

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT FOR EPIDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

Enabling learning and peer exchange for strengthening health security



PROBLEM

- IHR systems strengthening is complex. Countries face **delays in moving from assessment to planning, struggle to build quality and realistic plans, and have inconsistent systems of accountability and quality improvement in implementation.**
- Government officials who work on strengthening epidemic preparedness have **limited opportunities** for shared, practical learning on strategies to advance technical, operational and political issues.



SOLUTION

Help establish a **model for learning and peer exchange** that enables government officials to grow their practical knowledge and skills, engage peers and facilitate systems change.



Inaugural PMEP

2020
28 mid- to senior-level managers from
The Gambia • Ghana • Liberia • Nigeria
Rwanda • Tanzania • Uganda



PMEP for RTSL embedded preparedness teams

2021
19 A-team leaders from
Ethiopia • Liberia • Nigeria • Uganda



Enabling PMEP in the WHO African Region

2022
35 leaders from Ghana • Kenya • Lesotho • Namibia • South Sudan • Tanzania
+ Upcoming **Francophone program**

Results

- Mobilized around **core IHR and program management principles, practices, tools and resources**
- **Assessed status, opportunities and challenges** for engaging in preparedness in each country and **identified opportunities** for RTSL technical assistance
- Established **pathway for peer exchange between countries**
- **Strengthened relationships and communication** with RTSL

Phase 1: WHO AFRO Virtual Workshop Series

- Use essential features of the **WHO Benchmarks Digital Tool** and **IHR Capacities Toolkit**
- Understand **how IHR and program management principles, practices, tools and resources work together** to enhance health security
- Apply **program management and leadership principles** to their work

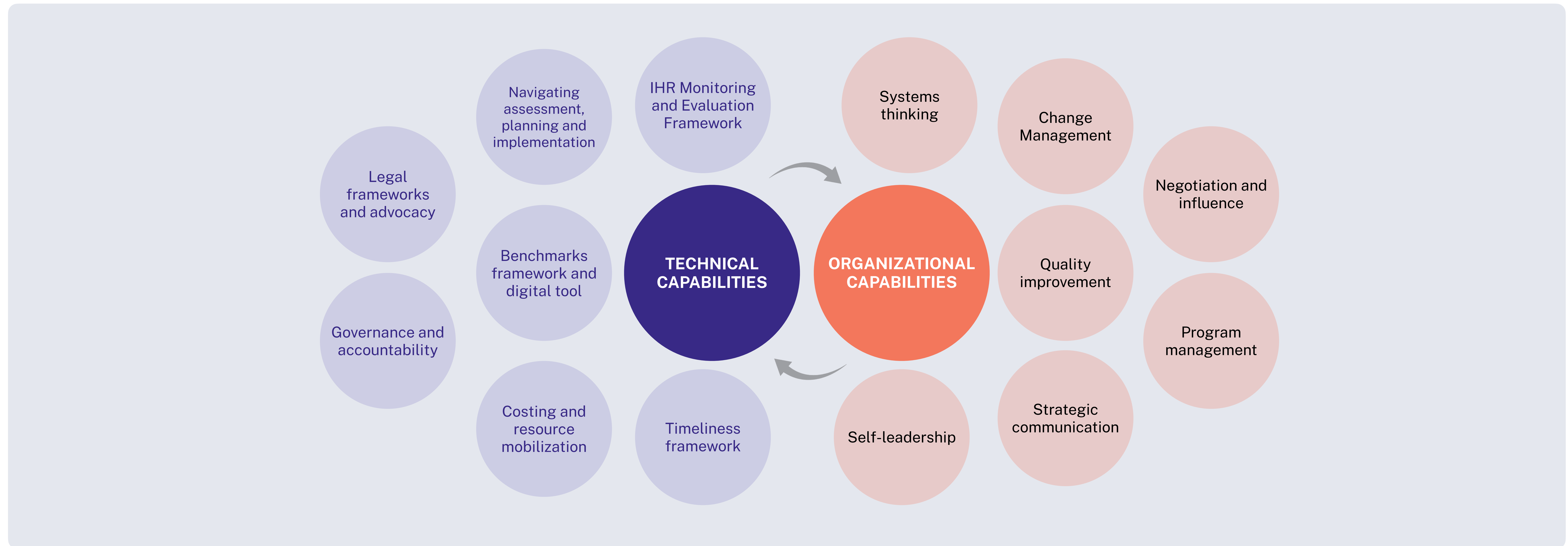
Phase 2:

Communities of practice to sustain learning and practical application


KEY LESSONS


BRIDGING TECHNICAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITIES


To navigate the multiple technical, operational, and financial challenges that are met on the ground, teams must be able to synergize both “hardware” and “software” capabilities critical to epidemic preparedness.



PROTOTYPING SIMPLE, SCALABLE DELIVERY

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Prioritizing participatory methodology
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Leveraging in-person virtual and hybrid modalities and asynchronous course content
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Establishing networks and communities of practice

ESTABLISHING RELATIONSHIPS THAT ENABLE RESULTS

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Strengthen dynamic communication between countries
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Enable coordinated engagement of technical partners (WHO, USCDC, RTSL)
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Amplify and scale practical learning to reinforce GSPN