delta, to support field coordination, provide technical assistance to relief work and monitor health activities.
- A programme for psychosocial support has been launched. It includes a) counselling by community workers, b) mental health case referral and c) targeted programmes for women, children and teachers.
- In order to reduce unnecessary donations and wastage, the national list of essential drugs and WHO kit information were distributed to prospective donors/agencies.
- The Myanmar flash appeal will be replaced by a one year CAP appeal to support the recovery/reconstruction phase and humanitarian assistance. It is expected to launch in early July.
- WHO’s activities are funded by its regular budget and grants from the CERF, Australia, Denmark, Italy, Monaco, Norway, Romania, USAID and the United Kingdom.

## CHINA

More information is available on the [WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific](https://www.who.org) website.

### Assessments and Events
- Since 12 May, 12 611 aftershocks have been registered in Sichuan.
- The death toll from the earthquake reached 69 172 as of 17 June. A total of 374 159 people were injured and 17 420 are missing.
- By 16 June, rescuers had saved and evacuated nearly 1.42 million survivors to safe places.
- As of 13 June, Ministry of Health (MoH) had sent out 3910 workers and 644 vehicles to prevent epidemics and 1307 workers and 260 vehicles to inspect sanitation. These workers have covered all major affected areas.
- Additional MoH supplies, including disinfectants, protective equipment and vehicles have reached Sichuan.
- As of 16 June, hospitals had received 95 732 injured people, of whom 14 094 were still being treated.
- From 1-12 June, 399 100 children in six prefectures of Sichuan were vaccinated against Hepatitis A and 137 500 children were vaccinated against Japanese Encephalitis.
- The draining of the Tangjiashan Lake did not have a significant impact on the drinking water quality in Mianyang City.

### Actions
- WHO has provided a wide range of essential medicines, health supplies and equipment that helped re-establish communicable disease and outbreak control and reactivate essential service in damaged health facilities.
- WHO, in coordination with UNEP, developed guidelines for “Asbestos Hazards and Safe Practices for Clean up” that are available on the WHO website.
- The WHO Manual for Healthcare Waste Management in Emergencies will be completed this week.
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| **Assessments and Events** | - Heavy rains on 15 June flooded the district of Mardan in the North West Frontier Province. A WHO team in the field confirmed one death.  
- The Government is supplying drinking water by tankers, twice a day in the affected areas as a majority of the sources are contaminated and many water tube wells are out of order.  
- There is no report of communicable disease outbreaks.  
- Many families have moved to safer areas but, some families in the affected area are living on their rooftops. |
| **Actions** | - A WHO assessment committee visited the affected district.  
- Health and hygiene education was given to the community.  
- WHO team distributed aqua tabs among the community.  
- The district health authorities requested WHO establish a Disease Early Warning System to prevent and respond to outbreaks.  
- Contingency drug stock is required at health facility level.  
- WHO has donated one Cholera kit and Aqua Tabs. |

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| **Assessments and Events** | - Food insecurity is a major concern due to the cumulative effects of repeated shocks (drought and floods), compounded by market disruption and increased cereal prices.  
- The Government has updated the number of people in urgent need of food assistance from 2.2 million to 4.6 million. The Federal Ministry of Health estimates that there are 75,000 severely malnourished children in the affected areas  
- The Government estimates that non-food sectors (Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation and Agriculture) require US$ 38.6 million to respond to the current crisis. Current immediate health needs include supplies and basic drugs to manage acute malnutrition.  
- In the five zones of the Somali region where military operations are on going, access for delivering health care and relief remains a challenge.  
- From January to this week, a total of 483 Acute Watery Diarrhoea cases and seven deaths (CFR 1.4%) have been reported from 14 districts in Somali, Amhara, Oromia and SNNPR Regions.  
- From the beginning of the meningitis epidemic to date, 536 cases and 17 deaths has been reported country wide from 39 districts in five regions and one city Administrative council.  
- Since January, 7145 measles cases and 17 deaths (CFR 0.2%) have been reported from 38 districts in eight regions. |
| **Actions** | - WHO support the FMOH and RHBs in relief work, ensuring better coordination of health interventions and responding to outbreaks.  
- To control the meningitis epidemic, the FMOH, in collaboration with WHO, conducted vaccination exercises in Tigray, SNNPR, Oromia, Gambella, Amhara, Addis Ababa and Benzangul Gumuz vaccinating 541,132 people (vaccination coverage of 78%).  
- To strengthen its field presence, WHO recruited one nutritionist, one water sanitation officer and three national consultants from June to December 2008. WHO has been working with the UN Country Team in supporting the government of Ethiopia in defining relief requirements for the 4.6 million beneficiaries. Health and Nutrition requires US$ 25 million.  
- WHO activities are supported by Canada, the United Kingdom, the CERF and the local Humanitarian Response Fund. |
Assessments and Events

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

- Security is still volatile in several parts of northern and south eastern CAR. A field mission reported increasing banditry and limited humanitarian access to the vulnerable population.
- An entomological assessment has been conducted to enable adequate organisation of a mass immunization campaign against yellow fever.
- An investigation conducted in Ombella Mpoko and Basse Kotto prefectures has highlighted the magnitude of pollution of drinking water and its impact in the hepatitis E outbreak.
- Only two rounds out of three of a poliovirus national mass vaccination campaign were conducted in CAR due to lack of financial support. Surveillance will be needed to strengthen early detection of probable circulation of poliovirus in CAR.

**Actions**

- WHO and UNICEF provided financial and logistic support for a mass vaccination campaign conducted in Bozum (north-west CAR) from 9 to 12 June in response to the yellow fever outbreak.
- Following a joint UN humanitarian assessment, WHO will support health centres in Vakaga prefectures (north-east CAR).
- WHO and UNICEF are supporting the Government to investigate the quality of drinking water in cities affected by the hepatitis E outbreak.
- WHO visited rural health facilities (7 health centres and 1 hospital) of Vakaga and assisted them to prepare for the coming rainy season which tend to leave that prefecture inaccessible.
- In Birao, WHO supported training of health staff and donated to the local authorities, one New Emergency Health kit and seven basic kits with malaria modules that will meet the needs of 10 000 people over three months.
- WHO donated three emergency basic kits with malaria modules to MERLIN for their programme of humanitarian assistance in Nana Mambere (north-west CAR).
- Following the assessment of drinking water quality in Begoua and Alindao, which were affected by the hepatitis E outbreak, WHO will provide the WASH cluster lead with findings and recommendations in order to advocate for a sustainable humanitarian response.

**SUDAN**

- In Southern Sudan, cholera cases in Juba have increased (215 cases with 1 death, compared to 195 cases with 1 death recorded last week).
- Ikotos County is in state of alert due to an outbreak of hepatitis E immediately across the border with Uganda.
- The situation in Abyei has stabilised since both parties signed the road map.
- By 14 June, repatriation of Sudanese refugees to Southern Sudan and Blue Nile State has reached a cumulative total of 287 264.

**Actions**

- MoH, WHO and UNICEF are organizing a joint mission to assess the hepatitis E situation in Ikotos County.
- WHO, the Ministry of Health and other partners are working to ensure that the returnees (internally displaced population and refugees) and the host communities have the necessary immediate assistance.
- WHO, MoH/GoSS and partners have finished the combined Measles Maternal Neonatal (MMNT) and Polio Vitamin A campaign in Agok between 9 and 12 June. The measles vaccination reached 17 442 people (92% of targeted pop.), and the Tetanus toxoid (TT) vaccination reached 36% coverage (8004 people).
- In order to ensure the provision of appropriate emergency health services to the displaced population of Abyei, WHO Southern Sudan office worked with the WHO team in Southern Khordofan, leaving the following recommendations:
  - Medicines and other supplies, diarrheal kits etc. need to be pre-positioned before the rainy season;
  - NGOs running primary health care need to be empowered to contribute to communicable disease surveillance;
  - Households need to be provided with tools and materials to construct latrines;
  - There is a need to strengthen nutrition programs.
**OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY**

**Assessments and Events**
- Israel and Hamas have agreed to a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, scheduled to take effect at 6 am on 19 June.

**Actions**
- WHO transported 13 pallets of drugs and laboratory reagents to Gaza.
- WHO and the Palestinian Ministry of Health co-chaired the monthly central health coordination meeting. The following issues were discussed: (a) access of ambulances to East Jerusalem hospitals, (b) reporting forms for access incidents, (c) challenges to safe drinking water in the West Bank and (d) up-grading health human resources in vulnerable districts.
- WHO continues to monitor health services in hospitals and PHC facilities in Gaza Strip with a specific focus on neonatal deaths at MoH hospitals.
- WHO participated in the Technical Committee meeting for Gaza seawater pollution and facilitated the committee’s field visit to the sewage dumping points at the sea shore
- A WHO consultant for Emergency Preparedness and Response has arrived to assess the health sector’s capacities and to formulate next steps to strengthen preparedness and response capacity for dealing with health emergencies.

**GUINEA**

**Assessments and Events**
- The political and socio-economic climate, although calmer, remains unstable.
- Police officers began a strike which resulted in violence on 16 June. The police officers were subdued following battles between the armed forces and police. Customs officers and teachers are currently on strike.
- The total for the two prefectures affected by the cholera epidemic in week 24 is 221 cases including 14 deaths (CFR 6.33%).

**Actions**
- WHO gave a trauma kit to the Department of Health of the Armies.
- So far, WHO’s emergency activities are funded by its regular budget and the CERF. In order to cover the needs of supporting the sub-office and meningitis tests, US$ 80,000 has been applied from the West Africa CAP. The Organization is looking into mobilizing additional resources.

**CHAD**

**Assessments and Events**
- Starting on June 11 there were armed confrontations between the Chadian National army (ANT) and opposition forces in the East of Chad.
- Some NGOs providing medical services in the camps were evacuated and humanitarian activities were suspended in the camps during this period
- Since 18 June, the situation in Abéché is relatively calm.
- The number of cases of acute diarrhoeas and acute respiratory syndrome are stable.

**Actions**
- A joint inter-agency team, supported by WHO, is investigating the confirmed case of Polio in Bredjing in order to prepare the response
- WHO participated in the 13 June mission debriefing with the NGO medical coordinators.
- Maps of confirmed cases, epidemics and diseases with epidemic potential in the East of Chad are being updated regularly.
INTER-AGENCY ISSUES

- **Clusters.**
  - The 1st meeting of the Cluster II Evaluation Steering Group took place on 16 June 2008.
  - A follow-up meeting to the cluster-donor meeting on 7 April 2008 will be held on 24 June.
  - The next face to face meeting of the WASH Cluster will be held in Oxford on 25/26 June.
  - A Workshop on the Cluster Approach will take place in Bujumbura, Burundi, on 10 July.

- **Gender-based Violence.** An inter-agency meeting on "Setting a Research Agenda for Sexual Violence in Conflict" took place in New York on 16 June 2008.

- **Iraq.** On 17 June, UNICEF briefed the humanitarian community in Geneva on children in Iraq: “Voices of Iraq’s Children”.

- **The 5th Emergency Directors Meeting** took place on 17 June.

- **The IASC Working Group** met in Geneva on 18-20 June.

- **CAP.** The IASC Sub-Working Group on the Consolidated Appeals Process met on 19 June.

- **A briefing on the ECOSOC Humanitarian Segment** (New York, 15-17 July 2008) took place in Geneva on 19 June.

- **The CERF Advisory Committee** will meet in Geneva on 23 and 24 June.

- **The 2008 Global Humanitarian Platform** meeting will take place in Geneva on 1 and 2 July.

- **Gender.** The first meeting of the gender e-learning IASC Advisory Committee of the IASC Gender Sub-Working Group will meet on 30 June. The IASC Gender Sub-Working Group will meet next on 2 July.

- **The UNDAC Asia-Pacific Induction Course** will take place in Singapore from 13 to 25 July 2008.

- **The annual meeting of the Good Humanitarian Donorship** will take place in New York on 18 July.

Please send any comments and corrections to crises@who.int

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