



World Health
Organization
Ghana

2ND QUARTER NEWSLETTER 2026

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2ND QUARTER KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (HEPR)



Donated over US\$ 1 million in laboratory equipment and reagents to strengthen laboratory systems.



Bolstered Ebola outbreak preparedness through the provision of essential protective supplies to the Ministry of Health to support frontline workers.



Trained 50 Pandemic Fund partners on safeguarding and accountability through PRSEAH training.



215 national and regional Ghana Health Service Staff trained in Yellow fever surveillance, case detection, laboratory process and outbreak determinant.

2ND QUARTER KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

HEALTH PROMOTION, DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (HPDPC)



Reached over 100,000 girls aged 9–14 years with catch-up HPV vaccination during African Vaccination Week.



Supported Ghana's Global Fund GC8 application for US\$206 million for HIV, TB and health systems strengthening.



Transition from RTS,S to the R21 malaria vaccine across seven regions.

2ND QUARTER KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES (HSS)



Finalized six regional Quality of Care assessments and knowledge products.



Completed and submitted Ghana's 2026 TrACSS AMR assessment.



National Health Workforce Migration Policy and Strategy launched.



25 Senior health leaders (Cohort VII) completed the Pathways to Leadership for Health Transformation in Africa programme in collaboration with Ashesi University.



WHO-UNDP joint programme on Artificial Intelligence-driven health programme to strengthen systems and safeguard communities launched with support from the Government of Japan.

Message From WHO Ghana Representative



The second quarter of 2026 marked an important period of progress as Ghana advanced key health reforms and strengthened partnerships to build a more resilient, equitable and people-centred health system. WHO remained a trusted partner to the Government, working alongside national institutions, development partners and communities to translate commitments into action and accelerate progress towards Universal Health Coverage.

A major milestone during the quarter was the launch of the Free Primary Health Care initiative, with WHO providing technical support to strengthen primary health care systems and improve access to quality essential services.

It was a pleasure to co-host the 2nd Africa Health Workforce Investment Forum with WHO AFRO and the Government of Ghana in May 2026. The Forum, attended by Her Excellency the Vice President of Ghana, also saw the launch of Ghana's National Health Workforce Migration Policy and Strategy, a key step towards strengthening and retaining the country's health workforce.

Ghana marked one year of the Pandemic Fund Project, reflecting on progress made in strengthening disease surveillance, laboratory systems, workforce capacity and emergency preparedness while identifying priorities for the year ahead. Our commitment to supporting resilient health systems extended beyond national policy discussions to the communities we serve. Through field visits across the Ashanti and North East Regions, we engaged with health workers, local authorities and partners to better understand implementation challenges, recognize outstanding service, and strengthening collaboration. We also deepened partnerships with government institutions and development partners to advance local pharmaceutical manufacturing, mobilize resources and support sustainable health financing.

WHO facilitated two learning visits from Ministries of Health in Ethiopia and The Gambia to understand Ghana's progress in scaling up national health insurance and human resources for health.

As we navigate an evolving global health landscape, WHO remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting Ghana's health priorities. Together with government, partners and communities, we will continue working towards a healthier future where everyone, everywhere, has access to the quality health services they need without financial hardship.

A woman in a patterned yellow and green dress stands to the right, smiling. To her left, a man in a blue and yellow patterned robe sits on an ornate, dark wooden throne with a lion's head on top. A lion's head is visible in the foreground. The background is a solid blue color.

LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

WHO REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR ACCRA VISITS GHANA



WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Mohamed Yakub Janabi, visited Ghana for the 2nd Africa Health Workforce Investment Forum, where he engaged government leaders and health partners to advance investments in health systems and the workforce. He paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Health, helped launch The State of the Health Workforce in Africa 2026 Report, and held discussions with the Minister of Finance on sustainable health financing, health security, and the economic value of investing in health. Dr. Janabi also met with WHO Ghana staff, commending their dedication and encouraging continued support for Ghana's health priorities.



WHO TEAM UNDERTAKES FIELD VISIT TO ASHANTI REGION



Health remains a priority for us, and we will continue to support efforts that improve the well-being of our people. Collaboration with partners like WHO is important to ensure that no one is left behind.

HIS MAJESTY OTUMFUO OSEI TUTU II
King of the Ashanti Kingdom



WHO Team, led by the WHO Representative to Ghana, Dr. Fiona Braka visited the Ashanti Region to engage with key actors in the health sector and gain firsthand insight into how the health system is functioning, from leadership structures to service delivery at the community level.

The Ashanti Region, home to Ghana's second-largest city, is one of the country's most important health hubs. With the highest number of districts and a central location serving several surrounding regions, it plays a key role in healthcare delivery and referrals. As a major commercial centre with significant population movement, the Region places considerable demand on health services, making it a critical focus of this visit. [Read more](#)



WHO REPRESENTATIVE VISITS NORTH EAST REGION TO STRENGTHEN HEALTH COLLABORATION



WHO Representative to Ghana, Dr. Fiona Braka, visited the North East Region, where she engaged His Royal Majesty Naa Bohagu Abdulai Mahami Sheriga, the Nayiri and Overlord of Mamprugu, and the Regional Minister, Hon. Ibrahim Tia, to discuss health priorities and strengthen collaboration.

She also visited Binde Baptist Medical Centre, Bowku CHPS, and Langbinsi Health Centre Hospital to thank frontline health workers for their dedication and continued service under challenging conditions.



GHANA LAUNCHES FREE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE INITIATIVE



Free Primary Health Care marks a shift from a curative system to a preventive one, enabling early detection and timely action to protect lives before conditions become severe and costly.

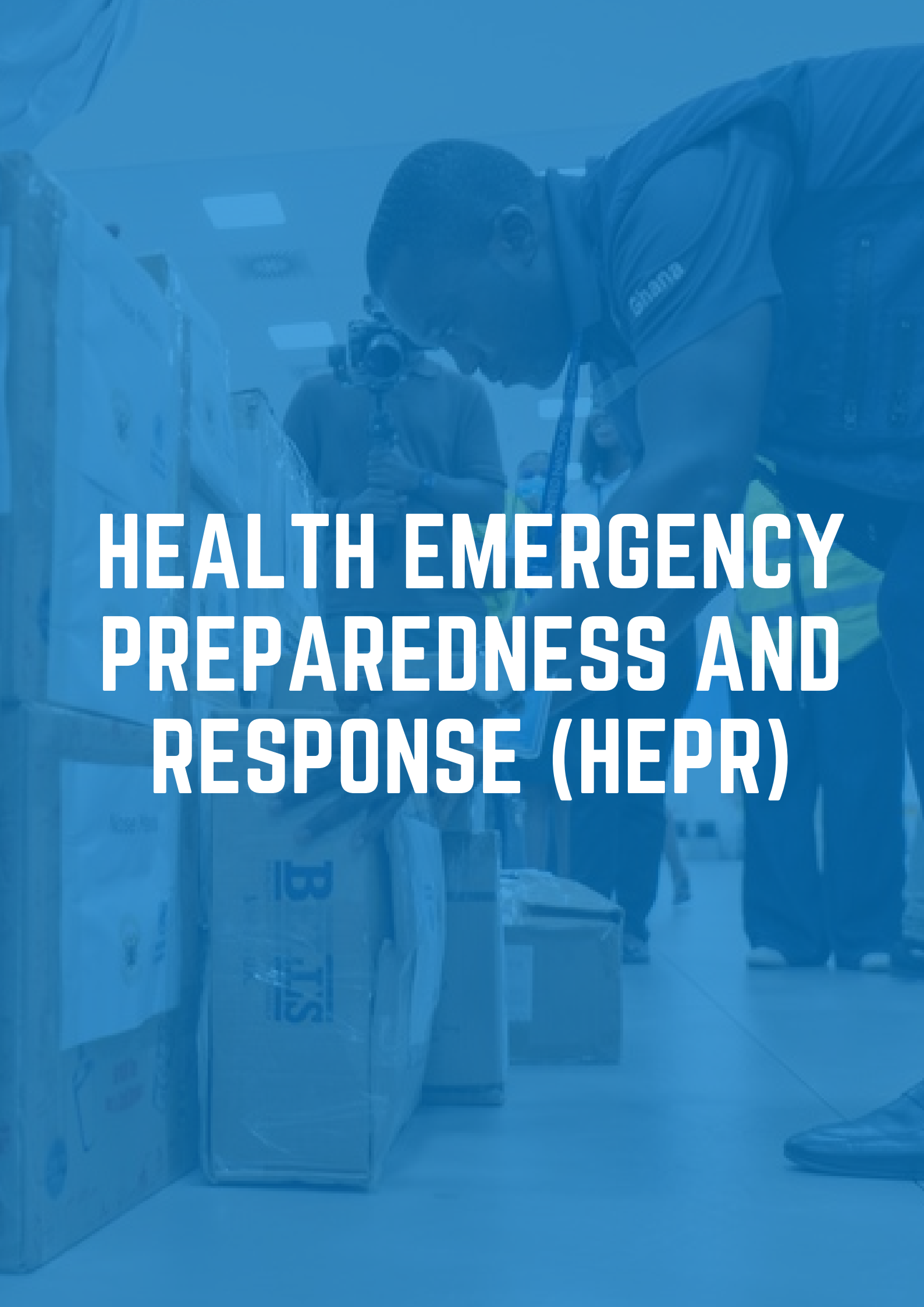
H.E JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA

President of the Republic of Ghana

”

Primary Health Care (PHC) remains at the heart of achieving healthier communities, with the potential to save 60 million lives and increase global life expectancy by 3.7 years by 2030. In a major step towards advancing Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Ghana has launched the Free Primary Health Care initiative to expand access to essential health services and reduce barriers to care. WHO has supported Ghana throughout the journey, providing technical guidance and partnership, and joined stakeholders at the launch to reaffirm its commitment to strengthening primary health care for all. Watch video





HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (HEPR)

WHO DONATES CRITICAL SUPPLIES AS GHANA INTENSIFIES EBOLA PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS

The recent declaration of an Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda has reinforced the need for countries across the African region to remain vigilant and prepared. Although Ghana has not recorded any case of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), the country is taking proactive measures to strengthen its readiness to detect, respond to, and contain any potential threat.

As part of these efforts, the Minister for Health, Hon. Kwabena Mintah Akandoh, led a high-level assessment visit to key institutions that form the backbone of Ghana's preparedness and response system - the Accra International Airport, the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) and Ga East Municipal Hospital. [Read more](#)



WHO, FAO AND PARTNERS ADVANCE SAFEGUARDING EFFORTS THROUGH PRSEAH TRAINING IN GHANA

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) convened a training on the Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PRSEAH) in Accra as part of efforts to strengthen safe accountable implementation Ghana's Pandemic Fund Project.

The training brought together approximately 50 multi-sectoral professionals from government institutions, academia, civil society organizations and disability advocacy groups to deepen understanding of safeguarding principles and reinforce a culture of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in health emergency and development settings. [Read more](#)



AFRICAN COUNTRIES CHART PATH FOR SAFE USE OF EMERGING GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES IN DISEASE CONTROL

Experts from across Africa have taken a significant step towards shaping how emerging genetic technologies could be safely and responsibly used to tackle some of the continent's most pressing public health challenges.

From 11-12 May 2026, about 50 experts from 15 African countries gathered in Accra for a regional workshop on the governance of emerging genetic biocontrol agents and the development of a regional governance roadmap. The meeting was organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). [Read more](#)



GHANA STRENGTHENS PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS THROUGH GLOBAL SIMULATION EXERCISE

Ghana has strengthened its readiness to respond to future public health emergencies through its participation in Exercise Polaris II, a global pandemic simulation exercise involving 26 countries across all six World Health Organization (WHO) regions.

The exercise, the second in a series of international pandemic response simulations, was designed to test how effectively countries and global health systems can detect, assess and respond to rapidly evolving health threats. Conducted under the framework of the Global Health Emergency Corps (GHEC) and national alert and response systems, the exercise provided a realistic environment for evaluating emergency preparedness and coordination mechanisms. [Read more](#)

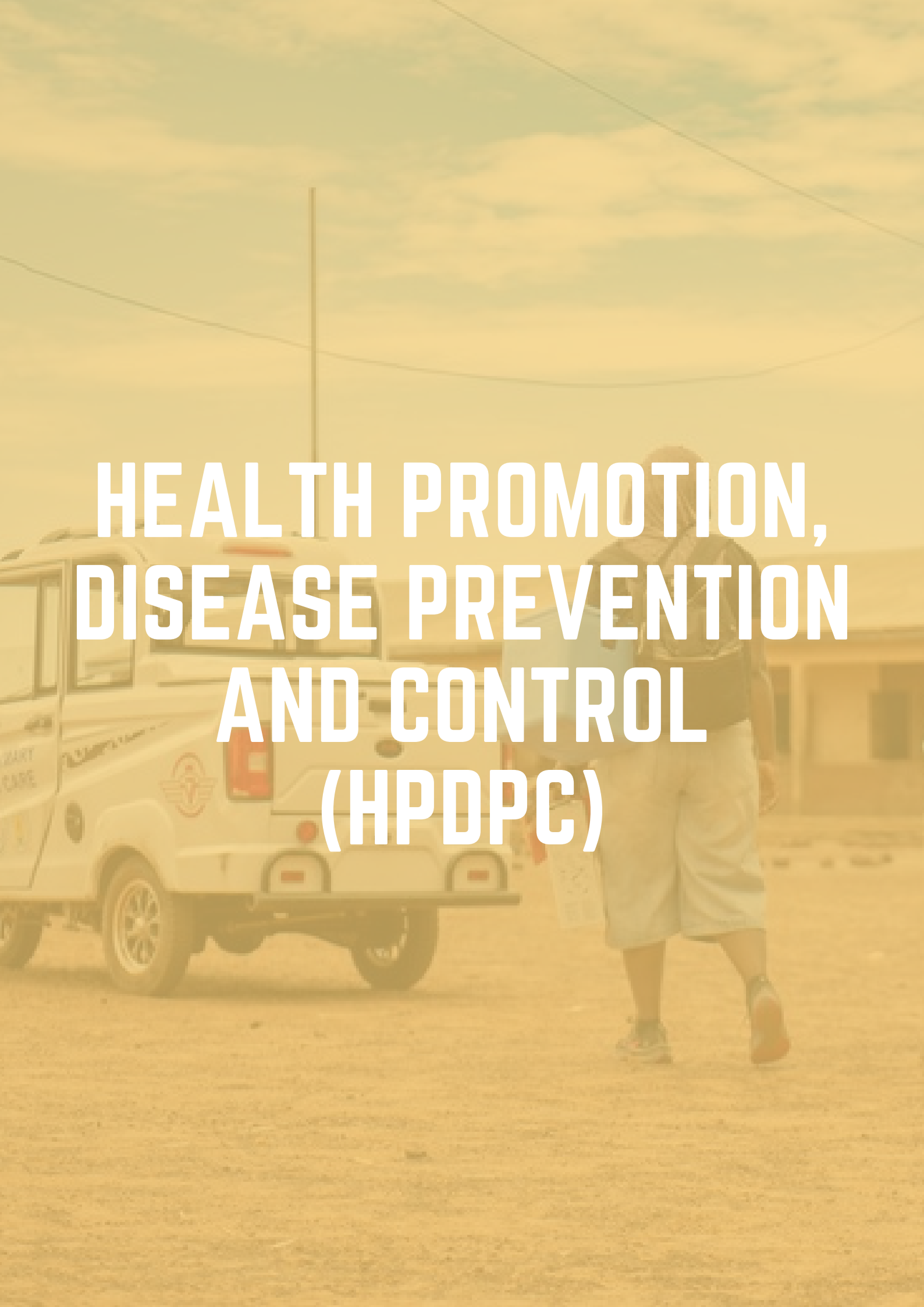


GHANA REVIEWS ONE YEAR OF PANDEMIC FUND IMPLEMENTATION

Stakeholders implementing Ghana's Pandemic Fund Project have met in Accra for the first Annual Review Meeting to assess progress made over the past year, discuss implementation challenges, share lessons learned, and agree on priority actions for the year ahead.

The meeting brought together representatives from the Ghana Health Service (GHS), the Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and other implementing partners working under the One Health approach to strengthen Ghana's pandemic preparedness and response systems. [Read more](#)



The background image shows a health worker, a person wearing a dark shirt and light-colored shorts, walking away from the camera on a dirt road. To the left, a white van is parked, featuring a red cross emblem and the text 'HEALTH PROMOTION, DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (HPDPC)'. The scene is set in a rural area with a simple building in the background and a cloudy sky. The entire image has a warm, orange-yellow tint.

HEALTH PROMOTION, DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (HPDPC)

THROUGH DISTANCE AND DUST, SHE CONTINUES

In Zagua, a quiet community in Tolon District in Ghana's Northern Region, reaching the next household is not always a short walk. Homes are scattered across long stretches of dry land, connected by narrow paths that cut through heat and dust. Nearly 26 kilometres from Tamale, access to healthcare here depends not just on systems but on people willing to go the distance. For Selina Agyeiwaa Opoku, that distance is part of her daily routine.

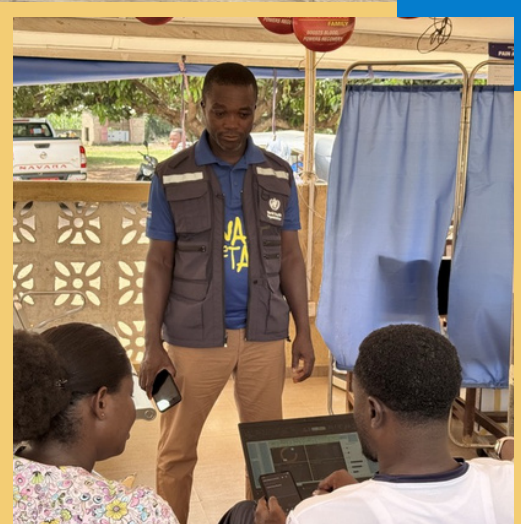
With a vaccine carrier box in one hand and essential supplies strapped around her, she sets out under the scorching sun, moving from one household to another. There is no official vehicle assigned to her outreach. On most days, she borrows a motorcycle from a neighbour, balancing cold boxes, registers, and medical supplies in a careful but difficult arrangement. [Read more](#)



THROUGH DISTANCE AND DUST, SHE CONTINUES

In Sokode, a peri-urban community in Ghana's Volta Region, health care is extending beyond the hospital. Each morning near the local taxi station and trading area, drivers, traders, and passers-by pause briefly to check their blood pressure at a small wellness kiosk set up in the heart of the community.

This simple intervention is part of a community-based wellness program for hypertension and diabetes, one that is transforming how Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) are detected and managed in the community. [Read more](#)



HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES (HSS)



GHANA LAUNCHES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-DRIVEN HEALTH PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN SYSTEMS AND SAFEGUARD COMMUNITIES

Ghana has taken a significant step towards transforming its health system with the launch of a joint programme by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), funded by the Government of Japan through the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS). The initiative will harness artificial intelligence (AI) to improve health outcomes, strengthen system resilience, and protect vulnerable populations. [Read more](#)



GHANA ADVANCES VACCINE MANUFACTURING AMBITION WITH CLINICAL TRIALS STRENGTHENING

To strengthen this essential component of Ghana's vaccine agenda, WHO in collaboration with the National Vaccine Institute (NVI), hosted a three-day Clinical Trials Assessment Workshop from 30 March to 1 April 2026 in Sogakope. Supported by the European Union under the Vax & Pharm Ghana Project. The workshop convened key institutions to evaluate Ghana's clinical trials landscape and align it with global standards. [Read more](#)



GHANA HOSTS AFRICA HEALTH INVESTMENT WORKFORCE FORUM

Ghana hosted the 2nd Africa Health Workforce Investment Forum, bringing together health leaders, policymakers, and partners to address Africa's growing health workforce challenges. With the continent having only 46% of the health workers it needs and facing a projected shortfall of 6.28 million health workers by 2035, the Forum provided a platform to align investments, strengthen commitments, and accelerate actions towards building a resilient and sustainable health workforce to deliver quality health services across Africa. [Video](#)





COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY HIGHLIGHTS

COMMUNICATION STATISTICS

Social Media

Facebook

585K

Reach

14K

Engagement

4.8K

New Followers

135

Posts

Twitter (X)

85K

Reach

8.4K

Engagement

106

New Followers

135

Posts

Story Telling & Multimedia

2

impact stories

16

videos produced

Traditional Media

19

media mentions

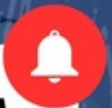
New Youtube Channel



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION GHANA

@WHO_GHANA

SUBSCRIBE



PARTNER ENGAGEMENTS



WHO Team led by RD meets Honourable Ato Forson, Minister of Finance.



WR welcomes Dr Delese Darko, DG of Africa Medicines Agency to WCO Ghana



WR engages Minister of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry



WHO joins World Bank Division Director for Ghana, Liberia & Sierra Leone



WR meets Ashanti Regional Minister, Dr Frank Amoakohene



WR meets North East Regional Minister, Hon. Ibrahim Tia



WR engages CEO of National Health Insurance Authority



WHO engages China Ambassador to Ghana



WR hosts Heads of Polio Laboratories from Nigeria and Zimbabwe



WR welcomes Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG) Executive Director to WHO Ghana

MESSAGE TO PARTNERS

As the global health landscape continues to evolve, the demand for support has never been greater. With shrinking resources, competing priorities, and increasing humanitarian and development needs around the world, every investment in health carries even greater significance.

Yet, despite these challenges, you have remained steadfast in your commitment to the people of Ghana. Your continued partnership has enabled us to respond to emergencies, strengthen health systems, expand access to essential health services, and support the Government of Ghana in building a healthier and more resilient future. Your confidence in our shared mission has allowed us to deliver impact where it matters most—improving and saving lives.

Your support goes beyond funding. It is a demonstration of trust, solidarity, and a shared belief that everyone, everywhere deserves the opportunity to attain the highest possible standard of health. It is this collective commitment that enables us to confront today's challenges while preparing for those of tomorrow.

On behalf of the World Health Organization in Ghana, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering partnership and continued confidence in our work. Together, we have achieved meaningful progress, and together, we can build on these gains to create lasting improvements in the health and well-being of every person in Ghana.

Thank you for standing with us. Your partnership continues to make a difference.



THE TEAM MAKING A DIFFERENCE





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