# **Enhancing Global Health Security:**

# **Expanding Efforts and Strategies to Protect and Improve Public Health Globally**



#### **Project Overview**

Jhpiego is leading a consortium of partners to support Global Health Security (GHS) through funding from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Enhancing Global Health Security (EGHS) is a 5-year project that builds on ongoing CDC funded investments to support GHS through implementation of programs focused on preventing, detecting and responding to public health emergencies of international concern. We work in close collaboration with multiple Centers, Divisions and Branches at CDC -Center for Preparedness and Response, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases and National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Division of Global Health Protection, Division of Emergency Operations, Division of Bacterial Diseases, Division of Global Migration and Quarantine and Division of Healthcare Quality and Promotion, Emergency Response and Recovery Branch, Respiratory Disease Branch, Meningitis and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Branch and Viral Special Pathogens Branch-- across CDC to prevent and mitigate the impact of outbreaks.

The consortium includes core partners Global Scientific Solutions for Health (GSSHealth), Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU/APL) and Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security (JHCHS), with inputs from resource partners Johns Hopkins University Center for Global Health (JHU CGH) and Johns Hopkins Center for Global Emergency Care. Together we are accelerating achievement of GHS targets to protect and improve health globally through regional, national, and local partnerships.

#### **Period of Implementation:**

30 September 2020 - 29 September 2025

#### **Main Outcomes**

- Improve prevention of avoidable epidemics including naturally occurring outbreaks and intentional or accidental releases of dangerous pathogens
- Improve ability to rapidly detect threats early, including detecting, characterizing and reporting emerging biological threats
- Improved interconnected global network that can respond rapidly and effectively to public health threats of international concern

#### **Strategies for Impact**

In order to sustain improvements in timeliness of achieving control of outbreaks / epidemics / pandemics and reduce morbidity and mortality attributed to disease outbreaks or other public health threats, robust laboratory, surveillance, human resources, emergency response and health systems are required. Our approach to supporting governments is based on the following principles:

 If national laboratory systems provide high-quality diagnostics and reporting in a timely manner for priority diseases AND specimens and referral transport systems are timely and efficient, then there will be rapid identification of highly infectious disease outbreaks.





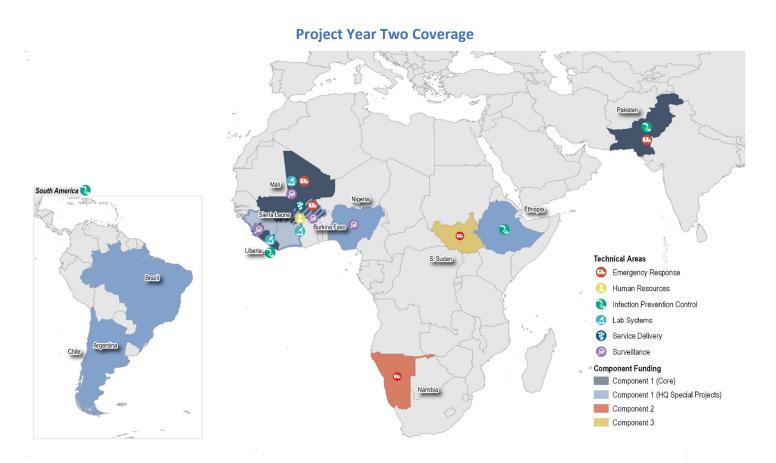








- If strong indicator- and event-based **surveillance systems** operate against standards and guidelines AND electronic systems enable collection of, reporting on and analyse high-quality surveillance data, then active surveillance and case finding will rapidly detect and allow for prompt response to infectious disease outbreaks.
- If a strong **human resource strategy** for animal and human sectors guide country capacity for core competencies, then deployed personnel will be able to respond to outbreaks, controlling the spread.
- If emergency response systems are supported, with adequate infrastructure AND multi-sectorial rapid response teams functioning and access real-time information, then disease outbreak case management and Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) practices will be stronger and transmission of highly infectious diseases will be reduced in clinical and community settings.
- If health managers including National Public Health Institutes (NPHIs) acquire leadership and management capacity and use data to strengthen public health programs then coordination and emergency response capacity will be stronger.



#### **Geography and Progress to Date**

To date, our consortium is supporting the governments of Burkina Faso, Guinea, Liberia, Namibia, Mali, Pakistan, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, and Uganda to prepare for disease outbreaks and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic through funding focused on strengthening core GHS priorities. We are also supporting regional CDC initiatives including capacity development for Rapid Response Teams (RRT) and Event-Based Surveillance in West Africa and an emergency response capacity assessment in South America. Additionally, we are supporting meningitis surveillance efforts across all 10 CDC supported countries in West Africa with procurement of needed lab supplies for a regional quality control training. We are also conducting several evaluations in collaboration with various CDC divisions and local research partners in a number of countries including one focused on evaluating changes in antimicrobial use and resistance in Argentina, Brazil and Chile in the era of COVID-19 and the prevention of bloodstream infections in NICUs in Brazil. Another study is looking at SARS-CoV-2 infection after vaccine roll-out among healthcare workers in one hospital in Ethiopia. In Burkina Faso there are two

ongoing evaluations, one focused on studying the maternal carriage rate of Group B Strep and another on the impact of the PCV-13 vaccine schedule change and the COVID-19 pandemic on childhood immunization coverage.

### **Notable Achievements**

Technical Area	Geography	Achievement
National Laboratory Systems	Burkina Faso	Jhpiego, developed action plans with the National Reference Lab on meningitis (NRLm) to facilitate synergistic activity implementation and coordination in 2021. The planning focused on: implementation of proficiency tests on gram negative stain lecture for 70 district laboratories; improving meningitis culture and PCR tests in 5 regional laboratories and 7 national laboratories; and extending the use of a new bacterial culture medium to improve meningitis biologic surveillance to 50 district hospitals.
	Liberia	In collaboration with CDC, Jhpiego supported the MOH in procuring emergency reagents for COVID-19 testing at the National Reference Lab (NRL). They also supported the National Reference Lab to develop and validate training tools. The tools include SOPs for testing and a safety manual for biosafety and biosecurity. Jhpiego also provides technical assistance and mentorship to the NRL technicians for the testing of COVID-19, Ebola and other diseases.
Surveillance	Burkina Faso	Twelve workshops were held with a total of 318 participants trained in emergency management systems integration, while COVID-19 outbreak messages have been developed jointly with Ministry of Health partners. 90 participants were trained in contact tracing for COVID-19, and 100% of all project targeted geographic areas reported having at least one trained personnel to improve COVID-19 surveillance and contact tracing.
	Liberia	Jhpiego trained 92 out of the country's 108 Port health officers in Liberia from 46 of all 54 Ports of Entry(POE) in 2021. Jhpiego also supported all 92 POE staff with a communication package for reporting to sub-National and National levels. Jhpiego also provided technical support to the Ministry of Health in the development of case definitions for COVID-19 at the Health Facility and community levels. Jhpiego supported the review and update of POE supervision checklist and the POE assessment checklist. Jhpiego also provided technical assistance to the Emergency Preparedness and Response team in a national emergency simulation drill.
	Nigeria	Jhpiego recruited and seconded a data analyst to the Nigeria CDC beginning in March 2021 to support with Events Based Surveillance (EBS) activities. The EBS analyst is working closely with the National Connect Center offering active oversight and coordination of routine surveillance information received from EOCs across the country, to detect signals for emerging events and produce supporting data analytics and reports to back up findings.
	Sierra Leone	Jhpiego along with partners at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, supported the Ministry of Health in 2021 to revise and validate the airport point of entry contingency plan to improve protocols and practices around border health. Jhpiego is also supporting the Ministry of Health to develop and finalize contingency plans for land and sea ports to ensure that all points of entry in the country have consistent and updated protocols.
	Multiple	Jhpiego supported the organization of a cross border meeting with all four Manu River Union (MRU) countries to discuss the implementation of the MRU Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) amongst Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The MOU objectives are to lead to better data sharing practices across the countries, streamlined

		protocols around border health and closer cooperation and coordination in regional emergency response.
Human Resources	Burkina Faso	In 2021, Jhpiego supported the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) mentors to conduct field visits to 12 members from Cohort 1. Jhpiego also the Ministry of Health (MOH) and AFENET to hold a workshop to update FETP intermediate level modules to integrate border health and provided a training/refresher for the mentors. Supported the MOH and AFENET to conduct the first training session of FETP intermediate Cohort 2 members.
Emergency Response Operations	Burkina Faso	Supported a COVID-19 hotline and in the first half of year one, 445 calls were made to the hotline and 1,039 risk communication messages were disseminated. Jhpiego held a workshop with MOH staff to update COVID-19 messages which will be used for public health education and awareness raising.
	Liberia	Jhpiego completed an orientation of isolation unit facility staff on national guidelines and on the management of isolation facilities (IN-SITU) to four health facilities in four counties in Liberia.
	Multiple	Jhpiego is working closely with CDC and country stakeholders to support the roll-out of locally contextualized rapid response team(RRT) trainings in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, Namibia, Pakistan and South Sudan. Jhpiego provides technical guidance to ensure these trainings use effective learning approaches and are integrated into the national and regional RRT frameworks that currently exist in each country. To date, 93 experts have been trained as Master Trainers and 345 responders have been trained across the 6 countries.
Infection Prevention and Control	Liberia	Dissemination of the national IPC guidelines to nine health facilities in 6 Counties was completed in April 2021. The guidelines along the orientation are important means to enhance IPC capacity of service providers and adherence to IPC practices among health workers.
	Pakistan	Jhpiego is implementing IPC activities in ten high case load facilities. Interventions are strengthening comprehensive IPC competencies at each facility, building capacities and systems to effectively manage any public health emergency through a robust health care system.
Evaluations	South America	An inventory of preparedness and response capacity in the South American region was completed through consultation with relevant stakeholders. Findings are that some countries have very well-established standard operating procedures, organizational frameworks, etc., while others are lacking in these areas. Many countries report a lack of funding to maintain emergency response systems, and thus sustainability planning with MOHs. Sustainability planning needs to focus on how to maintain the technical workforce and knowledge systems to support future pandemics and overall, there are many opportunities for regional learning.

## Contact

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