



1ST QUARTER NEWSLETTER 2026

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WHO DONATES OVER \$1 MILLION IN MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO STRENGTHEN LABORATORY SYSTEMS IN GHANA

The World Health Organization has donated medical supplies and laboratory consumables valued at over US\$1 million to the Ghana Health Service to enhance diagnostic capacity and improve the quality of healthcare delivery across the country.

The official handover ceremony took place on 7 April 2026 at the WHO's office in Accra, bringing together health officials, partners, and technical experts.

The supplies, procured through support from the Pandemic Fund, will contribute to the expansion of Ghana's National External Quality Assessment and Quality Control (EQA/QC) programme. This initiative is critical to ensuring the accuracy and reliability of laboratory testing for priority diseases over the next three years. [Read more...](#)





STRENGTHENING LABORATORY CAPACITY FOR PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

Ghana is taking concrete steps to strengthen laboratory capacity for pandemic preparedness and response, as experts convene this week to conduct a technical evaluation of tenders for the procurement of critical laboratory equipment, high-performance computing systems, reagents, and consumables.

This process is a key step in ensuring the right tools and technologies are selected to enhance diagnostics, improve data analysis, and support timely detection and response to public health threats—an effort supported by the Pandemic Fund.



BUILDING VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY CAPACITY: ISAVET TRAINING COHORT IN GHANA

With support from the Pandemic Fund, Ghana hosted a groundbreaking training program under the Frontline In-Service Applied Veterinary Epidemiology Training (ISAVET) initiative. The program aimed to strengthen veterinary epidemiology capacity in West Africa by equipping frontline professionals with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. A total of 27 trainees participated in the program: 25 from Ghana, supported by the Pandemic Fund, and 2 from The Gambia, supported by UK Defra. The training combined intensive classroom instruction with hands-on practical sessions, ensuring that participants gained the technical expertise and field experience required to address complex veterinary and public health challenges.

This phase allowed trainees to apply their skills in real-world settings, conducting surveillance, analyzing data, and implementing interventions to address pressing animal health and zoonotic disease concerns. The fieldwork concluded successfully, and the cohort is expected to graduate in April/May 2026.





GHANA STRENGTHENS DISEASE SURVEILLANCE WITH EMA-I+ INTEGRATION

With support from the Pandemic Fund, Ghana in early 2026 achieved a major milestone by integrating livestock and wildlife surveillance into the EMA i+ platform, strengthening real-time reporting and early warning systems to better detect and prevent zoonotic diseases. Two dedicated workspaces, the Veterinary Services Department (covering 21 segments, including aquaculture and apiculture) and the Wildlife Division (covering 20 segments), now span all 261 districts nationwide. To support rollout, 35 wildlife officers were trained in January 2026, and the system was showcased to members of the U.S. Congress during a visit to Mole National Park. In March 2026, an additional 115 staff across the five Northern Regions were trained. Together, these efforts mark a significant step forward in Ghana's capacity for integrated, nationwide disease surveillance.



GHANA ADVANCES VETERINARY LABORATORY PREPAREDNESS THROUGH PANDEMIC FUND SUPPORT

In February 2026, Ghana strengthened its veterinary laboratory systems and emergency preparedness with support from the Pandemic Fund, investing in workforce training, essential supplies, and international collaboration to protect both animal and human health.

Three laboratory staff received IATA-certified training on the safe transport of infectious substances, enhancing capacity to handle high-risk samples, while emergency stockpiles—including reagents, consumables, and PPE for Avian Influenza and Mpox—were delivered to boost readiness and protect frontline workers.

Together, these efforts reflect Ghana's commitment to building resilient laboratory systems and improving its ability to detect, respond to, and contain infectious disease threats, while laying a strong foundation for future outbreaks.



**The
Pandemic
Fund**
FOR A RESILIENT WORLD



**World Health
Organization**
Ghana



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**

New ES nOPV2 VI algorithm



