



Strengthening Kyrgyzstan National and Subnational Public and Private Laboratories' Biosafety and Biosecurity Practices Through Train-the-Trainer Programs

Project Information

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

OBJECTIVES

This project aims to ensure a robust national posture in biosafety and biosecurity, to protect laboratorians, and to prevent malign actors from gaining access to dual-use biological research, samples, and expertise. This will be achieved through building a sustainable multisectoral training capacity of biosafety and biosecurity practices for laboratory professionals in the public and private sectors to secure infectious agents in Kyrgyzstan.

REGIONS OF WORK

Kyrgyz Republic, the government of Kyrgyzstan.

BENEFICIARIES

The project beneficiaries are bioscience researchers and health workers from the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and Science, Kyrgyz National Academy of Science, and other relevant partners (academic institutions, NGOs, etc.).

PROJECT PHASES

This project involves three phases:

Phase I – Conduct coordination meetings involving the key stakeholders.

Phase II – Develop the training curriculum package for Train-the-Trainers (TTT) workshops.

Phase III – Conduct two 5-day TTT workshops on biosafety and biosecurity best practices in laboratories

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GHD will engage with the Kyrgyz government to support the Ministry of Health in Kyrgyzstan to strengthen biosafety/biosecurity measures at laboratories to reduce access to dangerous infectious agents, biotoxins, and other materials of dual use by terrorists by underlining the need for a sustainable national training system for trainers on biosafety and biosecurity. This project will involve:

1. Conducting coordination meetings involving key stakeholders from Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, and other relevant partners to lay the foundation for a well-coordinated and harmonized implementation process and create an environment of open communication.
2. Developing the training curriculum package for (TTT) workshops and involving stakeholders from different sectors to review and discuss the material, finalize it, and endorse it.
3. Conducting two 5-day Train-the-Trainer (TTT) workshops on biosafety and biosecurity best practices in laboratories involving 50 (25 each) bioscience researchers and health workers at public and private laboratories at the national and sub-national levels to enhance their knowledge and skills in biosafety and biosecurity practices to secure infectious agents in the country.

Project Start and End Date	December 01, 2023 – December 31, 2024
Partner Organizations	Kyrgyz Government, Kyrgyzstan Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, the Kyrgyz National Academy of Science, and other relevant partners (academic institutions, NGOs, etc.)
Funded by	U.S. Department of State (DOS) Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction's (ISN/CTR) Global Threat Reduction Programs, including the Biosecurity Engagement Program (BEP) Biosecurity Engagement Program

Currently . . .

The joint external evaluation report and the Kyrgyz government's effort in developing a national law on biosafety underlined the need for a sustainable national training system for trainers on biosafety and biosecurity. The lack of TTT programs and formalized academic training on biosafety and biosecurity, both in the Kyrgyz public and private sectors, raises concerns on the national posture of biosafety and biosecurity intended to protect laboratorians and prevent malign actors from gaining access to dual-use biological research, samples, and expertise.

What's next . . .

The project will build the capacity of 50 health workers and bioscience researchers from different entities to enhance their knowledge and skills in biosafety and biosecurity practices. This will enhance the country's overall capacity, ensuring a robust national posture in biosafety and biosecurity. Also, the project will protect laboratorians and prevent malign actors from gaining access to dual-use biological research, samples, and expertise.

GHD|EMPHNET Information: Global Health Development (GHD) 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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