

From: Center for Humanitarian Health (humanithealth@jhu.edu)

To: rja@russelljandrews.org

Date: Friday, November 14, 2025 at 05:00 AM PST



Weekly Newsletter | November 14, 2025

Publications and Media Contributions

Exploring opportunities to strengthen maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response: a landscape analysis of surveillance and health information systems in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo – Conflict and Health

On behalf of the EQUAL Consortium

Maternity Care Client and Provider Experiences at Health Facilities in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: Understanding Person-Centered Maternity Care Within Crisis Settings – International Journal of Women's Health

On behalf of the EQUAL Consortium

Wartime food availability in the Gaza Strip, October 2023 to August 2024: a retrospective analysis – BMJ Global Health

CHH Author: Mija Ververs

Quick Navigation

News

World

Europe

Americas

Asia-Pacific

Middle East

Africa

Resources

Events & Opportunities

Key References



Donate to CHH

“Crises are a perpetual restart” – A comparative analysis of maternal and newborn health political prioritization across four fragile and conflict affected settings – PLOS

On behalf of the EQUAL Consortium

Gaza's Infant Malnutrition Crisis Needs More Than Just Infant Formula – Maternal & Child Nutrition

CHH Author: Mija Ververs

The battle to make Gaza healthy again – The Telegraph

Interview with CHH Director Paul Spiegel

How attacking healthcare has become a strategy of war – BMJ

This article features quote from CHH affiliate Len Rubenstein

World



Refugee camps set to be uninhabitable by 2050 as extreme weather worsens

“Around the world, basic survival systems for refugees are already under strain, UNHCR warned. In parts of flood-affected Chad, for instance, newly arrived refugees fleeing the war in neighbouring Sudan receive fewer than 10 litres of water a day, which is far below emergency standards. Evidence also indicates that by 2050, the hottest refugee camps could face nearly 200 days of extreme heat stress per year, with serious risks to health and survival.” *November 10, 2025 – [UN News](#)*

UNHCR report reveals extreme weather driving repeated displacement among conflict-affected communities

“Millions of refugees, people forced to flee, and their hosts are trapped in an increasingly vicious cycle of conflict and climate extremes, according to a [new report](#) released today by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency. The report warns that climate shocks are undermining chances of recovery, increasing humanitarian needs, and amplifying the risks of repeated displacement.” *November 9, 2025 – [UNHCR](#)*

Is climate-conflict overlap COP30's big blindspot?

“As flood, fire, and fighting grow worse, the intersection of climate change and conflict is weighing increasingly heavily on humanitarians, who fear these complex drivers of crisis will only merge further as the planet heats and geopolitical faultlines fracture. The past two UN climate summits saw rushes of high-level support and money for what was once a niche policy area, but experts are now sounding the alarm about the neglect of the climate, peace and security agenda at the COP30 summit in Brazil – and worry about what that means for communities caught up in converging crises.” *November 10, 2025 – [The New Humanitarian](#)*

WHO issues guidance to address drastic global health financing cuts

“The World Health Organization (WHO) today released new guidance for countries on ways to counter the immediate and long-term effects of sudden and severe cuts to external funding, which are disrupting the delivery of essential health services in many countries. The new guidance, called ‘Responding to the health financing emergency: immediate measures and longer-term shifts’, provides a suite of policy options for countries to cope with the sudden financing shocks, and bolster efforts to mobilize and implement sufficient and sustainable financing for national health systems.” *November 3, 2025 – [WHO](#)*

Europe



Firefighters work at the site of the Russian drone strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Odesa region, Ukraine in this handout picture released November 11, 2025. Press service of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine in Odesa region. Photo: Handout via REUTERS

As attacks on infrastructure intensify, Ukraine faces a looming winter crisis

“As the country heads into its fourth wartime winter, escalating strikes on power and transport systems are putting millions at risk of freezing temperatures and prolonged blackouts. With more than 200 civilians killed each month since June, CARE warns that immediate action is needed to protect civilians from attacks and their humanitarian consequences.” *November 7, 2025 – [CARE Ukraine](#)*

Germany's Merz calls for repatriation of Syrians as far-right surges

“Syrians no longer have grounds for asylum in Germany now the civil war in their country is over, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said, as his conservatives seek to fend off a surging far-right ahead of a slew of state elections next year. Germany has been examining the possibility of deporting Syrians with criminal records for several months, and Merz said on Monday he had invited Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa to Germany to discuss the issue. Now a policy of broader repatriations - preferably voluntary - is being discussed.” *November 4, 2025 – [Reuters](#)*

Red Cross and the European Union call for increased and local humanitarian investment in Latin America and the Caribbean in response to rising crises and disasters

“The European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Colombian Red Cross have issued a joint call to increase investment in, and localise, preparedness and response to humanitarian crises in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2025 alone, more than 34 million people in this region require urgent assistance.” *November 7, 2025 – [IFRC](#)*



People in Jamaica are clearing up following the devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa. Photo: United Nations

Hurricane Melissa: Relief efforts intensify as damage across Caribbean grows

“In Cuba, more than 54,000 people remain displaced, including 7,500 staying in official shelters, according to the UN relief coordination office, OCHA. The scale of damage is now significantly higher than initial estimates, with more than 600 health facilities and 90,000 homes affected. UN agencies are supporting the national response, having assisted about 140,000 people in shelters and community kitchens, and distributing agricultural tools and livestock feed to restore livelihoods.” *November 11, 2025 – [UN News](#)*

US to start UN negotiations on Thursday on international Gaza force mandate

“The United Nations Security Council on Thursday will start negotiations on a U.S.-drafted resolution to endorse President Donald Trump's Gazapeace plan, said a senior U.S. government official, and authorize a two-year mandate for a transitional governance body and international stabilization force. A council resolution needs at least nine votes in favor and no vetoes by Russia, China, France, Britain or the United States to be adopted.” *November 6, 2025 – [Reuters](#)*

PAHO and European Commission's Health Emergency Authority make deal to boost preparedness for cross-border health threats

“The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) of the European Commission have signed an administrative arrangement to enhance cooperation in prevention, preparedness, and response to serious cross-border public health threats. The cooperation will focus on exchange of information, strengthening of laboratory capacities, procurement of medical countermeasures, and preparedness and stockpiling methodologies.” *November 7, 2025 – [PAHO](#)*

PHILIPPINES: Second deadly typhoon in a week forces millions of children out of school, as world leaders meet to discuss global climate crisis

“Typhoon Fung-wong came on the back of a series of disasters to hit the Philippines in recent weeks, highlighting the vulnerability of the country to crises, with the Philippines ranked the world’s most disaster-prone country this year. At least two people have been killed and more than 1.4 million people evacuated, including an estimated 470,000 children, as the biggest typhoon to hit the Philippines in years and the second in a week triggered flash flooding, landslides and extreme winds.” *November 10, 2025 – [Save the Children](#)*

New restrictions limit access to care for women in Herat

“Since 5 November, local restrictions have been implemented in Herat province, Afghanistan, requiring female patients, caretakers, and staff to wear a burqa to enter public health facilities, including at Herat regional hospital. ‘These restrictions further impede women’s lives and limit their access to healthcare,’ says Sarah Chateau, MSF programme manager. ‘Female patients and caretakers are now barred from entering the hospital unless they wear a burqa, meaning that access to care is determined by clothing rather than medical need.’” *November 10, 2025 – [MSF](#)*

The Government of Bangladesh and the World Food Programme welcome a new rice donation from the Republic of Korea for the Rohingya response

“This is the second donation – 20,265 metric tons – from the Republic of Korea, made through its Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA). In 2024, a 15,000 mt rice donation was also made for the Rohingya response. In addition to rice, MAFRA this year provided fortified rice kernels, which contain essential vitamins and minerals including vitamin A, B1, B12, zinc, iron, and folic acid, all critical for health and cognitive development, especially for children.”

November 12, 2025 – [WFP](#)



A woman feeds her malnourished child as he receives treatment at an MSF-supported inpatient therapeutic feeding centre in Raqqa, Syria, November 2024. Photo: Gihad Darwish/MSF

People in northeast Syria continue to struggle to access basic needs

“MSF staff spoke with over 150 families from both local communities and internally displaced people. Our assessment in June found that people face severe barriers to accessing basic services. Among respondents, 90 per cent reported postponing or avoiding seeking healthcare due to high costs for consultations and medication, the lack of nearby or functioning facilities, and the burden of transportation.” *November 6, 2025 – [MSF](#)*

Israel opens key crossing into northern Gaza for humanitarian aid

“Israel said on Wednesday it had “permanently” opened the Zikim crossing into northern Gaza to allow entry for humanitarian aid supplies. The reopening of the entry point would provide a vital channel to get essential aid into the north, which has been particularly hard hit by the conflict with Israel.” *November 12, 2025 – [France 24](#)*

Israel has rejected over 100 aid requests since Gaza ceasefire, UN says

“‘Our partners report that since the ceasefire, the Israeli authorities have rejected 107 requests for the entry of relief materials, including blankets, winter clothes, and tools and material to maintain and operate water, sanitation and hygiene services,’ Deputy UN Spokesperson Farhan Haq told journalists in New York. He said almost 90 per cent of the rejected requests came from more than 30 local and international non-governmental organisations, or NGOs.” *November 6, 2025 – [UN News](#)*

Turkish, Egyptian foreign ministers to discuss Gaza ceasefire, post-war efforts

“The foreign ministers of Turkey and Egypt will discuss the Gaza ceasefire and international efforts to rebuild the enclave once the war is over during talks in Ankara on Wednesday, a Turkish foreign ministry source said on Tuesday.” *November 11, 2025 – [Reuters](#)*



Beyond the Camp: Realizing Ethiopia's Commitment to Refugee Self-Reliance

"To ensure greater inclusion and self-reliance for its more than 1 million refugees and asylum seekers, Ethiopia should prioritize adequate funding and decentralize authority over its refugee policies to meet the distinct needs of its various refugee-hosting regions. Ethiopia's Ministry of Labor and Skills (MoLS) should simplify the procedures for work and business permits. Additionally, Ethiopia's Refugees and Returnees Service (RRS) should publish comprehensive, disaggregated data on refugees who have been employed and have started their own businesses." *November 13, 2025 – [Refugees International](#)*

At Chad's fragile Sudan border, UN and partners redouble connectivity drive for refugees and hosts

"Connectivity for Refugees initiative is making strides in bringing private and public partners together to facilitate digital inclusion for 20 million people. UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and ITU, the UN agency for digital technologies, are expanding efforts with partners in Chad and other refugee-hosting countries to ensure that millions of forcibly displaced people and local communities are connected by 2030." *November 10, 2025 – [UNHCR](#)*

African Union calls for urgent action in insurgency-hit Mali

"The African Union has called for an urgent international response, including intelligence-sharing, to address worsening security conditions in Mali, where insurgents are imposing a fuel blockade and kidnapping foreigners. An Al Qaeda-linked jihadist group active in West Africa's Sahel region has blocked fuel imports since September, attacking convoys of tankers and creating a shortage that forced schools and businesses to shut." *November 10, 2025 – [Reuters](#)*

Joint Statement on Climate Mobility in Africa at COP30 – By the African Union, the COP30 Special Envoy for Africa and IOM

"Africa stands at a pivotal moment in the global climate agenda and faces a critical challenge. While contributing the least to global greenhouse gas emissions, it bears a disproportionate

burden of climate impacts – droughts, floods, desertification, and rising sea levels that are already displacing communities, destroying livelihoods, and straining public infrastructure. Recognizing the increasing frequency and severity of climate-induced disasters, the Africa climate change policy position is unequivocal that adaptation and resilience are indispensable.”
November 11, 2025 – [IOM](#)

Events & Opportunities

Call for Papers: Infectious Disease Outbreaks in Conflict-Driven Displacement: Challenges, Responses, and the Future

*Infectious disease outbreaks are increasingly entwined with conflict, forced displacement, and fragile health systems. Despite growing recognition of these intertwined vulnerabilities, evidence remains fragmented, and the operational and policy frameworks required to mitigate these crises are often reactive rather than anticipatory. This collection aims to consolidate case studies, field data, and solutions to better understand, prepare for, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks among displaced populations in conflict-affected settings. This collection will explore the following themes: Epidemiology of infectious diseases in conflict settings; Vulnerabilities of forcibly displaced populations; Health system collapse and humanitarian responses; Policy, law, and future preparedness. **Submission deadline: June 26, 2026.** [Click here for more information.](#)*

Peter Salama MPH Tuition Scholarship for Refugees *The Master of Public Health program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (BSPH), in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, has launched a refugee scholarship program to support one individual who has been displaced due to the conflicts in Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, occupied Palestinian Territories, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Ukraine. The scholarship recipient will receive full tuition, while pursuing a Master of Public Health (MPH) graduate degree at BSPH. [Click here for more information.](#)*

Call for Case Studies: Ethical Issues for Research Conducted During War and Violent Conflict

We invite you to develop an ethics case study to be published in an edited volume tentatively titled, [Research Ethics During War: Case Studies From the Field](#), edited by Dónal O’Mathúna and Emily E. Anderson. To view the complete call for case studies, [follow this link](#). Please direct questions to Talina Perez, perez.893@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Health Emergencies in Large Populations (H.E.L.P) Course

(Virtual, January 5-16, 2026) For more than 25 years, the HELP course has offered humanitarian workers intensive training in the public health principles of disaster preparedness and disaster management. The course was founded to apply public health principles to the humanitarian needs of populations affected by disasters, both natural and conflict-related. [Click here for more information.](#) Please direct questions to helpcourse.jhsph@gmail.com

BSPH/CHH Coursera: Public Health in Humanitarian Crises 1 & 2 *Check out our FREE humanitarian online courses on Coursera! The courses make a great introduction to humanitarian health and are perfect for virtual learning from home. [Click here for more information](#)*

10 Online Humanitarian Courses with Certificates [Click here for more information](#)

Supporting Your Humanitarian Job Search [ReliefWeb Jobs](#); [Human Rights Careers](#) (also includes internships and fellowships)

Key References

The Center for Humanitarian Health weekly newsletter captures only a glimpse of the humanitarian events, acute and protracted, occurring across the world today. Here are several resources compiling news updates, sources, and opportunities for involvement elsewhere in the media:

- [Global Health Now](#), the Johns Hopkins' hub for all topics global health
- [Knowledge Hub](#), by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative
- [The New Humanitarian Cheat Sheet](#), the editors' weekly take on humanitarian news
- [ReliefWeb](#), a humanitarian information hub and valuable resource for jobs and trainings
- [WHO Disease Outbreak News \(DONs\)](#), WHO's list of confirmed or potential concerns



Mailing Address:

Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health
615 N. Wolfe Street
Baltimore, MD 21205

Copyright © 2020 Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in at our website or an event.

[View email in browser](#)

Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health · 615 N. Wolfe Street · Baltimore, MD 21205 · USA
[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)