

Deploy surge workforce for measles outbreak investigation and response, and strengthen measles and rubella surveillance in the Middle East and North Africa region

Project Information

- ◆ **Department:** Public Health Programs
- ◆ **Unit:** Polio and Immunization

Objectives

The activity aims to strengthen measles and rubella outbreak preparedness, investigation, response, surveillance, and elimination efforts across the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) and Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

REGIONS OF WORK

Selected priority countries in the EMR/MENA region, to be determined based on identified needs and priorities.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

EMPHNET, in close coordination with CDC and relevant national authorities, will provide technical and logistical support to priority countries across the EMR/MENA region to strengthen measles and rubella outbreak investigation, response, surveillance, and elimination efforts.

The activity will leverage EMPHNET's regional FETP network and field epidemiology expertise to deploy trained FETP residents and graduates to support measles case and outbreak investigations. In parallel, targeted technical assistance will be provided to three priority countries to strengthen measles and rubella surveillance systems and improve early detection and timely response.

The activity will also support three priority countries in advancing regional measles elimination efforts and facilitate evidence-based decision-making for the introduction of Measles and Rubella vaccine, including epidemiological reviews, NITAG meetings, evidence generation, and advocacy.

Specific countries and areas of support will be determined in consultation with CDC and national stakeholders based on epidemiological priorities, country needs, and readiness.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries will include national and subnational EPI and surveillance teams, FETP residents and graduates, outbreak investigation and response teams, laboratory and public health personnel, NITAGs, and other relevant stakeholders involved in measles and rubella prevention, surveillance, and elimination.

Strengthening these capacities will contribute to earlier detection, effective outbreak investigation and response, improved surveillance, and progress toward measles and rubella elimination.

PROJECT PHASES

This project involves phases as following:

1. **Country Prioritization:** Identify priority countries and assess key needs and gaps.
2. **Surge Workforce Deployment:** Deploy FETP residents and graduates for measles outbreak investigation and response.
3. **Surveillance Strengthening:** Support three priority countries to strengthen measles and rubella surveillance.
4. **Technical Assistance:** Support measles elimination and vaccine introduction activities in three priority countries.
5. **Monitoring & Learning:** Document results, lessons learned, and best practices for regional application

Project Start and End Date	08/1/2026 – 07/31/2027
Funded by	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Collaborators	MoHs

Currently ...

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What is next ...

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OUTCOMES BY NUMBERS



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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