



# National Biosecurity Committee Support and Sustainability Project in Jordan

## Project Information

- ◆ Department: Public Health Programs
- ◆ Unit: Disease Control and Prevention team

## OBJECTIVES

GHD|EMPHNET collaborated and supported the Middle East Scientific Institute for Security (MESIS) to produce a list that reflects nation-wide needs regarding the biosecurity landscape in Jordan. The collaboration aimed that the list will be endorsed by the National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) to be followed by prioritizing the needs through conducting Risk Assessment.

## REGIONS OF WORK

This project was implemented in Jordan including all biosecurity experts and MOH representatives

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GHD|EMPHNET supported MESIS in conducting a Situational Analysis and identified the common biosecurity national needs and gaps across all relevant stakeholders. The situational analysis was carried out by conducting a review of the existing legislation, regulations, and standards as well as consolidated findings of other related situational analysis processes such as Joint External Evaluation (JEE), National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) and others. The desk review was followed by conducting Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with a sample of experts and stakeholders in eight biosecurity areas of Physical security, Material Security, Information Security, Transport Security, Human Reliability, Emergency Response, Management, and Awareness / Communication. The findings of the desk review and FGDs were used to produce the list of national needs. Following that, the endorsement of the biosecurity national level needs by the NBC, the prioritization of these needs was carried out by conducting a Risk Assessment using a scientific approach to identify and apply criteria for prioritization.

## BENEFICIARIES

The main beneficiaries of this project are National Biosecurity Committee Task Force and the biosecurity and biosafety stakeholders in Jordan.

## PROJECT PHASES

The project was implemented on two main phases as following:

Phase I – Situational Analysis: Conduct a desk review of existing legislation, regulations, standards and other related situational analysis processes and conduct focus group discussions to identify common national needs and gaps across all relevant stakeholders.

Phase II – Risk Assessment: Development of prioritization criteria, by biosecurity experts to apply on the national list of needs for prioritization.



<b>Project Start and End Date</b>	<b>02/02/2020 – 08/30/2020</b>
<b>Partner Organizations</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Funded by</b>	<b>Middle East Scientific Institute for Security (MESIS)</b>
<b>Collaborators</b>	<b>National Biosecurity Committee (NBC)</b>

## Currently...

In accordance with the national Public Health Law, Jordan's Prime Ministry has issued Bylaw No. 29 of 2019 for the Establishment of a National Committee for Biological Safety and Security. The legislation stipulates that the new Committee, established under the Chairmanship of the Ministry of Health, is responsible for coordinating all national efforts related to biological safety and security among relevant stakeholders. This includes the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, the Royal Medical Services, and the National Center for Security and Crisis Management, among others. MESIS and GHD|EMPHNET attends the NBC meetings and aim to collaborate toward support the committee in its effort to address any biological threats that undermine the safety of the community.

## What is next...

GHD|EMPHNET and MESIS jointly provided support for the National Biosecurity Committee's task force, which served as the permanent operational and administrative arm of the National Committee for Biosecurity and Biosafety in Jordan. GHD|EMPHNET and MESIS jointly identified the list of national biosecurity evidence-based needs across all relevant sectors based on recommended tools, guidelines and previous assessments. This was followed by the development of risk-based priorities and relevant stakeholder outreach to ensure official Committee endorsement of these outcomes.

**EMPHNET Information:** Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) works at achieving its mission by responding to public health needs with deliberate efforts that allow for health promotion and disease prevention.

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