Prevent Epidemics

The Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI) builds support for government investments in epidemic preparedness.

Activities

We draw on our extensive experience conducting health-focused advocacy campaigns around the world as we work with local partners to:

- Engage political decision-makers about the need to prioritize epidemic preparedness.
- Build government, civil society and media capacity to advocate for preparedness funding.
- Demonstrate demand for investments in preparedness in media and public discourse.
- Develop political strategies to remove bottlenecks affecting the allocation and spending of preparedness funds.
- Track budget writing, allocation and disbursement to inform advocacy.

Where we work:
Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal

The Toll of Epidemics

More than 6.5 million people have died due to COVID-19

Fewer than half of countries had met their Global Health Security Agenda targets by 2019

$1 spent by governments on epidemic preparedness can save $8-$18
Our Impact

- **In Ghana**, GHAI is working with government and civil society leaders to increase epidemic preparedness funding at the federal and district levels.

- **In Nigeria**, GHAI is working with partners to increase funding at the federal level for the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and other government agencies with health security functions and in Kano and Lagos states.

- **In Senegal**, GHAI built political consensus around a funding proposal for epidemic preparedness and response.

Success Story

**The challenge:**
Nigeria has made substantial progress toward increasing health security capacities and increased its overall Joint External Evaluation Score from a baseline of 39% (2017) to 46% (2019). However, faced with several challenges, funding for epidemic preparedness has been insufficient.

**GHAI’s role:**
GHAI worked closely with government and civil society leaders to make the case for epidemic preparedness. We analyzed the legal context and political landscape to inform strategy and empower advocates; engaged and sensitized decision-makers through workshops, site visits and other informative activities; and leveraged media to build consensus around the need for political action.

**Results:**
Funding for the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control more than doubled during first three-years of the campaign to a record 3.9 billion Naira (US$9.4 million) in fiscal 2022. Additionally, the fiscal 2022 budget includes 1.46 billion Naira (US$3.5 million) in new funding to government offices with health security functions, for a total allocation of 1.6 billion Naira (US$3.9 million).

President Macky Sall expressed his commitment to strengthening epidemic preparedness in a meeting with GHAI partner ONG 3D on March 26, 2020.

GHAI worked with government leaders in Senegal to develop a feasibility study and funding proposal for health emergency and crisis management. The 5,867,112,000 CFA (US$10.5 million) proposal was incorporated into the health ministry’s work plan for 2021-23.