

Situation Update #131 - Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

WHO Country Office for Nepal

Reporting Date: 10 - 16 October 2022 (EPI Week 41)

HIGHLIGHTS

(Data published in the MoHP Situation Report as of 16 October 2022 and same data published in EDCD Report as of 17 October 2022)

- Of the total RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases, 98.7% (987,445) of cases have recovered, 0.1% (688) are active cases and 1.2% (12,018) are deaths.
- Among the new RT-PCR confirmed cases (265) reported this week, 43.4% (115) are from Kathmandu district followed by Chitwan district 26.8% (71). Majority of the new cases 50.2% (133) have been reported from Kathmandu Valley (Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur), Bagmati Province.

COVID-19 vaccination coverage status (as of 16 October 2022)

Covi-AstraZeneca		Vero Cell		Janssen		Pfizer		Moderna	
First dose	5,560,795	First dose	10,378,682	Single dose	3,524,864	First dose	4,596,253	First dose	3,224,237
Second dose	4,813,379	Second dose	9,250,400			Second dose	2,845,741	Second dose	2,823,081

SITUATION OVERVIEW

(Data as of 16 October 2022)

NEPAL

Cumulative confirmed cases

RT-PCR: 1,000,151

Antigen RDT: 152,108

Cumulative deaths: 12,018

Cumulative tests

RT-PCR: 5,948,143

Antigen RDT: 1,431,479

SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION

Cumulative cases (%)

60,375,798 (10%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

798,215 (12%)

GLOBAL

Cumulative cases (%)

618,507,182 (100%)

Cumulative deaths (%)

6,535,944 (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, 78.2% (781,031/1000,151) of the total 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 44.1% of the national total (441,269/1000,151), and 81.4% of the provincial total (441,269/542,119).
- Province-wise RT-PCR test positivity rate in Epi Week 41 ranged from 0.0% (Madhesh province) to 4.9% (Province 1), with a national positivity rate at 4.9%. Karnali province did not report any RT-PCR test performed in the last week.
- Nepal reported a 173% increase in the number of new RT-PCR confirmed cases (n=265) in Epi week 41 compared to that in the previous week. Of these total cases reported last week, 86% of the cases have been reported from Province 1, Bagmati, and Lumbini province.
- Nepal did not report any death in Epi week 41, same as that in the previous week.

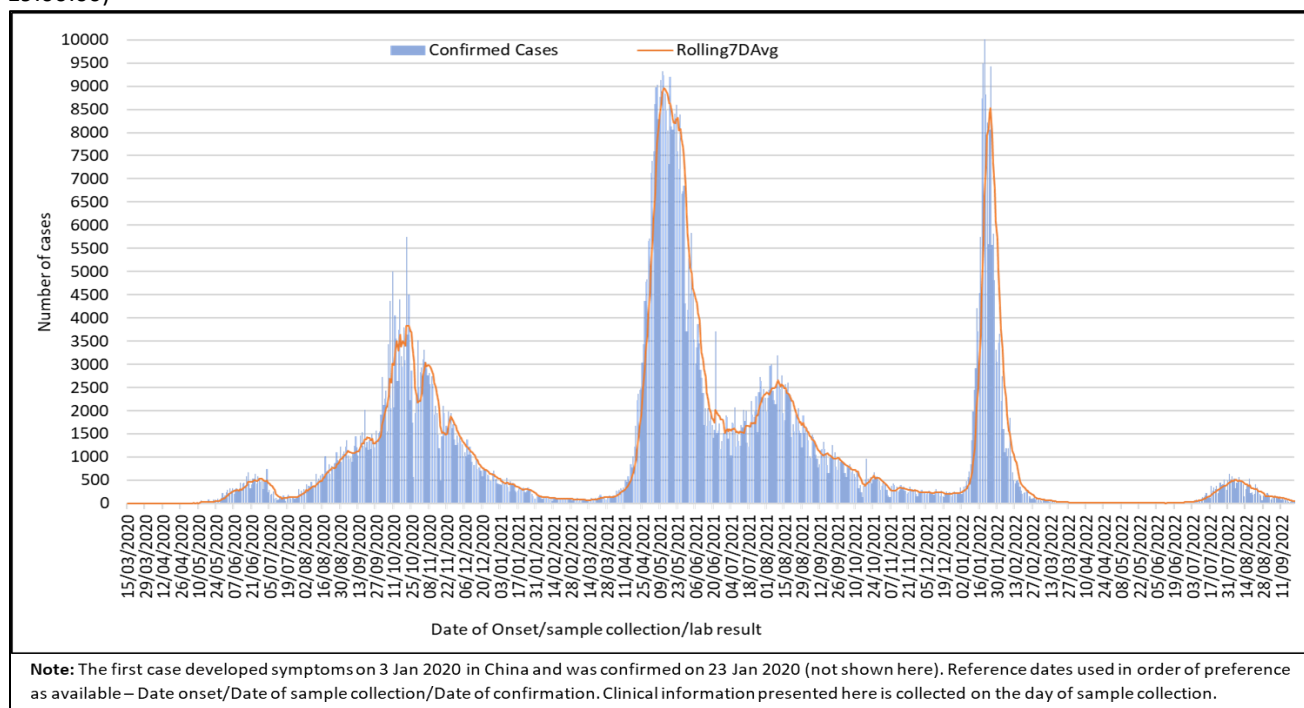
National Influenza Surveillance

- National Influenza Center (NIC)-NPHL reported 5 diagnostic Influenza samples on Epi-week 41 (10-16 Oct 2022). None of the samples tested positive for both Influenza and SARS-CoV-2.
- Out of the total SARS-CoV-2 samples that tested negative at NPHL on Epi-week 41, 19 SARS-CoV-2 negative samples were tested for Influenza.
 - None of the samples tested positive for Influenza A and B.
- Provincial Public Health Laboratory (PPHLs) from Province 1, Madhesh, Gandaki, Lumbini and Karnali Provinces reported testing of 75 samples for Influenza-SARS-CoV-2 using Multiplex kit on Epi-week 41 (10-16 Oct 2022).
 - All the samples tested negative for both Influenza and SARS-CoV-2.
 - A total of 1319 samples have been tested by PPHLs till 16 October 2022.
- From 3 January 2022 until 16 October 2022:
 - A total of 600 samples tested positive for Influenza (2 Influenza B, 282 Influenza A/H3, 309 Influenza A(H1N1pdm09), and 7 Influenza A (subtyping to be done) from 6,225 samples (sentinel and non-sentinel samples including SARS-CoV-2 negative SARI and ILI cases).
 - Similarly, 328 samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 from 2158 Influenza negative samples (Sentinel/non-sentinel ILI/SARI samples).¹

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

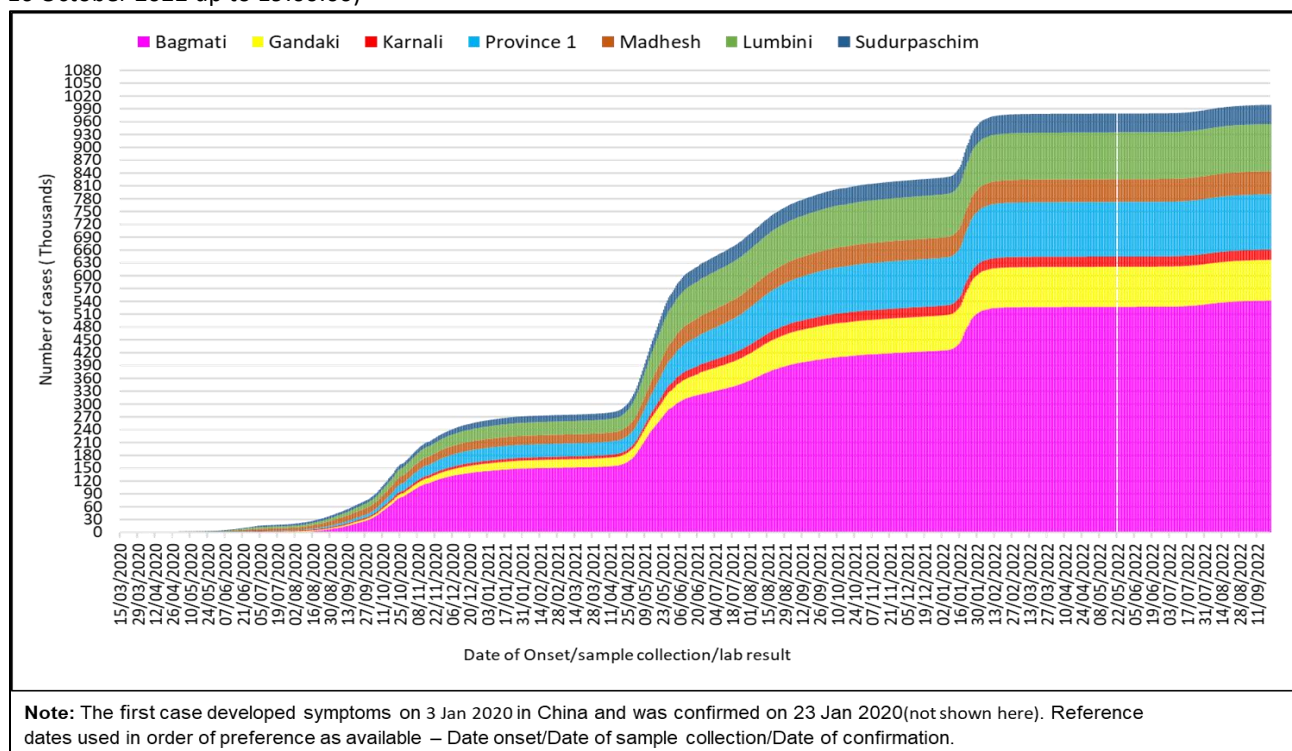
¹ These positive cases are included in the COVID-19 database

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= 10,00,151)(Data reported on 16 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)



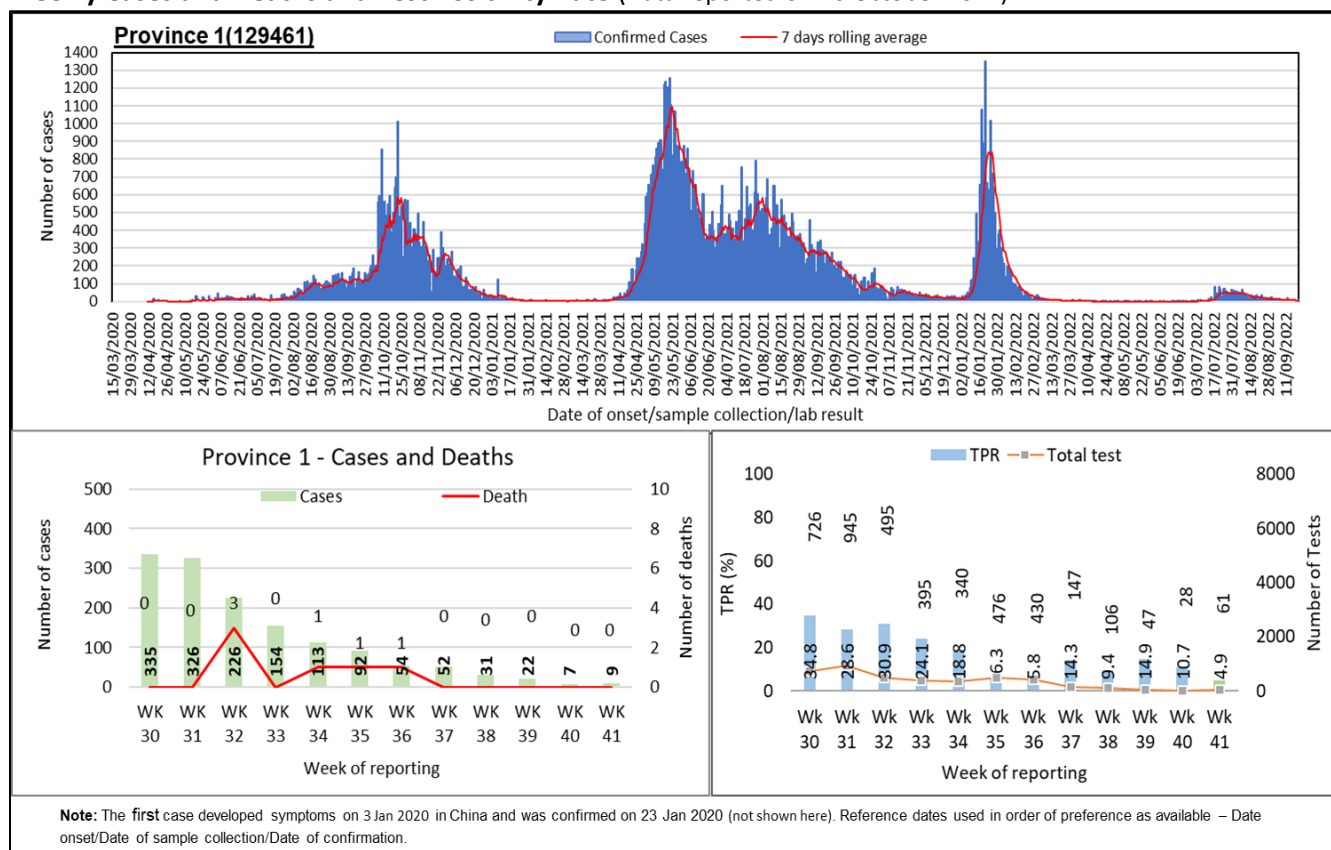
At national level, the first wave of cases between July 2020 and February 2021 was followed by the second wave from the middle of March 2021. Since the middle of December 2021, a third wave of cases soared up exceeding the highest number of single day cases reported in the past surges towards the end of January 2022. Since the middle of May 2022, cases were steadily rising in an increasing trend, however the trend is continuously declining now.

Figure 2: Cumulative case count of RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 cases (N= 10,00,151)(Data reported on 16 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)



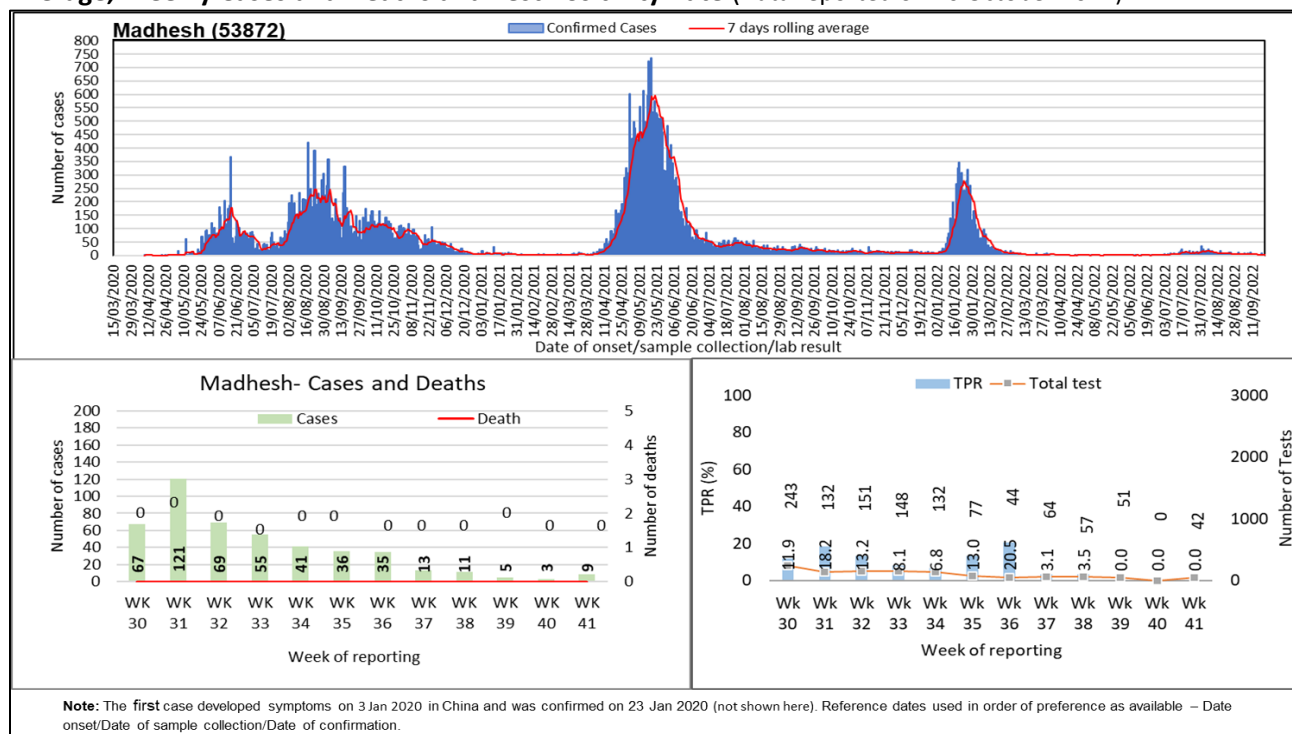
The cumulative case incidence has been increasing in Nepal since the first case confirmed on 23 January 2020. Cases have been largely reported from Bagmati Province followed by Province 1 and Lumbini Province.

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 16 October 2022)



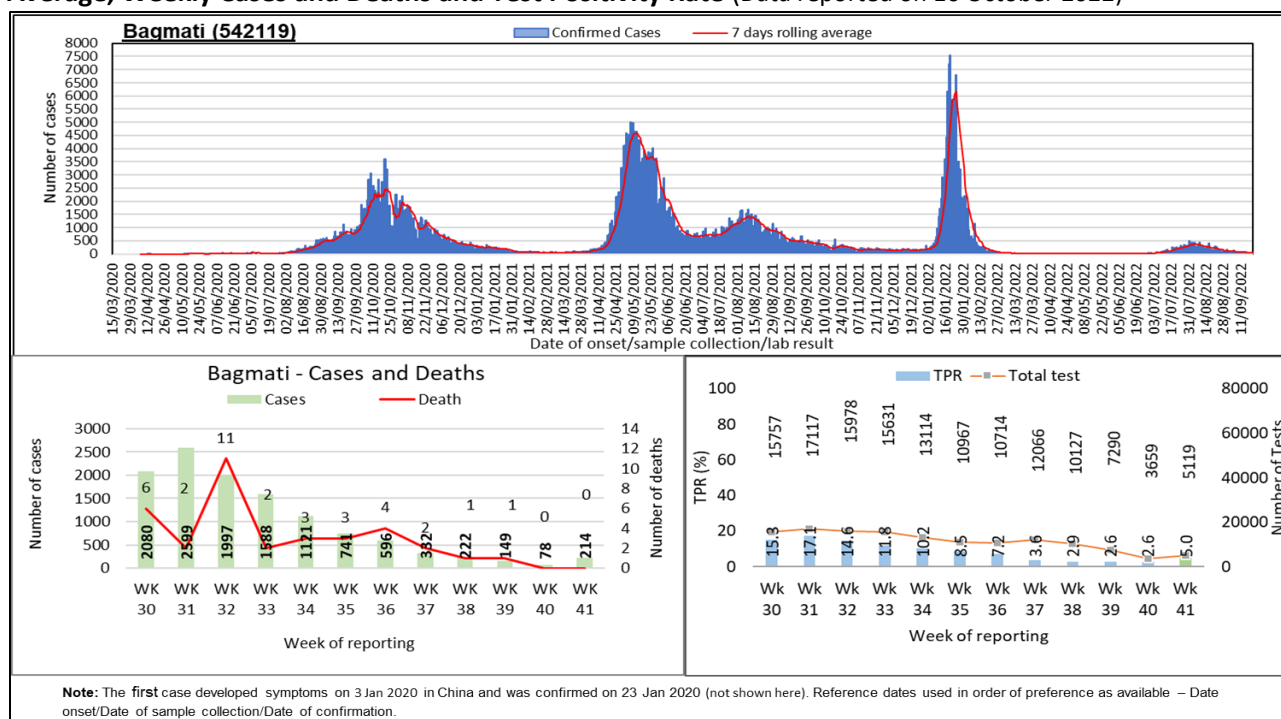
There were 9 new cases reported in the past week in Province 1. Cases have increased by 29% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Province 1 decreased to 4.9% in the past week. A total of 61 tests were performed in the past week, 118% 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 16 October 2022)



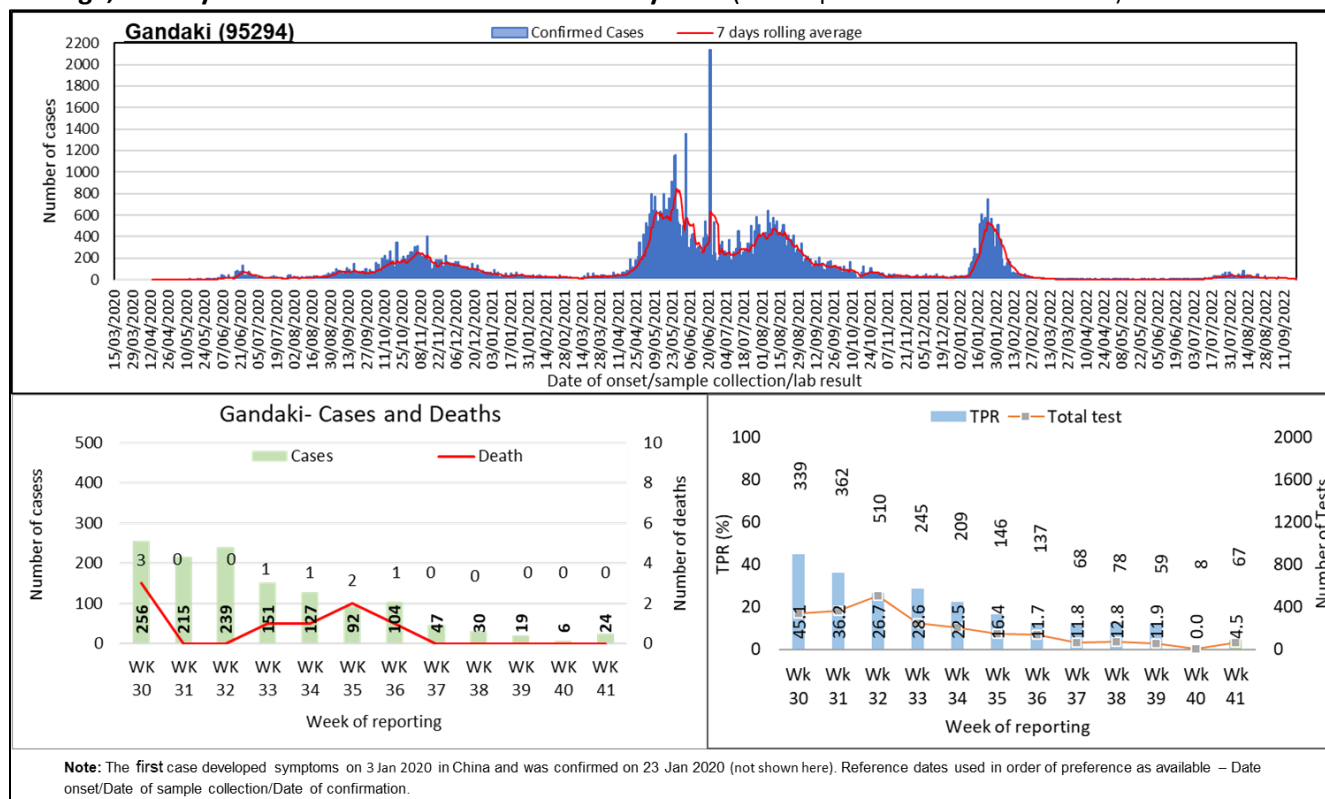
There were 9 new cases reported in the past week in Madhesh province. Cases have increased by 200% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Madhesh province was 0.0% in the past week. A total of 42 tests were performed in the past 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 16 October 2022)



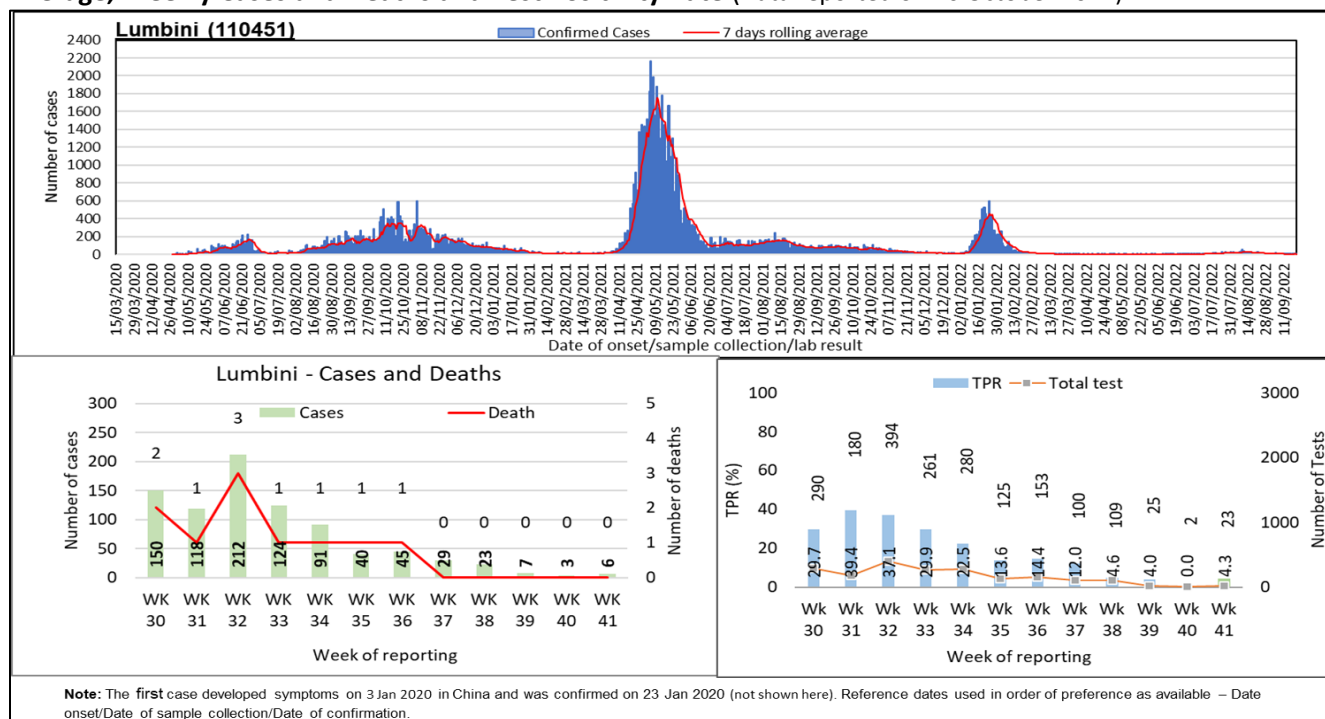
In Bagmati, 214 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have increased by 174% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Bagmati increased to 5.0% in the past week. A total of 5119 tests were performed in the past week, 40% more 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 16 October 2022)



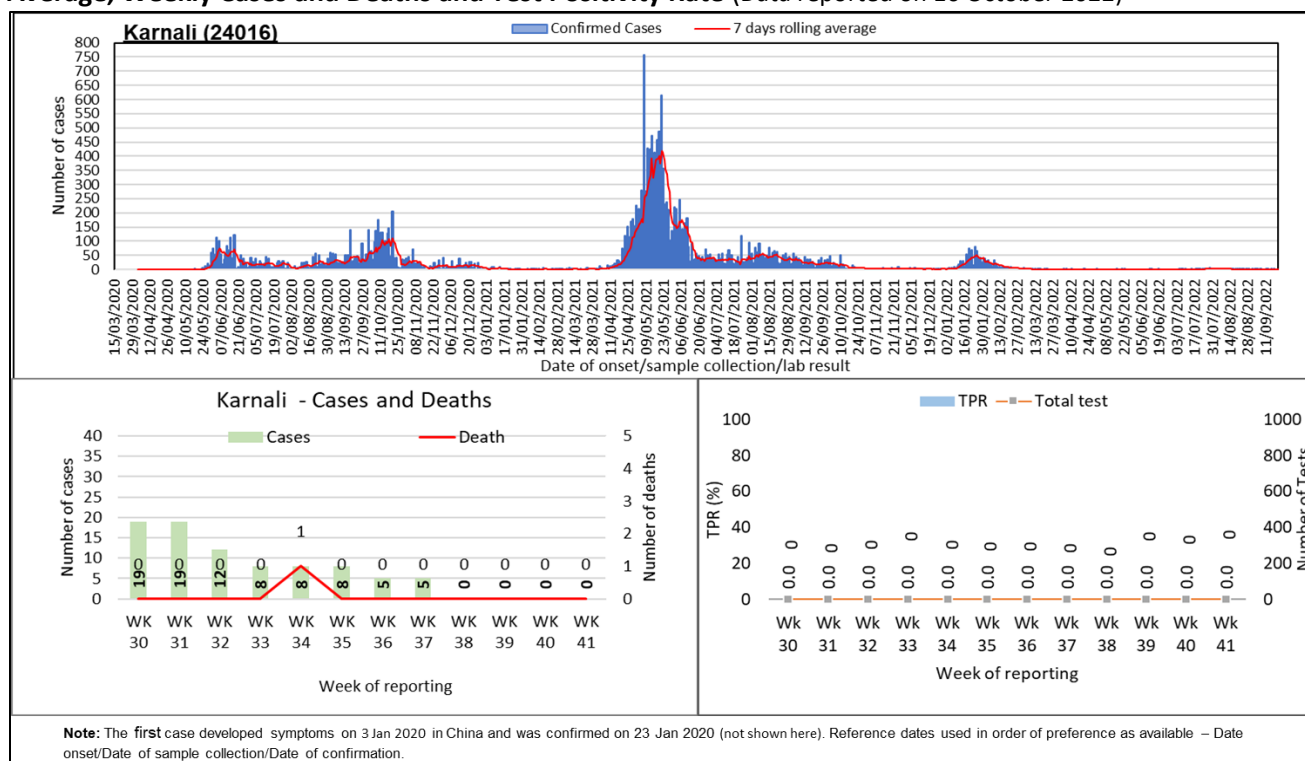
In Gandaki, 24 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have increased by 300% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Gandaki increased to 4.5% in the past week. A total of 67 tests were performed in the past week, 738% more 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 16 October 2022)



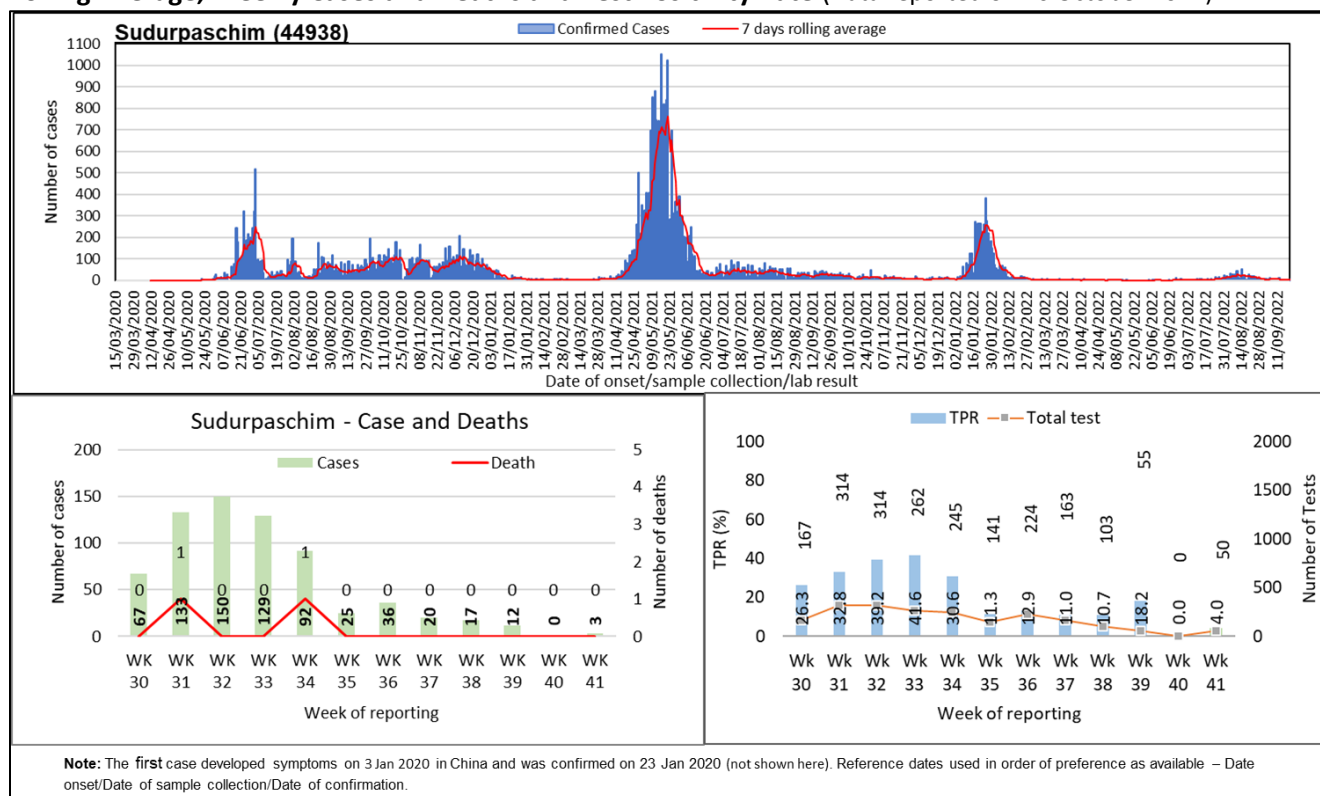
Lumbini reported 6 new cases in the past week. Cases have increased by 100% in the past week compared to the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Lumbini increased to 4.3% in the past week. A total of 23 tests were performed in the past week, 1050% more 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 16 October 2022)



In Karnali, no new case was reported in the past week same as in the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. There was 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 16 October 2022)



In Sudurpashchim, 3 new cases were reported in the past week. Cases have increased in the past week from no cases in the previous week. There was no death reported in the past week, same as that in the previous week. The test positivity rate in Sudurpashchim province was 4.0% in the past week. A total of 50 tests were performed in the past week.

Table 1: Summary of confirmed COVID-19 cases, deaths and transmission by provinces (Data reported on 16 October 2022 up to 19:00:00)

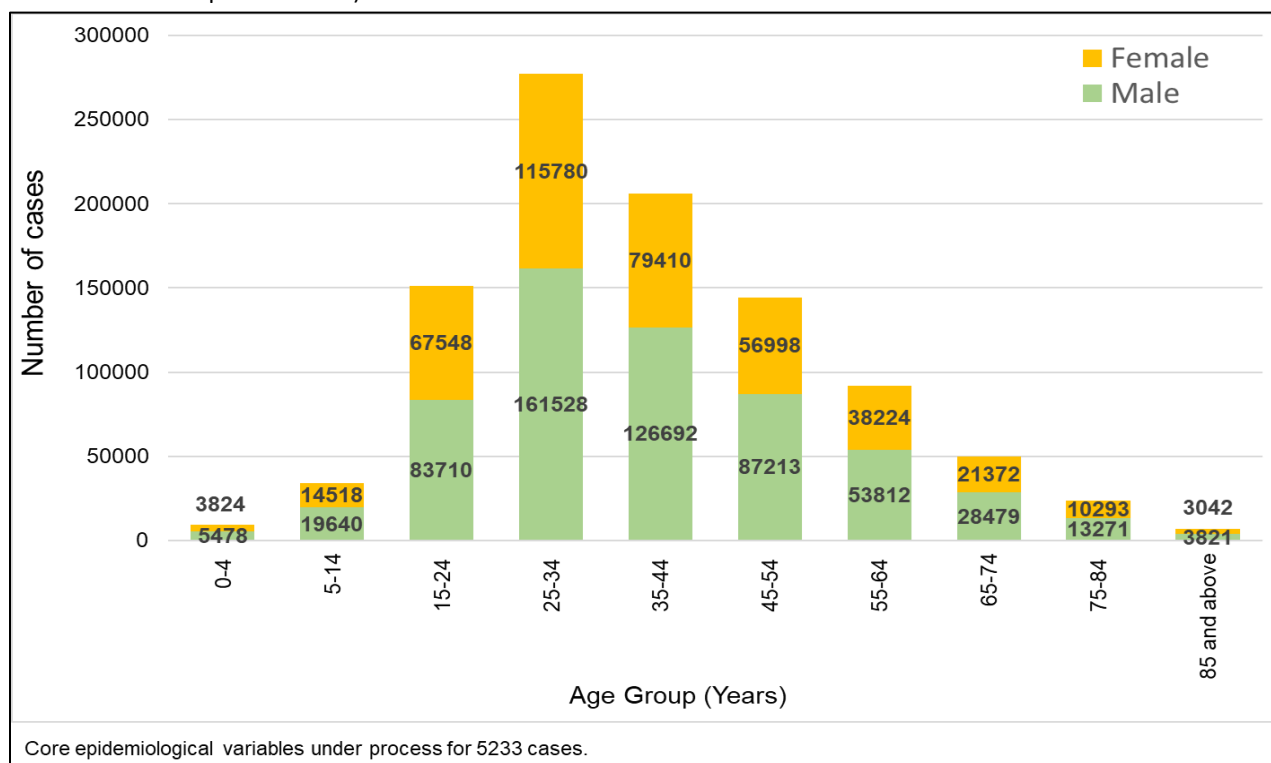
Reporting Province	Total confirmed cumulative cases RT-PCR Tests	Total Confirmed cumulative cases Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed cumulative cases	% of total confirmed cumulative cases	Total cumulative deaths	Transmission classification	Total confirmed cases in last 14 days Antigen RDT test	Total confirmed 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	129461	30322	159783	14.1	1722	Community transmission	0	16	16	4.0	0
Madhesh	53872	1178	55050	4.9	783	Community transmission	0	12	12	3.0	0
Bagmati	542119	32722	574841	50.9	5201	Community transmission	15	292	307	77.5	0
Gandaki	95294	24659	119953	10.6	1428	Community transmission	12	30	42	10.6	0
Lumbini	110451	28118	138569	12.3	1874	Community transmission	7	9	16	4.0	0
Karnali	24016	6325	30341	2.7	492	Community transmission	0	0	0	0.0	0
Sudurpashchim	44938	6139	51077	4.5	518	Community transmission	0	3	3	0.8	0
National Total	1000151	129463*	1129614	100	12018	Community transmission	34	362	396	100	0

Total reported in Health Emergency Operation Center (HEOC) Sitrep as of 16 October 2022, **152108 but IMU reported **129463***

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= 994918)(Data reported on 16 October 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= 10,00,151)(Data reported on 16 October 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	9307	16	23	13	0.42
5-14	34167	13	7	10	0.06
15-24	151296	92	96	70	0.12
25-34	277394	387	265	151	0.24
35-44	206145	875	452	281	0.64
45-54	144239	1396	645	574	1.42
55-64	92066	1690	803	782	2.71
65-74	49866	1640	893	957	5.08
75-84	23573	1228	658	772	8
85+	6865	524	289	279	11.84
Unknown	5233	19	7	11	0.5
National	1000151	7880	4138	3900	1.20

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

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

A total of 12,018 deaths have been reported. Out of the total deaths, 7,880 (65.6%) were male and 4,138 (34.4%) were female. Amongst the deaths, 3,900 persons (32.5%) had at least one known comorbidity. The age specific case fatality ratio (CFR) progressively increases with age, ranging from 0.06% to 11.8%.

PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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

- Nepal reached the landmark of administering more than 50 million COVID-19 vaccine doses on 13 August 2022.

What is the WHO Country Office for Nepal doing?

Laboratory Diagnosis

- 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 5 designated COVID-19 laboratories participated in the NQAP this week. The result of all participating laboratories was 100% concordant.
 - Performing genome sequencing of 48 SARS-CoV-2 positive samples.
 - Workshop “Zoonotic Influenza Distribution Assessment Ranking” (ZIDAR) organized by EDCC at Hotel Vivanta on 16 October 2022.

Technical Expertise and Training

- Continued routine work from the team of Technical Expertise and Training²

Operational Support and Logistics

- Continued routine work from the team of Operation Support and Logistics³.
- WHO Nepal facilitated in arrangement of accommodation and conference package for the following programs held at Kathmandu:
 - Two-day conference arrangement for Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) Roadshow held on 11-12 October 2022. This event was jointly organized by the Ministry of Health and Population, GOARN and WHO Nepal.

² 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. To perform these activities, the team coordinates and discuss with relevant government authorities and partners for effective planning and conducting the various activities.

³ 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.



Closing remarks shared by Dr. Allison Gocotano, Team Leader (WHO Health Emergencies) during last day at Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) Roadshow on 12 October 2022. Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/C. Sherpa

- Three-day conference arrangement for Training Workshop in Epidemic Intelligence for Open Source (EIOS) from 12-14 October 2022. This event was organized by Epidemiology Disease Control Division with support from WHO Nepal.



Closing remarks shared by Dr. Allison Gocotano, Team Leader (WHO Health Emergencies) during EIOS training workshop on 14 October 2022. Photo Credit: WHO Nepal/B. Bhattarai

- One day conference arrangement for Internal Assessment of Joint External Evaluation on 14 October 2022. This event was organized by Epidemiology Disease Control Division with support from WHO Nepal.



Group picture with the stakeholders during the Internal Assessment of Joint External Evaluation on 14 October 2022. Photo Credit: WHO Nepal

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Episode 78 of *Science in 5 (mRNA technologies)* was translated, dubbed, and published via the following links:
 - Nepali: Facebook [link](#); OneDrive [link](#); YouTube [link](#)
- Episode 39 of *Paanch Maa Bigyaan* was released via SoundCloud (link [here](#)). The topic of the episode was mRNA technologies, its future, and its scope. The news was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (English (link [here](#)); Nepali (link [here](#))).
- Episode 40 of *Paanch Maa Bigyaan* was released via SoundCloud (link [here](#)). The topic of the episode was polio and steps to eradicate it. The news was shared via Facebook (link [here](#)) and Twitter (English (link [here](#)); Nepali (link [here](#))).
- The news of the first Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) roadshow was shared via the website of WHO, Country Office for Nepal.
- On *Global Handwashing Day*, relevant IEC materials were shared highlighting the efficacy of handwashing to prevent COVID-19 and protect yourself and loved ones.
- IEC materials on the following topics were shared via WHO, Country Office for Nepal, social media:
 - Mental health and COVID-19,
 - Physical activity and COVID-19,
 - The importance of following COVID-19 preventive measures.
- The following documents were uploaded on *ReliefWeb* (link [here](#)):
 - Weekly COVID-19 EPI Dashboard*,
 - Focused COVID-19 and Health Media Monitoring*, and
 - Weekly WHO Nepal COVID-19 Situation Update*.
- WHO and MoHP press briefings on COVID-19 are being shared via Facebook and Twitter.
- WHO Nepal is providing regular support to Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), specifically to spokesperson and joint spokesperson for weekly national briefing on public health issues. The briefing held on 12 October 2022 shared updates on COVID-19 and dengue.
- Provided support to the National Health Education, Information and Communication Center (NHEICC) in completing the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) tool for RCCE. NHEICC officials made

presentation about the JEE tool on RCCE during a workshop organized by Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (EDCD) on 14 October 2022.

What are the health clusters partners doing?

- WHO Nepal coordinated with Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), WHO HQ and WHO SEARO and provided technical support to Ministry of Health and Population to conduct the first Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) roadshow from 11-12 October 2022 in Kathmandu.
- Continued routine work from the team of Partner Coordination and Donor Relation⁴
- 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.
- COVID-19 consultation is being provided continuously by specialist teams through tele-medicine services.

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.
- 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](#)

⁴ 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.

CONTACT DETAILS

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