### **Joint External Evaluation**

The Joint External Evaluation (JEE) is a voluntary, collaborative assessment of a country's ability to find, rapidly stop and prevent disease outbreaks and other public health threats.

The JEE is a component of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework of the International Health Regulations (IHR), a binding agreement signed in 2005 by 194 World Health Organization (WHO) Member States.



A snapshot of global infectious disease outbreaks as of 01 September 2021.

#### **JEE Assessment**

The JEE assesses a country's ability to find, stop and prevent public health risks across 19 preparedness areas that are divided into four categories:

Prevent Outbreaks	Find and Verify Outbreaks	Stop Outbreaks	Protect from other Health Threats						
<ul> <li>National legislation, policy and financing</li> <li>IHR coordination, communication and advocacy</li> <li>Antimicrobial resistance</li> <li>Zoonotic diseases</li> <li>Food safety</li> <li>Biosafety and biosecurity</li> <li>Immunization</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>National laboratory system</li> <li>Real-time surveillance</li> <li>Reporting</li> <li>Workforce development</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Preparedness</li> <li>Emergency response operations</li> <li>Linking public health and security authorities</li> <li>Medical countermeasures and personnel deployment</li> <li>Risk communication</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Points of entry</li><li>Chemical emergencies</li><li>Radiation emergencies</li></ul>						
JEE Process*									
1	$\rightarrow 2 \longrightarrow$	<b>3</b> → <b>4</b> -	<b>5</b>						
A country volunteers for a JEE and asks WHO to initiate the	conducts a interna	ssembles an The external ational team, evaluation team							

WHO to initiate the process.

comprehensive self-evaluation.

which visits the country to validate the self-evaluation.

drafts a report documenting the scores and recommendations to improve preparedness.

develop or update their plans to address epidemic preparedness gaps.



#### How the JEE can benefit host countries:

- ⊘ Identify and close critical gaps in epidemic preparedness
- ⊘ Measure progress on epidemic preparedness
- ⊘ Highlight needs for current and prospective donors and partners
- $\ensuremath{{\oslash}}$  Collect baseline data for annual self-evaluations and follow-up JEEs
- ❷ Benefit from the broad perspective of local and international experts
- ⊘ Exchange information about ways to close preparedness gaps





#### **Opportunities for hosts and donors**

Throughout the JEE process, there are opportunities for both host countries and donors. Data and lessons learned from JEEs help to match gaps with resources to improve global health security.

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## Host country opportunities

- Develop or update plan to fill preparedness gaps
- Implement activities to fill identified gaps
- Measure and
   report progress

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#### Shared opportunities

- Find, stop and prevent health threats before they cross borders
- Gauge current health system capabilities to inform countrylevel planning and priority setting
- Prioritize financial investments and other resources to match country needs
- Engage in post-JEE action planning



- Provide evidence-based investments, technical assistance and other support for capacity strengthening initiatives
- Develop strategies to engage other donors and partners
- Understand progress being made toward improving host country health systems

#### Host Countries and Donors in Partnership as of December 2020

# 110+

Countries have completed a JEE

10+

### Countries are planning a JEE

# Countries have begun to utilize JEE results to inform country preparedness

100 +

For more information about JEEs, please visit https://extranet.who.int/sph/jee.