



# PRET

Preparedness and Resilience  
for Emerging Threats



World Health  
Organization

# Pandemic planning

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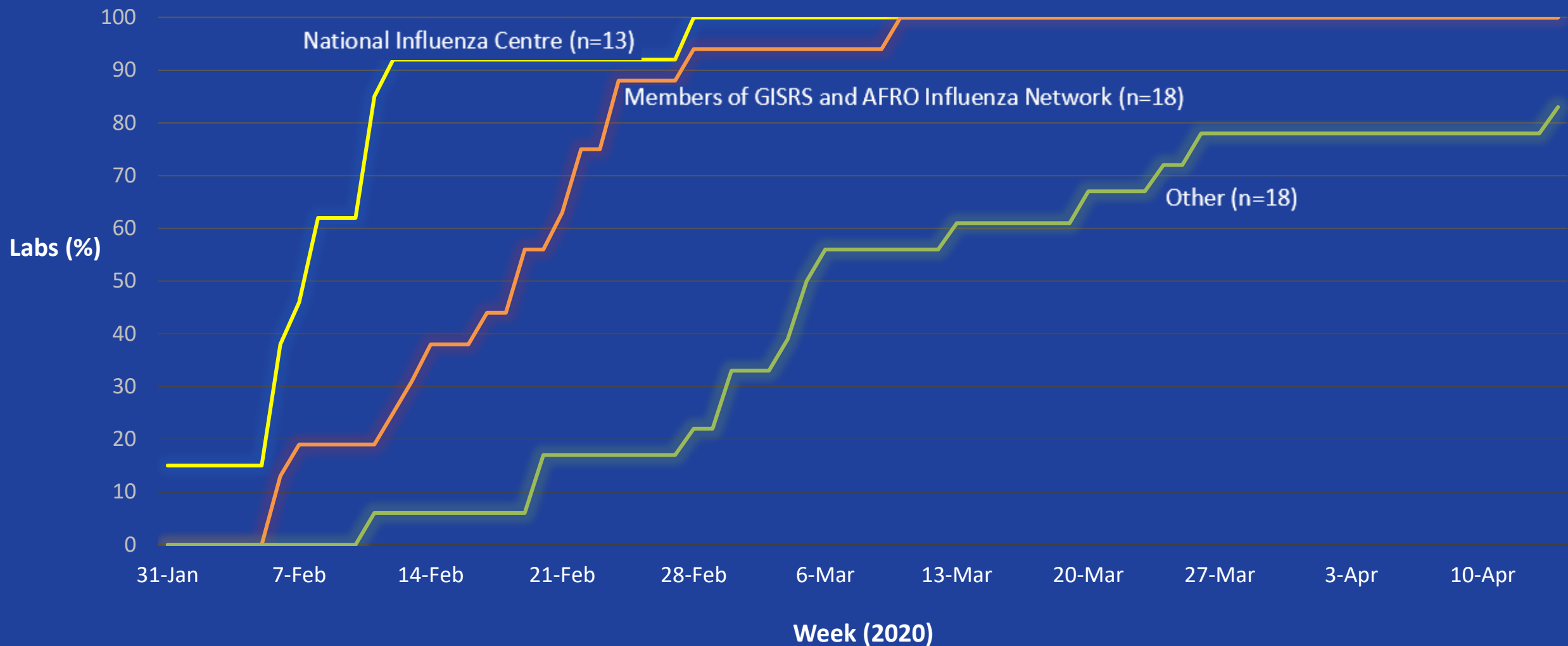
Influenza plans  
(by Dec 2018)



Our influenza plan was the first document that we turned to guide the response ”

Liberia MOH focal point  
April 2020

# In the African region, countries with pre-existing GISRS National Influenza Centres were significantly faster at establishing SARS-CoV-2 testing capacity



(slide courtesy: Dr Belinda Herring WHO/AFRO)



## A tale of two pandemics: improvements in regulatory performance between the 2009 influenza A(H1N1) pandemic to the COVID-19 pandemic

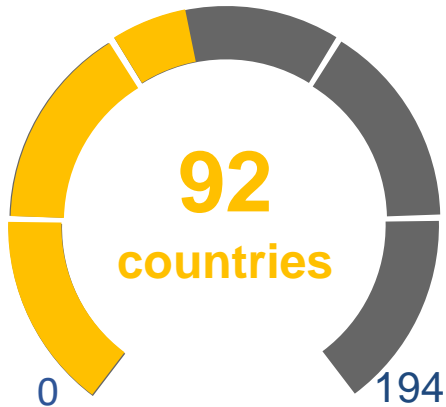
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For nearly a decade, through the [PIP PC](#), WHO has invested in regulatory strengthening to ensure timely access to quality pandemic products. But has this investment paid off? A comparison of regulatory performance in two pandemics suggests that it has.

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# Pandemic planning

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Influenza plans  
(by Dec 2018)



COVID-19 plans  
(by Dec 2020)

Pandemic planning works!  
We need to keep going...

- [www.who.int/publications/m/item/looking-back-at-a-year-that-changed-the-world-who-s-response-to-covid-19](http://www.who.int/publications/m/item/looking-back-at-a-year-that-changed-the-world-who-s-response-to-covid-19)
- [www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241515962#](http://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241515962#)

**New approach to improve pandemic preparedness for groups of pathogens based on their mode of transmission**

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# PRET

Preparedness and Resilience  
for Emerging Threats

WHA Resolutions 58.5, 74.7 & 75.7

IHR (2005)

One Health



# PRET global launch and call to action: April 2023



EPIDEMIC  
& PANDEMIC  
PREPAREDNESS  
& PREVENTION



## CALL TO ACTION

WHO, Member States, and partners are working together to identify and implement priority actions to strengthen national, regional, and global preparedness for pandemics and emerging infectious disease threats. We recognize the role of communities and all sectors, and the need for harmonized and sustained momentum to end the cycle of panic and neglect that is all too common in pandemic preparedness and response.

We recall lessons from previous epidemics and pandemics, especially those caused by respiratory pathogens. These pathogens have and will continue to pose a significant global threat with the potential to cause tremendous morbidity and mortality, overwhelm health systems, de-stabilize the global economy, and exacerbate inequities, which exist in the access to both the tools to prevent pandemics and health care for all people.

This is a Call to Action to accelerate preparedness for pandemics and emerging threats globally. Effective preparedness relies on robust planning and coordinated action. A collective commitment on the following actions will see progress achieved by December 2025 as will be described in the (Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) monitoring framework:

(1)

**Update preparedness plans that affirm priority actions** and that have considered learnings from past events. Recognizing the risk posed by respiratory pathogens, planning for a respiratory pathogen pandemic based on the themes identified in the PRET Module #1: *Planning for Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics* is a priority.

(2)

**Increase connectivity among stakeholders in pandemic preparedness planning through systematic coordination and cooperation.** This includes building equitable systems; conducting joint exercises; and sharing information on good practices, challenges, and opportunities.

(3)

**Dedicate sustained investments, financing and monitoring of pandemic preparedness** with a particular focus on addressing the gaps identified during past pandemics and epidemics.

The COVID-19 pandemic response has demonstrated what can be achieved with political commitment, community engagement and funding. At the heart of this work is to ensure equity to be ready for the next pandemic together. Whole-of-society action is needed to make the progress outlined in this Call to Action. Implementation should therefore strengthen the resilience of communities; maintain, sustain, and build on routine systems; and leverage broader capacities for emergency preparedness and response.

This Call to Action was released at the Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET): Global Meeting for Future Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics held on 24-26 April 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

[Call to action \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/call-to-action)



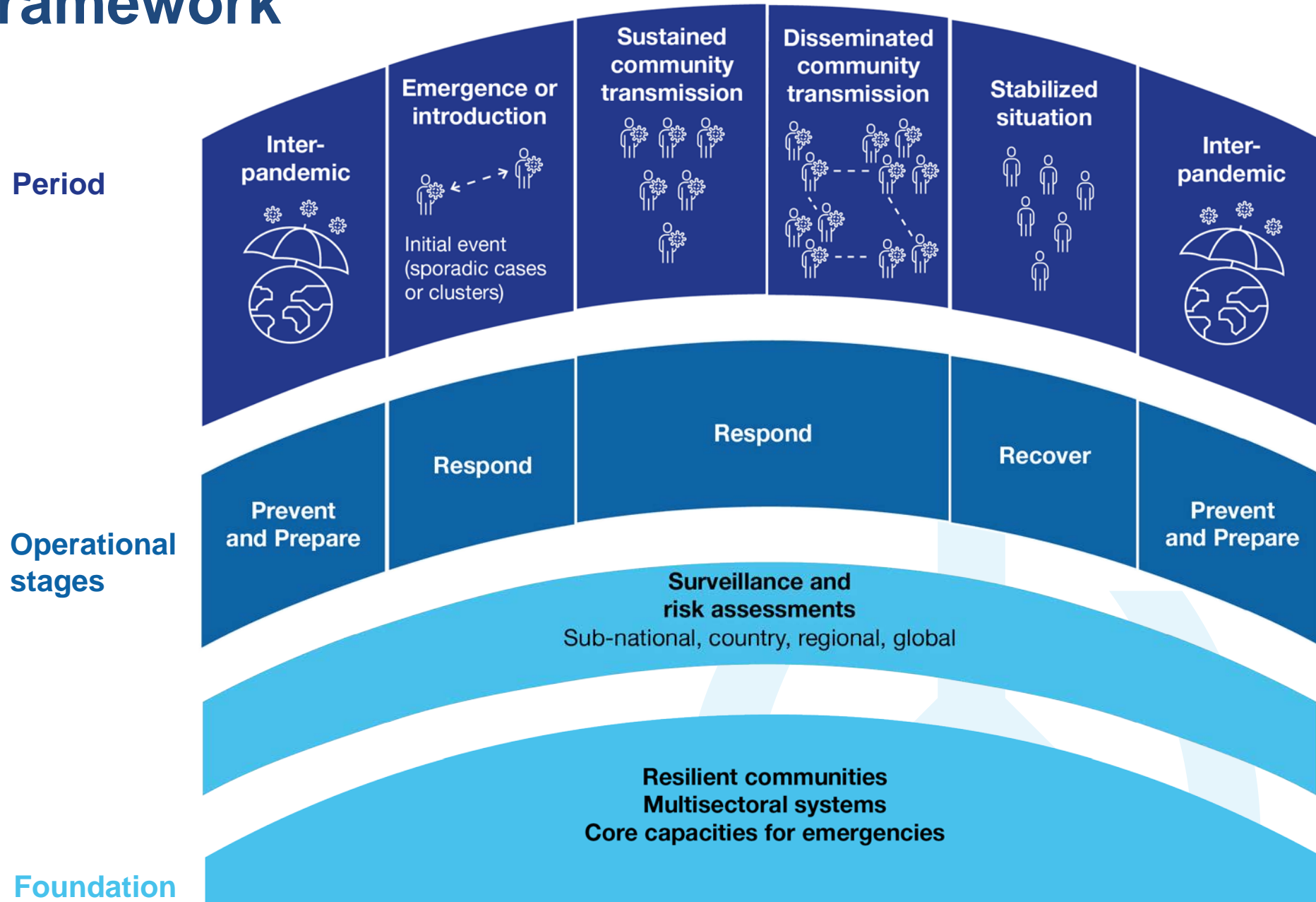
# Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats

MODULE 1: Planning for respiratory pathogen pandemics Version 1.0



- **Why respiratory pathogens first?** Ongoing pandemic risk (zoonotic influenza, MERS & other coronaviruses etc)
- The Module provides:
  - Updated **organizing framework, triggers and assumptions** to structure plans
  - Key actions, **organized in five subsystems ('5Cs')** and in line with IHR core capacities
  - **Tools and resources** for planning and preparedness strengthening
- **Living document**

# Organizing framework





# Key ask #1: update and exercise pandemic plans



Member States with a respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness plan that accounts for lessons from COVID-19\*

80% by 2031

70% by 2029

50% by 2027

30% by 2025

\*Plan developed or updated since the publication of PRET Module #1 on respiratory pathogens in April 2023





On 26 April 2023:

**WHO's Call  
to Action on  
pandemic  
planning**



One month later:

**54 countries**  
from  
**5 regions**  
started updating  
their pandemic  
plans



By end of 2023:

**100+  
countries**  
from all  
**6 regions**  
will have started  
updating their  
pandemic plans

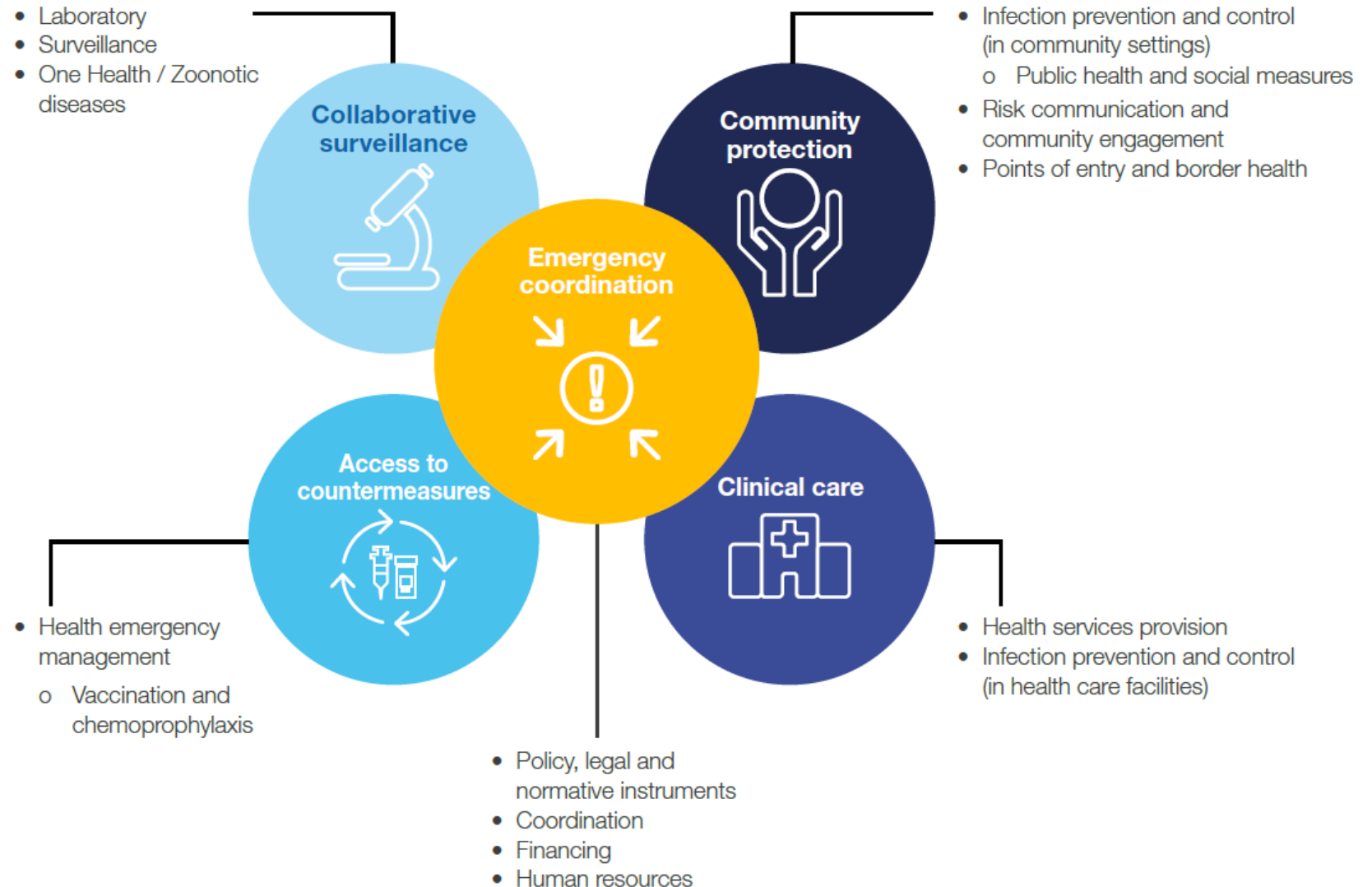
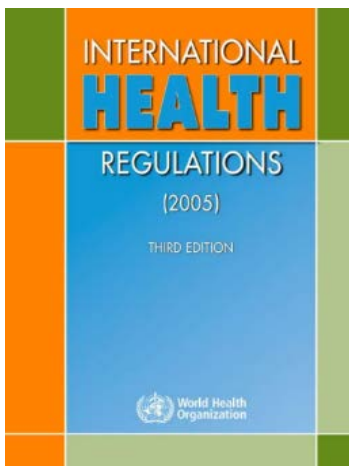
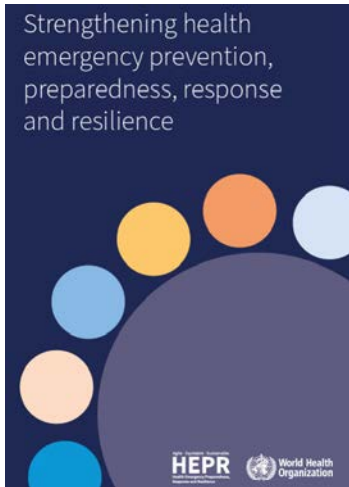


**PRET**

Preparedness and Resilience  
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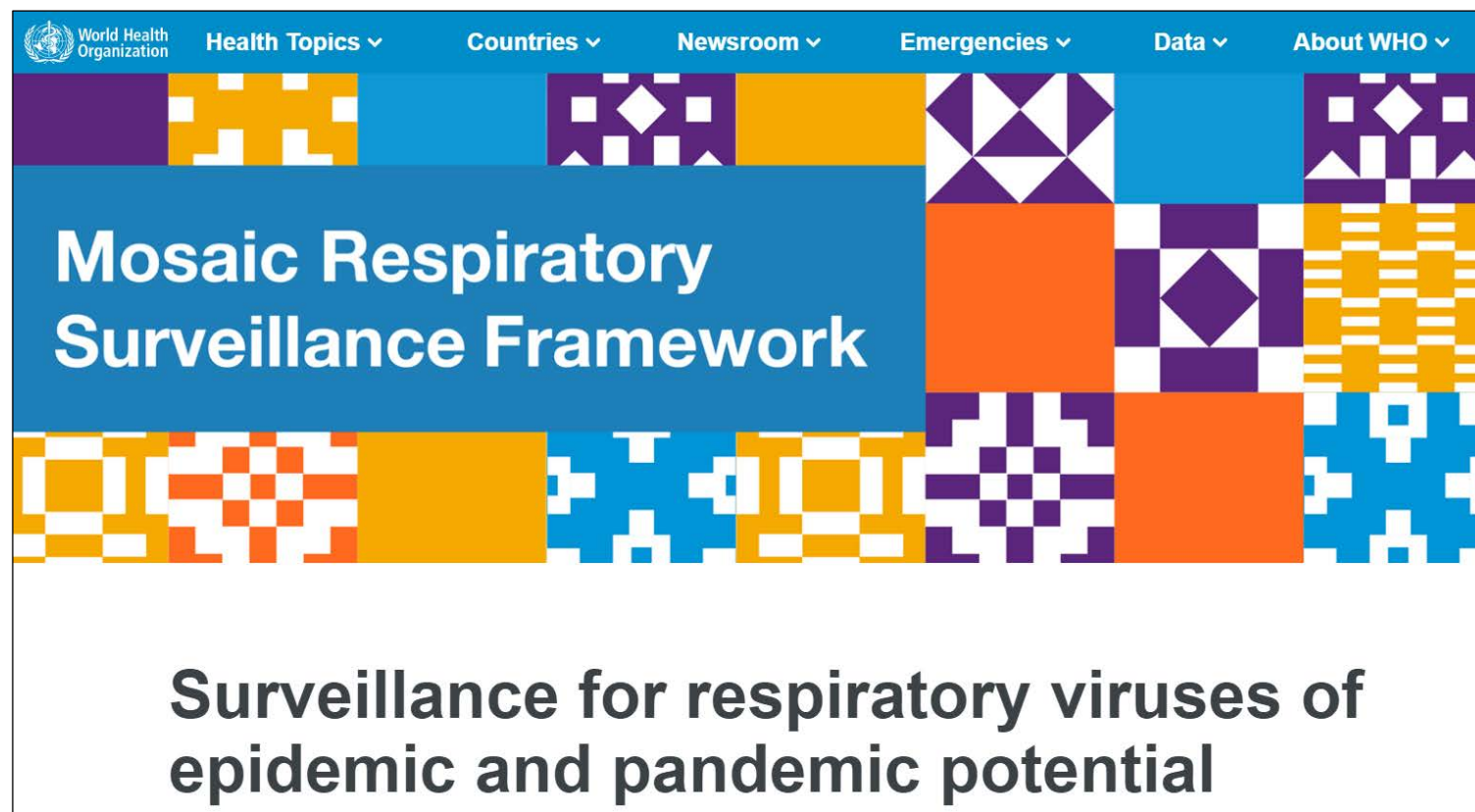


## Key ask #2: improve both all-hazard core capacities and hazard-focused systems: leverage what already exists & focus on what is used day-to-day

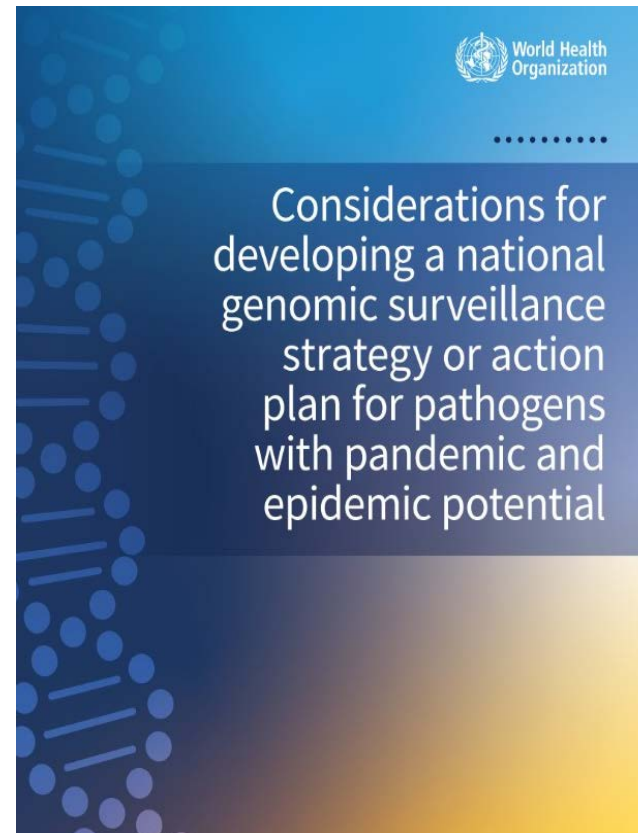
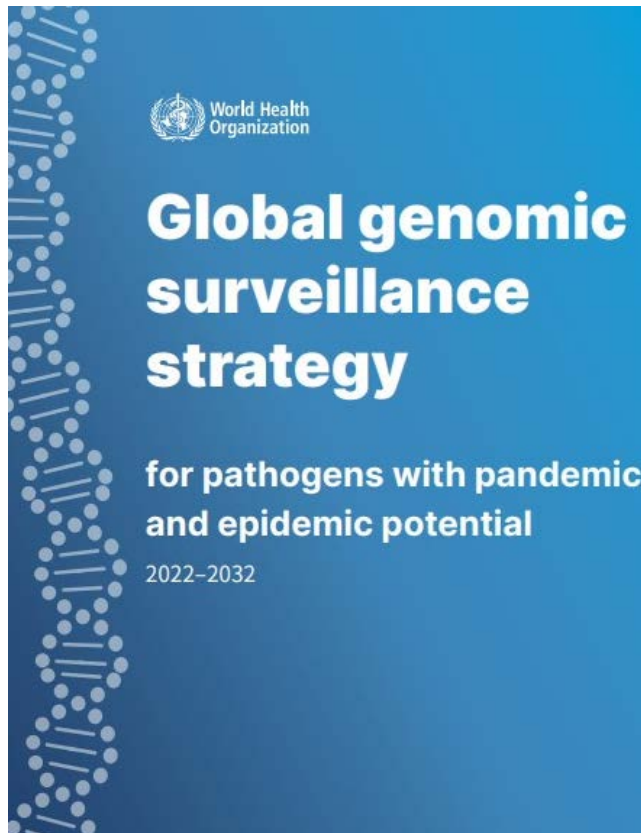




# Strengthen integrated respiratory pathogen surveillance



# Establish, cost and sustain genomic surveillance for priority respiratory pathogens



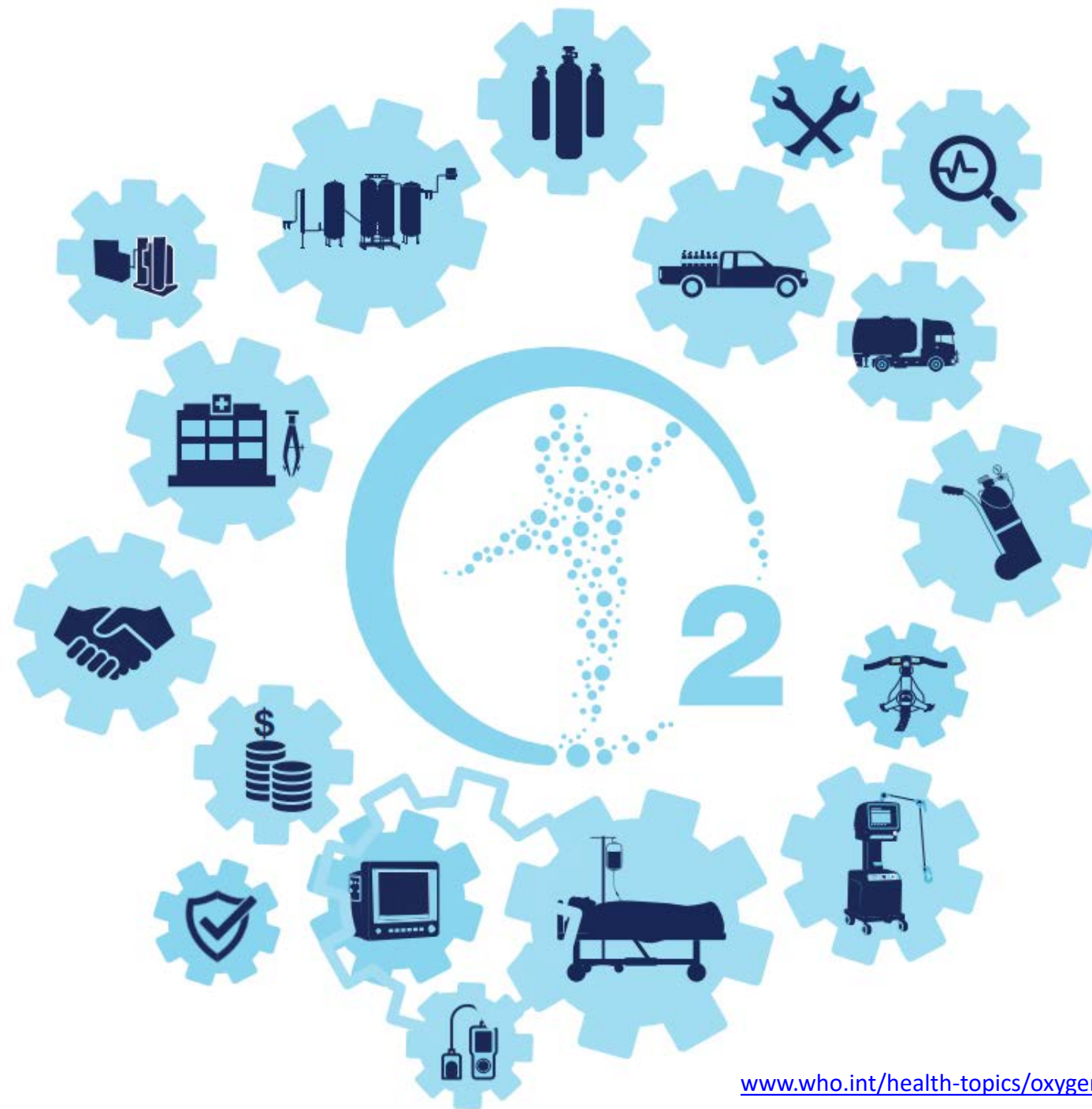
# Leverage existing social listening and infodemic management for acute respiratory infections





## Sustain safe provision of oxygen and prepare for surge respiratory clinical care needs

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**Moving forward:  
opportunities to engage**

# PRET: Respiratory pathogen resources



## **PRET Module 1:**

The Why, What, and How of respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness planning



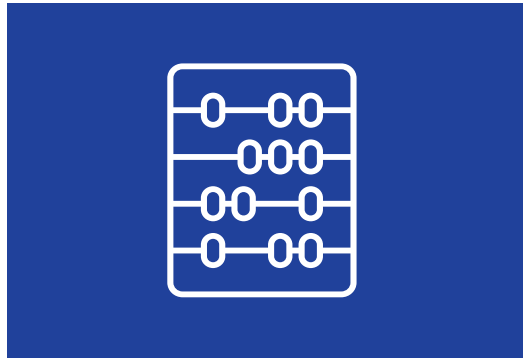
## **Module 1 Checklist:**

Help stakeholders prioritize key actions to take



## **Module 1 M&E Framework:**

Monitor progress and presence of functional capacities



## **Simulation package & advocacy tools**

Review status to trigger updates and increase awareness



## **Global Implementation Roadmap**

Provides the global vision for respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness planning



## **Analysis of COVID-19 lessons**

Identifies gaps and needs in respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness



# PRET: methods for working together

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## **EPI-WIN Webinars:**

Knowledge translation engaging different sectors



## **Online community of practice:**

Share resources, online forums, virtual simulations



## **PRET Network:**

Hearing experiences from others to strengthen planning



## **WHO PRET website**

Normative products and advocacy materials



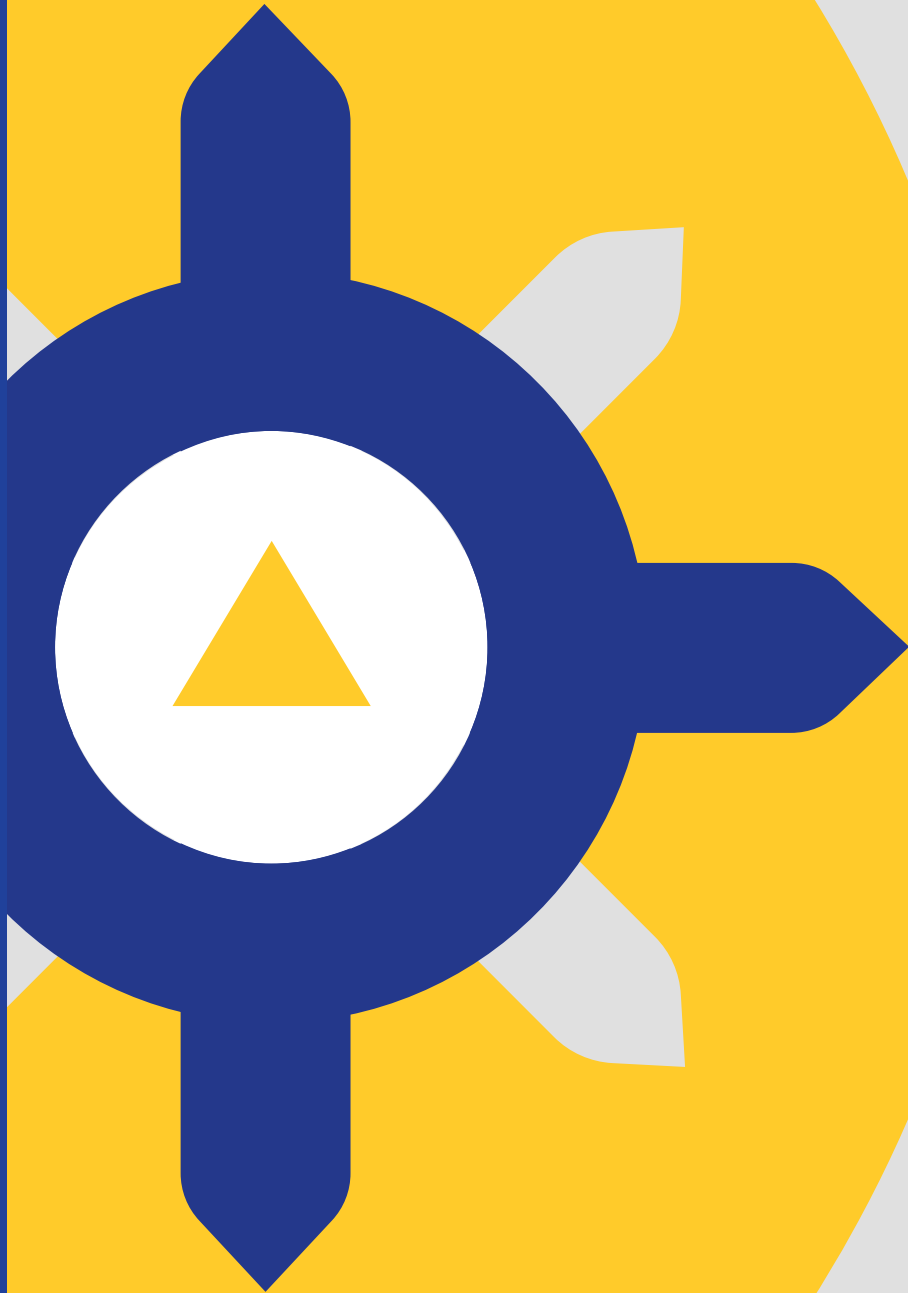
## **Partners Engagement Forum**

Global and regional partners sharing programmatic updates



## **Meetings & technical workshops**

Share progress, provide structured support in pandemic planning



## **Functional**

Builds preparedness on the foundation of routine systems

## **Risk-based**

Covers known pathogens with pandemic potential and unknown “Pathogen X”

## **Efficient**

Same systems and capacities can be used

## **Collaborative**

Brings partners from different sectors together

## **Innovative**

Planning for groups of pathogens based on how they spread



# Thank you

## Acknowledging:

- Countries: Ministries of Health and other sectors and levels engaged
  - Partners: involved in respiratory pandemic preparedness
  - WHO: three-level steering committee & technical units providing inputs
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Contact: [rprp@who.int](mailto:rprp@who.int)

