



GTCC Cholera Country Support Platform Operational Highlights

NATIONAL CHOLERA PLAN: ACTIVITIES & ENGAGEMENTS

Bangladesh

- The National Cholera Plan (NCP) stakeholder mapping has been developed with the technical support of the Information Management team from the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), IFRC, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b). The mapping, hosted on the PowerBI platform, will be updated every six months. To access the mapping, click [here](#).
- The NCP case management flowchart and guidelines have been finalized. These guidelines will be distributed to all health facilities across Bangladesh. The soft copy will be uploaded to the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) DGHS website.
- A consultant to support hotspot mapping has started their work with the national team. The hotspot mapping is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2023.
- The CSP Programme Manager (PM) and CDC DGHS had a discussion with the World Health Organization (WHO) Geneva on a possible study of controlled temperature chain for Euvichol plus.
- The CSP PM has been allocated a working space in the DGHS compound for better coordination with government agencies.
- The CSP PM represented Bangladesh alongside three DGHS officials at the 16th Asian Conference on Diarrhoeal Disease and Nutrition 2022 in Kolkata, India, from 11 to 13 October. The event emphasized the holistic and community-centered approach to the prevention and control of cholera and other enteric diseases.
- A meeting has been initiated between the CDC DGHS, Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research,



Management Information System and icddr,b to discuss the development of a cholera monitoring dashboard for Bangladesh, including acute watery diarrhea with severe dehydration. A prototype developed by Johns Hopkins and icddr,b will be presented.

- A training in hygiene promotion during emergencies was held from 5 to 7 December for members of the WASH cluster, with more than 16 organizations across Bangladesh joining the event.



Nigeria

- The second draft of the Nigeria National Cholera Control Plan is finalized and submitted to the CSP interim coordinator for review.
- The CSP PM and NCP Consultant, together with support from the IFRC Nigeria Communications team, have worked on a concept note to produce an advocacy documentary and communication materials to accelerate lobbying efforts on the National Cholera Control agenda. The plan will be operationalized by identifying technical focal points from the IFRC and NCDC, to ensure sourcing of a service provider is done as a priority next step.
- The coordination team is prioritizing activities for the first quarter of 2023 by updating the hotspot mapping, organizing the National Cholera Research Agenda workshop and a national validation meeting.

eastern province of Zambia. The meeting yielded immediate results as key stakeholders formed a rapid response team at a sub-district level.

- As Zambia has entered its cholera season, key partners in the National Cholera Taskforce donated cholera medical supplies and consumables to the national cholera preparedness and response, as indicated in the implementation plan of the Zambia multisectoral cholera elimination plan. The handover ceremony of these supplies and consumables was held on 25 November 2022.



- The CSP PM has provided remote guidance following request for support from the Zimbabwe Cholera Control Secretariat on developing TOR for mid-term evaluation of the Zimbabwe cholera control plan. Further engagements and support will be explored in 2023.
- The CSP PM is working closely with consultants from Global Health Vision (GHV) on the Investment Case toolkit and an advocacy document entitled 'Investing in a Cholera-Free Zambia'.

Zambia

- On 12 October 2022, the NCP Taskforce held a meeting with the Director-General of the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) to deliberate key issues related to the coordination structure of Zambia's elimination programme to strengthen multisectoral collaboration.



- To raise awareness among the public as Zambia enters the cholera season, Dr. Fred Kapaya, National Cholera Coordinator at ZNPHI, together with CSP's PM, were invited as panel speakers on the ZNBC TV1 Healthline programme, which aired live on 11 October 2022. The cholera-related discussions continued the next day with an extended panel represented by Dr. Kapaya, Engineer Ulanda Nyirenda, Assistant Director of the Ministry of Water Development and Sanitation, as well as Mr. Cosmas Sakala, Deputy Secretary-General of Zambia Red Cross Society.
- The CSP PM, in partnership with the Netherlands Red Cross Society, supported the Zambia Red Cross Society in organizing a Branch Transmission Intervention Team training session, which took place in the eastern province bordering Malawi. This training was provided to 20 volunteers and health workers, and contributed to the cholera preparedness in the province, given the ongoing cholera outbreak in Malawi.

- To ensure cholera preparedness and readiness during the ongoing outbreak in Malawi, the CSP PM participated in the Cholera Orientation exercise on 22 September for border districts in the

Democratic Republic of Congo

- The NCP validation workshop in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), took place on 16 and 17 November 2022, co-organized by the CSP and Ministry of Planning and PNECHOL, together with key stakeholders, including WHO, Fondation Veolia, UNICEF, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Médecins Sans Frontières, Mercy Corps and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The official ceremony was attended by the national representatives of seven ministries, among them: Ministry of Public Health and Hygiene, Water and Energy, Environment, Rural Hydraulic, Plan, Budget, Agriculture and Fishery. Also, the National Programme for Cholera Elimination, the University of Kinshasa, WHO, GTFCC/CSP and other international organizations involved in cholera control within the DRC attended the event.
- In October, the CSP, together with the US CDC and Gavi, supported a series of oral cholera vaccine (OCV) trainings in Kinshasa



- focused on developing quality OCV requests and ensuring successful vaccine integration efforts in the country. Participants from UNICEF, WHO, Mercy Corps, US CDC and EPI attended the workshop.
- Two experts (one OCV specialist and one epidemiologist) were deployed in October and November to:
 - support the DRC in finalizing and validating the NCP 2023-2027.

- support the National Cholera Programme and the Expanded Programme on Immunization to finalize the DRC's pluriannual OCV plan 2023-2027. The OCV multiyear plan is expected to be submitted to Gavi at the beginning of January 2023.

- The DRC PM held several bilateral meetings with the US CDC, World Bank and the German Development Agency, advocating for the financial support needed for the NCP and related activities. The CSP has also held two meetings with the Budget Ministry focal point and advocated for the national financial investment towards cholera control and elimination in the DRC.
- Along with US CDC and WHO, the CSP will be facilitating a session to draft the DRC's OCV multiyear plan and the integration of WASH during OCV preventative campaigns.

- The final version of the NCP is expected to be launched by the end of December 2022, with its endorsement by the Government and its submission to Gavi before mid-January 2023.

CSP GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS

GTFFC OCV Working Group Meeting

- The CSP Coordinator, NCP Senior Officer and Bangladesh PM attended the 9th GTFFC Oral Cholera Vaccine Working Group Meeting on 11 and 12 October 2022 in Annecy, France. The CSP's Bangladesh PM facilitated the discussion on country perspectives regarding OCV usage.

WHO OCV Training in Ethiopia

- In Ethiopia, the CSP supported WHO's training for health professionals, in collaboration with the Ethiopia Public Health Institute, US CDC and Gavi. The training focused on the ways to develop OCV micro plans for effective implementation, and the submission process of OCV requests to Gavi. Zambia's CSP PM participated and partially facilitated the training conducted in Adama, Ethiopia, from 31 October to 4 November 2022.



2022: YEAR IN REVIEW

Defining Moments for the CSP

5

countries (Bangladesh, DRC, Nigeria, Zambia and Mozambique) supported for the development of National Cholera Plans.

4

countries (Bangladesh, DRC, Nigeria, and Zambia) supported in developing advocacy efforts.

5

countries (Bangladesh, DRC, Nigeria, Zambia and Ethiopia) supported for oral cholera vaccination.

20

technical experts (NCP, WASH, OCV and advocacy) deployed.

18

cholera trainings and workshops facilitated or supported.



GTFFC Global Cholera Champion - President of Zambia

- The GTFFC Secretariat, CSP and officials from ZNPHI, WHO and the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia came together on 28 October 2022 to discuss the current cholera situation with a focus on southern Africa region (Malawi and bordering areas) while exchanging ideas on the role and influence of H. E. Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, President of Zambia, in the ongoing crisis.
- The CSP PM participated in the 2022 World Toilet Day, which was celebrated in Zambia on 19 November. During the event, the Global Cholera Control Champion, President Hakainde Hichilema, strongly advocated for cholera prevention through effective sanitation practices. He used the opportunity to call upon the international community to treat the sanitation crisis as a threat to human rights, as sanitation-related diseases severely and disproportionately impact low-income earners. More information is available [here](#).
- With guidance from the GTFFC, the CSP PM and Zambia team are currently supporting the Global Cholera Control Champion in various media and advocacy efforts.

LOOKING AHEAD - 2023

- With the recent departure of the CSP's coordinator, the operational arm will be led in the interim by the Senior Officer Ms. Annika Wendland.
- The CSP is proactively expanding as it continues the recruitment of a CSP Corporate Service Coordinator and NCP & OCV Roving Delegate based in the IFRC Brazzaville.
- As the CSP expands geographically, a PM will be seconded to Mozambique in the first semester of 2023.
- The CSP is coordinating efforts with the GTFFC Secretariat to develop a joint-work plan reflecting key milestones and deliverables.
- With the CSP countries expecting to launch their respective national cholera plans in the first quarter of 2023, the CSP will jointly work with GHV to roll out country investment cases and advocacy strategies.

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM THOMAS MOLLET, CSP COORDINATOR



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It has been an honour to lead the CSP and to work with the GTFFC partners and the authorities of the cholera-affected countries. Although I am now leaving the IFRC to join the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean in Cairo, I am confident that we will continue to work together on cholera control.

I wish you a happy end-of-year celebration and all the best for 2023.



GTFCC Country Support Platform

The Country Support Platform is an operational arm of the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC), lending support to countries. This includes technical assistance (short, medium and long term), policy and advocacy, resource mobilization and fundraising, capacity building and implementation of research projects. The Global Task Force on Cholera Control is a partnership of more than 50 institutions, including NGOs, academic institutions and UN agencies. More information on the GTFCC is available [here](#).

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