

"Having this course, I see now the relevance of health in both peace-making and peace-building. We hope to see more frontline workers understand their role in the context of humanitarian service and for the sake of humanity. Thank you WHO for the opportunity of having this kind of learning." -OpenWHO user, Health and Peace course

# OpenWHO News

The latest from WHO's open learning platform

## HIGHLIGHTS

New portal provides countries with quick access to multilingual courses for COVID-19 (p.1)

WHO launches first 2 online courses in #Ready4Response core curriculum for emergencies (p.2)

OpenWHO celebrates 4 years of real-time learning for health emergency response (p.2)

Data shows correlation between OpenWHO use and COVID-19 cases in countries (p.3)

## Serving countries through new OpenWHO portal

OpenWHO launched a new 'Serving countries' portal in June for countries to easily access courses in their official languages to support their response to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency and other health threats.

The new country channels serve as a one-stop-shop for multilingual learning resources produced in collaboration with WHO Country Offices and Ministries of Health to empower frontline health workers, policy-makers and the public. A skilled and qualified workforce and educated public are essential to strengthen national capacity when responding to public health emergencies.

Channels are currently available for 7 countries:

[India](#), [Kazakhstan](#), [Sri Lanka](#), [Suriname](#), [Timor-Leste](#), [Ukraine](#) and [Viet Nam](#). Additional country pages will be launched in the coming months.

## LATEST COURSES & UPCOMING EVENTS



Ready4Response  
[Tier 1](#) | [Tier 2](#)



[Podoconiosis](#): Training of health workers at national and district levels on skin-NTDs



6 July [#LearningSavesLives](#) webinar  
Intertwined - diseases of man and beast and their impact on lives and livelihoods: [Register here](#)



## #Ready4Response: WHO launches core curriculum for emergency response

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted that all countries face challenges responding to public health emergencies. Having access to the right people, with the right skills and training, at the right time and location, is essential to saving lives and protecting the health of people, societies and economies.

With this in mind, WHO has launched a new multi-tiered core curriculum called #Ready4Response that aims to develop consistent learning standards across the emergency response workforces at national level. It equips participants with essential competencies needed to work within public health emergency response.

The first 2 tiers of the training are now available for free on OpenWHO:

- [Tier 1](#) provides context and principles of the all-hazards approach to emergency response; and
- [Tier 2](#) focuses on the core systems, structures and skills required to work effectively in a response team.

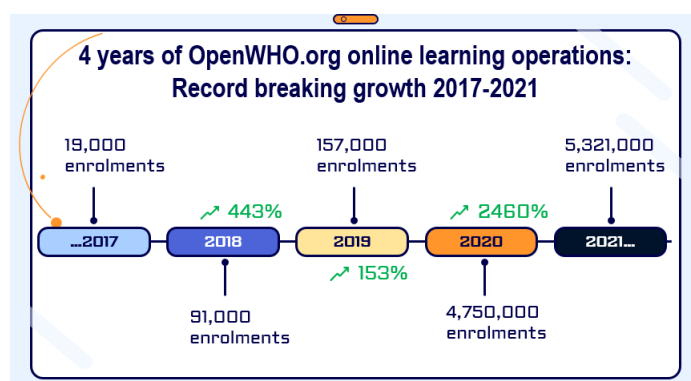
#Ready4Response has been selected as one of the first 10 courses that will be published by the [WHO Academy](#) when it launches later this year. The full curriculum will comprise 4 tiers, including a blended programme focused on leadership in emergencies for nominated participants.

## Celebrating 4 years of OpenWHO

June 2021 marks 4 years of open-source learning operations on [OpenWHO.org](#). The online platform was designed to be readily scalable for a global pandemic. As it entered its 4th year of operations, the platform was already in a real-time pandemic test.

OpenWHO use and reach has expanded over the years, with massive growth during the pandemic. The platform opened to the public with the launch of a [Middle East Respiratory Syndrome \(MERS\) course](#) in June 2017.

The first pilot course was launched in the African region in March 2017 on managing 21st century epidemics. The pilot was a positive experience, including its accessibility in low-bandwidth environments, a key priority for the OpenWHO team.



Top 20 countries COVID-19 total confirmed cases (% total global confirmed cases)	Top 20 countries OpenWHO web sessions <sup>a</sup> (% global OpenWHO activity)
1. United States of America (23.56%)	1. India (21.16%)
2. Brazil (15.31%)	2. United States of America (6.21%)
3. India (14.25%)	3. Mexico (5.63%)
4. Russian Federation (3.98%)	4. Ecuador (4.37%)
5. Peru (2.53%)	5. Colombia (3.45%)
6. South Africa (2.50%)	6. Nigeria (3.32%)
7. Colombia (2.38%)	7. Saudi Arabia (2.78%)
8. Mexico (2.36%)	8. Bangladesh (2.71%)
9. Spain (1.77%)	9. United Kingdom (2.62%)
10. Chile (2.38%)	10. Argentina (2.48%)
11. Argentina (1.58%)	11. Pakistan (2.28%)
12. Iran (1.50%)	12. Philippines (2.14%)
13. United Kingdom (1.34%)	13. Chile (1.94%)
14. Saudi Arabia (1.26%)	14. Egypt (1.89%)
15. Bangladesh (1.24%)	15. Iraq (1.73%)
16. Pakistan (1.19%)	16. Peru (1.63%)
17. Turkey (1.07%)	17. Spain (1.63%)
18. Italy (1.07%)	18. Brazil (1.45%)
19. France (1.03%)	19. Canada (1.38%)
20. Germany (0.93%)	20. South Africa (1.31%)

<sup>a</sup> A session is the time period a user is actively engaged with the OpenWHO platform (via desktop, mobile or app). All usage data (screen views, events, etc.) are associated with a session.

OpenWHO presented an [article](#) at the Medical Informatics Europe Conference in May 2021. One of the key findings was from the August 2020 pandemic learning response on OpenWHO. During that time, of the 20 countries with the highest number of COVID-19 cases (accounting for 82.55% of the global caseload), 14 of those countries were also among the 20 countries with the highest OpenWHO activity levels, as highlighted in blue in the table above.

Below, a graph illustrating the number of words translated for COVID-19 learning on OpenWHO during the first 6 months of this year. In total, 9.8 million words have translated for courses on the platform.

