

# Situation Update #115- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 20 - 26 June 2022 (EPI Week 25)

### HIGHLIGHTS

(Data published in the MoHP Situation Report as of 26 June 2022 and same data published in EDCD Report as of 27 June 2022)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 98.8% (979,533) of cases have recovered, 0.01% (192) are active cases and 1.2% (11,952) are deaths.
- Among the total active cases, 96.9% (186) of cases are in home isolation; 3.1% (6) of cases are undergoing hospital/institutional isolation of which three active cases required ICU admission or ventilator support.
- None of the districts reported more than 500 active cases.
- Among the new RT-PCR confirmed cases (171) reported this week, 45% (77) are from Kathmandu district followed by Kailali district 21.6% (37). Majority of the new cases 71.3% (122) have been reported from Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur), Bagmati Province.

### COVID-19 vaccination coverage status (as of 13 Jun 2022)

Covi-AstraZeneca		Vero Cell		Janssen		Pfizer		Moderna	
First dose	5,360,364	First dose	10,330,172	Single dose	3,450,047	First dose	558,076	First dose	3,200,983
Second dose	4,574,731	Second dose	9,185,450			Second dose	267,776	Second dose	2,771,509

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

(Data as of 26 Jun 2022)

#### NEPAL

##### Cumulative confirmed cases

RT-PCR: 979,533

Antigen RDT: 140,432

Cumulative deaths: 11,952

##### Cumulative tests

RT-PCR: 5,751,369

Antigen RDT: 1,224,768

#### SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

##### Cumulative cases (%)

58,471,132 (11%)

##### Cumulative deaths (%)

789,814 (12%)

#### GLOBAL

##### Cumulative cases (%)

541,313,815 (100%)

##### Cumulative deaths (%)

6,327,547 (100%)

### NEPAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

- Since 9 May 2021, all 7 provinces in the country are experiencing community transmission.
- Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, 78.0% (764,494/979,533) of RT-PCR confirmed cases were reported from three provinces, namely- Province 1, Bagmati Province and Lumbini Province. The Kathmandu valley area (Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur) in Bagmati Province has substantially high case load with 43.7% of national total (428,241/979,533), and 81.2% of the provincial total (428,241/527,474).
- Province-wise RT-PCR test positivity rate in Epi Week 25 ranged from 0.0% (Madhesh and Lumbini province) to 17.0% (Sudurpashchim province), with a national positivity rate at 1.7%. Karnali Province did not report any RT-PCR test performed in the last week.
- Nepal reported a 71% increase in the number of new RT-PCR confirmed cases (n=171) in Epi week 25 compared to that in the previous week. Of these total cases reported last week, 81% of the cases have been reported from Province 1, Bagmati, and Lumbini Province.
- Nepal did not report any death in Epi week 25 same as that in the previous week.

### ***National Influenza Surveillance***

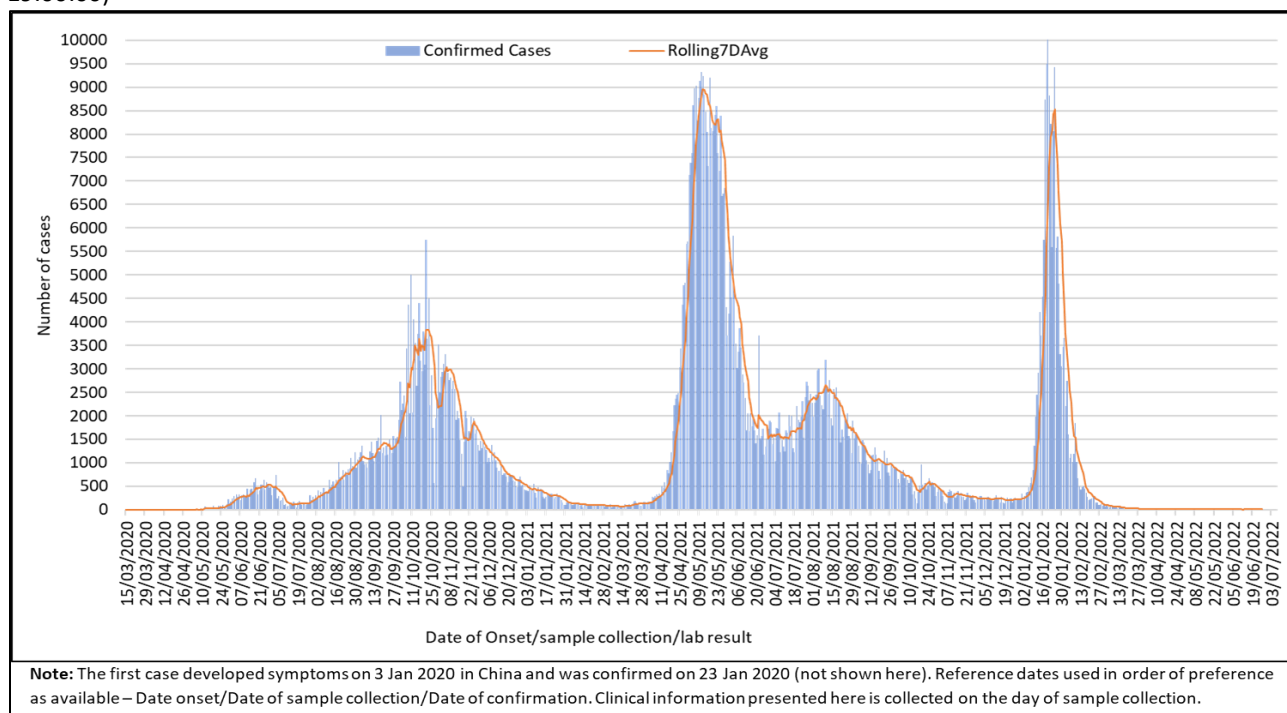
- The WHO laboratory capacity pillar provided technical support to NPHL and visited Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHL)- Karnali Province for the “Implementation meeting of Integrated Influenza SARS CoV-2 Sentinel Surveillance in Nepal” on 23-24 June 2022. The Health Secretary at Ministry of Health, Population and Family Welfare chaired the meeting which was attended by representatives from Provincial Health Directorate, PPHL-Karnali Province and Karnali Provincial Hospital.
- National Influenza Center (NIC)-NPHL reported 7 diagnostic influenza sample on Epi-week 25 (20-26 June 2022). All samples tested negative for both Influenza and SARS-CoV-2. Out of the total SARS-CoV-2 samples that tested negative at NPHL on Epi-25 (20-26 June 2022), 67 SARS-CoV-2 negative samples were tested for Influenza. None of the samples tested positive for Influenza A and B.
- PPHL from Province 1, Madhesh Province, Gandaki Province, Lumbini Province and Karnali Province reported testing of 27 samples for Influenza-SARS-CoV-2 using Multiplex kit on Epi-25. All samples tested negative for both Influenza and SARS-CoV-2. A total of 126 samples have been tested by PPHLs as of 26 June 2022.
- Walter Reed AFRIMS Research Unit Nepal (WARUN) reported testing of 71 Influenza samples on Epi week 23, 24 and 25. 4 samples tested positive for Influenza A(H1N1pdm09) and 2 samples for Influenza A/H3.
- From 3 January 2022 until 26 June 2022:
  - A total of 14 samples tested positive for Influenza (2 Influenza B Positive and 5 Influenza A/H3, 7 Influenza A(H1N1pdm09) from 2,880 samples (Sentinel and non-sentinel samples including SARS-CoV-2 Negative SARI and ILI cases).
  - Similarly, 207 samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 812 Influenza negative samples (sentinel/non-sentinel ILI/SARI samples).<sup>1</sup>

**WHO SEAR countries: Number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and cumulative incidence rate (per 100,000). Link Here- <https://worldhealthorg.shinyapps.io/covid/>**

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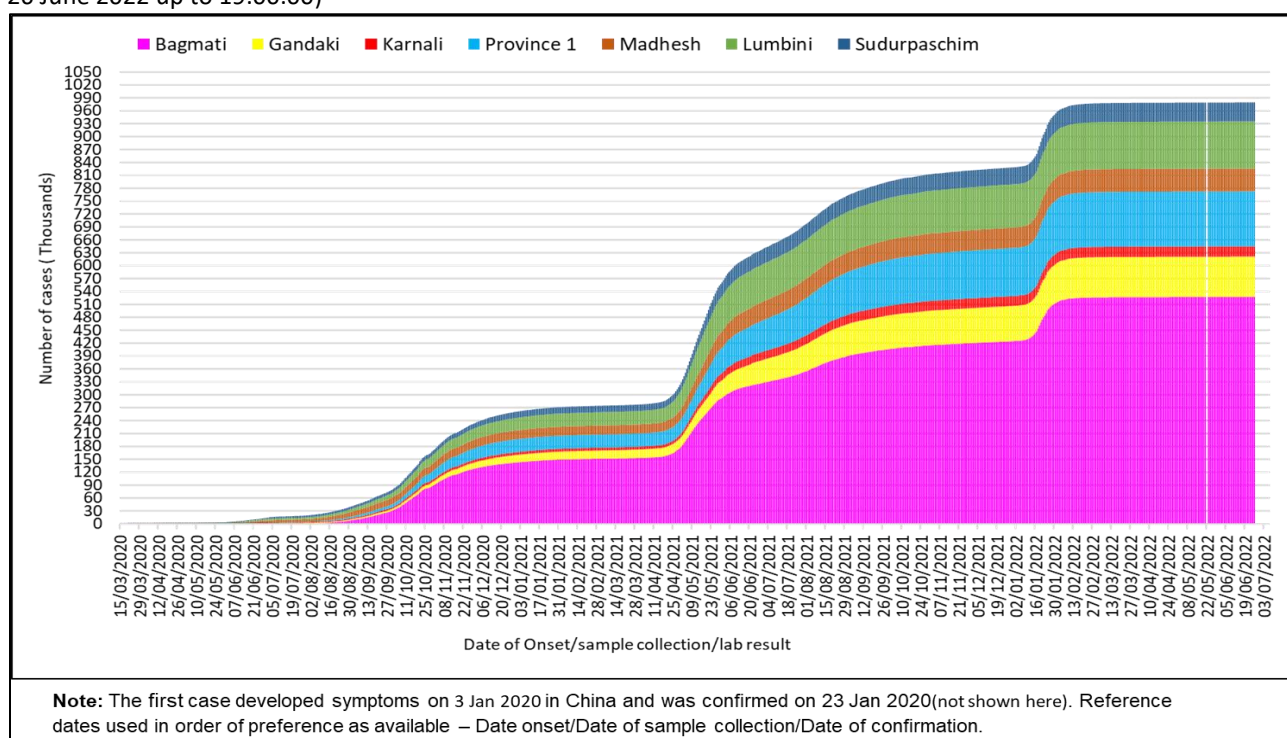
<sup>1</sup> These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database

**Figure 1: RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases and average number of COVID-19 cases over the last seven days, by date of onset/sample/confirmation (N= 979533)** (Data reported on 26 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)



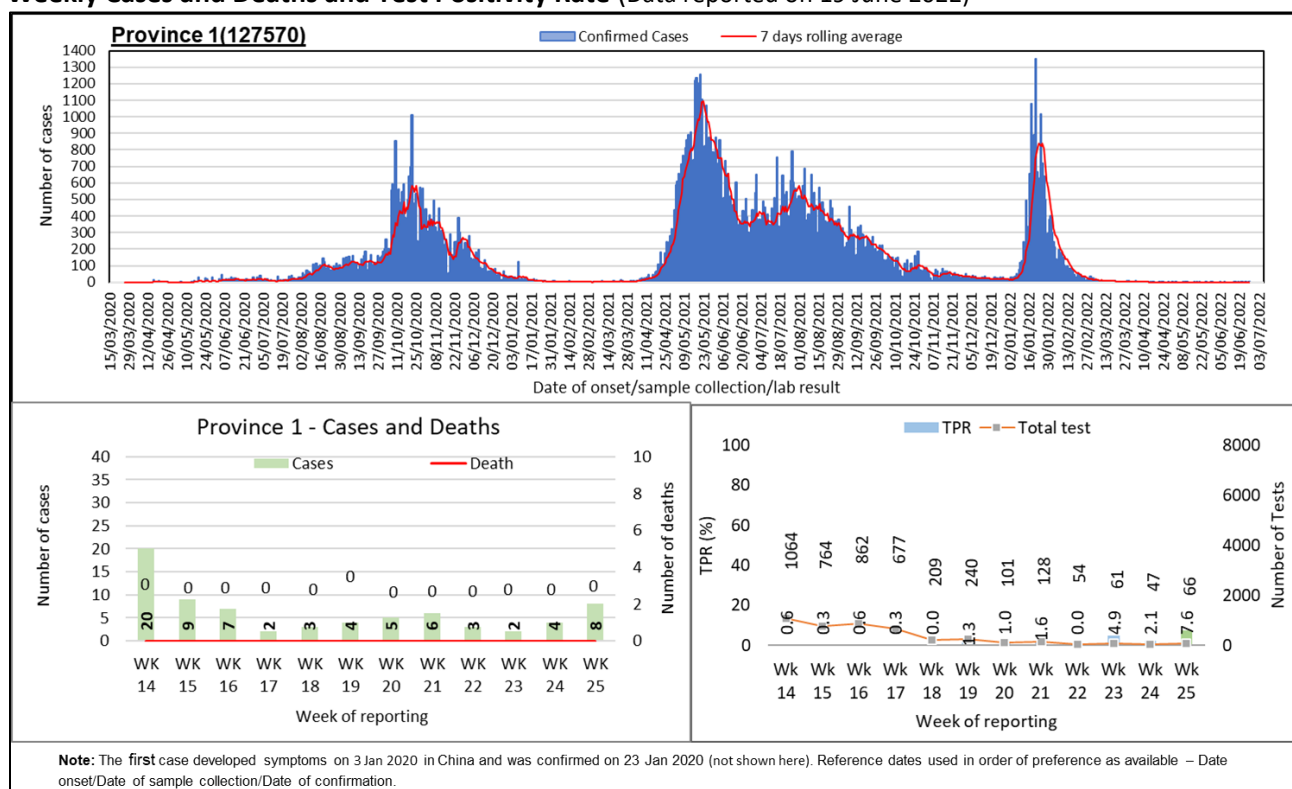
At national level, the first wave of cases between July 2020 and February 2021 was followed by the second wave from the middle of March 2021. Since the middle of December 2021, a third wave of cases soared up exceeding the highest number of single day cases reported in the past surges towards the end of January 2022, however the trend has been continuously decreasing since then.

**Figure 2: Cumulative case count of RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 979533)** (Data reported on 26 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)



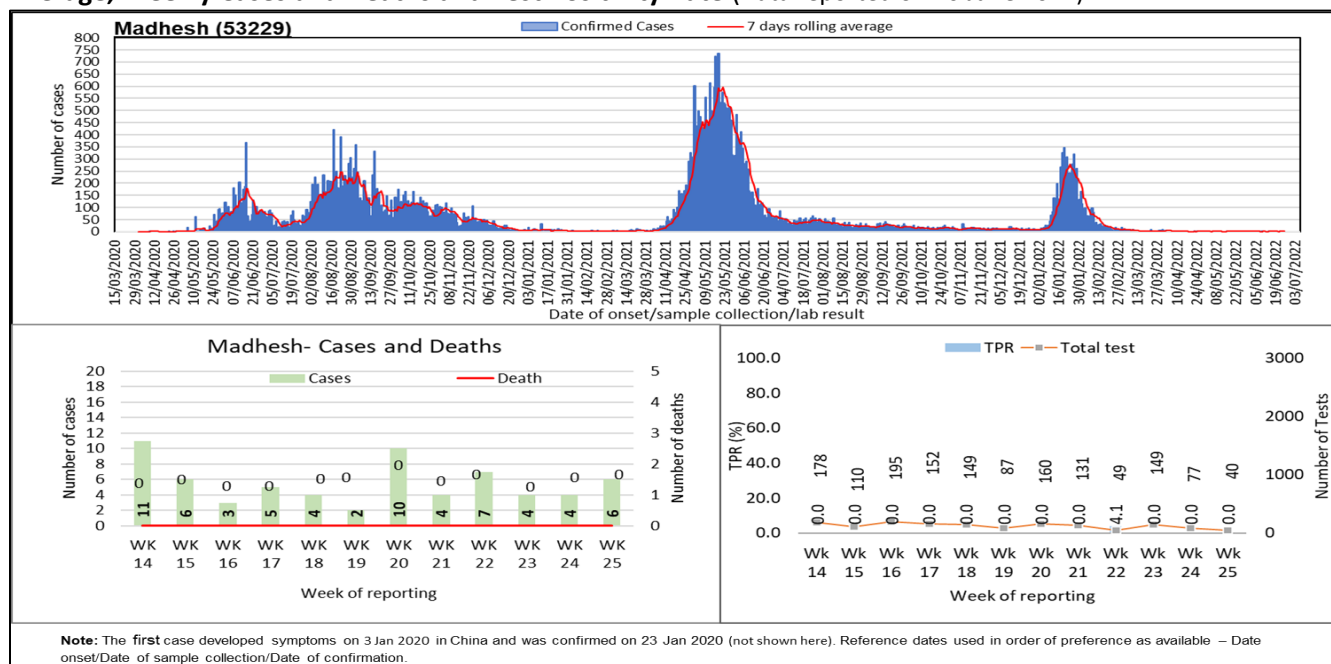
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed on 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province.

**Figure 3A1: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Province 1: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 19 June 2022)**



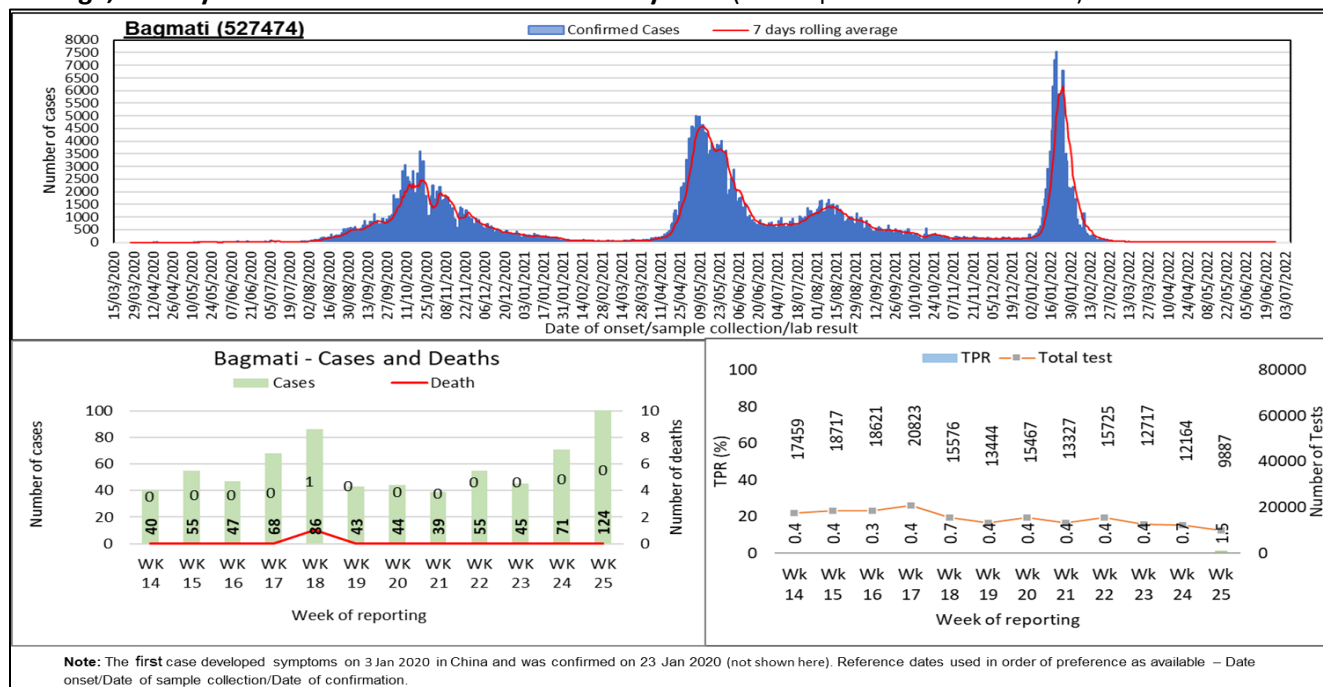
There were 8 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 100% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 increased to 7.6% in the past week. A total of 66 tests were performed in the past week, 40% more than that in the previous week.

**Figure 3A2: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Madhesh Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 26 June 2022)**



There were 6 new cases reported in the past week in Madhesh province. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 50% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Madhesh remained stable at 0.0% in the past week. A total of 40 tests were performed in the past week, 48% less than that in the previous week.

**Figure 3A3: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Bagmati Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 26 June 2022)**

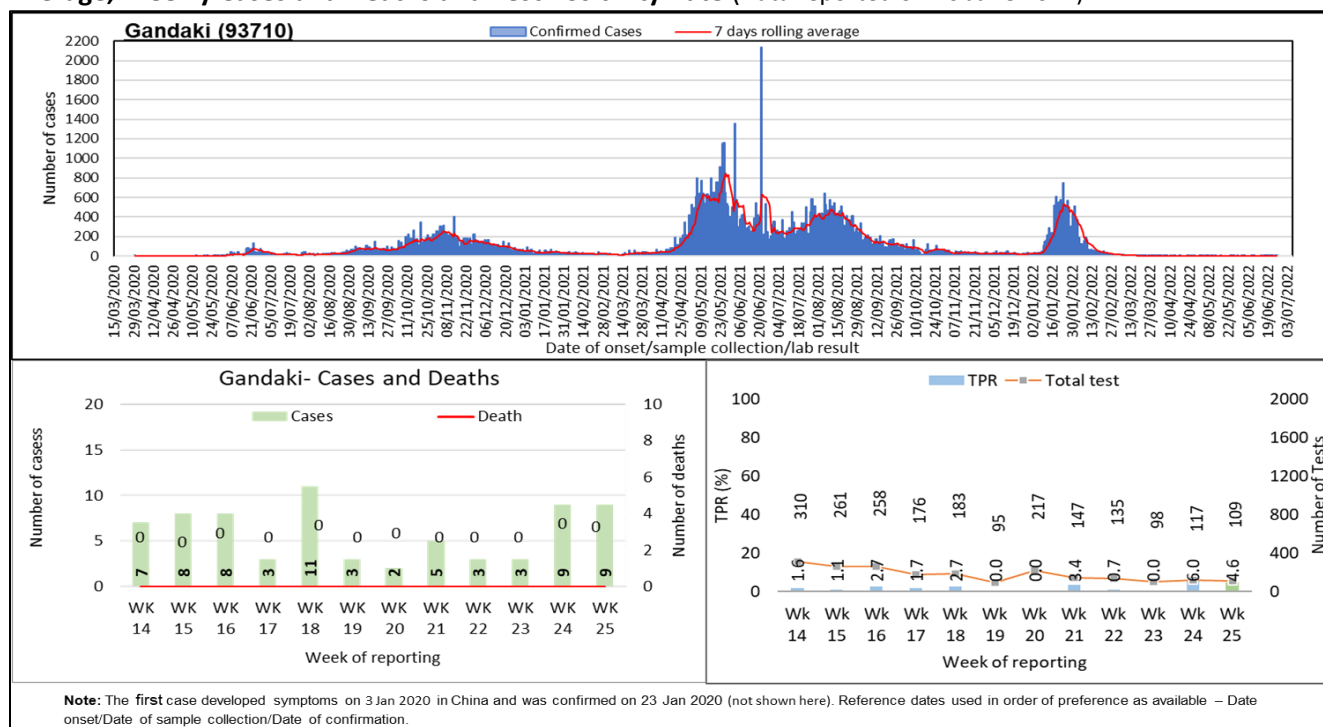


In Bagmati, 124 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have increased by 75% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, compared to 1 death in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati



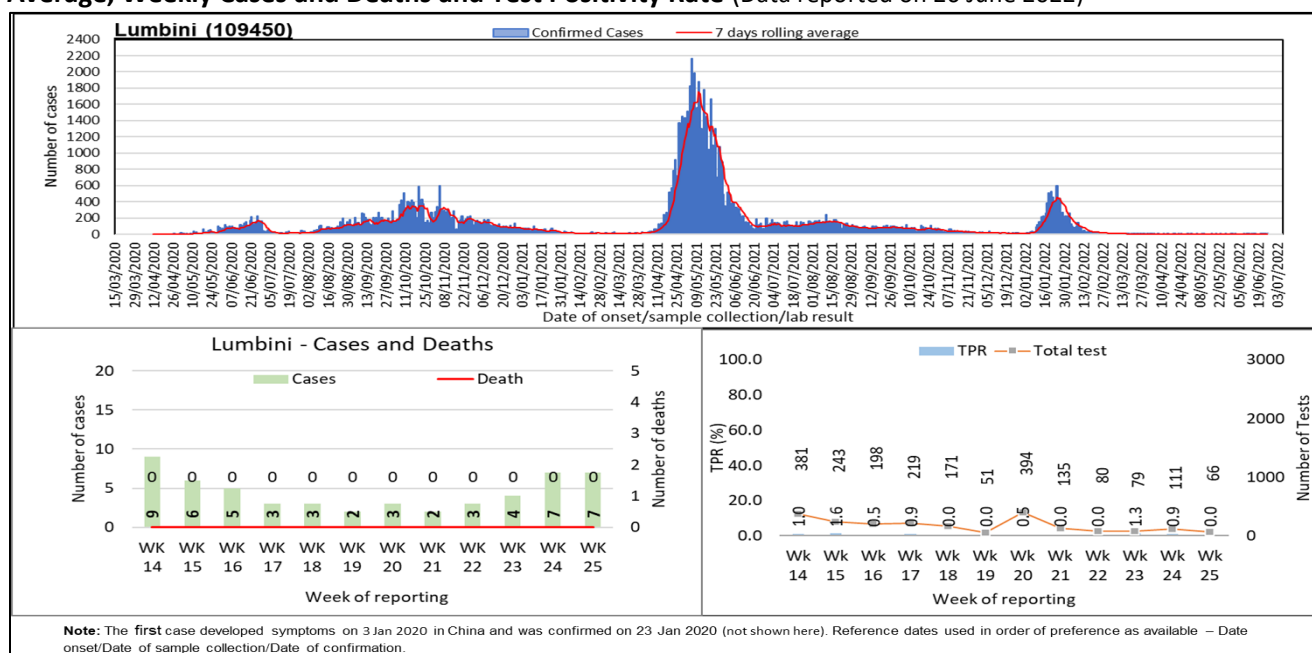
increased to 1.6% in the past week. A total of 9,887 tests were performed in the past week, 19% less than that in the previous week.

**Figure 3A4: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Gandaki Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 26 June 2022)**



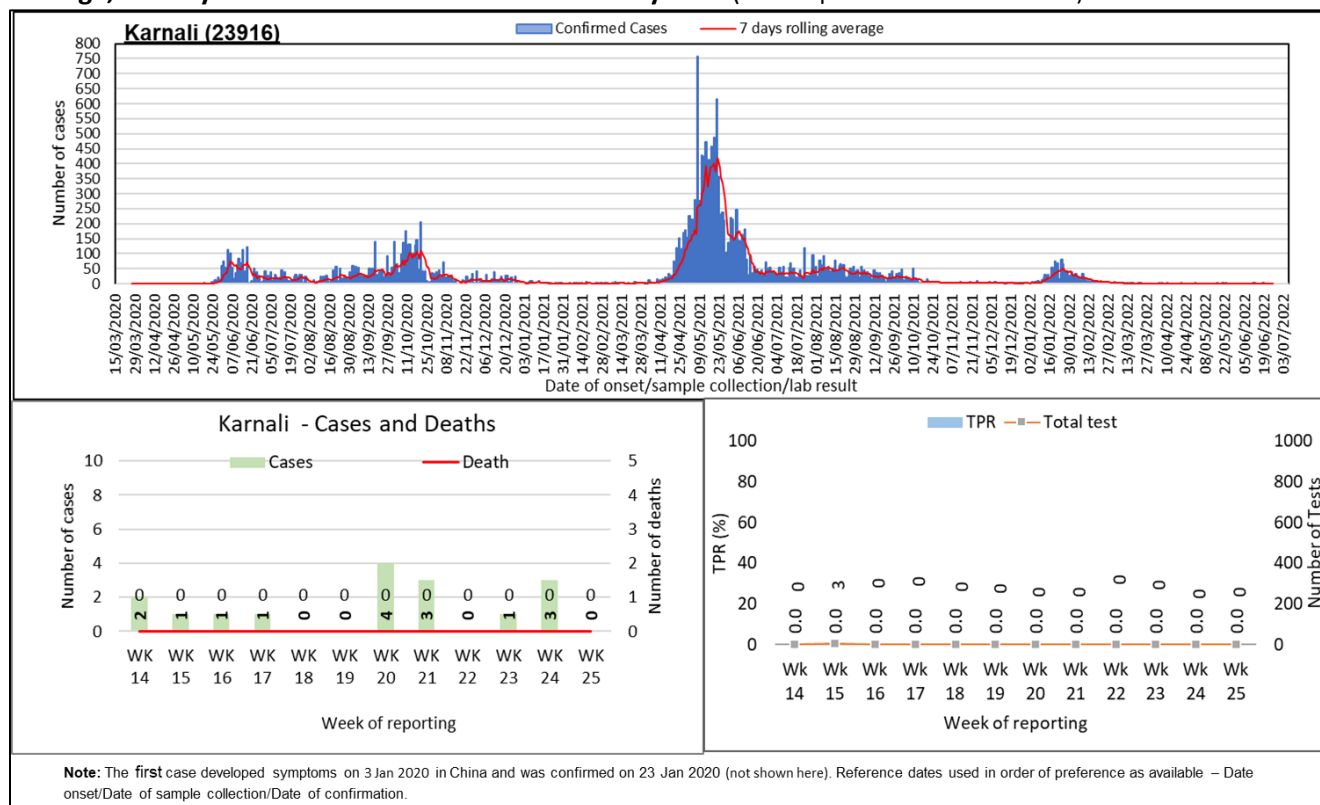
In Gandaki, 9 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 4, cases are in a decreasing trend. However, cases have remained stable in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki decreased to 4.6% in the past week. A total of 109 tests were performed in the past week, 7% less than that in the previous week.

**Figure 3A5: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Lumbini Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 26 June 2022)**



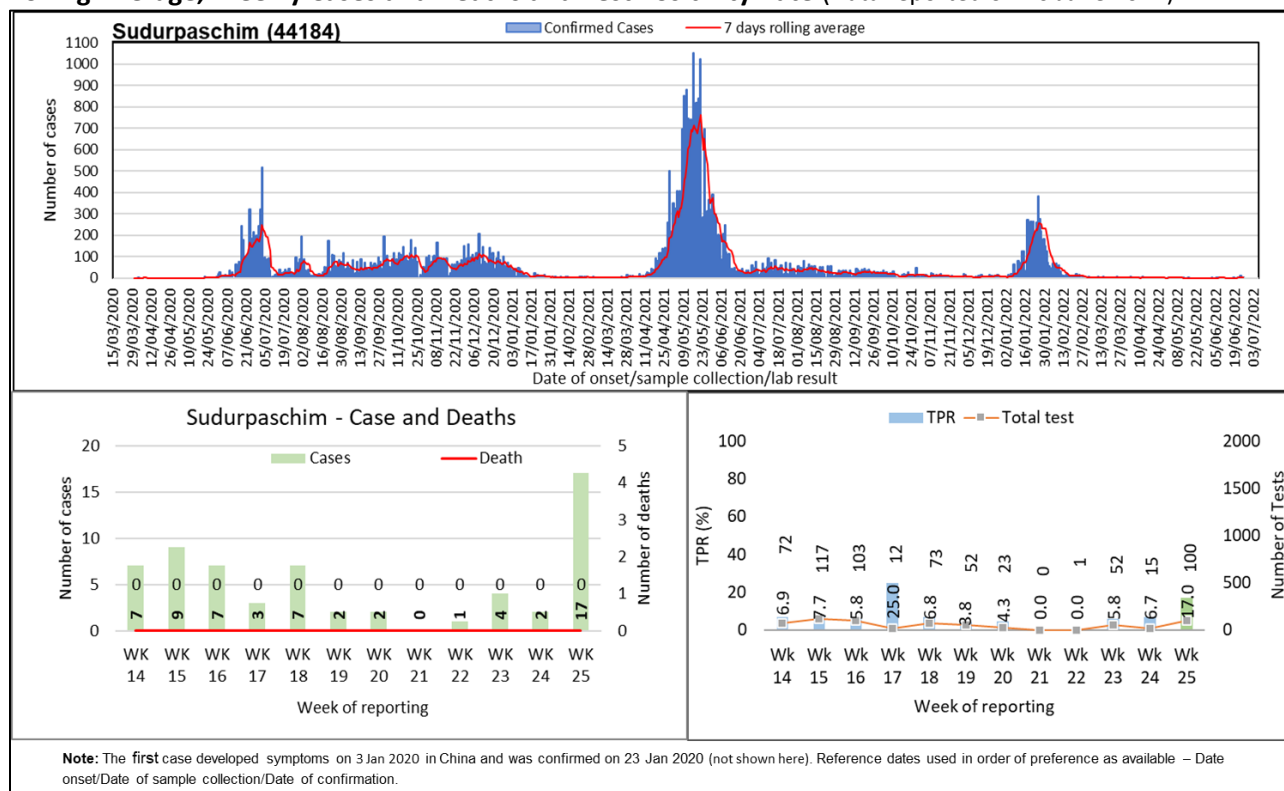
Lumbini reported 7 new cases in the past week. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. However, cases have remained stable in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini decreased to 0.0% in the past week. A total of 66 tests were performed in the past week, 41% less than that in the previous week.

**Figure 3A6: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Karnali Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 26 June 2022)**



In Karnali, no new case was reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 3, cases are continuously decreasing. Cases have decreased by 100% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Karnali remained stable at 0.0% in the past week with no test performed reported in the past week.

**Figure 3A7: RT- PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases in Sudurpashchim Province: Trend of Cases, 7 days Rolling Average, Weekly Cases and Deaths and Test Positivity Rate (Data reported on 26 June 2022)**



*In Sudurpaschim, 2 new cases were reported in the past week. Since a peak in week 4, cases are in a decreasing trend. However, cases have increased by 750% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Sudurpaschim increased to 17.0% in the past week. A total of 100 tests were performed reported in the past week, 567% more than that in the previous week.*



**Table 1: Summary of confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and transmission by provinces** (Data reported on 26 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)

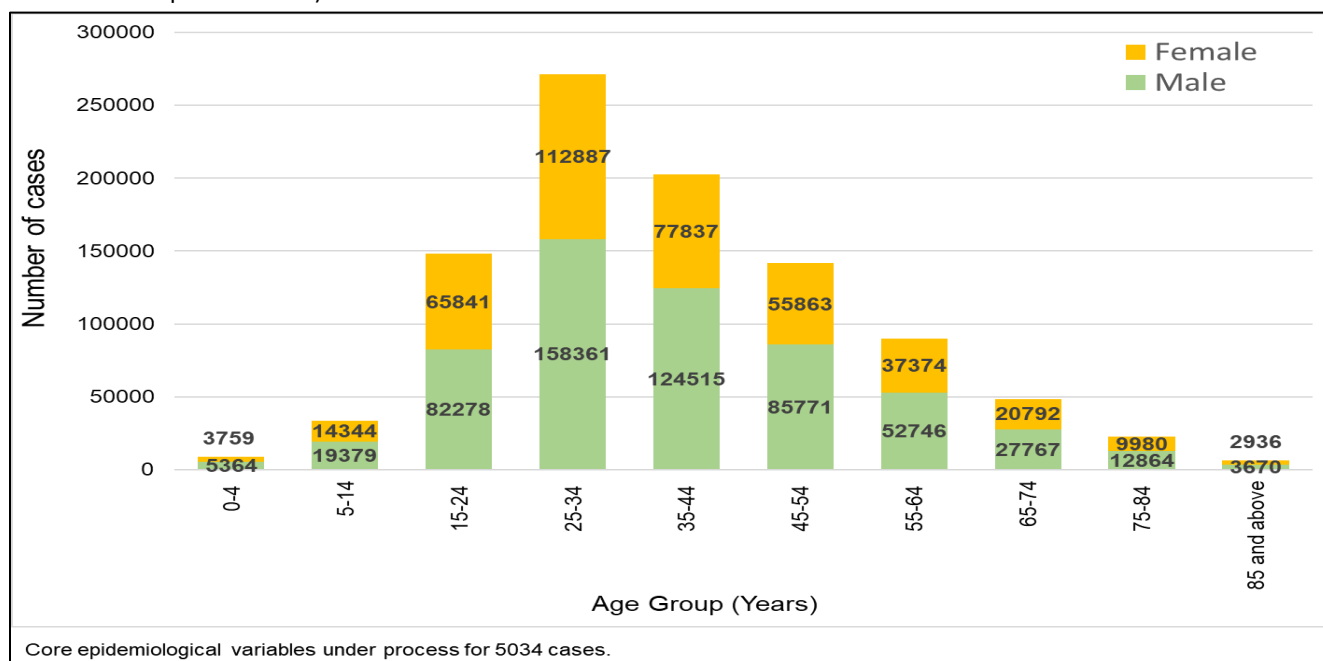
Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RT-PCR Tests	Total Confirmed cumulative cases Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cumulative cases	% of total confirmed cumulative cases	Total cumulative deaths	Transmission classification	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days RT-PCR test	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days	% of total confirmed cumulative cases in last 14 days	Total Deaths in last 14 days
Province 1	127570	29611	157181	14.3	1715	Community transmission	0	12	12	4.2	0
Madhesh	53229	1154	54383	4.9	783	Community transmission	0	10	10	3.5	0
Bagmati	527474	29950	557424	50.7	5164	Community transmission	10	195	205	70.9	0
Gandaki	93710	22873	116583	10.6	1419	Community transmission	1	18	19	6.6	0
Lumbini	109450	25554	135004	12.3	1864	Community transmission	7	14	21	7.3	0
Karnali	23916	5902	29818	2.7	491	Community transmission	0	3	3	1.0	0
Sudurpashchim	44184	5425	49609	4.5	516	Community transmission	0	19	19	6.6	0
<b>National Total</b>	<b>979533</b>	<b>120469*</b>	<b>1100002</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11952</b>	Community transmission	<b>18</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>

*\*Total reported in Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) Sitrep as of 26 June 2022, **140432** but IMU reported **120469***

Notes:

1. The source for case data used in this update is from RT- PCR test positivity reported by laboratories from various locations across Nepal, as shared by HEOC Sitrep; and IMU/IHIMS.
2. Case data is screened and cleaned by our data team for double entry, wrong entry and manual errors such as cities name in place of districts, district name in place of province etc.
3. Whereas the test positivity rate is calculated based on the test positivity reported in Sitrep for RT-PCR which may or may not be scrutinized or cleaned the same way and mark the cases on location of the laboratories rather than their place of residence.

**Figure 4: Distribution of RT-PCR positive COVID-19 cases by age and sex (N= 974499)**(Data reported on 26 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)



Overall, the sex-distribution remains skewed towards males. The incidence of cases is higher in the economically productive age group (15-54 years) for both males and females.

**Table 2: Age Specific Case Fatality Ratio and Co-morbidity of Deaths in RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 979533)** (Data reported on 26 June 2022 up to 19:00:00)

Age Group (Years)	Total confirmed cases	Death (male)	Death (female)	Deaths with any known comorbid condition	Age specific case fatality ratio (%)
0-4	9124	16	23	13	0.43
5-14	33737	13	7	10	0.06
15-24	148139	91	96	69	0.13
25-34	271286	386	264	149	0.24
35-44	202379	875	450	279	0.65
45-54	141669	1385	644	565	1.43
55-64	90142	1682	796	769	2.75
65-74	48568	1631	885	940	5.18
75-84	22848	1221	654	762	8.21
85+	6607	519	288	274	12.21
Unknown	5034	19	7	11	0.52
<b>National</b>	<b>979533</b>	<b>7838</b>	<b>4114</b>	<b>3841</b>	<b>1.22</b>

$$\text{Case Fatality ratio (CFR, in\%)} = \frac{\text{Number of deaths from disease}}{\text{Number of confirmed cases of disease}} \times 100$$

COVID-19 positive lab result is temporally associated with death; causal association under investigation.

*A total of 11,952 deaths have been reported. Out of the total deaths, 7,838 (65.6%) were male and 4,114 (34.4%) were female. Amongst the deaths, 3,841 persons (32.1%) had at least one known comorbidity. The age specific case fatality ratio (CFR) progressively increases with age, ranging from 0.06% to 12.22%.*

## **PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

### **What are the Government of Nepal (GoN) & the Ministry of Health & Population (MoHP) doing?**

- COVID-19 vaccination campaign is going simultaneously in all provinces of the country. Government of Nepal has started COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer) for the 5 to 11 years population in 2 phases from 23 June 2022.

### **What is the WHO Country Office for Nepal doing?**

#### ***Laboratory Diagnosis***

- A total of 5,751,369 RT-PCR tests were performed nationwide by 106 designated COVID-19 labs functional across the nation (as of 26 June 2022).
- WHO Nepal has been providing technical support to the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in following activities:
  - Monitoring the quality standard of designated COVID-19 laboratories in the country through the National Quality Assurance Program (NQAP). A total of 3 designated COVID-19 laboratories participated in the NQAP this week. The result of all participating laboratories was 100% concordant.
  - Distributing sample collection kits to 14 Government tertiary care health facilities across all seven provinces for monkeypox readiness.
  - Sample collection and transportation of outbreak samples (fever with rashes) from Humla district, Karnali Province.

#### ***Technical Expertise and Training***

- Continued routine work from the team of Technical Expertise and Training<sup>2</sup>
- WHO Nepal has provided financial and technical support for the 4 days training 'Training of Trainers (TOT) on Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC)' organized by National Health Training Center (NHTC) from 21 – 24 June 2022 at NHTC. There were 17 participants from 16 COVID-19 designated provincial and central hospitals across the country. Through this training, 17 trainers in IPC were developed and will be mobilized to train health care workers at provincial and central level for further IPC training (*picture below*).

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<sup>2</sup> The routine works of the technical expertise and training team included technical support to the Ministry of Health and Population and its department for developing different guidelines/manuals, conducting health programs and conducting capacity building activities. In order to perform these activities, the team coordinates and discuss with relevant government authorities and partners for effective planning and conducting the various activities.



(Right and Left )Training of Trainers on IPC at NHTC.  
Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/S.Dev

- WHO attended a meeting of Technical Working Group for 'Development of Standard Operating Procedures, National Simulation laboratory' on 23 June 2022 at Bir Hospital, Kathmandu. The purpose of the meeting was to review the preliminary draft SoP of National Simulation Laboratory and outcome was review of the preliminary draft along with collection of feedback and reassigning responsibility to finalize the draft.
- WHO Representative to Nepal, Dr Rajesh Sambhajirao Pandav, handed over nearly 5000 types of essential assistive devices to the Chief Administrative Officer of COVID-19 Unified Central Hospital, Bir Hospital on 22 June 2022 in the presence of directors and representatives from Bir Hospital, Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospital, Leprosy Control and Disability Management Section. These devices will be distributed to 21 COVID-19 designated hospitals. The activity is in alignment with COVID-19 Readiness Assessment of 21 COVID-19 Unified Hospitals carried out in mid-2021.



(Left and Right) Dr. Bhupendra Basnet, Chief Administrative Officer, COVID-19 Unified Central Hospital and Dr Rajesh Sambhajirao Pandav, WHO Representative for Nepal during Handover Ceremony of Essential Assistive Devices to 21 COVID-19 Unified Hospitals along with team members. Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/S.G.Amatya



### **Operational Support and Logistics**

- Continued routine work from the team of Operation Support and Logistics<sup>3</sup>.
- WHO Nepal provided logistics support for handover of essential assistive devices to 21 designated COVID-19 Unified Hospitals. The Handover ceremony was organized at COVID-19 Unified Central Hospital, Bir Hospital on 22 June 2022.

### **Risk Communication and Community Engagement**

- Episode 73 of *Science in 5 (Monkeypox)* was translated, dubbed, and published via the following links:
  - i. Nepali: Facebook [link](#); OneDrive [link](#); YouTube [link](#)
  - ii. Maithili: Facebook [link](#); OneDrive [link](#); YouTube [link](#)
- Episode 32 of *Science in 5* podcast in Nepali language was released on Soundcloud (link [here](#)). The topic of the episode was monkeypox. The news was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#) (English); link [here](#) (Nepali)). The teaser was also shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (link [here](#)).
- The following documents were uploaded on *ReliefWeb* (link [here](#)):
  - i. *Weekly COVID-19 EPI Dashboard*, and
  - ii. The latest *Weekly WHO Nepal COVID-19 Situation Update*.
- WHO and MoHP press briefings on COVID-19 are being shared via Facebook and Twitter.
- On the International Day of Yoga 2022, supported Health Coordination Division, MoHP in drafting message about the importance of Yoga to beat NCDs and to ensure good health and wellbeing.
- Provided support to the Health Coordination Division for the weekly National briefing which was streamed on 22 June 2022. The episode covered updates on COVID-19 cases and vaccination coverage, news about roll out of pediatric vaccination against COVID-19 among children aged 5 to 11, messages on the prevention of Cholera and diarrheal diseases.
- Facilitated and supported the "Orientation of the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Program" organized by Epidemiology and Disease Control division (EDCD) in coordination with MoHP and WCO Nepal at Pokhara, Gandaki Province. RCCE focal persons from all the 11 districts of the province, officials from the Provincial Health Directorate, Gandaki Medical College and Manipal college of Medical sciences participated in the program held from 23 to 25 June 2022.



*Dr. Radhika Thapaliya, Senior Health Promotion Officer, MoHP, delivering a presentation on "Tips for Spokespersons" at RCCE Orientation Program held in Pokhara, Gandaki Province. Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/P. Lamichhane*

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<sup>3</sup> The routine works of the operation support and logistics team included technical support to the Management Division of the Department of Health Services for the forecasting, quantification, procurement, and distribution plan of COVID-19 commodities. The other routine activities included daily operational support to the WHO country office and seven provincial health emergency operation centers, including fleet and travel management and the procurement of required logistics and supplies.



- News of the campaign launch of COVID-19 vaccination for children (above 5 years - below 12 years) was shared via Facebook and Twitter with various IEC materials. The first phase of the campaign will administer Pfizer vaccines in 27 districts.
- A web story about the National Conference on Hub and Satellite Hospital Network - organized by the Ministry of Health and Population, with support from WHO, Country Office for Nepal, and USAID, was published on WCO Nepal website (link [here](#)).
- On the occasion of *International Day of Yoga*, relevant IEC materials were shared highlighting the benefits of yoga and physical activity to stay healthy and protect oneself from various diseases, including COVID-19.
- IEC materials on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
  - I. Mitigating COVID-19 consequences,
  - II. The importance of following COVID-19 preventive measures,
  - III. Oxygen therapy for COVID-19 patients,
  - IV. Hand hygiene,
  - V. Noncommunicable Diseases and COVID-19

### **What are the health clusters partners doing?**

- Continued routine work from the team of Partner Coordination and Donor Relation<sup>4</sup>
- UNICEF and WHO are providing overall support for COVID-19 vaccination campaign in close coordination with health partners and donors.
- All members of the Health Cluster are supporting the COVID-19 vaccination campaign of Nepal.
- Health partners are continuing their technical, operational, and logistics support for COVID-19 responses to health-related offices and institutions throughout the country.

### **WHO's STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE- [link here](#)** **RECOMMENDATION AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC**

- [Protect yourself](#)
- [Questions and answers](#)
- [Travel advice](#)
- [EPI-WIN](#): tailored information for individuals, organizations and communities

### **USEFUL LINKS**

- MoHP COVID-19 official portal is available [here](#).
- Nepal COVID-19 regular updates and resources are available [here](#)
- For COVID-19 updates from the WHO South-East Asia Region Office, please visit [here](#).
- For information about coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic from WHO, please visit [here](#)
- Please visit this [site](#) for all technical guidance from WHO.

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<sup>4</sup> The routine works include coordinating with all the divisions, units, centers of Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and Department of Health Services (DoHS), and the health partners for effective conduction of Health Cluster Coordination meeting. Furthermore, the works included the documentation and distribution of meeting minutes, health partner's support updates in the 3Ws (Who, What, Where) and thematic mapping, updates of WHO's support in the UNRCO 3W sheet, participate in multi-sectoral and emergency and disaster preparedness and response platforms and activities and the humanitarian country team operational meetings. Moreover, necessary support for effective coordination of Health Emergency Operation Centre (HEOC) with different stakeholders is provided.

- Online courses on COVID-19 from WHO can be found [here](#)
- WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard can be found [here](#)
- Visit the WHO Nepal [Facebook page](#) and webpage on COVID-19 [here](#)

## CONTACT DETAILS

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