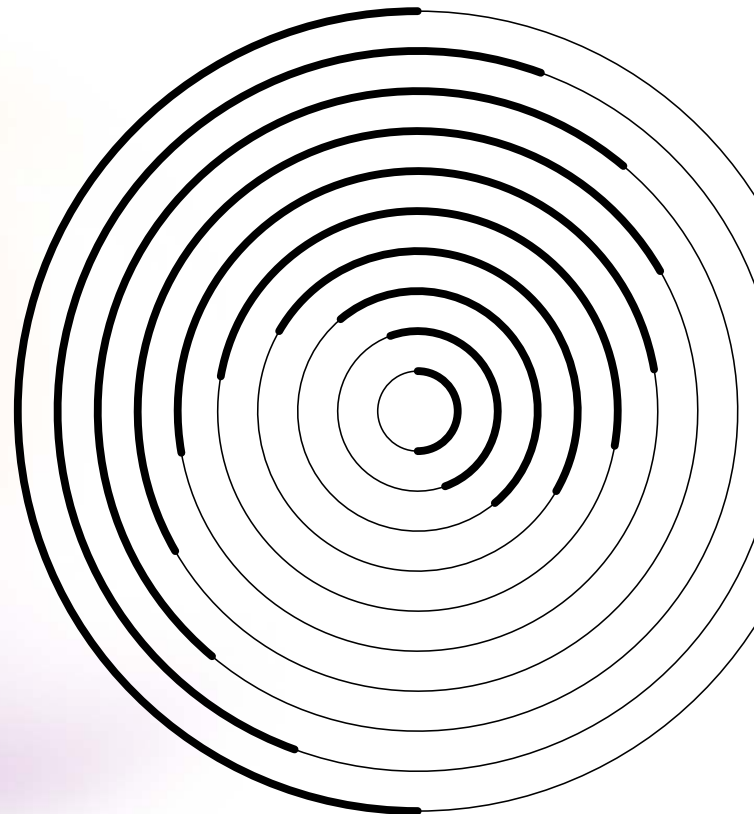


# WHO thematic platform for health emergency and disaster risk management research network

Report of the fourth core group meeting

**“Promote global collaboration for  
effective knowledge sharing”**



Online meeting  
27 October 2022

WHO thematic platform for health emergency and disaster risk management research network: report of the fourth core group meeting “Promote global collaboration for effective knowledge sharing”, online meeting, 27 October 2022

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## Executive summary

The World Health Organization Centre for Health Development (WHO Kobe Centre – WKC, Kobe, Japan) convened the Fourth Core Group meeting of the WHO Thematic Platform for the Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network (Health EDRM RN) online on 27 October 2022. The meeting aimed to identify networks and actions to promote global collaboration for effective knowledge sharing in the field of Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management (Health EDRM). The meeting objective was to produce agreed actions for the Health EDRM RN for 2023–2024, focusing on the four key milestones for successful implementation, including:

1. Effective dissemination of the revised WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM through collaboration among WHO HQ, WHO Regional Offices, academic societies, institutions of Health EDRM RN participants, etc.;
2. Potential content to add to the initial WHO Health EDRM Knowledge Hub;
3. Timeline and capacity for HQ/Regional Office webinars on Health EDRM and Health EDRM related research; and
4. Expected global and regional collaborative activities to further promote and operationalize Health EDRM related research.

Twenty-six WHO and global experts in Health EDRM participated in the meeting. The meeting identified a strong need for further global, regional, national and local knowledge dissemination to deliver evidence critical to developing and implementing effective policies and programmes.

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants agreed on six key actions, listed below.

1. Coordinate joint HQ, WKC and Regional Office webinars and workshops on knowledge dissemination for implementing evidence-based policies and programmes, as well as research capacity development to promote the use of the Guidance.
2. Work with Regional Offices to understand and address region- and country-specific health issues and challenges involving policy-makers and service providers in the research agenda planning.
3. Promote implementation research that informs evidence-based policies and practices.
4. Continue building the WHO Health EDRM Knowledge Hub, which provides practical and operational guides on what works or does not work with links to existing databases and knowledge platforms.
5. Maintain efforts to increase the visibility of Health EDRM and Health EDRM research, including possible collaboration with other research fields and professional groups.
6. Explore joint funding and fundraising opportunities.

# 1. Background and objectives

The WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network (Health EDRM RN) was launched in 2018. The Health EDRM RN aims to foster collaboration among academia, government officials and other stakeholders around the world to strengthen research and to promote knowledge and evidence for managing health risks associated with all types of emergencies and disasters.<sup>1</sup>

The Health EDRM RN integrates research and evidence across the three strategic pillars of the WHO 13th General Programme of Work 2019–23 (GPW13)<sup>2</sup> and is aligned with the WHO Health EDRM Framework,<sup>3</sup> supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>4</sup> the Sustainable Development Goals, the International Health Regulations (2005),<sup>5</sup> the Paris Agreement on Climate Change<sup>6</sup> and other related global, regional and national frameworks.

The Core Group provides strategic direction for the Health EDRM RN. Led by co-chairs who are global research experts, the Group consists of WHO focal points from HQ and all Regional Offices, and several key experts and stakeholders. Core Group meetings have been held annually since 2019 and have guided Health EDRM RN activities.<sup>7,8,9</sup>

On 27 October 2022, the WHO Centre for Health Development (WHO Kobe Centre – WKC, Kobe, Japan) convened the fourth meeting of the Core Group, entitled “Promote global collaboration for effective knowledge sharing”. Twenty-six WHO and global experts in Health EDRM attended the meeting (Annex 2). The fourth meeting aimed to share the key achievements of the Health EDRM RN since the third meeting in 2021, and to identify required actions for collaboration among regions and countries to promote knowledge sharing.

- 1 WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management: [https://extranet.who.int/kobe\\_centre/en/project-details/TPRN](https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/en/project-details/TPRN)
- 2 WHO 13th General Programme of Work 2019–23: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/324775/WHO-PRP-18.1-eng.pdf>
- 3 WHO Health EDRM Framework 2019: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/326106>
- 4 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030: [https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291\\_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf](https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf)
- 5 World Health Organization. (2016). International Health Regulations (2005), 3rd ed. World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/246107>
- 6 Paris Agreement: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>;
- 7 Report: WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network First Core Group Meeting – Building a WHO Health EDRM Research Agenda: [https://extranet.who.int/kobe\\_centre/sites/default/files/Report\\_2019\\_CoreGroupMtg\\_HealthEDRM\\_researchnetwork.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/sites/default/files/Report_2019_CoreGroupMtg_HealthEDRM_researchnetwork.pdf)
- 8 Report: WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network Second Core Group Meeting – Moving forward to effective operation for global impact and country benefit: [https://extranet.who.int/kobe\\_centre/sites/default/files/HealthEDMRN\\_2ndCGM\\_27Nov2020\\_Report.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/sites/default/files/HealthEDMRN_2ndCGM_27Nov2020_Report.pdf)
- 9 Report: WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network Third Core Group Meeting – Translating HEDRM research into practical products: [https://extranet.who.int/kobe\\_centre/sites/default/files/HealthEDMRN\\_3rdCGM\\_22Nov2021\\_Report.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/sites/default/files/HealthEDMRN_3rdCGM_22Nov2021_Report.pdf)

The meeting objective was to reach agreement on the 2023–2024 action plan for the Health EDRM RN through a focused discussion on the following four key points:

1. Effective dissemination of the revised WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM through collaboration among WHO HQ, WHO Regional Offices, academic societies, institutions of Health EDRM RN participants, etc.;
2. Potential content to add to the initial WHO Health EDRM Knowledge Hub;
3. Timeline and capacity for HQ/Regional Office webinars on Health EDRM and Health EDRM related research; and
4. Expected global and regional collaborative activities to further promote and operationalize Health EDRM related research.

This report summarizes the discussion and decisions of the fourth meeting.

## 2. Meeting summary

The meeting programme is available in Annex 1.

### Opening remarks

The meeting was opened by **Dr Sarah Louise Barber** (Director, WKC, Kobe, Japan), who welcomed the participants and outlined the key achievements of the past year and the progress of ongoing activities.

On behalf of **Dr Qudsia Huda** (Unit Head, Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, WHO Health Emergency Programme [WHE], Geneva, Switzerland [HQ]), **Dr Kai Von Harbou** (Technical Officer, WHE) shared recent HQ initiatives on Health EDRM and the aspirations for the Health EDRM RN. Dr Harbou reiterated that strengthening the scientific evidence base on effective risk management was one of WHE's key priorities and offered his congratulations on the publishing of the revised WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM (the Guidance) with the COVID-19 chapter. He also stated his expectation to operationalize these research methods in risk assessments.

Following the opening remarks, **Dr Ryoma Kayano** (Technical Officer, WKC, Secretariat of the Health EDRM RN) presented the Network's key achievements since the last meeting in 2021:

- Publication of the revised Guidance with a COVID-19 chapter;
- Development of user-friendly dissemination materials (videos, slideshows and podcasts) for the Guidance;
- Ongoing efforts to develop the WHO Health EDRM Knowledge Hub; and
- Key findings of the WHO-funded research projects.

Dr Kayano highlighted that these achievements contributed to enhancing our understanding of what works or doesn't work on Health EDRM research, policies and programmes.

## Session 1: Advice from invited experts

### Key points

- Building on the momentum created by the updated Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM, active dissemination strategies to promote the use of the Guidance by frontline workers and researchers are encouraged, including potential joint webinars or training programmes in collaboration with Regional Offices and Health EDRM RN participating universities.
- Collaborating with experts in and networks of sciences other than medicine and health science is a potential approach to further increase the visibility of Health EDRM and Health EDRM research.

Session 1 consisted of nine Health EDRM experts sharing their experience on effective knowledge sharing, education and training.

**Professor Virginia Murray** (Head of Global Disaster Risk Reduction, UK Health Security Agency, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, co-chair of the Health EDRM RN and session moderator, outlined her actions to disseminate the Guidance and the new COVID-19 chapter at numerous fora, including the UK Health Security Agency's Global Hazards Weekly Bulletin, a UK Health Security Agency research conference, and multiple academic workshops in Europe.

**Professor Tatsuhiko Kubo** (Professor, Department of Public Health and Health Policy, Hiroshima University, Hiroshima, Japan) reported his active efforts to promote the Health EDRM Framework and the Guidance through various networks in WHO, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries and Japan. He highlighted future opportunities for knowledge dissemination in ASEAN, including the establishment of the ASEAN Academic Network for Disaster Health Management (where he contributes as a technical advisor), and suggested a collaboration with the Japan Association for Disaster Medicine (whose international committee he chairs).

**Professor Mike Clarke** (Professor, Queens University of Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom), who leads Evidence Aid, outlined the learning materials produced for the Guidance by Evidence Aid and WKC. Professor Clarke suggested the establishment of a working group to plan and implement initiatives on:

1. Building strong partnerships with evidence synthesis organizations such as Cochrane, The Campbell Collaboration and Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI);
2. Building more evidence on what works and what doesn't work that would benefit WHO's target audience, regions and countries; and
3. Developing global training courses on the use of the Guidance.

**Dr Tina Endericks** (Head of Global Health Security, UK Health Security Agency, London, United Kingdom) introduced the UK Health Security Agency's work as the WHO Collaborating Centre for Global Health Security. She suggested building a stronger connection between the capacity development aspects of Health EDRM research (e.g. the



Guidance) and that of the International Health Regulation (IHR) (e.g. the IHR Monitoring and Evaluation Framework) as there are many cross-cutting themes and approaches, e.g. multisectoral approaches in Health EDRM activities.

**Professor Emily Ying-Yang Chan** (Founding and Co-Director, Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and Chinese University of Hong Kong [CUHK] for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response [CCOUC], and Professor and Assistant Dean [External Affairs], Faculty of Medicine, CUHK, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China) shared her perspective of the growing applications of Health EDRM research and the Health EDRM framework in planning and implementing activities and programmes for frontline workers. Professor Chan emphasized the expected roles of the Health EDRM RN as a “technical capacity broker” and “resource connector” that promotes links between donors and academic entities to address health issues of communities.

**Professor Tracey O’Sullivan** (Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada) made several suggestions, including: a) to provide presentations targeted to policy-makers and frontline workers; b) to use social media for promotion; and c) to expand opportunities for graduate students and early career researchers as authors in or contributors to future Guidance updates. She also shared a list of potential collaboration opportunities in the Americas.

**Professor Cordia Chu** (Director, Centre for Environment and Population Health, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia) outlined possible linkages and collaborations in Asia Pacific countries and her positive experiences of engagements with various Australian national networks, such as the Healthy Environment and Lives (HEAL) Network and the Queensland Disaster Management Research Advisory Panel Network (RAP).

**Dr Elizabeth Newnham** (Senior Lecturer and Programme Lead, School of Population Health, Curtin University, Perth, Australia) echoed suggestions to strengthen active collaborations with relevant networks in Australia and the Asia Pacific region, such as the Asia Pacific Disaster Mental Health Network, to disseminate knowledge and evidence.

**Mr Jonathan Abrahams** (Associate Professor and Director, Monash University Disaster Resilience Initiative, Monash University Accident Research Centre, Monash University, Clayton, Australia) discussed ways to strengthen linkages with various sectors, including the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk Programme (IRDR), the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), and the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM). He emphasized that more efforts should be made for health to be included in many dialogues in different sectors and suggested increased attendance at conferences such as the WADEM Congress 2023 to increase visibility of Health EDRM and the RN.

## Session 2: Regional reports

### Key points

- To maximize the impact of research findings, it is necessary to address specific challenges and health issues facing regions and countries. This means involving policy-makers and service providers in the planning of research agendas and knowledge dissemination activities.
- Multiple Regional Offices suggested the Secretariat should coordinate an HQ/WKC/Regional Offices joint research capacity development programme with webinars and workshops to provide learning opportunities to students and next-generation researchers.
- Exploring joint funding and joint fundraising opportunities for further development of Health EDRM research was encouraged.

Session 2 was moderated by Dr Harbou and aimed to gain inputs from the WHO Regional Officers on effective outreach strategies for disseminating scientific evidence to countries.

**Dr Dick Damas Chamla** (Emergency Preparedness Manager, Emergency Response, WHO Regional Office for Africa [AFRO], Brazzaville, Congo) reported that the WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) recently organized a meeting with the African Union, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and United Nations agencies to identify research priorities in Africa on issues including humanitarian crises and infectious diseases. The meeting also highlighted a need to develop capacity and better governance structures for research in the region.

**Dr Jehan Al-Badri** (Technical Officer, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, WHO Representative Office, Baghdad, Iraq) highlighted that half of the countries in the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean region (EMRO) are currently suffering from humanitarian crises. Hence, research is limited and not highly prioritized. Nevertheless, there is a strong need for evidence to inform policy-making and guide practices. Thus, Dr Al-Badri suggested considering practical ways to form sustainable collaborations and research dissemination processes in EMRO. She emphasized that involving end-users, including policy-makers and service providers in planning research agendas is the key to understanding research needs that benefit the operational needs in the region. Focusing research on what works and what does not work is critical. She also suggested using various digital tools and existing platforms for knowledge dissemination, including webinars, workshops, social media campaigns and Open WHO. She proposed the Secretariat continue discussions with EMRO to develop a concrete dissemination and assessment plan for knowledge dissemination in the region with local partners and networks.

**Dr Irshad Ali Shaikh** (Senior Technical Officer, WHO European Centre for Preparedness for Humanitarian and Health Emergencies, Istanbul, Türkiye) reported that promotion of applied research and practice for disaster preparedness is the primary focus of the WHO Regional Office for Europe (EURO) and two recent events it organized in collaboration with WHE on the best ways to bridge the research-to-policy nexus. He also introduced a newly

established research fund that encourages next-generation researchers to address local problems and bridge research into practice for policy-makers, and emphasized that this approach to focus on specific local problems would raise the awareness of policy-makers.

**Dr Alex Camacho Vasconez** (Advisor, Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, Pan American Health Organization [PAHO], Washington, DC, USA) and **Dr Celso Vladimir Bambaren Alatrasta** (Unit Chief, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, PAHO, Washington DC, USA), echoed the focus on benefitting Member States and ensuring their involvement, and suggested including research as a cross-cutting theme in PAHO's disaster risk reduction related resolutions. They introduced PAHO's recent activities to develop a knowledge platform on resilient health systems in collaboration with Evidence Aid. Dr Camacho Vasconez suggested HQ and WKC should provide research capacity development opportunities for Country Offices and WHO Collaborating Centres in the PAHO region. He also highlighted the lack of funds for this area of work and suggested joint fundraising opportunities.

**Dr Anil Bhola** (Consultant, Health EDM and Operational Readiness, WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia [SEARO], New Delhi, India) shared existing and potential regional and global partners and networks for knowledge dissemination, including the South-East Asia Regional Knowledge Network of IHR National Focal Points, WHO Collaborating Centres, Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) and the UNDRR Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. He suggested organizing webinars to address specific health needs of countries and regions. He agreed with the session 1 recommendation to ensure the Guidance is used for field workers' practice and therefore suggested preparing workshops to guide the target audience.

**Mr Jan-Erik Larsen** (Technical Officer, Logistics, Emergency Operations, WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific [WPRO], Manila, Philippines) reported that WPRO faced challenges in addressing a range of disaster risks. The Regional Office WHE responded in a range of capacities to 272 events in the past three years. Mr Larsen stated that research should be tailored to each Member State's context. In the Western Pacific a lot of effort is put on the development and training of international and national emergency medical teams and the region has introduced the concept of "twinning", which shares experiences among countries with similar profiles, such as Mongolia and Norway, to handle deployment of teams to extreme cold locations where specialized equipment and protocols are required. He highlighted disaster resilience in urban communities including protection from climate related disasters as one of WPRO's priorities. He also agreed to engage WHO Collaborative Centres and emphasized the strong need for the implementation of research on dedicated health workforces for emergencies and disasters.

## Session 3: Discussion

### Key points

- Key points from the first two sessions were echoed and agreed upon, including the need for further collaboration and partnership with other research fields and professional groups to further enhance the visibility of Health EDRM and Health EDRM research, and for possible joint webinars and workshops for research capacity development and knowledge dissemination.
- Creating linkages with existing databases and knowledge platforms was highlighted as critical content for the WHO Health EDRM Knowledge Hub.

The Discussion was chaired by Professor Chan and started with an invitation for all participants to submit feedback and comments.

**Professor Shinichi Egawa** (Professor, Division of International Cooperation for Disaster Medicine, International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan) introduced the progress in translating the Guidance into Japanese. He emphasized that translation into local languages would not only provide user-friendly learning materials but also help dissemination of the Guidance by involving key experts in the translation work. Dr Egawa praised the effort to establish a knowledge hub that provides easy access to existing knowledge and databases, and he suggested that implementation research for policy implications could be promoted by involving young researchers, potentially with small research grants.

**Dr Shuhei Nomura** (Project Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan) suggested exploring collaboration and partnership opportunities with different professional groups such as medical associations, and active outreach to young researchers to increase visibility and sustainability of Health EDRM research activities. Dr Nomura offered to promote the Guidance when he attends the International Conference on Global Burden of Disease in 2023.

**Mr Abrahams** agreed that promoting Health EDRM and the Guidance in influential meetings and conferences will enhance their visibility and that “twinning” should be encouraged between practitioners, academics and policy-makers.

**Dr Kevin Hung** (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China) outlined the importance of dialogue between researchers and the users of the research findings.

**Dr Barber** reiterated the focus of the next phase as the implementation and development of partnership with local focal points and institutions to strengthen the research capacity. She also suggested exploring more joint funding and fundraising opportunities.

The chair, Professor Chan, closed the session by encouraging all participants to increase journal paper publication and to maintain the Guidance as a living reference with regular updates.

## 3. Conclusion

At the end of the meeting, Dr Kayano shared the agreed key actions in the Fourth Core Group Meeting, as stated below.

1. Coordinate joint HQ, WKC and Regional Office webinars and workshops on knowledge dissemination to support evidence-based policies and programmes, as well as research capacity development to promote the use of the Guidance.
2. Work with Regional Offices to understand and address in research agenda planning the region- and country-specific health issues and challenges facing policy-makers and service providers.
3. Promote implementation research that informs evidence-based policies and practices.
4. Continue building the WHO Health EDRM Knowledge Hub, providing practical and operational guides on what works or does not work, and linking to existing databases and knowledge platforms.
5. Maintain efforts to increase the visibility of Health EDRM and Health EDRM research, including possible collaboration with other research fields and professional groups.
6. Explore joint funding and fundraising opportunities.

The Fourth Core Group Meeting was successful in creating joint understanding and agreement to focus on regions and countries to disseminate and apply knowledge for evidence-based policies and programmes, with further effort to collaborate with broader research fields and different global, regional and local stakeholders. Close collaboration among HQ, WKC, Regional Offices, and global and regional experts on joint capacity development and knowledge dissemination for regional and country audiences was agreed, followed by a concrete plan with timeline prepared by the Secretariat.

## 4. Annexes

### Annex 1. Meeting programme

Moderator: Ryoma Kayano (WKC)

Time:	Agenda item	Presenter
13:00 – 13:20	<b>Opening session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Welcome and opening remarks</b></li><li>• <b>HQ initiative on Health EDRM and expectation for Health EDRM RN</b></li><li>• <b>Progress report by secretariat</b></li></ul>	Sarah Louise Barber (WKC) Kai Von Harbou, on behalf of Qudsia Huda (WHE) Ryoma Kayano (WKC)
13:20 – 13:50	<b>Session 1: Advice from invited experts</b>  <b>Global collaboration for effective knowledge sharing, education and training</b>	Chair: Virginia Murray (RN co-chair)  Invited experts
13:50 – 14:30	<b>Session 2: Inputs from regions</b>  <b>Effective outreach for disseminating scientific evidence to benefit countries – available networks, possible collaboration among regions</b>	Chair: Kai Von Harbou, on behalf of Qudsia Huda (WHE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ngoy Nsenga*/Dick Damas Chamla (AFRO)</li><li>• Jehan Al-Badri (EMRO)</li><li>• Irshad Ali Shaikh (EURO)</li><li>• Alex Camacho Vasconez (PAHO)</li><li>• Anil Bholra (SEARO)</li><li>• Jan-Erik Larsen (WPRO)</li></ul>
14:30 – 15:15	<b>Session 3: Discussion</b>  <b>Specific actions to promote and accelerate timely knowledge sharing</b>	Chair: Emily Chan (RN co-chair)  Invited experts and Core Group members
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Wrap up for agreement</b>	Core Group members
15:30	<b>Closing</b>	Ryoma Kayano (WKC)

*\*Unable to attend*

## Annex 2. List of participants

### **Core group of WHO Health EDRM Research Network** (alphabetical order)

Dr Jehan Al-Badri, Technical Officer, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, WHO Representative Office, Baghdad, Iraq (EMRO)

Dr Anil Bhola, Consultant, Health EDRM and Operational Readiness, WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, New Delhi, India (SEARO)

Dr Alex Camacho Vasconez, Advisor, Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, Pan American Health Organization, Washington, DC, USA (PAHO)

Dr Dick Damas Chamla, Emergency Preparedness Manager, Emergency Response, WHO Regional Office for Africa, Brazzaville, Congo (AFRO)

Professor Emily Ying-Yang Chan, Founding and Co-Director, Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC); and Professor and Assistant Dean (External Affairs), Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China (Co-chair)

Dr Kai Von Harbou, Technical Officer, Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, WHO Health Emergency Programme, Geneva, Switzerland (HQ), on behalf of Dr Qudsia Huda

Dr Qudsia Huda, Unit Head, Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, WHO Health Emergency Programme, Geneva, Switzerland (HQ)

Dr Ryoma Kayano, Technical Officer, WHO Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan (WKC/Secretariat)

Mr Jan-Erik Larsen, Technical Officer, Logistics, Emergency Operations, WHO Regional office for the Western Pacific, Manila, Philippines (WPRO)

Professor Virginia Murray, Head of Global Disaster Risk Reduction, UK Health Security Agency, London, United Kingdom (Co-chair)

Dr Ngoy Nsenga\*, WHO Representative, WHO Representative's Office, Bangui, Central African Republic (AFRO)

Dr Irshad Ali Shaikh, Senior Technical Officer, WHO European Centre for Preparedness for Humanitarian and Health Emergencies, Istanbul, Türkiye (EURO)

*\*Unable to attend*

***Invited WHO experts***

Dr Ali Ardalan\*, Regional Advisor, Health System in Emergencies Lab, Cairo, Egypt (EMRO)

Dr Sarah Louise Barber, Director, WHO Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan (WKC)

Dr Celso Vladimir Bambaren Alatrasta, Unit Chief, Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, Washington, DC, USA (PAHO)

Dr Nilesh Buddh\*, Lead, Regional Emergencies, WHO Health Emergencies Programme, WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, New Delhi, India (SEARO)

Dr Connie Cai-Ru Gan, Consultant, WHO Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan (WKC/TPRN Secretariat)

Dr Nirimal Kandel\*, Unit Head, Evidence and Analytics for Health Security, Health Security Preparedness, Geneva, Switzerland (HQ)

Ms Maki MacDermot, Consultant, WHO Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan (WKC/TPRN Secretariat)

Dr Ihor Perehinets\*, Technical Adviser, Health Security, Country Health Emergency Preparedness & IHR, Copenhagen, Denmark (EURO)

Dr Reuben Samuel\*, Unit Head, Country Health Emergency Preparedness & IHR, WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia (SEARO)

*\*Unable to attend*



### ***Invited external experts***

Mr Jonathan Abrahams, Associate Professor and Director, Monash University Disaster Resilience Initiative, Monash University Accident Research Centre, Monash University, Clayton, Australia

Professor Cordia Chu, Director, Centre for Environment and Population Health, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia

Professor Mike Clarke, Professor, Queens University of Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom

Professor Shinichi Egawa, Professor, Division of International Cooperation for Disaster Medicine, International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan

Dr Tina Endericks, Head of Global Health Security, United Kingdom Health Security Agency, London, United Kingdom

Dr Kevin Hung, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, CUHK, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China

Professor Tatsuhiko Kubo, Professor, Department of Public Health and Health Policy, Hiroshima University, Hiroshima, Japan

Dr Elizabeth Newnham, Senior Lecturer and Programme Lead, School of Population Health, Curtin University, Perth, Australia

Dr Shuhei Nomura, Project Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan

Professor Tracey O'Sullivan, Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

Mr Chi Shing Wong, Deputy Director, Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China

World Health Organization Centre for Health Development  
(WHO Kobe Centre – WKC)  
Kobe, Japan

Disaster Risk Management and Resilience  
Health Security Preparedness  
Emergency Preparedness  
World Health Organization  
Geneva, Switzerland

