Prevent Epidemics

We build support for government investments in epidemic preparedness.

Activities

We draw on our extensive experience conducting health-focused advocacy campaigns around the world as we work with local partners to:

- Engage political decision-makers about the need to prioritize epidemic preparedness.
- Build government, civil society and media capacity to advocate for preparedness funding.
- Demonstrate demand for investments in preparedness in media and public discourse.
- Develop political strategies to remove bottlenecks affecting the allocation and spending of preparedness funds.
- Track budget writing, allocation and spending to inform advocacy.

Where we work: Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal

THE TOLL OF EPIDEMICS

More than 3.8 million people have died due to COVID-19

196 countries have committed to strengthening health security under WHO’s International Health Regulations

9 to 1 is the estimated return on investment in epidemic preparedness
Program Profile

Our Impact

- **In Ghana**, GHAI is working with government and civil society leaders to increase epidemic preparedness funding at the federal and district levels.

- **In Nigeria**, GHAI is working with partners to increase funding for the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and up preparedness spending in Kano and Lagos states.

- **In Senegal**, GHAI built political consensus around a funding proposal for epidemic preparedness and response.

Success Story

**The challenge:**
As Africa’s most populous country and largest economy, Nigeria plays an important role in the region and has developed widespread infrastructure to prevent epidemics. However, these efforts remained underfunded and reliant on support from domestic and international partners.

**GHAI’s role:**
GHAI worked closely with government and civil society leaders to make the case for epidemic preparedness. We analyzed the legal context and political landscape to inform strategy and empower advocates; engaged and sensitized decision-makers through workshops, site visits and other informative activities; and leveraged media to build consensus around the need for political action.

**Results:**
Funding for the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control grew through our campaign to a record 2.9 billion Naira (US$7.7 million) in fiscal 2021. Nigeria’s Kano state added a budget line for epidemic preparedness to its annual state budget, totaling 300 million Naira (US$525,000) in 2021, and increased spending at the local level.

Global Health Advocacy Incubator

Prevent Epidemics / Oct. 2021