



WHO LYON OFFICE

History

The WHO Lyon Office was established in 2001 in the bio-district of Lyon, France, with support from the Government of France, the Lyon Metropole and the Mérieux Foundation. 2021 marks twenty years of support by the French government and the Metropolis of Lyon to the WHO Office in Lyon. These critical and valued partnerships underscore their strong commitment to strengthening public health emergencies preparedness, readiness and response.

Achievements

The Lyon Office has become a Center of Excellence for strengthening public health laboratories. It has developed and disseminated technical guidelines, tools, best practices and learning programmes to thousands of laboratory professionals working on the front line of the detection of infectious disease outbreaks. These efforts will be intensified to ensure that the next threats are detected and controlled at a very early stage, thanks to high quality and well-managed laboratory networks.

It has also developed leading expertise in enabling health security in international travel, at points of entry and mass gatherings and developing and designing innovative and interactive training and learning solutions for health professionals working in emergency preparedness, readiness and response.

The Office has mobilized its core expertise and resources to strengthen emergency preparedness, readiness and response and help fight disease outbreaks and public health threats all across the globe, including the COVID 19 pandemic in significant ways as part of WHO's frontline response.



20 years of strengthening global health security...

FOSTERING SYNERGIES WITH GLOBAL, REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS

Global health security requires the strengthening of country capacities for health emergency preparedness, readiness and response. The WHO Lyon office leverages the agency's convening power to tap into world class experts in public health and other sectors to develop technical guidance, tools and learning programmes in the areas of its core expertise. The Office collaborates with the WHO 6 regional offices and 150 country offices, to disseminate and ensure uptake of these resources at country level.



Developing and disseminating guidance, tools and training to better detect, assess and respond to public health emergencies



STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

- Support good governance and management of public health laboratories
- Strengthen laboratory networks, diagnostic capacity and quality
- Enhance laboratory workforce leadership and technical skills
- Ensure laboratory readiness during health emergencies
- Organize knowledge sharing for laboratory preparedness and response



ENABLING HEALTH SECURITY AT BORDERS AND MASS GATHERINGS

- Support risk management for mass gatherings, international travel and cross border movements, including at airports, ports and ground crossings (points of entry)
- Advance skills and capacities of health officials during mass gatherings and at points of entry
- Build and foster collaborative networks



ADVANCING SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Strengthen public health workforce through a systematic and sustainable approach to learning
- Design scalable, customisable and training programmes
- Build and host knowledge networks, innovative learning applications and online platforms for continuous, and certified learning