

APRIL 2021

THE IHR PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Updates from PHE's International
Health Regulations Strengthening
Project

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Welcome

This publication provides updates for the project's internal colleagues and external partners. If you have any queries or feedback, please contact Alex.Sully@phe.gov.uk



Launch of the IHR Project Knowledge Hub

The IHR Project is proud to announce the launch of our specialised knowledge sharing hub on Tuesday 20th April 2021.



Home

The International Health Regulations Strengthening Project is a UK Aid funded technical assistance project contributing to international efforts to improve global health security through increased compliance with the WHO International Health Regulations (2005).

This dedicated knowledge hub shares learning from the project on preventing, detecting and responding to public health emergencies through our triple mandate of:

1. Strengthening leadership | 2. Building technical capabilities | 3. Developing sustainable public health systems



The IHR Project Knowledge Hub home page

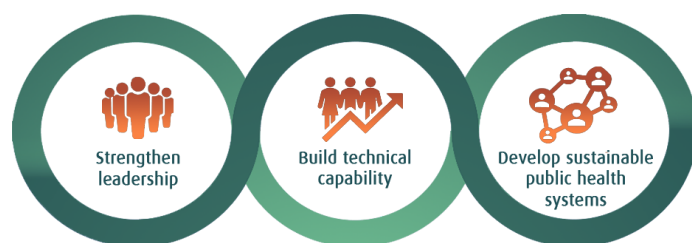
The IHR Project Knowledge Hub is hosted on the Global Health Network and was developed to raise visibility of our work through the sharing of evidence and knowledge with researchers and professionals in the global health security community.

The hub is open access, low bandwidth and formatted to be accessible via computers, tablets and phones.

This online page provides an outlet for publishing the rich information produced by the IHR Project including peer-reviewed publications, reports and case studies covering specific activities, achievements and lessons learned.

The page also allows us to share news and updates from the project with our partners and stakeholders.

Additionally, the hub provides an opportunity to introduce new audiences and potential collaborators to our work by presenting background information on the IHR Project and our partnerships, outlining our objectives and highlighting our commitment to collaborative working.



The IHR Project triple mandate

The IHR Project team are excited to be sharing the Knowledge Hub today, please share the link widely with your networks.

Access the IHR Project Knowledge Hub:

 www.gph-ihrstrengthening.org

Thank you to everyone who has input to the content and design of the IHR Project Knowledge Hub. Please contact Alex.Sully@phe.gov.uk if you have any materials or news you would like to publish on the page.

Updates from the IHR Project

Celebrating women leaders in global health

Last month, Dr Ebere Okereke (IHR Project Lead) received recognition from two bodies for her work in science and academia. The IHR Project also celebrated women leaders from partner ministries and public health institutions on International Women's Day 2021.

[Read the news article on the IHR Project Knowledge Hub.](#)



[Click the post to view the full thread on Twitter](#)

Five year anniversary of the IHR Project

The project hosted a celebration event on 15 March 2021 to commemorate its milestone anniversary.

[Read about the event's presentations and speakers on the IHR Project Knowledge Hub.](#)

Access the latest news from the IHR Project and its partners on the [News page of our online knowledge hub.](#)



Martin Muita awarded membership to the Faculty of Public Health

Dr Martin Muita, Senior Public Advisor and IHR Project Lead for the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), has been awarded membership through distinction to the UK Faculty of Public Health.

The citation from the faculty reads, *"This level of membership is only offered to those who have made significant contribution to the science, literature and practice of public health."*

Martin will be formally conferred membership at the Faculty of Public Health conference in June. Join us in congratulating Martin on this tremendous achievement.



Joe Pett participates in round table at launch of the Southern Africa RCC

Joe Pett, Senior Public Advisor and IHR Project Country Lead for Zambia, represented the project at a round table discussion for the virtual launch of the Southern Africa Regional Collaborating Center (RCC) of Africa CDC on 31 March 2021.

The objective of the launch was to operationalise the Southern Africa RCC and its advisory structures.



[Click the post to view the full thread on Twitter](#)

The launch also facilitated opportunities for policy dialogue and discussion on critical health issues in the region. Joe discussed the topic of “ensuring effective preparedness and response to current public health threats in context of COVID 19 and beyond”. Click the image to navigate to the Twitter thread and view Joe's discussion.

Updated WHO guidelines for establishing a poisons centre

The IHR Project's CRCE team facilitated and contributed to updating the WHO guidelines for establishing a poisons centre.

[Read how the team contributed to the guidelines the IHR Project Knowledge Hub.](#)



Recent publications

Evaluating an Institutional health Partnership using the ESTHER EFFECT tool: A Case Study of an Evaluation of the Institutional Health Partnership Between Nigeria CDC and Public Health England

This paper uses the ESTHER EFFECT tool to understand the strength, value and impact of the partnership between Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Public Health England through the IHR Strengthening Project. Key strengths and weaknesses of the partnership were identified such as having wide ranging institutional engagement, however needing to improve dissemination mechanisms following key learning activity. The paper hopes to encourage similar evaluations to build and strengthen the evidence base around effective institutional health partnerships.

Evaluation of National Event-Based Surveillance, Nigeria, 2016–2018

This paper describes and evaluates an event-based surveillance (EBS) system established by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). The evaluation found the NCDC EBS system to be effective in detecting relevant signals and users deemed it a valued asset for national surveillance. The authors recommended improving signal logging, standardizing processes, and revising outputs to optimise the system and ensure appropriate public health action.

Systematic Review of Human Poisoning and Toxic Exposures in Myanmar

This paper undertakes a systematic review of articles pertaining to poisoning and toxic exposures in Myanmar published between 1998 and 2020. Patterns of poisoning presented in the literature diverge from poisoning priorities reported in other lower-middle income countries in the region. There is a limited amount of research available on poisoning outcomes and routes of exposure in Myanmar. The authors recommend further investigation and research are warranted to provide a more complete assessment of poisoning risk and incidence.

Access publications from the IHR Project and its partners on the [Publications and Reports page](#) of our online knowledge hub.



Media round up

A selection of recent appearances of the IHR Project in the media. Please click the items to follow the links.



April Wellbeing Tip

IHR Project colleagues, John Forde and Eyerusalem Haile have been contributing to the British Embassy in Ethiopia's cross-government wellbeing initiative. Follow the links below to view the videos they have created to illustrate 5 Ways to Wellbeing:

1. Connect - https://youtu.be/bkE--hke_oY
2. Take Notice - <https://youtu.be/Bgcpw80K21l>
3. Be Active - <https://youtu.be/mRgtDcBSO80>
4. Keep Learning - <https://youtu.be/Bgdy3byaUm8>
5. Give - <https://youtu.be/u0IR0revPg8>