Strong laboratories play a critical role in the prevention, detection, and control of diseases. Specialized training for current and emerging laboratory leaders supports a country’s ability to respond to future outbreaks and health emergencies.

Key organizations partnered to develop the Global Laboratory Leadership Programme (GLLP) targeting leaders of human and animal health laboratories, as well as laboratories with public health impact such as environmental, agricultural, food, and chemical laboratories. The partners are:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)

The GLLP partners are committed to the programme’s vision of laboratory leaders empowering national laboratory systems across the globe using a One Health approach to strengthen health security.

The Laboratory Leadership Competency Framework†

International experts agree that laboratory leaders need certain core competencies to meet national, regional, and global disease prevention and control objectives. The GLLP encapsulates the following nine core competencies outlined in the Laboratory Leadership Competency Framework:

- Laboratory System
- Disease Surveillance and Outbreak Investigation
- Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
- Biosafety and Biosecurity
- Leadership
- Management
- Communication
- Quality Management System
- Research

GLLP Learning Package

The programme, available for virtual or in-person implementation, is flexible in length and format, and may be adapted to meet country-specific workforce needs. The GLLP Learning Package provides the materials necessary to implement programmes in any country or educational institution in the world and includes:

- GLLP Planning and Implementation Guide
- GLLP Mentorship Guide
- Presentations and Instructor Guides

The GLLP course materials include four sections (Introduction, Laboratory Management, Laboratory Leadership, and Laboratory Systems) comprising 13 units and 43 modules, with over 200 contact hours’ worth of materials, all with a strong One Health focus. The GLLP Learning Package is hosted on the WHO Health Security Learning Platform. Access to the full set of course materials is available upon request and will be granted to organizations planning to use the GLLP materials for a training/learning activity.

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