



Cairo, 1 September 2022 – The WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean has recently published a report on implementation of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework in the Region, 2020–2021, which highlights achievements in the 9 recipient countries of the PIP Framework Partnership Contribution. Funds allocated under the PIP Framework Partnership Contribution have been instrumental in building systems and capacities to detect, prepare for, and respond to pandemic influenza.

Support provided to the 9 countries under the Framework was also used to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic utilizing the capacities, assets, platforms and also the structural concepts, developed initially for the influenza response.

The report details how support under the PIP Framework Partnership Contribution in 2020–2021 supported countries in strengthening laboratory training and pandemic preparedness planning, conducting pandemic influenza severity assessment and improving outbreak detection and response, in addition to conducting joint investigations and risk assessments to strengthen the human-animal interface.

In spite of the challenges faced by countries, including COVID-19 and political instability, country achievements included Lebanon, Syria and Somalia establishing and activating (GISRS). [Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System](#) surveillance systems, and Sudan sharing viruses and genomic epidemiological data, for the first time, through the Jordan and Egypt started to institutionalize the concept of the “[One Health](#)” approach and improve animal-human interface coordination to better prepare for future pandemics. Syria also developed an influenza pandemic preparedness plan for the first time, while an additional 4 countries began updating their national plans. Genomic sequencing capacity was also built in both PIP-supported countries and other countries.



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[Report on implementation of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework in the Eastern Mediterranean Region](#)

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