Support Egypt Intermediate FETP – Implementation of Cohort

Project Information

- **Department: Center of Excellence for Applied Epidemiology**
- **Unit: Workforce Capacity**

OBJECTIVES

Develop the capacity of medical officers, surveillance professionals, and other public health staff at national and divisional levels to identify, investigate, and respond to outbreaks and other public health threats, particularly in complex emergency settings across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Support participants' leadership skills in strengthening health institutions in their respected countries.

Reinforce sustainability and iFETP outcomes' integration into the broader workforce development strategy by coordinating closely with the different national public health entities.

BENEFICIARIES

24 residents including medical officers, surveillance professionals, and public health staff from national and divisional levels in addition to 11 mentors.

REGIONS OF WORK

Egypt, Libya, Somalia, Sudan

PROJECT PHASES

- Preparation for implementing Intermediate FETP – mental health cohort and the selection of the participants.
- Conducting orientation day for 24 participants. Followed by three-day mentorship workshop for eleven mentors. Then conducting four workshops over the course of the 11 months. Each workshop varies from a week to five weeks followed by six to eight weeks field work. Afterwards, conduct a 4-day workshop at the end of the project for the participants to present on their field work deliverables.
- Graduation ceremony will be held by the end of the program and achieving the overall goal of supporting the iFETP Cohort in Egypt.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This cohort will include 24 participants from four MENA countries, hosted by Egypt field epidemiology training program, ministry of health and population.

Each country will select the participants who meet the criteria, Egypt will be the host country for in-class workshops while each participant will implement his/her fieldwork in their home countries.

The implementation will start by developing the material including fieldwork assignments and case studies by EMPHNET in coordination with the Egypt FETP team to achieve the training objectives. In addition, technical experts will work on the technical preparations for the cohort including the sessions, fieldwork requirements, exercises, evaluation forms and make sure that they are aligned with the strategic objective of the training.

The regional cohort will start by conducting the mentorship workshop in Cairo targeting eleven mentors for three days, this pool of mentors will have a crucial role during the implementation specially during the national fieldwork activities. The mentorship workshop will focus on mentorship skills as well as technical aspects of the program related to fieldwork.

This cohort is composed of online modules, in-class workshops, fieldwork activities and final workshop with graduation ceremony as shown in table 1:

- The four online modules will be given over two periods (three – four weeks each). Competencies and modules described in annex 1.
- Two in-class workshops will be conducted in Cairo. Each one will be over five days.
- The four field work activities will be completed at the national level: participants should submit their deliverables individually and will create one team in each country for group projects, the required fieldwork period is almost 6-8 weeks (two days\week) for each fieldwork period.
- The cohort will be concluded with a final four-day workshop in Cairo, where the participants will present their fieldwork activities, share their insights and evaluate the whole experience and its impact, followed by a one-day graduation with the attendance of other invitees from relevant stakeholders and partners.

Project Start and End Date	**April 1, 2026, to February 10, 2027**
Partner Organizations	**Department of Health and Human Services/Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC), AFENET, MENA countries FETPs**
Funded by	**Department of Health and Human Services/Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC) through African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)**
Collaborators	**Ministries of Health (MOH) at targeted countries in EMR and SAR**

Currently . . .

The EMR has high prevalence of mental disorders, several studies show that depression, generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), post-traumatic stress disorder, substance use, obsessive compulsive disorder, phobic disorders, panic disorders, bipolar disorders, and psychosis were mostly affected the population.

Researchers and policy makers emphasize the need for low-income countries to scale up their human resources to provide a minimum of 22.3 mental health workers per 100 000 population.

All these factors create the need to have a trained and equipped epidemiologists specialized in mental health, EMPHNET is planning to implement one regional cohort for the Intermediate FETP in mental health which is a nine-month program.

What is next . . .

The expected outcomes following the implementation of the iFETP – cohort in Egypt and MENA countries:

- Develop the capacity of public health staff including medical officers, surveillance professionals, and public health staff from national and divisional levels in MENA countries to identify, investigate and respond to outbreaks and other public health hazards.
- Support participants' leadership skills in strengthening MENA health institutions.
- Reinforce sustainability and iFETP outcomes' integration into the broader workforce development strategy by coordinating closely with the different national public health entities.

By the Numbers

24 individuals will be graduated from the iFETP cohort in Egypt

11 mentors will be selected, trained and fully involved in the iFETP cohort in Egypt

GHD|EMPHNET Information: Global Health Development (GHD) and 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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