

Monitoring health systems resilience for public health functions & services

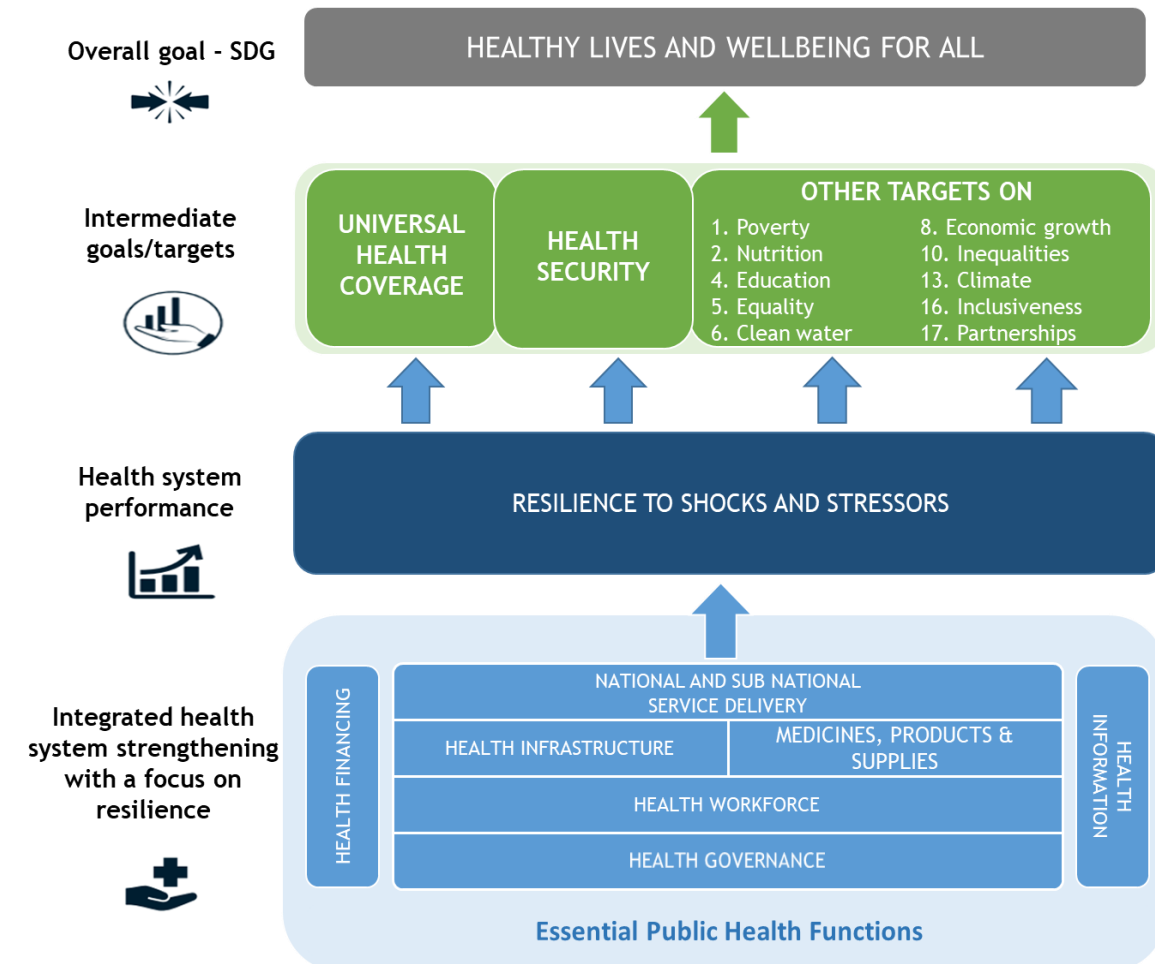
IANPHI Annual Meeting - 2025

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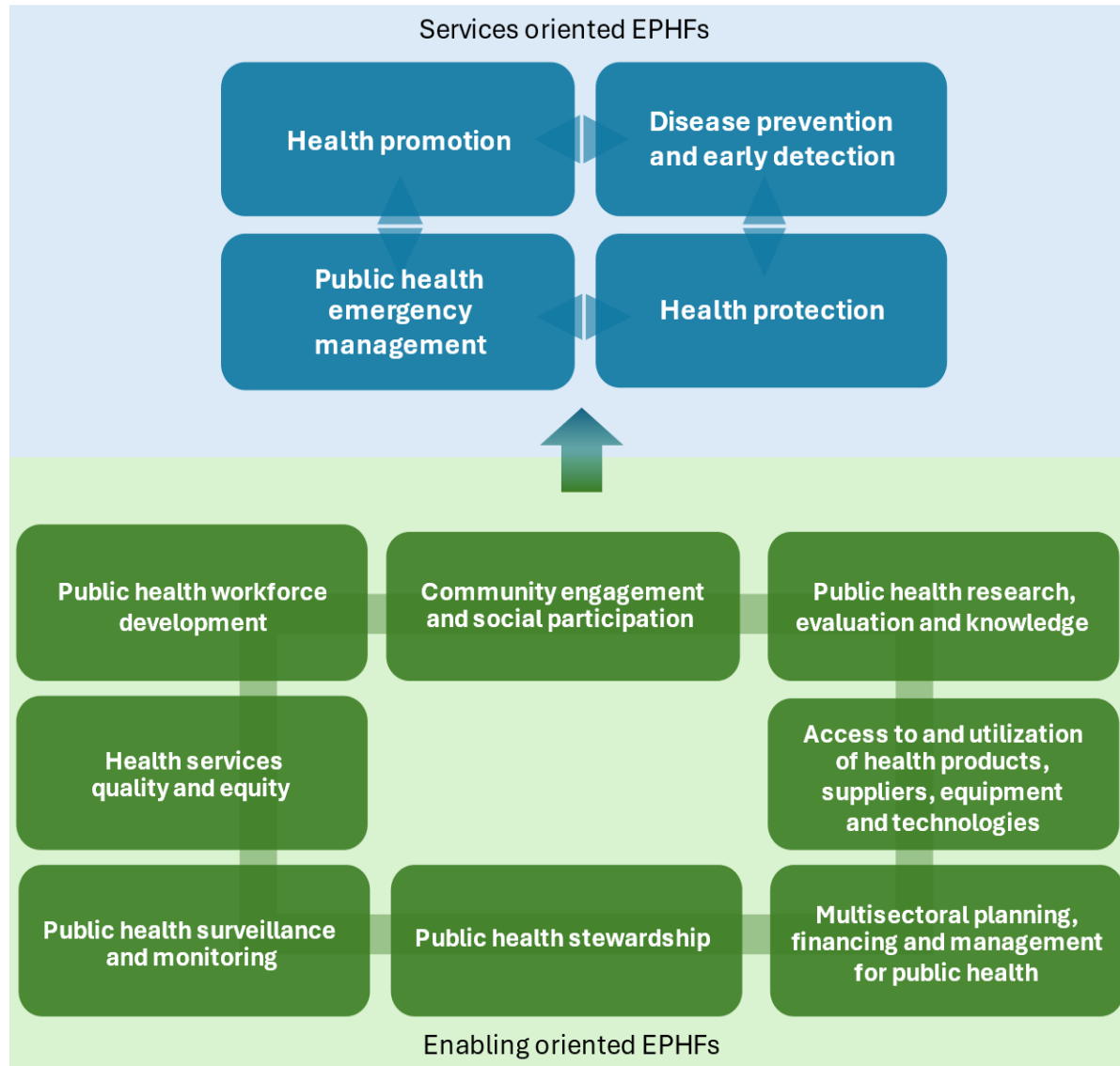
Health Systems Resilience and Essential Public Health Functions Team
World Health Organization Headquarters

Interlinkages between health systems resilience and EPHFs

- Health systems resilience is a necessity for UHC, health security, all SDGs, and requires delivery of public health functions
- **Health systems resilience** - *capacity to anticipate, manage, and learn from disruptions, while maintaining essential health services and safeguarding public health*
- Resilience is **what we want to achieve**
- EPHFs are a critical part of the “**how**”
 - E.g., by embedding public health capacities in health and allied systems to deliver the full range of public health functions & services (along with individual-focused services) in coordination with other responsible sectors



Essential public health functions - Unified List



Essential public health functions (EPHFs) - a set of fundamental, interconnected and interdependent activities, that are required to ensure effective public health action and resilience building

Monitoring integrated delivery of public health functions is therefore a necessity for measuring and monitoring resilience

Multiple, fragmented monitoring efforts - One health system

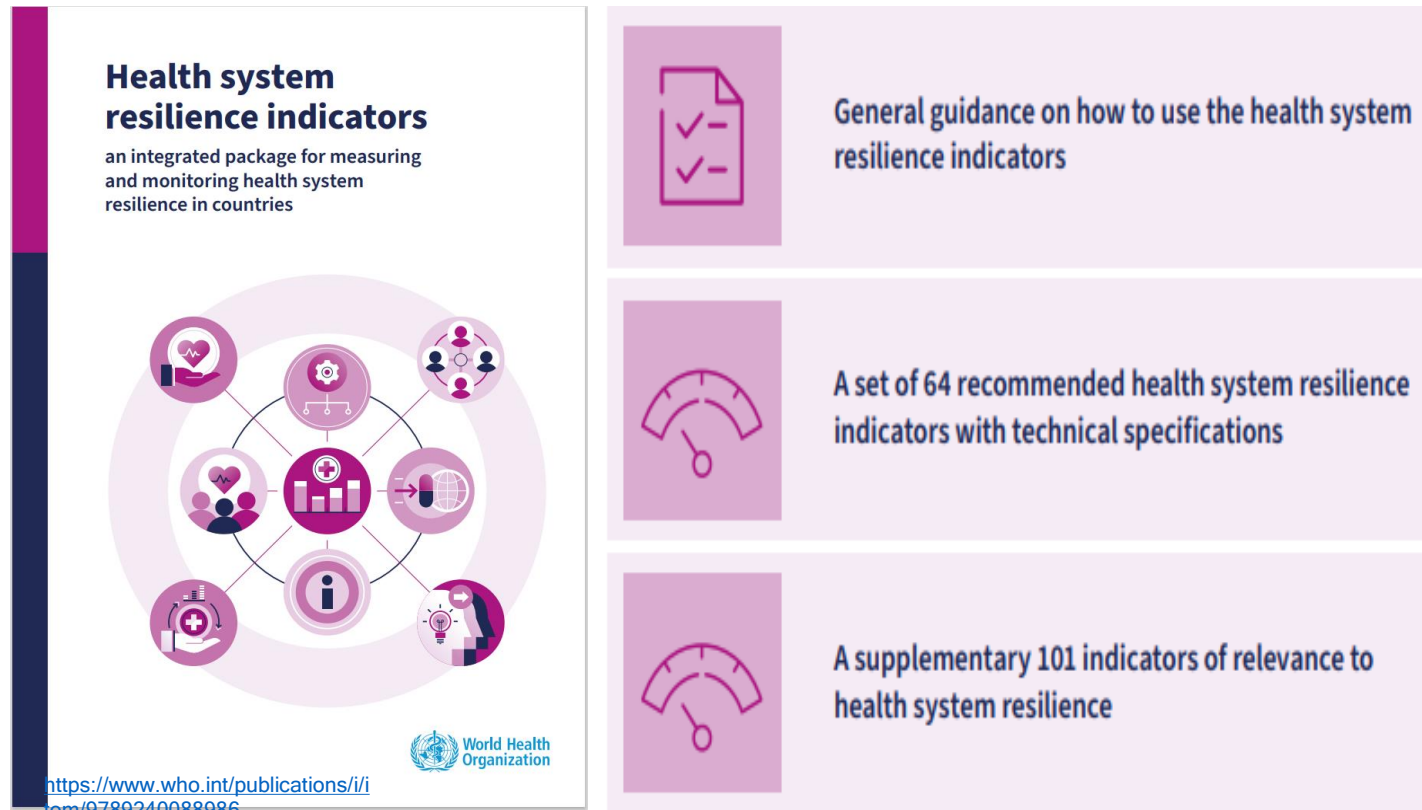


In this era of poly-crises; prevailing gaps in applying an **integrated approach** to public health and resilience building

Silos and fragmentations in monitoring

Need for an integrated approach in policy, planning investments, services, monitoring and evaluation

A dedicated package for measuring and monitoring health systems resilience



Key guiding principles

- **Integrated** approach complementing existing measurement efforts in countries
- **All hazards** approach - generic requirements for resilience
- **System** thinking - across all building blocks
- **Routine and emergency** contexts
- Cross-cutting the emergency management cycle - **prevention to recovery**
- **Intersectoral** and **community** participation
- **Adaptability** to various contexts - High to low income and FCV, different status of resilience contexts
- **National to subnational and health facility** levels (primary to tertiary)

Target audience: national and subnational health authorities, service providers, as well as local, regional, and global technical and donor organizations and partners working on health systems strengthening.

Examples of health system resilience indicators

No.	Main domain	Indicator short name	Level ^a		
			National	Subnational	Facility
1.	Service delivery	% facilities offering services according to nationally defined service package			✓
2.	Service delivery	% facilities conducted simulation exercise			✓
3.	Service delivery	% facilities conducted after- or intra-action reviews			✓
4.	Service delivery	% facilities that closed/discontinued services			✓
5.	Service delivery	% facilities with specified Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Framework level/score			✓
6.	Service delivery	Collaboration between facility-based and community-based delivery	✓	✓	
7.	Service delivery	% facilities sharing practices and lessons			✓
8.	Service delivery	% facilities using community voice to inform service planning			✓
9.	Service delivery	% facilities providing outreach according to community needs			✓
10.	Workforce	% subnational health workers trained in community engagement		✓	✓
11.	Workforce	% facilities with focal point for emergency management and service continuity			✓
59.	Governance	Institutional capacity for essential public health functions coordination	✓	✓	
60.	Governance	Focal point designated for IHR health services provision assessment	✓		
61.	Governance	Health in All Policies approach being implemented	✓		
62.	Governance	Recovery planning guidance	✓	✓	
63.	Governance	Designated authority with responsibility for recovery	✓	✓	
64.	Composite	IHR SPAR health services provision capacity score	✓		



Metadata
Indicator short name
Indicator name
Domain
Definition ^b
Rationale
Level
Disaggregation
Numerator
Denominator
Recommended data source
Type (M&E domain)
Additional reading and references
Existing data collection tools

Includes key indicators on EPHFs including multisectoral participation
Demonstrates that monitoring EPHFs is integral to monitoring HSR

A review of health system and health security assessments tools - from EPHFs perspective - focus on public health service areas

		Health System Assessment tool							
EPHF	Subfunctions	DHIS2	IDSR	SPAR	HHFA	Pulse	SPRP M&E	Sphere	
Public Health Emergency Management (EPHF2)	Subfunction 2.1: Monitoring and analysing available public health information to identify and anticipate potential and priority public health risks, including public health emergency scenarios	2.1	2.1	2.1			2.1	2.1	
	Subfunction 2.2: Planning and developing capacity for public health emergency preparedness and response as part of routine health system functioning in collaboration with other sectors, including development of a national health emergency response operations plan		2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	
	Subfunction 2.3: Carrying out and coordinating effective and timely public health emergency response activities while supporting the continuity of essential functions and services			2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	
	Subfunction 2.4: Planning and implementing recovery from public health emergencies with an integrated health system strengthening approach					2.4	2.4		
	Subfunction 2.5: Engaging with affected communities and stakeholders in the public and private sectors and health and allied sectors as part of whole-of-government and v emergency management		2.5	2.5			2.5		
		Health System Assessment tool							
EPHF	Subfunctions	DHIS2	IDSR	SPAR	HHFA	Pulse	SPRP M&E	Sphere	
Health Protection (EPHF5)	Subfunction 2.1: Monitoring and analysing available public health information to identify and anticipate potential and priority public health risks, including public health emergency scenarios	2.1	2.1	2.1			2.1	2.1	
	Subfunction 2.2: Planning and developing capacity for public health emergency preparedness and response as part of routine health system functioning in collaboration with other sectors, including development of a national health emergency response operations plan		2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	
	Subfunction 2.3: Carrying out and coordinating effective and timely public health emergency response activities while supporting the continuity of essential functions and services			2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	
Disease Prevention (EPHF6)	Subfunction 2.4: Planning and implementing recovery from public health emergencies with an integrated health system strengthening approach					2.4	2.4		
	Subfunction 2.5: Engaging with affected communities and stakeholders in the public and private sectors and health and allied sectors as part of whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to public health emergency management		2.5	2.5			2.5		
	Subfunction 5.1: Developing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating regulatory and enforcement frameworks, including compliance with international legislation, and mechanisms for the protection of specified populations (for example, workers, patients, consumers) and the general public from health hazards			5.1					
	Subfunction 5.2: Conducting risk assessments, risk communication and other risk management actions needed for all manner of health hazards			5.2		5.2	5.2	5.2	
	Subfunction 5.3: Monitoring, preventing, mitigating and controlling confirmed and potential health hazards	5.3	5.3	5.3		5.3	5.3	5.3	
Disease Prevention (EPHF6)	Subfunction 6.1: Designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating interventions, programs, services and platforms for primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, including consideration of equity	6.1		6.1	6.1			6.1	
	Subfunction 6.2: Integrating consideration of prevention and early detection into service delivery platform design or redesign			6.2	6.2		6.2	6.2	

Indicative

Partial

Absent

PHAC funded project

Indicative

Partial

Absent

PHAC funded project



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

- Mapping of 7 most widely used monitoring tools to EPHFs subfunctions
- A wide range of public health functions and services covered according to their scope
- No one tool that measures health sectors performance for both UHC and health security with due consideration of intersectoral coordination and responsibility for public health
- Need for adopting indicators and approaches that measure integration of EPHFs in terms of their synergies and mainstreaming in health and allied sectors
- To enable holistic measurement across the EPHFs, a combination of existing data sources, indicators and revision / streamlining of existing tools is needed,
 - Informed by systematic cross-mapping between available data and the EPHFs considering the more granular sub functions or service areas

Process for integrating public health/EPHFs in health system monitoring

Actions and changes needed in

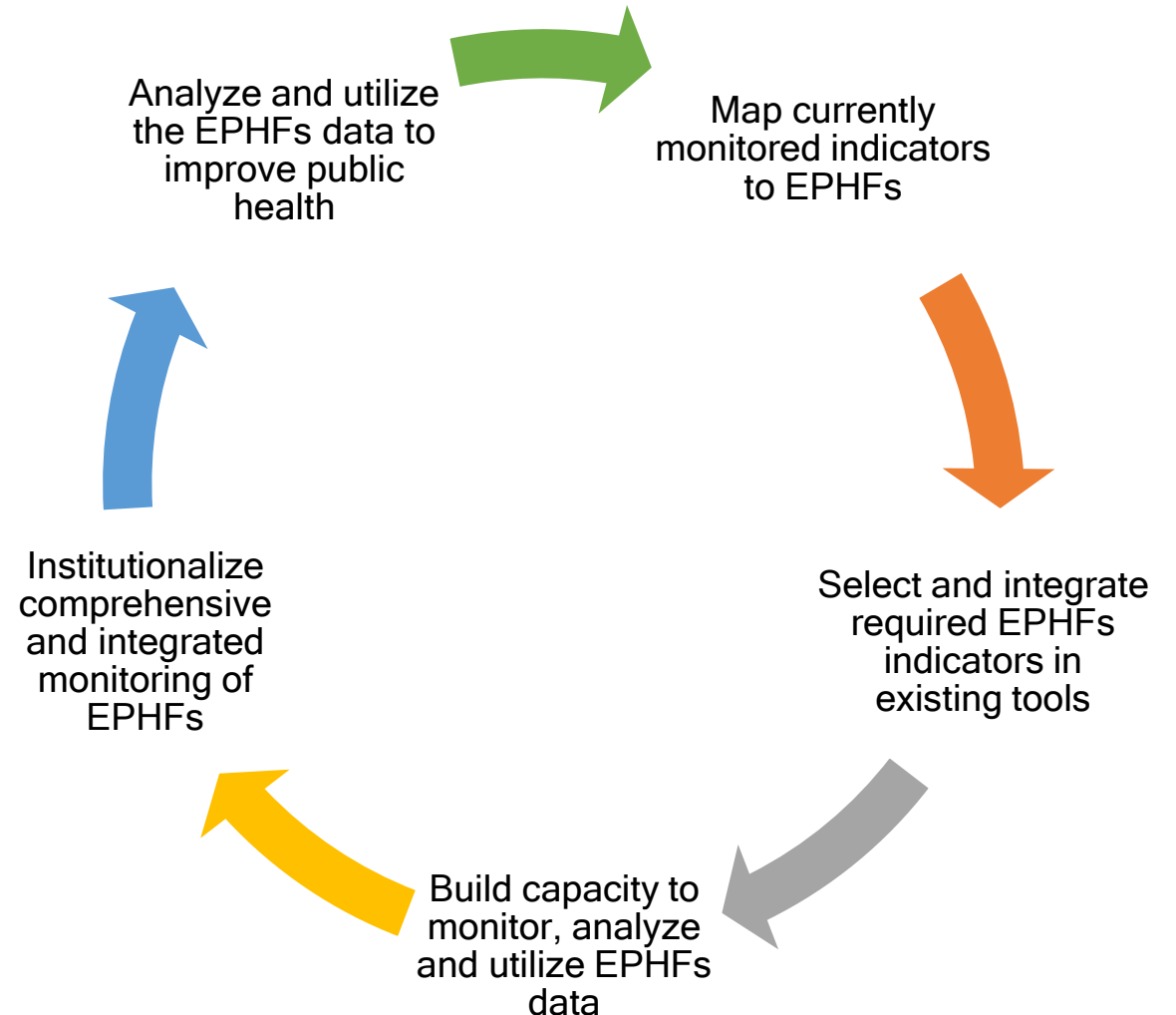
- Policy and planning
- Institutional capacity building
- Investments
- Monitoring and evaluation approaches

Global direction as in Lusaka Agenda: One Plan , One Budget, One M&E

Examples of resources for identifying and selecting EPHFs indicators

- In-county measurement frameworks and tools e.g., NHIS, indicators adopted in national health policies/plans/guidelines
- Global indicators lists e.g., WHO HSR Indicators, IHR MEF, Sphere handbook etc.

Process for integrating EPHFs in health systems monitoring



Sample indicators focused on enhancing integrated monitoring of EPHFs

Example of indicators to ensure integrated and comprehensive measurement of EPHFs delivery	Examples of indicators of institutional capacities at policy and planning level for enabling the EPHS delivery and measurement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current state of essential public health functions delivery ascertained considering those within and beyond the health sector • Existing information systems and tools used in emergency management (including humanitarian response) include health promotion, prevention, and protection and community engagement activities • National routine health information system covers all EPHFs to be delivered at national, subnational, and service delivery levels • Health information analysis and reporting for informing policies and plans and resource allocation, prioritize all EPHFs including service oriented EPHFs and community engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of a legal and policy framework for delivery of EPHFs in routine and emergency contexts • Existence of a national entity or structure that is responsible for multisectoral coordination of the EPHFs • Public health emergency management plans and structures (e.g., IMS, EOC) include pillars on continuity of routine health services (clearly identifying preventive, promotive and protective services as part of the emergency management) • Public health emergency preparedness and response plans identify and prioritize the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized populations • Availability of strategy for developing competencies of public health workforce in EPHFs as appropriate for their roles • Package of essential health services to be delivered in all contexts include all service oriented EPHFs to be delivered at all levels of care including primary care

WHO's Global health strategy for 2025 - 2028

WHO's GPW-14 adopted an HSR indicator as an outcome indicator;

- **Strengthening institutional capacity for EPHFs and health system resilience**

With a focus on;

- Multisectoral coordination mechanisms/institutional focal points for EPHFs
- EPHFs integration in packages of essential health services
- Public health workforce

Opportunity for stronger collaborations in supporting countries – learning from current and past experiences to improve public health



ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS, HEALTH SYSTEMS, AND HEALTH SECURITY

Developing conceptual clarity and
a WHO roadmap for action

ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH
FUNCTIONS, HEALTH SYSTEMS,
AND HEALTH SECURITY

21ST CENTURY HEALTH CHALLENGES

Can the essential public health functions make a difference?

Discussion Paper



Essential public health functions in Ireland



WHO POSITION PAPER

Building health systems resilience for universal health coverage and

Health service continuity planning for public health emergencies

A handbook for health facilities

Interim version for field testing

Thank you



Contact: Sohel Saikat, saikats@who.int

Visit relevant resources at

<https://www.who.int/teams/primary-health-care/health-systems-resilience>

<https://www.who.int/teams/primary-health-care/health-systems-resilience/essential-public-health-functions>



Health Systems Strengthening



Health systems resilience exercises