Learning in Emergencies
The latest from the Learning and Capacity Development Unit

HIGHLIGHTS

Save the date: Celebrate 7 years of OpenWHO.org at our 12 June global webinar with WHO experts (p.1)

WHO partners with the Organization of Turkic States for first country-focused Leadership in Emergencies course (p.2)

Regional spotlight on adaptation of OpenWHO online learning in Africa (p.2)

Data spotlight on OpenWHO 7th anniversary figures, with nearly 9 million enrolments across 280 courses (p.3)

OpenWHO.org turns 7: Join our global webinar

Next month we will celebrate the 7th anniversary of OpenWHO.org, which WHO launched in 2017 anticipating the massive learning response that would be required in a pandemic. To mark this milestone, the OpenWHO team is hosting a global webinar for a behind-the-scenes look at how just-in-time learning has been used to strengthen public health across the world.

Join us on Wednesday, 12 June, from 12:30 to 14:00 CEST, as we hear from WHO experts who developed popular OpenWHO courses about their approach to online learning and the impact of their work. The programme will explore course series on infection prevention and control, neglected tropical diseases, tuberculosis and COVID-19 vaccination, as well as learning tailored for the South-East Asia Region.

Register here for the webinar, which will be limited to the first 500 people online. Visit our anniversary page to explore our 7-year journey from a new platform to a global learning hub nearly 9 million enrolments strong.

NEW ONLINE COURSES

- Preventing and responding to sexual misconduct by our implementing partners: Introductory course
- The Role of Parliaments and Parliamentarians in Strengthening Health Security Preparedness
- Joint External Evaluation for Technical Writers

“Courses like this are necessary so that we can truly outline preventive and protective measures to minimize or halt this increase in antimicrobial resistance.” -OpenWHO learner, national action plans on antimicrobial resistance course
Regional spotlight: OpenWHO adaptation in the African Region

The OpenWHO.org learning platform has been a conduit for critical public health knowledge in the WHO African Region in a variety of recent contexts:

- **Marburg: Translation for Tanzania and Equatorial Guinea** | The introductory [Marburg course](https://www.openwho.org/courses/marburg) was translated into Dholuo, Kirundi, Spanish and Swahili to expand reach in affected countries.

- **Food insecurity: Reaching learners in the Greater Horn of Africa** | Nearly 1 in 10 learners in the [food insecurity course](https://www.openwho.org/courses/food-insecurity) were from the region, where 50 million people are food insecure. Ethiopia ranked fifth in enrolments globally.

- **Ebola: Raising awareness in Uganda** | Together with local NGOs, OpenWHO learners organized public awareness campaigns. Uganda was declared Ebola-free in January 2023.

- **COVID-19: Blended learning on clinical management in Guinea Bissau** | A [clinical management course](https://www.openwho.org/courses/clinical-management) was adapted into several languages including Portuguese to allow learners to learn in their preferred language and modality.

OpenWHO also hosts a number of courses developed by experts in the African Region, including the 5-course [Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response series](https://www.openwho.org/courses/integrated-disease-surveillance-and-response-series), an [African Vaccines Regulatory Forum clinical trials inspections course](https://www.openwho.org/courses/african-vaccines-regulatory-forum-clinical-trials-inspections) and an [oral health training course for community health workers in Africa](https://www.openwho.org/courses/oral-health-training-course-for-community-health-workers-in-africa).

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WHO trains OTS health professionals on emergency management

A 5-day training course on leadership in health emergencies for some 30 health professionals from members of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS) and WHO offices in these countries has wrapped up in Istanbul, Türkiye.

Organized by the WHO European Centre for Preparedness for Humanitarian and Health Emergencies in Istanbul, the health emergencies learning and capacity development team at WHO headquarters, and the OTS, the course targeted those in middle to high management roles involved in health emergency response.

Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe, emphasized the urgency of the training, noting, “We are in an age of permacrisis: mounting emergencies arriving faster than before. Our experience has clearly shown the necessity for effective leadership and collaboration across all levels – local, national and global.”

The participants underwent over 50 hours of intensive learning aimed at enhancing critical nontechnical skills essential for effective emergency management. You can read more about the course on the WHO Regional Office for Europe website [here](https://www.euro.who.int/en/).
OpenWHO.org at 7 years

- 280 course topics
- 40 diseases addressed
- 102 courses on epidemic & pandemic diseases
- 25 public health learning channels
- 17 country-specific learning channels
- 72 languages
- 24 million words translated
- 4.6 million certificates
- 370 thousand digital badges
- 8.6 million course enrolments