

Overview

Global health security is enhanced



Public Health England (PHE) has been allocated Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding to contribute to international efforts to improve global health security through increased compliance with the IHR.

National public health systems are strengthened



The project aims to support the establishment of strong national public health systems in low and middle income countries to ensure timely and effective prevention, detection, response and control of public health threats.

Evidence-based policy is promoted



PHE will collaborate with partners to ensure that resilient and responsive public health systems are underpinned by enhanced inter sectoral collaboration, technical systems and a skilled work force.

Outcomes are monitored



PHE will contribute to measurable strengthening of public health systems in selected countries and regions. Outcomes will be assessed through improvements in IHR compliance measures and other process indicators.

Objectives

Supporting six ODA-eligible countries towards improved IHR implementation, including strengthening of national public health institutes (NPHIs).



Strengthening global agencies and regional institutions/ mechanisms responsible for supporting IHR implementation.



Working with partners to co-develop strategies for long-term sustainability, adequate funding and technical support in partner countries and regions.



Guiding Principles

Adopt 'One Health' and 'all hazards' approaches.



Support and align with international agencies, structures and donor efforts.



Support approaches that are collaborative, sustainable and country-led.



Be transparent and build the evidence base for effective IHR strengthening.



Integrate IHR capacity building within health system strengthening.



Use IHR monitoring and evaluation and National Action Planning processes to map progress and alignment with national priorities.



National and regional activity: how we work

Underpinning the IHR project's work with its partner NPHIs and regional organisations is a commitment to:

Workforce development through needs assessment, planning and strategy



Context-specific technical training and strengthening of existing systems



Peer support and mentoring for public health leaders



Strengthening NPHI coordination, planning and strategic functions



These approaches provide the foundations for improvement across all IHR capabilities, and guide all the project's technical activities. A broad range of technical expertise has been deployed in all IHR focal countries. Examples of recent activity include:

Sierra Leone

In partnership with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation the IHR project has conducted a human resource gap analysis and developed strategy to build an effective public health workforce.

Nigeria

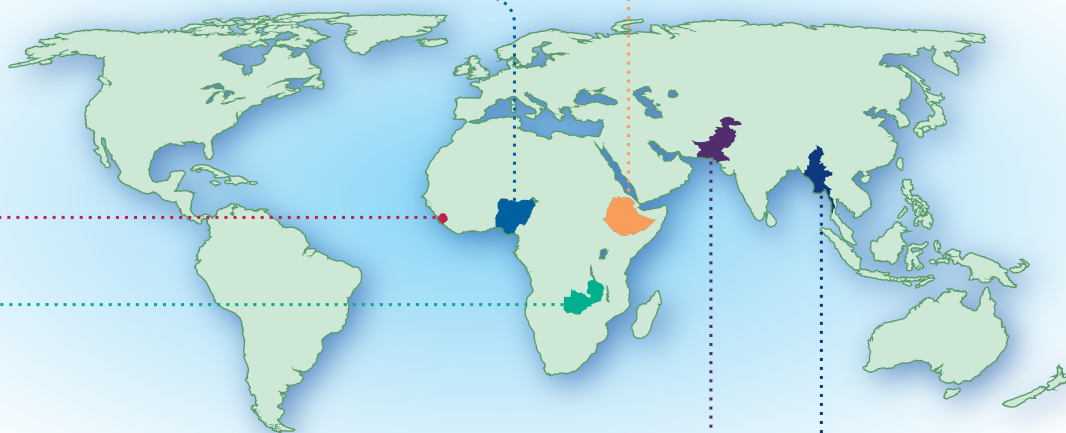
In partnership with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) the IHR project has created tailored training and mentoring to enhance national surveillance systems and strengthen public health laboratory networks.

Ethiopia

In partnership with the Ethiopia Public Health Institute (EPHI) and other national bodies PHE has supported the development of national and regional chemical and environmental hazards resources, including a chemical incident response service and a national poisons centre.

Zambia

In partnership with the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) the IHR project is developing a programme of tailored technical support to enhance capacity, with a focus on One Health.



Pakistan

In partnership with the Pakistan Government and the National Institute of Health, PHE is progressing the design and implementation of Integrated Disease Surveillance Response (IDSR) System strengthening in Pakistan, including its interface with laboratory networks.

Myanmar

In partnership with the Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports the IHR project is developing bespoke training and exercises to build and test national capacity for emergency preparedness, resilience and response.

Beyond bilateral

The IHR project is also working with regional organisations such as the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the WHO Africa Regional Office (AFRO) to extend capacity building activities beyond project focal countries and to support the development of resilient regional networks of NPHIs.