PROGRAM MANAGEMENT FOR EPIDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

Enabling learning and peer exchange for strengthening health security

PROBLEM

- IHR systems strengthening is complex. Countries face delays in moving from assessment to planning, struggle to build quality and realistic plans, and have inconsistent systems of accountability and quality improvement in implementation.
- Government officials who work on strengthening epidemic preparedness have limited opportunities for shared, practical learning on strategies to advance technical, operational and political issues.

SOLUTION

Help establish a model for learning and peer exchange that enables government officials to grow their practical knowledge and skills, engage peers and facilitate systems change.

Inaugural PMEP

28 mid- to senior-level managers from
The Gambia • Ghana • Liberia • Nigeria
Rwanda • Tanzania • Uganda

PMEP for RTSL embedded preparedness teams

19 A-team leaders from
Ethiopia • Liberia • Nigeria • Uganda

Enabling PMEP in the WHO African Region

2020

Phase 1: WHO AFRO Virtual Workshop Series
- Use essential features of the WHO Benchmarks Digital Tool and IHR Capacities Toolkit
- Understand how IHR and program management principles, practices, tools and resources work together to enhance health security
- Apply program management and leadership principles to their work

2021

Phase 2: Communities of practice to sustain learning and practical application

2022

Results
- Mobilized around core IHR and program management principles, practices, tools and resources
- Assessed status, opportunities and challenges for engaging in preparedness in each country and identified opportunities for RTSL technical assistance
- Established pathway for peer exchange between countries
- Strengthened relationships and communication with RTSL

Upcoming Francophone program

Anglophone program

35 leaders from Ghana • Kenya • Lesotho • Namibia • South Sudan • Tanzania

19 A-team leaders from
Ethiopia • Liberia • Nigeria • Uganda
BRIDGING TECHNICAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITIES

To navigate the multiple technical, operational, and financial challenges that are met on the ground, teams must be able to synergize both “hardware” and “software” capabilities critical to epidemic preparedness.

KEY LESSONS

PROTOTYPING SIMPLE, SCALABLE DELIVERY

- Prioritizing participatory methodology
- Leveraging in-person virtual and hybrid modalities and asynchronous course content
- Establishing networks and communities of practice

ESTABLISHING RELATIONSHIPS THAT ENABLE RESULTS

- Strengthen dynamic communication between countries
- Enable coordinated engagement of technical partners (WHO, USCDC, RTSL)
- Amplify and scale practical learning to reinforce GSPN