



# EMPHNET



**EMPHNET**  
The Eastern Mediterranean  
Public Health Network

► **GHD | EMPHNET:** working  
together for better health



# About Us



The Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) is a public health nonprofit organization leading support for better health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) and beyond. Established in 2009, EMPHNET has been recognized for advancing applied epidemiology, supporting public health programs, advancing public health research, and empowering communication and networking for

improved public health practice. EMPHNET works mainly with ministries of health and public health agencies, while collaborating with stakeholders across the public health system including relevant ministries, universities, community organizations, research institutes, the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations, UN agencies, among others.



## Vision

Better health and well-being for people in the Eastern Mediterranean Region



## Mission

To prevent and control diseases by supporting the public health workforce, conducting operational research, strengthening public health programs, and promoting knowledge exchange and networking while working with partners and collaborators.



## Values

### Competence

To maintain a high-standard performance



### Collaboration

To ensure success



### Excellence

To provide outstanding service



### Partnership

To create opportunities for positive change



### Accountability

To deliver measurable results



### Innovation

To attain distinction



### Health Equity

To meet the needs of all people

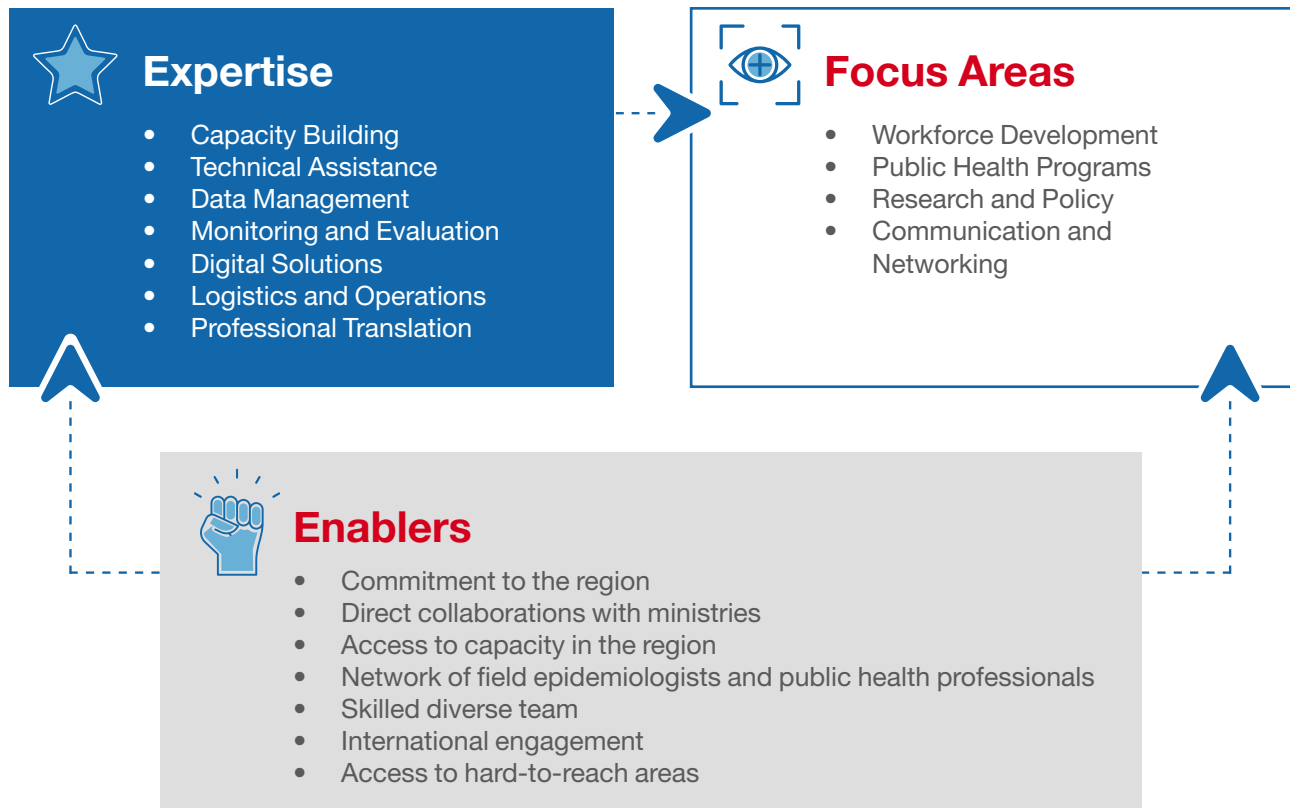


# Approach

We seek to realize our vision by focusing on meeting public health needs identified by national, regional, and global parties. We channel our expertise and experience towards core focus areas, driven by our strong belief in their significance to the realm of public health practice. Using our expertise to improve health outcomes, we are enabled by several factors

attributed to our prominent and successful presence in the countries.

Our approach is a tested one, evident in achievements on the ground from over a decade of work in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and countries from other regions.





## Capitalizing on Our Expertise

Being at the forefront of public health practice, we have acquired knowledge, experience, and skills from a variety of contexts inside and outside the EMR. We have a long history of building capacities of organizations, communities, and individuals. Over many years, we monitored and evaluated our programs and projects and that of others to ensure their success. We provided various forms of technical assistance to countries in a wide range of public health areas. We worked extensively in data management for different public health purposes and used digital solutions in public health services, interventions, and activities. We assisted in needed logistics for various partners and facilitated timely and adequate resource mobilization and delivery of equipment, especially in countries affected by limitations. We broke the language barrier to ensure knowledge sharing and provided support in professional translation and localization services to a wide range of partners.



## Focusing to Serve Public Health

We chose to work in areas that best serve public health services. We support workforce development based on country needs and with a focus on applied epidemiology, a discipline at the heart of public health practice. We also work with the region's public health programs to ensure quality health service delivery in alignment with national and global frameworks and plans. A special area is dedicated to operational and implementation research given their utmost importance to informing decision-making for better public health programming and policies. We facilitate networking and communication for public health at all levels to create opportunities for change.





## Relying on Enabling Factors

While using expertise in areas focused on serving public health, our mission is made possible by several factors. We operate from within the region and have direct contact with ministries of health which facilitates our work as we respond to country needs. We have offices in several countries of the region in the most hard-to-reach areas and access to communities in need of public health services. Our long-standing presence attests to our commitment to the region, which drives our work for better health in its communities and as we expand in the region and beyond. As the Field Epidemiology Training Programs' (FETPs) network for the region, we have a roster of thousands of field epidemiologists to deploy in response to emergencies. With our long experience, we created a growing network of partners to collaborate with in providing needed support.



# | Country Presence

EMPHNET works with many countries in the EMR and beyond. Headquartered in Jordan, EMPHNET has registered offices in various countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Pakistan, and Yemen.



- Headquarters
- Country Office
- Active Projects

# Expertise



## Technical Assistance

- Supporting countries technically in planning and managing programs to address public health challenges and meet gaps that hinder health system performance
- Linking stakeholders and groups to maximize the advisory benefit of technical experts both nationally and regionally
- Providing mentoring support tailored to country context
- Partnering with public and private entities to maximize the uptake of technical services
- Maintaining a roster of technical experts



## Capacity Building

- Designing and delivering customized, localized, and practice-based training in classroom and online formats
- Engaging policy makers and managers in capacity building to ensure sustainable outcomes



## Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring and evaluation of training, programs, projects, interventions, and research



## Data Management

- Data collection, analysis, interpretation, and visualization for routine health information systems, surveillance, field research, health assessments, need assessments, outbreak investigations, evaluations, program planning, and more



## Digital Solutions

- Development and use of ICT in learning, monitoring performance, research, program management, and public health services and solutions



## Logistics and Operations

- Managing and organizing various types of events, including meetings, conferences, and training workshops
- Supporting deployment of experts
- Facilitating timely and adequate delivery of commodities and equipment



## Professional Translation

- Offering professional translation in Arabic, English, and French for a variety of documents from reports to reviews, tools, presentations, educational and training material, and more

# Areas of Focus



Guided by the overarching health-pertinent Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), EMPHNET works to improve reproductive, maternal and child health; strengthen immunization; prevent and control non-communicable and communicable diseases; achieve universal health coverage; combat health consequences of climate change; support environmental health as part of its One Health approach; and develop knowledge and skills of the public health workforce. EMPHNET works in line with the goals outlined in the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA), the Global Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030), the Polio Eradication Strategy, the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, implementation roadmap 2023–

2030 for the Global action plan for the prevention and control of NCDs 2013–2030, the Quadripartite One Health Joint Plan of Action, and the International Health Regulations, including surveillance and outbreak preparedness and response.

In support of global, regional, and national public health efforts, EMPHNET has four areas of focus: workforce development, public health programs, research and policy, and communication and networking. Under each area, EMPHNET promotes inter-sectoral and multi-disciplinary coordination most notably One Health and emphasizes factors that significantly influence health and well-being such as gender, culture, equity, education, environment, and sociopolitical context.



# Workforce Development

EMPHNET designs, implements, and supports training courses and programs to address identified needs of public health students and professionals. Our training courses and programs are customized to country and regional contexts and are designed to build practice-based knowledge in applied epidemiology, emergency preparedness and response, immunization programs, interpersonal communication, biorisk management, public health during mass gatherings, one health, climate change, research, and more. To accommodate trainee preferences, we offer learning in a variety of formats: face-to-face, online, and blended.

Our role as a network of FETPs enables us to create learning opportunities for existing programs while leading support for the establishment of new ones of various modalities. We also integrate fundamental concepts of field epidemiology, and more broadly applied epidemiology, into training curricula that essentially target professionals from the non-FETP field to extend this essential knowledge to as many public health workers as possible.

<b>Leading online learning for public health in the EMR</b>	<b>Establishing the International Academy of Public Health (IAPH)</b>	<b>Supporting the establishment of new FETPs</b>	<b>Launching the EMPHNET electronic library (EEL)</b>	<b>Designing the Public Health Empowerment Program (PHEP)</b>	<b>Providing training in a range of public health disciplines</b>
Developing an online platform specialized for public health while customizing face-to-face training to online and blended learning	IAPH is the first public health academy to offer practice-based learning in the EMR and beyond	New programs in various modalities were established	EEL is a specialized public health electronic library in the EMR and beyond	PHEP was implemented in high priority countries where it expanded the workforce knowledge in fundamentals of applied	Public health workers from different countries took part in training for Rapid Response Teams disease surveillance, biorisk management, scientific writing, and more





## Public Health Programs

EMPHNET provides technical assistance to ministries of health in the main components of public health programming, including design, planning, implementation, and evaluation. EMPHNET's assistance encompasses most programs with a focus on interventions and activities pertinent to polio eradication; immunization strengthening; biorisk management; control and prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases; nutrition; promotion and protection of the health of children, women, adolescents, the elderly, and vulnerable and at risk populations; emergency preparedness and response; mass gatherings; and One Health including the focus areas of climate change and environmental health. The extent of assistance covers the national, sub-national, and peripheral levels where we build capacities to enhance the performance of disease surveillance and registry systems, quality and inclusiveness of service delivery, the efficacy of partner and community engagement, and emergency planning and response. Relying on its context-specific and prominent experience in public health programs strengthening, EMPHNET also guides partners and stakeholders in the implementation of tested actions that fit the complexity and diversity of the region's situation.

### Polio and Routine Immunization

Improving access to and quality of vaccination

Creating demand for immunization

Contributing to global polio eradication and elimination of other vaccine-preventable diseases

Enhancing evidence-based decision making and the functionality of National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups

Improving data quality, management, use for Expanded Programs (EPIs) on Immunization

Building the workforce capacity of EPIs



### One Health

Contributing to the global and regional efforts and initiatives on One Health

Working for climate-health integration as part of promotion of One Health in the EMR

Building capacities of public health workers in One Health

Supporting activities of WASH and environmental surveillance to consolidate polio eradication efforts



## Public Health Emergency Management

Building capacities in emergency preparedness planning with a focus on enhancing surveillance and alert systems; risk communication; incident management; data and information management; and intersectoral coordination mechanisms

Supporting public health for mass gathering

Empowering Rapid Response Teams

Coordinating response to major emergencies by facilitating the deployment of public health professionals from our network in support of disease outbreaks and other emergencies



## Disease Control and Prevention

Promoting biorisk management through training of laboratory workers on biosafety and biosecurity best practices

Building capacities in the surveillance, diagnosis, and control of zoonotic diseases

Joining global and regional efforts in the fight against antimicrobial resistance

Supporting the elimination of major neglected tropical diseases and advocating for the integration of their prevention and control into other public health interventions

Building capacities of public health workers in infection prevention and control practices



## Health Promotion and Protection

Promoting maternal and child, adolescence and elderly health including refugee and vulnerable and at-risk populations

Advocating for the mobilization of support for nutrition, strengthening nutrition program capacity; and supporting the application of a multi-sectoral approach in planning, implementation, and accountability for nutrition

Supporting NCDs and mental health surveillance, prevention, management, and control





# Research and Policy

EMPHNET contributes significantly to the advancement of public health research in the EMR. Its work has helped generate new knowledge and insights into various public health issues in the region, informing policies and evidence-based interventions with the overarching goal of improving population health.

EMPHNET conducts and supports a wide range of studies and assessments on context-specific topics tailored to public health issues in the EMR. Some of the areas of research include outbreak investigation and response, public health surveillance, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, mental health, maternal and child health, One Health, digital health, biosafety and biosecurity, and environmental health.

EMPHNET’s research is focused on identifying health problems, developing, and evaluating evidence-based interventions, developing implementation strategies, informing health programs and policies, and evaluating public health programs and policy effectiveness. EMPHNET ensures the translation and dissemination of scientific findings from the region.

<b>Building capacity in research methodology, use of statistical software and data analysis, and scientific writing</b>	<b>Conducting and supporting public health research and generating evidence to inform policies and interventions aimed at improving the health of populations in the EMR</b>	<b>Developing innovative research methods and tools</b>	<b>Developing reports, policy briefs, fact sheets, and newsletters</b>	<b>Dissemination of evidence and research findings in conferences, workshops, meetings, in scientific journals, and in informal channels</b>
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# Communication and Networking

EMPHNET promotes communication and networking for public health at a broad level, connecting public health professionals within one country, across countries in the EMR, and with the larger global public health community. EMPHNET creates means for online and offline sharing of research, country experiences, and perspectives. EMPHNET also plays an active role as a member of regional and global networks, associations, institutions, alliances, and coalitions.

<b>Owning a regional conference held biennially with participation from most countries of the EMR and beyond</b>	<b>A member of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network, the Joint External Evaluation Alliance, RRT Global Network, Global Health Council, World Federation of Public Health Associations, Global NCD Alliance, and the International Association of National Public Health Institutes, among others</b>	<b>Introducing one of the first exchange programs for Field Epidemiology Training Programs for the EMR</b>	<b>Founding the first internship program in public health for the EMR</b>	<b>Having the longest running webinar series in the EMR</b>
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#### GHD|EMPHNET: Working Together for Better Health

The Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) is a regional network that focuses on strengthening public health systems in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) and beyond. EMPHNET works in partnership with ministries of health, non-government organizations, international agencies, private sector, and relevant institutions from the region and the globe to promote public health and applied epidemiology. To advance the work of EMPHNET, Global Health Development (GHD) was initiated to build coordination mechanisms with partners and collaborators. Together, GHD|EMPHNET is dedicated to serving the region by supporting efforts to promote public health policies, strategic planning, sustainable financing, resource mobilization, public health programs, and other related areas.