



newsletter
August 2017

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WHO helps ensure the regular cross-sectoral assessment of countries' core capacities as required under the International Health Regulations (IHR); and the development of National Action Plans for health security. This is done through the provision of support for national assessments, risk profiling and after action reviews; planning, costing, documenting and running exercises; and building monitoring and evaluating capacity with a One Health approach.

Upcoming Tripartite Zoonoses Guide

Collaboration between the national animal and human health sectors is required to effectively prepare for, detect, assess, and respond to zoonoses. Furthermore, countries need to take collaborative multisectoral "One Health" approaches under the IHR.



To address a paucity of relevant practical tools and guidance for countries, WHO HQ and Regional Offices, in collaboration with the World Organisation for Animal Health, the Food and Agriculture Organization and international experts, is developing a Tripartite Zoonoses Guide Toolkit. This comprises of an updated and expanded version of the 2008 Zoonoses Guide (<http://www.wpro.who.int/publications/docs/Zoonoses02.pdf>) and operational tools to support countries in the implementation of multisectoral approaches. The toolkit will cover seven topics: 1) Cross sectoral coordination committees, 2) Planning and preparedness, 3) Surveillance and information sharing, 4) Joint risk assessment, 5) Coordinated investigation and response, 6) Risk communication and joint risk reduction, and 7) Training and workforce development. It will include practical considerations, challenges, and best practices for the implementation of such approaches, based on national experiences.

The guide will be available in 2018, with operational tools to come at a later stage. The tools will be piloted in countries in all WHO regions, with the support of partners.



Pre-Planning Workshop in Namibia



Following the results of the Joint External Evaluation carried out in December 2016, the government of Namibia requested WHO's support in initiating the development of the National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS).

The three-day workshop took place from 15th to 17th August 2017 in Windhoek, Namibia. It brought together 40 representatives from relevant sectors for health security. These included the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Civil Aviation Authority as well as representatives from WHO and the United States Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC).

During the workshop, WHO presented the NAPHS guidance for planning and costing, participants were assigned to technical working groups and populated the Planning Matrix, taking into account the objectives of the plan, priority actions, key activities and responsibilities. The main outcome of the workshop is a first draft of the NAPHS covering activities to strengthen the IHR capacities and health security.

The country technical working groups will lead the finalization of the action plan. With the support of WHO and partners, the action plan will be presented and costed in the validation workshop at the end of October 2017.

Development of a pandemic full-scale exercise
WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia led a mission together with the Country Office and HQ to support Indonesia to prepare for a full-scale exercise from 1st to 3rd of August.

New article published in the Lancet Journal:
"JEE Process: Bringing Multiple Sectors Together For Global Health Security" available at [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X\(17\)30264-4/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(17)30264-4/fulltext)

Zoom in:

What is a Simulation Exercise?

A simulation exercise is a form of practice, training, monitoring or evaluation of capabilities. It involves the description or simulation of an emergency, to which a described or simulated response is made.

Exercises are considered an important and integral part of emergency preparedness. They enable people to practice their roles and functions in emergency settings, determine areas of development for leadership, policies, infrastructure, supply chains, and logistics. They can be used as training and quality assurance tools.



For exercises to be most effective, they should not be one-time events, but should be undertaken as part of a comprehensive emergency risk management programme. A “building-block approach” can be used to test specific aspects of preparedness and response over time based on a country’s level of preparation and capacity:

- **Tabletop exercises (TTX)** simulate an emergency situation in an informal, low-stress environment. It is designed to strengthen readiness to manage a health emergency through facilitated group discussion.
- **Drills (DR)** are used to test a single operation or function in a repeated fashion. It can be used to train staff on procedures or exercise and maintain skills.
- **Functional exercises (FX)** test the capability of an organization to respond to a simulated event with focus on the coordination, integration, and interaction of an organization’s policies, procedures, roles and responsibilities.
- **Field/Full-Scale exercises (FSX)** simulate a real event and is designed to evaluate the operational capability of emergency management systems in a highly stressful environment.

The results of simulation exercises contribute to the strengthening of capacities and can serve to develop, update and monitor national action plans for IHR implementation.

Coming up next

- ▼ Seventh Asia Pacific Workshop on Multisectoral Collaboration on Prevention and Control of Zoonoses, September 19-21, Manila, Philippines
- ▼ National Action Plan for Health Security Orientation workshop, September 19-21, Muscat, Oman
- ▼ Managing future global public health risk by strengthening collaboration between public health and military health services, Dates To be Confirmed, Jakarta, Indonesia
- ▼ Joint External Evaluation in September 2017: Cameroon (September 24-29), Gambia (September 24-29)
- ▼ After Action Reviews in September 2017: Mauritania (September 18-22), Niger (September 25-29)
- ▼ Simulation Exercises in September 2017: Indonesia (September 18-20), Mali (September 25-30), Pakistan (September 18-22)
- ▼ National pre-planning/planning workshops in September 2017: Senegal (September 12-14), Myanmar (September)

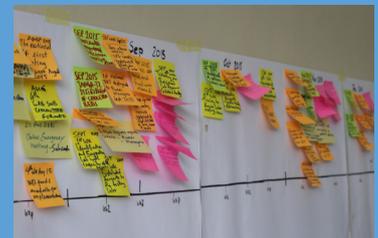
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WHO International Health Regulations website - <http://www.who.int/ihr/procedures/implementation/en/>
Strategic Partnership portal - <https://extranet.who.int/spp/>

After Action Review
for the cholera
outbreak response in
Tanzania:
[http://whotanzania-
whoafroccmaster.
newsweaver.com/
tanzaniaflyer/](http://whotanzania-whoafroccmaster.newsweaver.com/tanzaniaflyer/)



MOH Tanzania: *“The AAR helped us to appreciate how many activities were done to manage the cholera outbreak. It allowed those involved in the response to come together as a team, to identify what worked and what did not, and how to improve”*