



Amman, 8 August 2022 – Stakeholders from 5 priority countries in the Region identified approaches that could be adopted in their national seasonal influenza vaccination programme during a meeting conducted in Amman, Jordan, from 24 to 26 July 2022. □

Immunization and influenza focal points from ministries of health and WHO country offices, supported by technical experts from the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, WHO headquarters, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Partnership for Influenza Vaccine Introduction (PIVI) programme attended the meeting.

While influenza causes high morbidity and mortality around the world and safe and effective influenza vaccines have been available for more than 60 years, uptake of influenza vaccine remains suboptimal in the Region.

The meeting aimed to build on the foundations of functional influenza surveillance systems and the lessons learned from COVID-19 vaccine deployment.

Over the 3-day meeting, participants from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, and a range of experts worked together to understand the situation of influenza vaccination globally and regionally, as well as to review available strategic frameworks, such as the life course immunization strategy and regional roadmap on strengthening influenza vaccine use. This helped to inform participants of the influenza situation and the support available to them before working as country teams to develop their individual country workplans.

