

GLOBAL NEWS

News from the UK and beyond



Malawi Officially Declares End of Cholera Outbreak

March 2022 saw the deadliest outbreak of cholera, a waterborne disease, in Malawi's history. Cyclone Freddy then brought utter devastation to the country's south, displacing 490,000 people and forcing thousands to rely on contaminated water sources.

EMMS International joined the effort to end the cholera outbreak, by renovating water and sanitation facilities at 12 rural government health centres and significantly increasing the clean water supply at Mulanje Mission Hospital during 2023. We are delighted that Malawi has now declared the deadly upsurge is under control.

Continued overleaf

SWIFT ACTION, LASTING IMPACT

This edition of 'The Global News' focuses on EMMS International's critical response to global emergencies, where with our partners and supporters, we have responded to those who need urgent help.

Global emergencies, caused by pandemics, the effects of the climate emergency, or conflict, disproportionately affect the poorest communities. Limited access to healthcare, poor nutrition, inequalities in education and unsafe living conditions leave individuals and families at grave risk.

“Addressing these disparities requires targeted interventions and policies that focus on building resilience, improving infrastructure, and ensuring equitable access to resources and support systems for the most vulnerable. When disaster strikes, EMMS International moves quickly to give help where it’s most needed.”

Cathy Ratcliff,
EMMS International CEO



EMMS's Swift Cholera Response

As Malawi officially declares the end of its deadliest cholera outbreak, we remember Mvera village, which was one of the first villages to be struck.

The community was forced to draw water from two unprotected wells. EMMS and our partners in Malawi drilled a borehole, bringing clean water to the most affected households. Since then, we have drilled more boreholes, built new latrines and provided water filtration in rural healthcare centres across southern Malawi.



“We had 4 cholera cases in the village, and my investigation showed that all of them were drawing water from the dirty wells. After clean water was installed in the village, we reduced our cases to zero.”

Mr. Gracious
Mvera Health Surveillance Assistant

Teenage Pregnancy Prevention

A Malawi government COVID-19 assessment on teenage pregnancies reported an 11% increase during the pandemic, with more than 40,000 cases.

EMMS International and our partners in Malawi helped young people make choices that protect their health and future. We trained 50 youth club members to promote sexual and reproductive health services in Southern Malawi. 6,044 young people used Youth Friendly Health Services.

And thanks to our donors, we continue to support 60 girls through school in 2024, giving them the opportunity to pursue their own aspirations.

Leprosy Re-Elimination in Nepal

EMMS International is working with partners in Nepal to detect and re-eliminate leprosy, a devastating disease which plunges the already vulnerable into further poverty and a life of suffering.

40-year-old father, Bibek, is a paid, skilled labourer. His house was destroyed during November's earthquake, and he and his family are now living under iron sheeting. While working hard to improve his family's situation, Bibek developed a bad ulcer on his foot, and noticed his face had become bruised and swollen.



In desperation, Bibek spent a lot of money on ineffective treatments. Then he heard about a specialist service at one of our partner hospitals, where he was diagnosed with leprosy and admitted to intensive care. Much improved, he received education about his disease, counselling and medicines.

Thanks to the generous support of EMMS donors, nearly 100 people with leprosy have received care at our partner hospitals in Nepal, who are raising awareness of the disease with the goal of zero transmission.

Please help us to act swiftly when disaster strikes by donating today.

Nepal Earthquake Emergency Response

EMMS International was able to offer emergency assistance to support services after the massive destruction caused by the magnitude 6.4 earthquake that struck the Karnali Province in Nepal on the night of the 3rd November 2023. 154 people died and 364 were injured, with 26,557 buildings destroyed or made uninhabitable.

26-year-old Dilli lives in West Rukum in Nepal, and is visually impaired. He relies on the support of friends and family, with whom he spent a cold winter living under a tarpaulin. Feeling isolated, Dilli is one of thousands of people who are living with disabilities and are often overlooked during a disaster response.

Thanks to EMMS International supporters, our partners in Nepal were able to provide Dilli with blankets, a warm hat, socks, a shawl, a winter bedsheet, visual support aids and training to use them. Wheelchairs, crutches, spinal air mattresses and commode-chairs have been supplied to help others affected by the quake.



Malawi Food Crisis

Thanks to EMMS International supporters, we can report that a years' supply of maize flour has now been supplied to health facilities in two Malawi districts, Balaka and Chikwawa, for distribution to palliative care patients and their families. With a further nineteen districts to supply, our Malawi Food Crisis appeal continues.

In March, Malawi's President Lazarus Chakwera declared a State of Emergency. Half of the national crop has been destroyed by El Niño conditions, leaving 45,000 patients, who are receiving palliative care, without food security, exposed to hunger.

Cathy Ratcliff, CEO of EMMS said, "We have returned to provide assistance, alongside our partner in Malawi, to palliative care patients. Our work in many of these districts several years ago developed palliative care services to very high standards. It is anticipated that as the drought continues, the crisis will deepen, and these families will be amongst the worst affected." Visit www.emms.org/malawicrisis for more information.

"I've been sick for a long time, battling cancer, with three gruelling chemotherapy sessions. Unfortunately, the cancer has now spread to my liver, making surgery too risky. I've been left with the devastating option of waiting and praying. Today I haven't had anything to eat."

Enid Banda, May 2024
Balaka District resident

"I am very happy. I am very happy we have this programme to bring us maize so that we can eat. I received four bags and some money to get the maize milled."

Maize flour recipient,
July 2024
Balaka District resident



Pedal 4 Poverty

John and Gordon took part in Pedal 4 Poverty last year and helped to raise much needed funds to provide access to healthcare for people living in poverty in Malawi, Nepal, India, Rwanda, Zambia and the UK. We hope to raise £20,000 in 2024, but we need your help to join the challenge and get pedalling!

Choose your distance from our suggested country themed challenges and your place - indoors or outdoors! John and Gordon cycled 256 miles from Ardnamurchan Lighthouse, the most westerly point on the Scottish mainland, to Buchan Ness Lighthouse, the most easterly point.

Pedal 4 Poverty 2024 runs until the end of October. Join us today by scanning this QR code:



"A highlight was having a piper play on arrival at Corpach at the end of the first day!"

John & Gordon
Pedal 4 Poverty Participants

Your Impact in 2023/4

Your support has meant that together we made an incredible impact in 2023/4.

Download our 2023/4 Impact report by scanning this QR code with your mobile:



Health Emergency Response

293,134

people receiving urgent support when emergencies strike

Global Healthcare Workforce

79

young women supported in Healthcare Career Pathways

Sustainable Healthcare

363,000

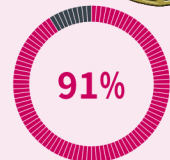
people benefiting from greener, more sustainable healthcare

Non-Communicable Disease

47,135

people receiving palliative and dementia care

91p in every £1 spent went towards life transforming healthcare, the rest helped raise funds for the future.



703,350
poor and vulnerable people helped

PEDAL 4 POVERTY

CYCLE INSIDE OR OUTSIDE WHEREVER YOU LIVE DURING AUGUST, SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2024 and

RAISE URGENT FUNDS AND REDUCE HEALTHCARE INEQUALITIES in

MALAWI, NEPAL, INDIA, RWANDA, ZAMBIA & THE UK!

Join the challenge & help stop the cycle of poverty:

Scan to RSVP

Live with Sarah

12.30 on Thursday 5th September.

Join us for an online update about our Emergency Response work.

EMMS International is a charity registered in Scotland SC032327 and a company limited by guarantee SC224402.

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