

OCTOBER 2021

THE IHR PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Updates from UKHSA's
International Health Regulations
Strengthening Project

In this edition

- Updates from the IHR Project
- New resources on the IHR Project Knowledge Hub
- Media roundup
- Wellbeing tip

Welcome! This publication provides updates for the project's internal colleagues and external partners. If you have any queries, feedback or contributions please contact:

IHR.Programme@phe.gov.uk

Or alternatively, reach out to our communication leads:

Ellie Fairfoot, Project Officer
ellie.fairfoot@phe.gov.uk

Beenish Arfeen, Project Administrator
beenish.arfeen@phe.gov.uk

Annabel Grieve, Project Manager
annabel.grieve@phe.gov.uk

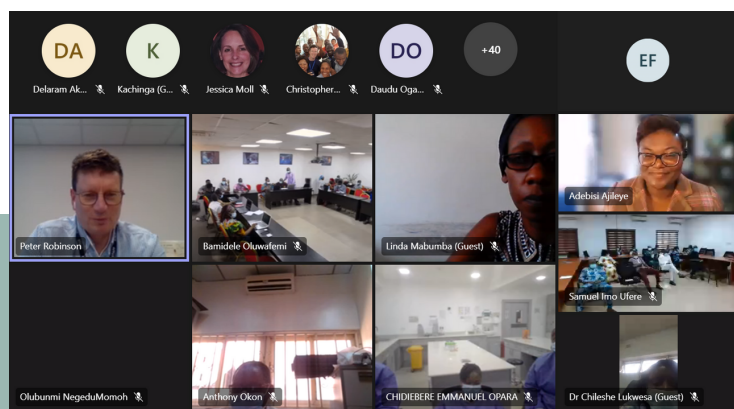


Updates from the IHR Project

Celebrating Successful Outcomes in Challenging Times - Laboratory Leaders Celebration Event

At the beginning of October we celebrated our colleagues from Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, Ethiopia Public Health Institute and Zambia National Public Health Institute who have taken part in our "Laboratory Leadership" series, exploring and developing their skills in leadership and management in the laboratory environment. The event marked the end to the virtual sessions and celebrated the achievements, friendships and best practises that were gained throughout the workshops.

[Read about the Laboratory Leaders Series and the final celebration event](#)



The Laboratory Leaders Virtual Celebration Event

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

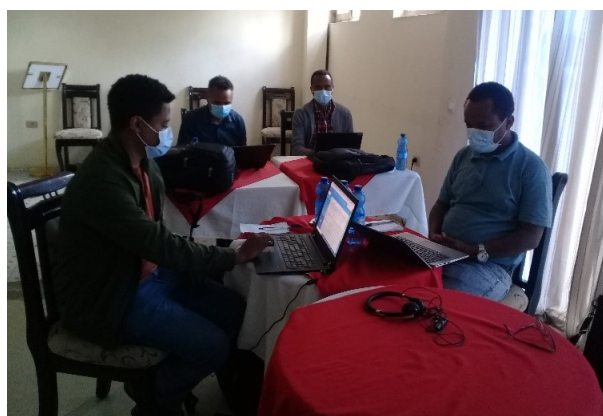


Respiratory Sample Management Training in Ethiopia

The IHR Strengthening Project alongside United States Centre for Disease Control and Ohio State University participated in a workshop to support the Ethiopian Public Health Institute to strengthen their Influenza-Like illness (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) surveillance system.

These capacity building activities provided both epidemiological and virologic learning to meet knowledge gaps, enhance national capacities, and better prepare against seasonal, zoonotic, and pandemic influenza threats.

[Read more about the workshop](#)



EPHI Workshop on Respiratory Sample Management and Surveillance

Updates from the IHR Project

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



Leadership development programme with ZNPHI

The Workforce Development team are running a new programme for the middle managers of ZNPHI in Zambia. The programme was developed in partnership and is being delivered with a blended approach of face to face and online learning, facilitated by Peter Robinson and Jess Moll from the IHR Strengthening Programme.

Participants from across all the ZNPHI cluster covered topics including “Knowing yourself” and “Managing change”. Popular topics included “Where do I cast light and shadow?” and sessions on “Being more direct”.

The event was organised by UKHSA Zambia team led by Joe Pett, Country Lead and hosted by Dr Nyambe (Head of ZNPHI’s Workforce Development cluster). The event was opened by Dr Musonda, Acting Director ZNPHI.

Participants set themselves actions to improve their leadership practice in the immediate term and will continue the programme with a series of weekly virtual sessions.



Updates from the IHR Project

The IHR Strengthening Project Featured in Government Science and Engineering Newsletter!

The Government Science and Engineering (GSE) profession is a network of 10,000 civil servants with a background or interest in science and engineering working across a range of deep specialist, specialist, policy, analytical and operational roles.

This month we have been featured in the "STEM in the Spotlight" section of their Newsletter, highlighting the work we do!

STEM Spotlight

The International Health Regulations (IHR) Strengthening Project is funded by Official Development Assistance through the Department of Health and Social Care.

The UK Health Security Agency led project provides technical assistance to low- and middle-income countries to improve their compliance with the IHR.

The project works in six countries (Ethiopia, Myanmar (currently paused), Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Zambia), and through regional multilateral agencies (e.g. Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention), linking with the World Health Organization.

Taking a One Health, all hazards approach, the project has worked to reduce the impact of public health emergencies and improve national, regional, and global health security; contributing to stronger national public health systems, better equipped to prevent, detect, and respond to public health threats.

The IHR-SP has a triple mandate to :

1. Build technical capabilities
2. Strengthen leadership
3. Develop sustainable resilient public health systems

Find out more about the great work [here](#).



[Access the full newsletter here:](#)

No Rest for the Wicket - The IHR Core UK Team Away Day at the Oval

Following the easing of COVID restrictions, the UK Core IHR team met all together at the Oval cricket ground in London for the first time in over 18 months.

As well as getting the opportunity to meet each other face to face (some for the first time!) We had workshops on team structures, roles and responsibilities; personalities in the workplace; cultural contexts and equality. We also took a deep dive into what wellbeing means to us and how we can improve both wellbeing and resilience!

We already can't wait until the next away day and wish we could have had our international based colleagues join us!

The IHR Core UK team at the Oval cricket ground in London



New resources on the IHR Project Knowledge Hub

 Access on the [Publications and reports page of our knowledge hub](#).

Workforce Development Tool of the Month: Personality

The September 'tool of the month' from the IHR Project's Workforce Development Team looks at the topic of Personalities; we all have one, and understanding them can help our teams and our leaders.

This is the fifth 'tool of the month' from the IHR Project's Workforce Development Team and over the coming months they will be sharing their favourite concepts, models, hints and tips to help our teams in all different work environments. Please come back each month to see what they are sharing!

Personality - We all have one!

This is the fifth 'tool of the month' from the IHR Project's Workforce Development Team. We are sharing our favourite concepts, models, hints, and tips that resonate with us and really helped us out in different work environments. Please come back each month to see what we are sharing. As with any concepts, models, hints and tips – these do not represent a fixed way of doing things, they are not hard and fast rules – if they resonate with you please make use of them – if they don't that's fine too!

Personality – how this helps teams and leaders

Leadership is not an exact science and the role of personality gives us something to think about. We all have different personalities and we use them in lots of ways.

Preview of the October workforce development tool, available on the knowledge hub

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Executive Leadership Programme - Case Study

The Executive Programme for Global Health Leadership, delivered by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), is a renowned programme with the aim of developing, training and supporting the mentorship of leaders in public health, specifically with a focus on global health security.

This case study outlines the collaboration which took place between the IHR Project and the Executive Leadership Programme teams, to fund the places for 5 key public health personnel from partner national public health institutes (NPHIs) in Africa and Asia for the Programme's academic year 2020/2021.


[Access the case study here](#)

Media round up

A selection of recent appearances of the IHR Project in the media. Please click the items to view the posts.

Dr Samuel Collins @DrSamColl

The [@UKgovGHS](#) [@UKHSA](#) [#IHR_Strengthening](#) Project is supporting the inaugural meeting of the National One Health Risk Surveillance and Information Sharing group with [@NCDCgov](#) and [@FAONigeria](#).



10:11 AM · Oct 29, 2021 · Twitter Web App

3 Retweets 4 Likes

Tweet your reply

Dr Samuel Collins @DrSamColl · 3h

Replying to [@DrSamColl](#)

The group will establish a system for routine exchange of information and discussion about emerging threats and other significant events in Nigeria [@NafdacAgency](#) [@FmardNg](#) [@FMENing](#) [@UKinNigeria](#) [@solaruna](#) [@DrEmeruemJnr](#) [@MartinMuita2](#) [@abl_g](#) [@awils8](#)

Dr Ebere Okereke MBBS DTM&H MSc (PH) FFPH @DrEmeruemJnr

I still recognise a few people. Great to see the diversity in the team! [@DrSamColl](#) [#IHR_Strengthening](#)

Dr Samuel Collins @DrSamColl · Oct 19

Today marked the first time that most of the [@UKHSA](#) [#ihr_strengthening](#) core team met face to face for 18 months. Proud to be part of the team leading this project. Best team ever!



7:07 PM · Oct 21, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

4 Likes

Dr Samuel Collins @DrSamColl

Continuing to celebrate our joint achievements in [@UKHSA](#) [#ihr_strengthening](#). Well done to all involved [@UKgovGHS](#)

UK in Nigeria @UKinNigeria · Oct 8

Today our [@UKHSA](#) colleagues in [@UKinNigeria](#) and [@NCDCgov](#) colleagues join the IHR Laboratory Leaders Celebration event to celebrate our collective achievements and successful outcomes in challenging times in [#IHR_Strengthening](#).



12:42 PM · Oct 8, 2021 · Twitter for Android

UK in Nigeria @UKinNigeria

Today our [@UKHSA](#) colleagues in [@UKinNigeria](#) and [@NCDCgov](#) colleagues join the IHR Laboratory Leaders Celebration event to celebrate our collective achievements and successful outcomes in challenging times in [#IHR_Strengthening](#).



UK Health Security Agency and 7 others

12:38 PM · Oct 8, 2021 · Twitter Web App

8 Retweets 2 Quote Tweets 29 Likes

Christopher H. Logue @thevirologist

Fantastic to listen to the reflections of our colleagues at [@EPHIethiopia](#) as part of the [@UKHSA](#) [#IHR_Strengthening](#) Laboratory Leaders event today. Celebrating two years of activities that further strengthen our relations with future laboratory leaders in [@UKinEthiopia](#)



3:01 PM · Oct 8, 2021 · Twitter Web App

2 Retweets 3 Likes

Dr Samuel Collins @DrSamColl

Today marked the first time that most of the [@UKHSA](#) [#ihr_strengthening](#) core team met face to face for 18 months. Proud to be part of the team leading this project. Best team ever!



7:06 PM · Oct 19, 2021 · Twitter for Android

2 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 15 Likes

Tweet your reply

Martin Muita @MartinMuita2 · Oct 20

Replying to [@DrSamColl](#) and [@UKHSA](#)

Very proud of the best work colleagues meeting face to face. Well done! 🎉🎉 looking forward to meet you soon. [@DrSamColl](#) [#ihr_strengthening](#) the [@UKHSA](#)

Dr Law @Lawrendozi · Oct 19

Replying to [@DrSamColl](#) and [@UKHSA](#)

Great!

Dr Law @Lawrendozi · Oct 19

Replying to [@DrSamColl](#) and [@UKHSA](#)

Great! I look forward to meeting this team, soon.

October Wellbeing Tip

During Autumn, the shorter days can affect our wellbeing, it is more important than ever to make sure you are looking after yourselves. From eating a balanced diet, to still keeping active and taking care of your mental wellbeing, here is a link to helpful resources for your mental health: Every Mind Matters - NHS (www.nhs.uk).