

EPT2

Preparedness and Response



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P&R: Goals and Objectives

GOAL

The overall goal of the Preparedness and Response (P&R) project is to strengthen the use of One Health approaches in strategic planning, promoting a positive policy environment, information sharing, assessing national capacity, and harmonizing systems.

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: National One Health platforms – facilitate/catalyze and support the formation and/or strengthening of National One Health platforms in the EPT-2 focus countries

Objective 2: preparedness and response plan for infectious disease outbreaks or other public health events – facilitate/catalyze and support the formation and/or strengthening of preparedness and response plans



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Supporting National One Health Platforms

- Under AI and EPT -1 it became clear that sustained and successful One Health practice requires that a broad range of government and non-government stakeholders come together and stay engaged in the collaboration as part of a normative practice.
- The role of the One Health Platform is generally one of strategic planning, promoting a positive policy environment, information sharing, assessing national capacity for One Health engagement, and harmonizing systems.
- Under EPT -2 focus effort will be made to facilitate and support the formation and/or strengthening of One Health Platforms in the EPT -2 focus countries.
- Particular emphasis will be on advancing cross-sectoral collaboration, promoting measures and/or practices that mitigate the risk of disease emergence, sharing of data and best practices, enhancing country preparedness for outbreaks of new or emerging infectious diseases, harmonizing cross-sectoral surveillance, honing cross-sectoral response skills.



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Strengthening national preparedness to respond to events of public health significance

- Under the International Health Regulations all member States of the World Health Organization (WHO) are required to achieve core capacities for preventing, responding to, and reporting on Public Health Events of International Concern (PHEIC).
- A key activity under EPT -1 has been to support WHO, particularly its regional offices in Africa and in the Western Pacific, to develop and test the guidance document for preparing for and responding to Public Health Events of Unknown Etiology.
- Under EPT -2 expanded support will be provided to assist EPT- target countries in the Africa and Asia region to apply this guidance in the development and implementation of National Preparedness Plans for responding to PHEIC.
- This work will be done in concert with CDC efforts to develop national-level Emergency Operation Centers and the Defense Threats Reduction Agency (DTRA).



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Illustrative End of Project Achievements

- National One Health platforms are established or strengthened in all target countries in Africa and Asia with senior government leadership (President, Prime Minister, Coordinating Ministry)
- Functional multi-sectoral, multi-ministerial, and technical National One Health platforms exist at national level in focus countries in Africa and Asia and these platforms routinely provide cross-sectoral coordination, share data and research, collaborate on outbreak response, advocate for One Health policies and strategies, and work with in-country partners to determine what is an appropriate One Health Workforce.



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Illustrative End of Project Achievements

- Each targeted country in Africa and Asia will have a tested, vetted, and implementable preparedness and response plan for infectious disease outbreaks or other public health events.



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Activity Parameters

- The PHE Framework is a WHO document. Therefore, it is critical that the P&R project collaborate with and support WHO in implementing activities to achieve this objective.
- The key collaborating partner will be WHO Headquarters and the GOARN network, the WHO African Regional Office, the Southeast Asia Regional Office, and the Western Pacific Regional Office.
- The WHO regional offices are also the lead technical partners for implementing the PHE Framework activities and are valuable partners for engaging with host governments



Activity Parameters

- The role of the P&R Project will be a combination of facilitation, capacity building, logistics, and technical assistance.
- A primary role for the Project will be to provide facilitation and related support for team building, planning, conducting workshops, and conducting exercises.
- P&R will also draw on technical support from other EPT-2 projects/partners and may draw on other partners as appropriate, including but not limited to other USG agencies such as CDC, other multi-lateral organizations such as FAO and AU-IBAR, and other development partners.



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Activity Parameters

- The balance of facilitation, capacity building, logistics and technical support provided by P&R may vary between the Africa and the Asia regions and by country within those regions.
- A number of other international health organizations are supporting similar preparedness and response capacity building efforts. Some of these efforts have been underway for some time and some of the efforts support similar, but not identical, capacities. Most, if not all of these other efforts can be cumulative and complementary of each other.



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Activity Parameters

- Another critical role for the P&R Project will be to support USAID in identifying complementary efforts and to work with USAID to engage other organizations in a spirit of melding efforts for the most efficient and effective use of resources, both human and financial



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