



Global Health Cluster

Key Resources for All-Hazard Preparedness and Readiness in Humanitarian Cluster Operations

Updated July 2024



Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Health Emergency Frameworks.....	4
Health Emergency Operations.....	4
Health Security Preparedness	5
Contingency Planning.....	5
Simulation Exercises	5
Risk Assessment	6
Disease Surveillance and Early Warning.....	6
Health System Capacity	6
Continuation of Essential Health Services	7
Localisation.....	7
Multisectoral preparedness	7
Community Protection/ Risk Communication.....	8
Funding.....	8
Capacity Development	9

Introduction

Within the International Health Regulations, WHO's Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Resilience (HEPR) framework and the IASC Emergency Response and Preparedness Approach, the Health Cluster is bestowed with the responsibility and accountability of delivering health emergency preparedness and response interventions to affected populations. Health emergency preparedness and operational readiness are core cluster functions (Health Cluster Guide Section 9) to be prioritized within the humanitarian response plan.

Based on evidence from the COVID-19 response and studies conducted to establish a baseline of the state of preparedness and operational readiness in health cluster operations, the Global Health Cluster is developing tools to support health clusters in strengthening preparedness planning, reinforcing coordination with national health preparedness stakeholders, and advancing operational readiness capacity.

This document is a repository of available guidance, data and tools for planning, implementing and building the capacity of the health cluster to detect potential risks, plan and scale up prioritized response actions and increase resilience of essential health services and affected populations.

This repository does not provide technical guidance on specific risks such as high-threat pathogens. These are available from WHO and other global public health partners.

This document will be updated as health risks evolve and as guidance and tools are being updated.

Health Emergency Frameworks

1	<p>Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Resilience (HEPR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the global architecture for health emergency prevention, preparedness, response and resilience https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/strengthening-the-global-architecture-for-health-emergency-prevention--preparedness--response-and-resilience - WHO HEPR Partners Platform https://partnersplatform.who.int/hepr/en/
2	<p>International Health Regulations (IHR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response https://www.who.int/teams/ihr/ihr-review-committees/covid-19 - National IHR Focal Points https://www.who.int/teams/ihr/national-focal-points
3	<p>WHO Resources for NAPHS development as part of the IHR core capacity https://www.who.int/emergencies/operations/international-health-regulations-monitoring-evaluation-framework/national-action-plan-for-health-security</p>
4	<p>WHO (2019) Health emergency and disaster risk management framework https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/326106</p>
5	<p>The updated WHO Benchmarks for Strengthening Health Emergency Capacities expanded to include public health and social measures (PHSM) https://www.who.int/news/item/02-02-2024-the-updated-who-benchmarks-for-strengthening-health-emergency-capacities-expanded-to-include-public-health-and-social-measures-(phsm)</p>
6	<p>WHO Strategic Partnership for Health Security and Emergency Preparedness (SPH) Portal https://extranet.who.int/sph/</p>

Health Emergency Operations

1	<p>Health Cluster Guide (2nd edition, 2020) Chapter 9: Health cluster in emergency preparedness https://healthcluster.who.int/resources</p>
2	<p>WHO Emergency response framework (ERF), Edition 2.1 https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240058064</p>
3	<p>WHO Framework for a Public Health Emergency Operations Centre https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/framework-for-a-public-health-emergency-operations-centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHO PHEOC Network (EOC-NET) https://www.who.int/groups/eoc-net
4	<p>UNICEF Operational Response Framework for Public Health Emergencies https://www.unicef.org/media/153596/file/Operational%20response%20framework%20for.pdf</p>
5	<p>IASC Humanitarian System-Wide Scale-Up Activation (includes resources such as Reference Modules, Coordination ToRs, etc.) https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/humanitarian-system-wide-scale-activation</p>

Health Security Preparedness

1	IASC [multi-hazard] Interagency Tools for Preparedness https://emergency.unhcr.org/emergency-preparedness/interagency-tools-preparedness (updates in progress) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IASC Emergency Response Preparedness - Minimum Preparedness Actions (includes an MPA checklist template) https://emergency.unhcr.org/emergency-preparedness/interagency-tools-preparedness/emergency-response-preparedness-minimum-preparedness-actions-iasc - IASC Emergency Response Preparedness - Advanced Preparedness Actions (includes an APA checklist template) https://emergency.unhcr.org/emergency-preparedness/interagency-tools-preparedness/emergency-response-preparedness-advanced-preparedness-actions-iasc
2	OCHA Anticipatory Action https://www.unocha.org/anticipatory-action?gad_source=1&gclid=EAlaIQobChMljaw0vn4hgMVOqdoCR3PXAUBEAAYASAAEgLRxPD_BwE
3	IFRC Global Disaster Preparedness Center https://preparecenter.org
4	IFRC Community Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness https://www.ifrc.org/our-work/health-and-care/emergency-health/epidemic-and-pandemic-preparedness
5	Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Module 1: Planning for respiratory pathogen pandemics https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240084674 - A checklist for respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness planning https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240084513
6	WHO strategic risk assessment and disaster risk management https://www.who.int/activities/conducting-strategic-risk-assessment-for-all-hazards-in-countries
7	UNHCR (2020) The Preparedness Package for Refugee Emergencies (PPRE) https://emergency.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/The%20Preparedness%20Package%20for%20Refugee%20Emergencies%20%28PPRE%29%20%28updates%202021%29.pdf
8	Africa CDC Emergency Preparedness and Response https://africacdc.org/programme/emergency-preparedness-response/ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The African Health Volunteers Corps (AVoHC)

Contingency Planning

1	WHO guidance for contingency planning https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/260554/WHO-WHE-CPI-2018.13-eng.pdf
2	IFRC (2021) Contingency planning guide: how to conduct CP planning, checklist and template https://www.ifrc.org/document/contingency-planning-guide
3	ECDC Guidance for health system contingency planning during widespread transmission of SARS-CoV-2 with high impact on healthcare services, March 2020 https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/COVID-19-guidance-health-systems-contingency-planning.pdf

Simulation Exercises

1	WHO Simulation Exercise Manual https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-WHE-CPI-2017.10
2	GHC Simulation Exercises training https://healthcluster.who.int/our-work/capacity-development/simulation-exercises
3	UNDRR Conducting simulation exercises https://www.preventionweb.net/conducting-simulation-exercises
4	ECDC Simulation exercises in public health settings: Step-by-step exercise design https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/simulation-exercises-public-health-settings-step-by-step-exercise-design.pdf

Risk Assessment

1	WHO Strategic toolkit for assessing risks: a comprehensive toolkit for all-hazards health emergency risk assessment https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240036086
2	Global Health Cluster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Health Information Services Toolkit https://healthcluster.who.int/our-work/task-teams/information-management-task-team/public-health-information-services-toolkit - IM Task Team Analysis and Assessments Resource Repository (includes links to JIAF, HeRAMS, 3/4W, PiN and severity calculators, PHIS etc) https://healthcluster.who.int/our-work/task-teams/information-management-task-team/analysis-and-assessments
3	WHO Scorecard all-hazards emergency preparedness capacities in countries assessed and reported https://www.who.int/about/accountability/results/who-results-report-2020-2021/outcome/2021/countries-prepared-for-health-emergencies
4	INFORM Risk Index: global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk
5	ACAPS risk data https://www.acaps.org/en/data

Disease Surveillance and Early Warning

1	Global Health Cluster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Health Information Services Toolkit https://healthcluster.who.int/our-work/task-teams/information-management-task-team/public-health-information-services-toolkit - GHC - HRP Health Monitoring Framework https://data.humdata.org/dataset/health-hrp-monitoring-framework - Global Health Cluster list of indicators for monitoring health conditions https://data.humdata.org/dataset/ghc-list-of-indicators
2	WHO Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) resources, including EWARS in a Box https://www.who.int/emergencies/surveillance/early-warning-alert-and-response-system-ewars
3	WHO HEPR Defining collaborative surveillance https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/367927/9789240074064-eng.pdf?sequence=1
4	IFRC Community-Based Surveillance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guiding principles (includes protocol template and assessment tools) https://www.ifrc.org/document/community-based-surveillance-guiding-principles - Indonesian Red Cross Experience https://www.ifrc.org/sites/default/files/2021-12/CaseStudy_Indonesia_CommunityBasedSurveillance_IFRC-PMI_English_short.pdf

Health System Capacity

1	WHO Handbook for conducting assessments of barriers to effective coverage with health services https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240094765
2	GHC/ WHO PQAT Primary Care Facility Quality of Care Assessment Tool for Humanitarian Settings https://healthcluster.who.int/publications/m/item/primary-health-care-facility-quality-of-care-assessment-tool-for-humanitarian-settings
3	Essential public health functions, health systems and health security https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241514088
4	Building health systems resilience for universal health coverage and health security during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond: a brief on the WHO position https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-UHL-PHC-SP-2021.02
5	Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Framework https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241516181

Continuation of Essential Health Services

1	Health service continuity planning for public health emergencies: a handbook for health facilities https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240033337
2	GHC guidance note: Prioritizing Essential Health Services https://healthcluster.who.int/publications/m/item/essential-health-services
3	Maintaining essential health services: operational guidance for the COVID-19 context: interim guidance, 1 June 2020 https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-essential_health_services-2020.2
4	Monitoring frontline service readiness capacities during the COVID-19 pandemic https://www.who.int/teams/integrated-health-services/monitoring-health-services/monitoring-frontline-service-readiness-capacities-during-the-covid-19-pandemic
5	Community-based health care, including outreach and campaigns, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Comm_health_care-2020.1
6	WHO Health Workforce Estimator (HWFE) https://www.who.int/europe/tools-and-toolkits/strengthening-the-health-system-response-to-covid-19/Strike-planning-tools/health-workforce-estimator-(hwfe)
7	WHO/ UNHCR Health workforce estimator in humanitarian settings https://healthcluster.who.int/publications/m/item/health-workforce-estimator-tool

Localisation

1	Health Cluster Localization Strategy https://healthcluster.who.int/publications/m/item/towards-a-meaningful-engagement-of-local-and-national-actors-in-the-health-cluster
2	IASC Localisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IASC Task Force 5 on Localisation https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/localisation-0 - IASC Guidance on Strengthening Participation, Representation and Leadership of Local and National Actors in IASC Humanitarian Coordination Mechanisms https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/operational-response/iasc-guidance-strengthening-participation-representation-and-leadership-local-and-national-actors
3	IFRC Localization https://www.ifrc.org/happening-now/advocacy-hub/localization

Multisectoral preparedness

1	WHO Multisectoral preparedness coordination framework https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240006232
2	UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/inter-agency-standing-committee/un-iasc-light-guidance-collective-outcomes
3	Joint Operational Framework: Health and Protection https://healthcluster.who.int/publications/m/item/health-and-protection-joint-operational-framework
4	Joint Operational Framework: Improving Coordinated and Integrated Multi-Sector Cholera Preparedness and Response within Humanitarian Crises https://healthcluster.who.int/publications/m/item/joint-operational-framework-improving-coordinated-and-integrated-multi-sector-cholera-preparedness-and-response-within-humanitarian-crises
5	Global Health Cluster: Accountability to Affected Populations https://healthcluster.who.int/resources/accountability-to-affected-populations
6	Global Health Cluster: Inter-Cluster / Sector Collaboration (ICSC) https://healthcluster.who.int/our-work/inter-cluster-collaboration

Community Protection/ Risk Communication

1	WHO Strengthening community protection and resilience for health emergencies: Resources, guidance and tools https://www.who.int/activities/strengthening-community-readiness-for-health-emergencies
2	WHO competency framework, risk communication and community engagement https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240092501
3	WHO outbreak communication planning guide https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241597449
4	IFRC/UNICEF/WHO Collective Service: Repository of resources, guidance, data, tools and training https://www.rcce-collective.net
5	Ready Initiative Practical Guidance for Risk Communication and Community Engagement for Refugees, IDPs, Migrants and Host Communities Particularly Vulnerable to COVID-19 Pandemic https://www.ready-initiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Practical-Guidance-RCCE-Refugees-IDPs-Migrants.pdf
6	Ready Initiative RCCE Readiness Toolkit https://www.ready-initiative.org/rcce-readiness-kit/
7	Ready Initiative RCCE Outbreak Readiness Training https://www.ready-initiative.org/ready-training/risk-communication-and-community-engagement-outbreak-readiness-training/
8	COVID-19: How to include marginalized and vulnerable people in risk communication and community engagement https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/system/files/2020-03/COVID-19%20-%20How%20to%20include%20marginalized%20and%20vulnerable%20people%20in%20risk%20communication%20and%20community%20engagement.pdf
9	Operational guide for engaging communities in contact tracing https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Contact_tracing-Community_engagement-2021.1-eng
10	EPI-WIN Infodemic Management https://www.who.int/teams/epi-win

Funding

1	WHO Health Emergency Dashboard: Donor and Resource Landscape (database with donor profiles) https://extranet.who.int/sph/resource-landscape
2	Humanitarian Data Exchange https://data.humdata.org/
3	UN Country-based Pooled Fund Data Hub https://cbpf.data.unocha.org/
4	Supporting the development of Pandemic Fund proposals - Introductory webinar recordings https://openwho.org/courses/webinar-pandemic-fund-proposals

Capacity Development

1	Global Health Cluster E-learning https://healthcluster.who.int/our-work/capacity-development/e-learning
2	WHO Emergencies Training https://www.who.int/emergencies/training
3	WHO Health Emergencies WHE Programme Learning Strategy https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/whe-learning-strategy Companion Documents https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/documents/publications/companion-documents-who-health-emergencies-programme-learning-strategy.pdf?sfvrsn=84640d96_1
4	Introduction to the WHO Emergency Response Framework (ERF), Edition 2.1 https://openwho.org/courses/ERF
5	WHO Ready for Response Course Series https://openwho.org/channels/response - Ready4Response https://openwho.org/courses/ready4response-tier1-EN
6	WHO Incident Management System Training - Incident Management System (Tier 1) https://openwho.org/courses/incident-management-system - IMS Tier 2: Working in WHO's Incident Management System https://openwho.org/courses/incident-management-system-tier2 - WHO Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Emergencies https://openwho.org/courses/SOPs-for-emergencies
7	OpenWHO HEPR Learning Course Series https://openwho.org/channels/hepr#:~:text=The%20Health%20Emergency%20Preparedness%2C%20Response%20and%20Resilience%20(HEPR)%20learning,to%20strengthen%20the%20five%20Cs
8	OpenWHO Pandemic and epidemic-prone diseases https://openwho.org/courses/pandemic-epidemic-diseases
9	Preparing for Pandemics Course Series https://openwho.org/channels/pandemics
10	National Action Plans for Health Security (NAPHS): Leveraging WHO's new integrated and holistic planning approach https://openwho.org/courses/NAPHS-intro
11	OpenWHO e-learning course: The Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC) https://openwho.org/courses/PHEOC-EN
12	OpenWHO Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response Course Series https://openwho.org/channels/idsr#:~:text=Integrated%20Disease%20Surveillance%20and%20Response%20(IDSR)%20is%20a%20strategy%20adopted,all%20levels%20of%20health%20systems
13	OpenWHO e-learning course: EWARS in a box https://openwho.org/courses/EWARS-in-a-box
14	OpenWHO e-learning course: Environment, climate change and health for practitioners and actors guiding policy change https://openwho.org/courses/health-environment-climate-change
15	Health Security Learning Platform Online learning programs https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/?lang=eng
16	OCHA Preparedness and Response Effectiveness Programme (PREP) https://www.dialoguing.org/training-and-partnerships/prep-course#
17	HELP Health Emergencies in Large Populations course https://hopkinshumanitarianhealth.org/education/help-course/
18	READY Outbreak Readiness and Response Learning Hub https://kayaconnect.org/course/info.php?id=4272
19	KIT Royal Tropical Institute: Strengthening Disrupted Health Systems https://www.kit.nl/institute/programme/strengthening-disrupted-health-systems/