

MAY 2022

# THE IHR PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Updates from UKHSA's  
International Health Regulations  
Strengthening Project

## In this edition

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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](mailto:IHR.Programme@phe.gov.uk)

Or alternatively, reach out to our communication leads:  
Ellie Fairfoot, Project Officer  
[ellie.fairfoot@phe.gov.uk](mailto:ellie.fairfoot@phe.gov.uk)  
Beenish Arfeen, Project Administrator  
[beenish.arfeen@phe.gov.uk](mailto:beenish.arfeen@phe.gov.uk)  
Annabel Grieve, Project Manager  
[annabel.grieve@phe.gov.uk](mailto:annabel.grieve@phe.gov.uk)



## IHR Strengthening Project Explores Partnerships in the Indo Pacific region

In light of the renewed three-year funding cycle, the IHR Strengthening project has an opportunity to expand the reach of its capacity strengthening activities. From 2018-2020 the project was active in Myanmar, working closely with the Ministry of Health and Sports to implement IHR strengthening activities.

Building on the successes of the projects work in Myanmar and historical engagement of PHE/UKHSA in the Indo Pacific region the project has initiated scoping activities to explore potential bilateral and regional IHR strengthening work in the Indo Pacific. To that end, members of the projects leadership team visited Jakarta, Indonesia, home of The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) secretariat in early May 2022 to initiate discussions with FCDO and key regional stakeholders. The team met with representatives from the British Embassy, the UK Mission to ASEAN, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Fleming Fund and WHO.

The team were grateful of the very warm welcome to Indonesia and the fruitful discussions had with all stakeholders. Further discussions and scoping visits will occur over the coming weeks as the project refines its plans for future collaborative working in the region. Look out for further updates!

[Find the full article on the hub](#)





# Updates from the IHR Project

## The UK IHR Project Team Meets with the New Director General at the Ethiopian Public Health Institute



This month, members from the UKHSA IHR Strengthening Project team travelled to Ethiopia to meet with the new Director-General for the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI), Dr. Mesay Hailu. The team had the opportunity to discuss ongoing and future collaborations between our two organisations, reinforcing once again our commitment to EPHI and discussing shared priorities over the next few years.

The DG was impressed by our work so far and believed the IHR Strengthening Project has a valuable role for supporting EPHI in strengthening global health security. We look forward to continuing our productive partnership moving forwards.

Whilst in country, the UK team met with the Ethiopia country team to discuss their current working practices and priorities. They also met with the senior leadership of US CDC, including the Director and Deputy Director of programmes for US CDC Ethiopia at the Ethiopia US CDC offices in EPHI, and engaged with them around opportunities for programming synergies and collaboration.

The team also attended the celebrations for the first cohort of the Africa CDC Kofi Annan Global Leadership Fellowship, training the next generation of public health leaders for Africa by Africans. Members of the IHR project sit on the steering committee and have helped this work come to fruition.

**[Find the full article on the hub](#)**



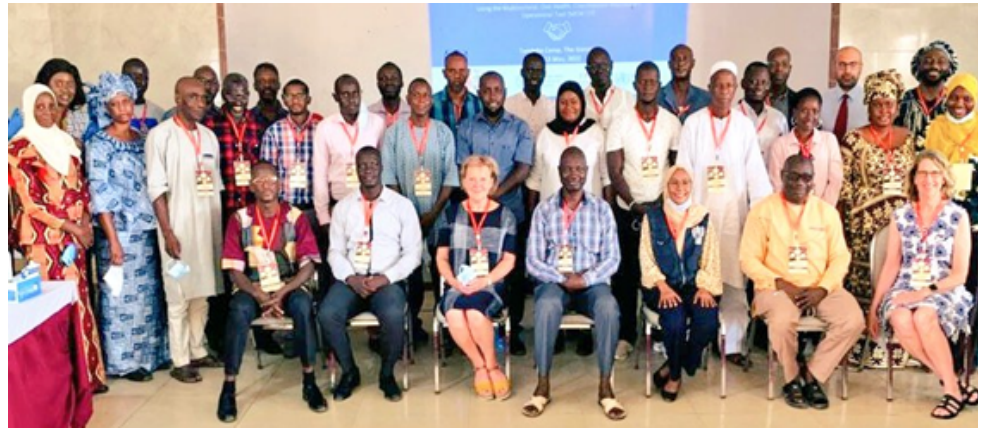
# Updates from the IHR Project

## One Health Multisector Coordination Mechanism Operational Tool Pilot in Gambia

The One Health (OH) Team, led by Prof Dilys Morgan and Dr Osman Dar, facilitated a pilot of the Multisector Coordination Mechanism (MCM) operational tool (OT) in the Gambia in May 2022. As well as supporting the finalisation of the OT, the work contributes to building the national and regional capacity to develop strong OH platforms and trains local facilitators to take the OT forward.

In attendance were participants from the WHO, FAO, Gambian Ministry of Health (MOH) and other government departments such as the National Public Health Laboratories, Ministry of Environment and Climate change, NDMA etc.

The priority of the workshop was to strengthen the OH platform, using MCM OT to produce a national action plan for One Health in the Gambia. The work was successful, and the team are planning future workshops in other IHR project focal regions as a result.



[Read the full article on the hub](#)

## Supporting the professional development of Admin/HR workforce at NCDC

One of our projects expert technical areas is workforce capability building, for improved global health security. A 3-day workshop was held 10th to the 12th May in partnership between UKHSA and the apex regulatory body for the practice of Human Resource Management in Nigeria (CIPM) to support professional development of the Administration/ Human Resource Workforce Professional Development at NCDC, contributing to system strengthening and building workforce capacity.

The workshop focussed on a number of areas including aligning HR/Admin practices to strategic goals, HR policy formulation and implementation, and career/succession planning. The workshop was incredibly successful, with the Director General of NCDC addressing the participants on the final day, thanking CIPM for their input and to UKHSA for responding to the organisations expressed needs.



[Find the full article on the hub](#)



# New Resources Available on The Knowledge Hub

Access the latest resources and publications from the IHR Project and its partners on the **"Resources" page of the knowledge hub.**

## Strengthening global health security – lessons learned from Public Health England's International Health Regulations Strengthening Project

ITAD | February 2022

The UK government has invested in health security capacity development through various projects and agencies, including the UK Department of Health and Social Care, whose Global Health Security Programme provides funding to Public Health England (PHE) to implement health security support. This article describes the results and conclusions of the midterm evaluation, undertaken by Itad, of one of Public Health England's global health projects: International Health Regulations Strengthening, which operates across six countries and works with the Africa Centres for Disease Control. It also highlights some of the key lessons learned for the benefit of other agencies moving into supporting national health security efforts.

## Comment on Carson et al: Strengthening global health security – lessons learned from Public Health England's International Health Regulations strengthening project

UK Health Security Agency | May 2022

Response to the Itad evaluation of the Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) Public Health England (PHE) International Health Regulations (IHR) Strengthening project.

