



STRENGTHENING NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES (NPHIs) TO EFFECTIVELY PREVENT AND RESPOND TO HEALTH THREATS

COVID-19 has exposed the critical need to invest in public health and improve the ability of global, national, and local public health institutions, systems, and communities to withstand the impacts of infectious diseases. Insufficient human and institutional capacity along with weak systems and structures are not able to deliver COVID-19 prevention, detection, and care services at scale.

Through the Building Capacity for National Public Health Institutes (NPHI) project, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is partnering with Management Sciences for Health and Battelle Memorial Institute to strengthen the technical and management capacity of NPHIs, such as the CDC, throughout the world.

The project aims to support national governments to strengthen NPHIs' abilities to coordinate across government, private sector, and civil society to carry out essential public health functions. Emphasizing strengthening emergency management and response efforts and learning from the current emergency to develop stronger, more resilient systems.

SPOTLIGHTING COUNTRY ACTIVITIES:

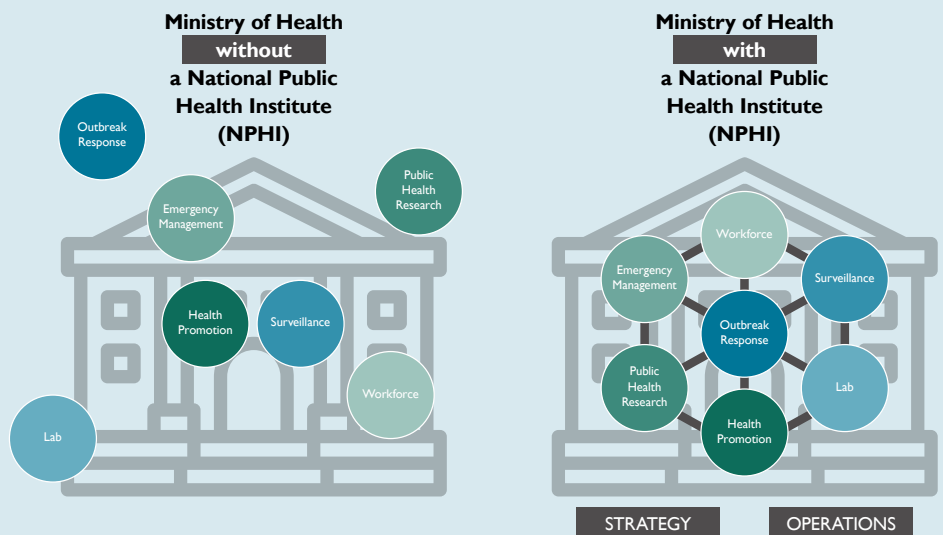
Taking a multi-level approach, the Building Capacity for National Public Health Institutes project is assisting both the Malawi and Uganda NPHIs in updating legislation to support their institutionalization into the countries' health systems.

In Malawi and Rwanda, the project is strengthening the organizational and technical capacity of NPHIs by contributing to the establishment of a Public Health Emergency Operations Center handbook and providing operational support to emergency operation centers (EOCs).

NPHIs ARE STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

As science-driven institutions, NPHIs lead and coordinate essential public health functions, typically operating within the government, under the ministry of health or closely attached to it. NPHIs are smart and strategic investments.

Serving as central hubs, they coordinate and implement linkages among critical global health security functions including disease surveillance, laboratory, emergency preparedness and response, and workforce development. By unifying national public health activities, NPHIs help countries prevent, detect, and respond to disease at its source.



TECHNICAL AREAS OF ASSISTANCE

CUSTOMIZED PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTISE AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Provide NPHIs and their partners with technical expertise and capacity building tailored to their challenges and context through an adaptable, country-led approach



- Conduct participatory, evidence-based analyses to uncover and address NPHI gaps
- Guide needs prioritization, establish shared direction, and co-design and implement demand-driven capacity development plans
- Provide access to global technical resources and subject matter expertise in essential public health functions, including epidemic preparedness and response and public health emergency management

BUILDING RESILIENCY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES



Work with government authorities to strengthen NPHIs' capacities to oversee emergency preparedness and outbreak response

- Establish and/or strengthen public health emergency operation centers (EOCs)
- Enhance incident command and management systems
- Expand national and international partnerships

INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF NPHIS



Support establishment of NPHIs' role within health systems

- Review how the country's essential public health functions are organized
- Improve alignment and coordination among relevant institutions
- Identify and advance policy changes to solidify and sustain NPHIs

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Enhance capacities of public health decision makers through virtual and in-person leadership development programs



- Provide coaching to health system leaders and teams to use proven leadership and management practices to strengthen their preparation and response to public health emergencies
- Customize resources to enhance existing training, such as CDC's Field Epidemiology Training Program
- Equip teams with epidemic response competencies including stewardship of scarce resources, crisis communication and coordination, and prioritization of urgent interventions

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