



PRET

Preparedness and Resilience
for Emerging Threats

Presented by: Dr Gina Samaan
Unit Head, Pandemic Preparedness Global Platforms
Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention Department



**World Health
Organization**

The road ahead: lessons from COVID-19

01

Preparedness works

02

**Health is everyone's
business**

03

**No one is safe until
everyone is safe**

04

**Response must be
agile and adaptive**

New approach to improve pandemic preparedness for groups of pathogens based on their mode of transmission



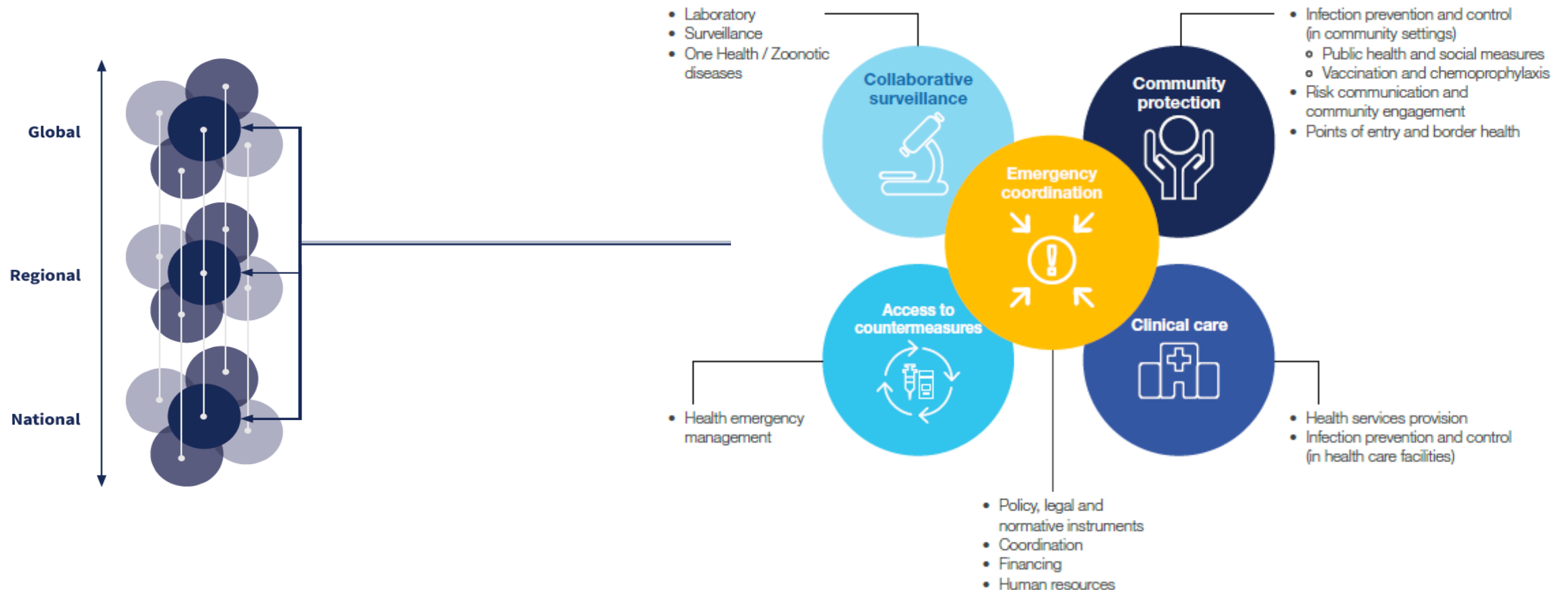
PRET

Preparedness and Resilience
for Emerging Threats

WHY PRET? Increases efficiency, reduces silos, and capitalizes on similarities

PRET in the current operational context

- › **PRET** builds on current momentum and is an application of current efforts to strengthen the **global architecture (multi-level and multi-sector)** for health emergency preparedness, resilience and response.
- › Maps to **relevant IHR (2005) core capacities** that strengthen cross-cutting systems (the 5 'C's).



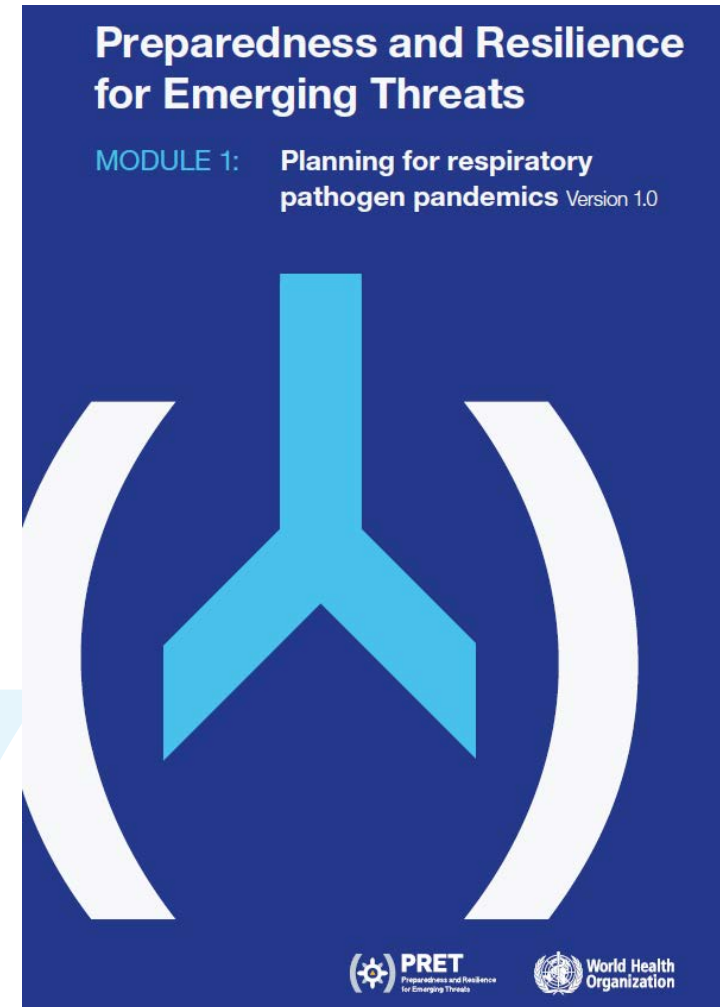


PRET Module 1: Respiratory pathogens

First PRET Module: Respiratory Pathogens

- Has a **new organizing framework**
- Describes **respiratory modes of transmission & pathogens with pandemic potential**
- Includes planning for **innovations** (e.g., genomics, infodemic mgt)
- Includes **steps** and a **template** for planning
- Provides **key actions for 12 IHR core capacities** to strengthen respiratory preparedness
- Outlines ways to **engage with 15 critical sectors**
- Is a **living document**
- More modules for other groups of pathogens to come!

Expect tools, collaborative platforms and resources to support countries & partners to develop, test and update plans, and monitor preparedness.



“ This module supports countries and stakeholders to develop and implement a plan that addresses both preparedness and response planning needs.”





Chapters 1-3 and Annex 1 & 2

present the objectives, rationale and context – the ‘why’ – of respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness.



Chapters 4-5 and Annex 2, 3 & 4

focus on the ‘what’ by providing an organizing framework for pandemic planning as well as describing the systems components and core capacities needed.



Chapters 6-10 and Annex 2, 5 & 6

present the ‘how’ by providing guidance on implementing, monitoring and continuously improving respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness, as well as steps and suggested outline for planning.

A new integrated approach to respiratory pandemic preparedness is:

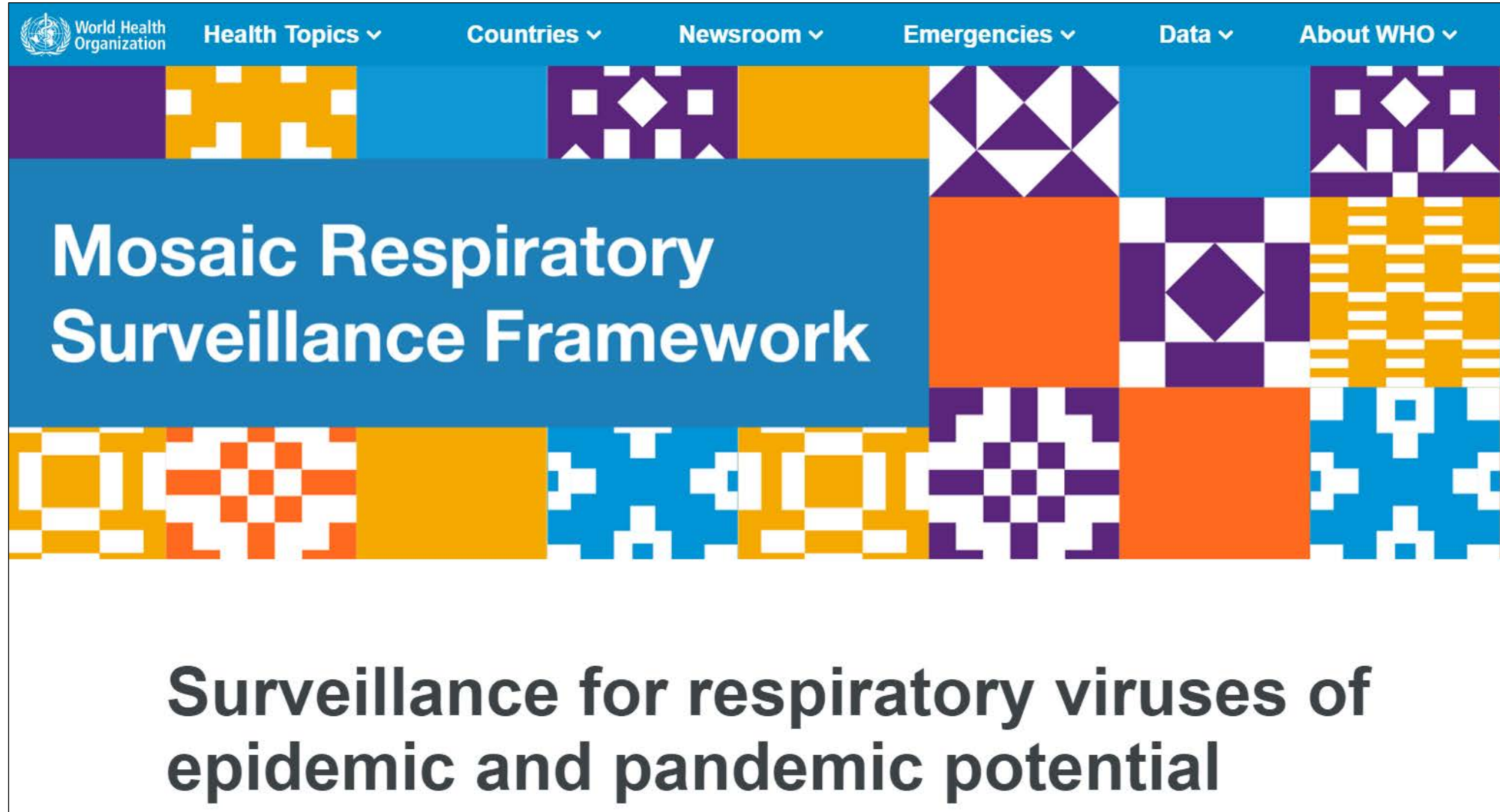
Happening



Country implementation of respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness



New initiatives with an integrated lens



The image is a screenshot of the WHO Mosaic Respiratory Surveillance Framework webpage. The top navigation bar is blue and contains the WHO logo and the text 'World Health Organization' on the left, followed by menu items: 'Health Topics', 'Countries', 'Newsroom', 'Emergencies', 'Data', and 'About WHO', each with a downward arrow. Below the navigation bar is a decorative header with a mosaic pattern of squares and diamonds in blue, orange, and purple. The main content area has a large blue rectangle on the left with the text 'Mosaic Respiratory Surveillance Framework' in white. To the right of this rectangle is a vertical column of mosaic patterns. Below the blue rectangle is a white rectangle containing the text 'Surveillance for respiratory viruses of epidemic and pandemic potential' in black.

World Health Organization

Health Topics ▾ Countries ▾ Newsroom ▾ Emergencies ▾ Data ▾ About WHO ▾

Mosaic Respiratory Surveillance Framework

Surveillance for respiratory viruses of epidemic and pandemic potential

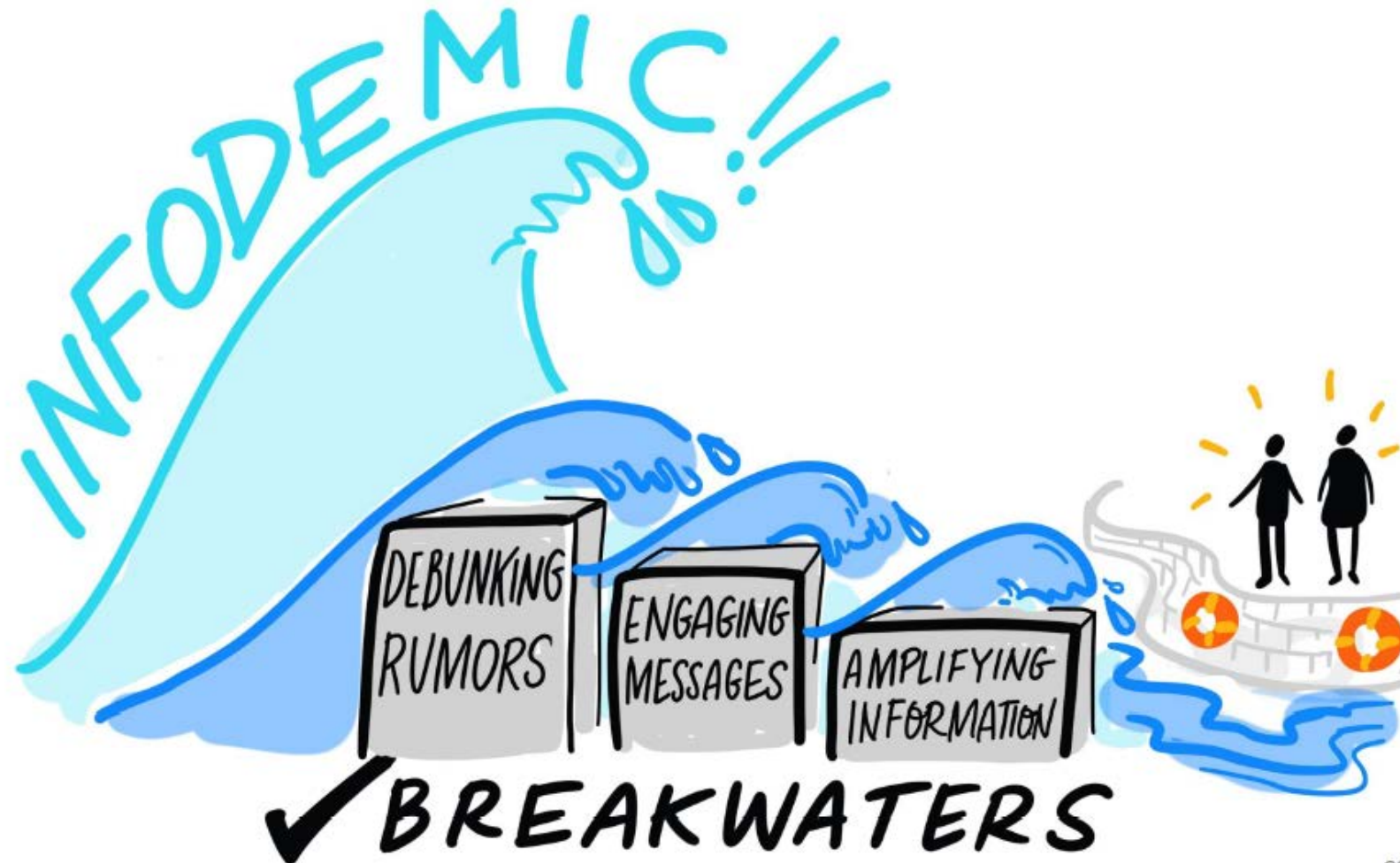
A new integrated approach to respiratory pandemic preparedness is:

Happening

Needed

- A changed 'post-COVID19' world
- Risk of reverting to pre-2020 thinking
- Changes in government priorities

Engaging and empowering communities and individuals is a major challenge and priority



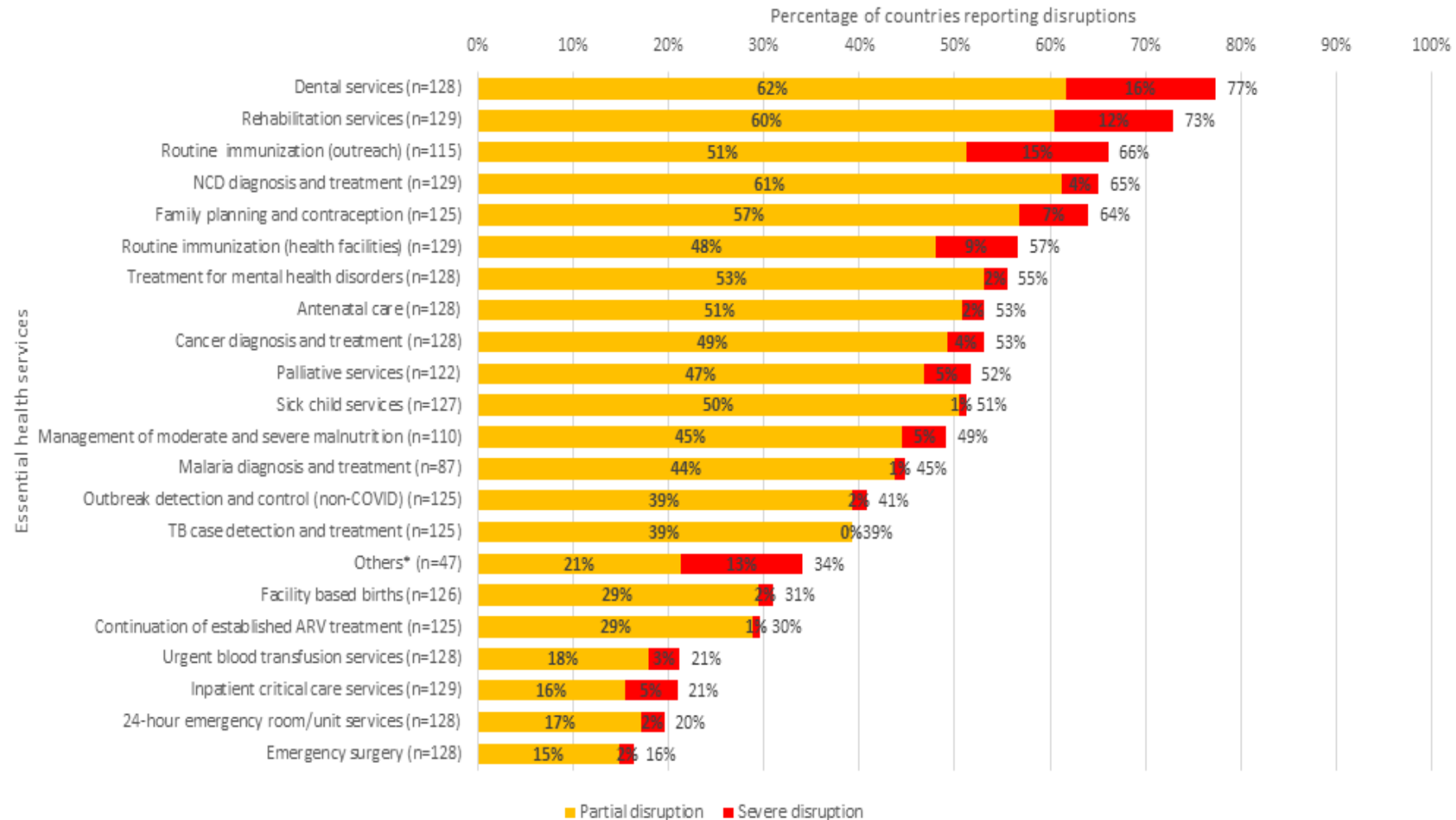
Future pandemic plans need to account for newly experienced challenges



Pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic



65% of countries reported disruptions to health services



Multisector action and momentum needed



Three level system-strengthening

All / Multi-Hazard > **Pathogen Groups** > **Pathogen Specific**
(e.g. respiratory) (e.g. Influenza, MERS-CoV)



Clinical care system

SOPs for respiratory case management

Influenza: access to specific therapeutics



Healthy cities

Respiratory hygiene measures

MERS-CoV: not consuming raw dromedary camel products

PRET: Building on existing systems and plans

Leverage what already exists, gains made, and tailor to fill gaps identified

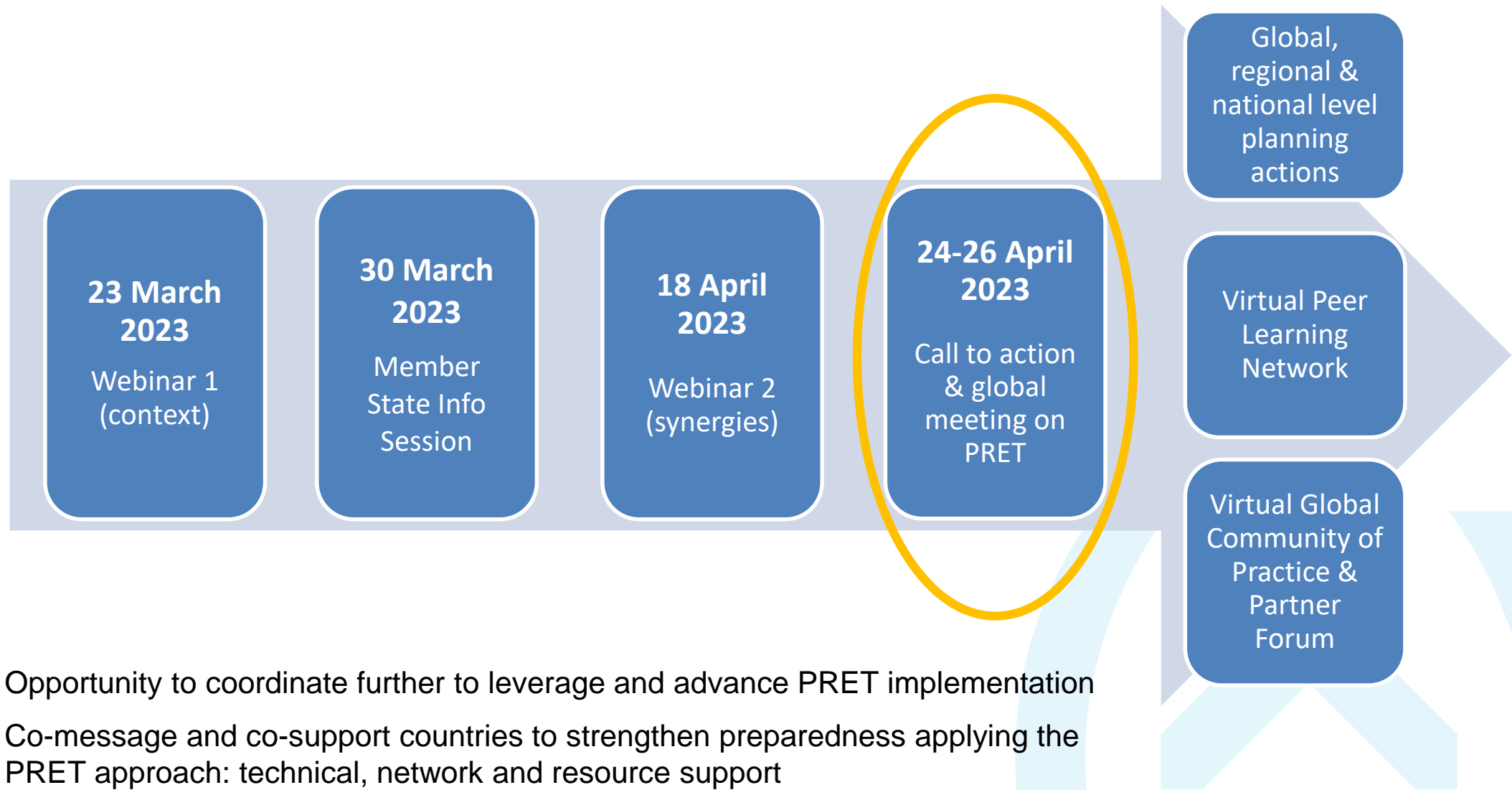
Existing plans:

- National Action Plans for Health Security (NAPHS)
- Pandemic Preparedness and Response Plans for Influenza and/or COVID-19
- National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NDVP)
- National Immunization Strategy (routine immunizations)

Routine systems/networks:

- Disaster management bodies
- Global Influenza Surveillance & Response System (GISRS) and other networks
- National immunization programmes
- Disease modeling & 'Unity' Studies

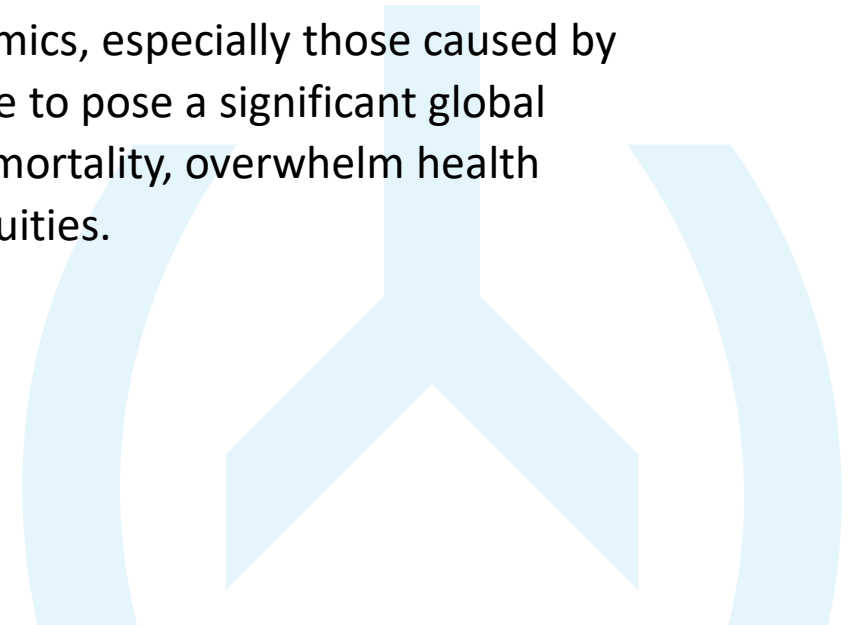
Actions and timelines for engagement: please join us!



Call to action (draft text)

WHO, Member States, and partners are working together to identify and implement priority actions to strengthen national, regional, and global preparedness for pandemics and emerging infectious disease threats. We recognize the role of communities and all sectors, and the need for harmonized and sustained momentum to end the cycle of panic and neglect that is all too common in pandemic preparedness.

We recall lessons learned from previous epidemics and pandemics, especially those caused by respiratory pathogens. These pathogens have and will continue to pose a significant global threat with the potential to cause tremendous morbidity and mortality, overwhelm health systems, de-stabilize the global economy, and exacerbate inequities.



Call to action (draft text, cont'd)

This is a Call to Action to accelerate preparedness for pandemics and emerging threats globally. Effective preparedness relies on robust planning and coordinated action. A collective commitment on the following actions will see progress achieved by December 2025:

1. **Update preparedness plans that affirm priority actions** and that have considered learnings from past events. Recognizing the risk posed by respiratory pathogens, planning for a respiratory pathogen pandemic based on the themes identified in *Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) Module #1: Planning for Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics* is a priority.
2. **Increase connectivity among stakeholders in disease pandemic preparedness planning through systematic coordination and cooperation.** This includes conducting joint exercises and sharing information on good practices, challenges and opportunities.
3. **Dedicate sustained investments, financing and monitoring of disease pandemic preparedness** with a particular focus on addressing the gaps identified during past pandemics.

Call to action (draft text, cont'd)

The COVID-19 pandemic response has demonstrated what can be achieved with political will, community engagement and funding. Whole-of-society action is needed to make the progress outlined in this Call to Action. Implementation should therefore strengthen the resilience of communities, build on routine systems and leverage broader capacities for emergency preparedness and response.

This Call to Action will be released at the Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET): Global Meeting for Future Respiratory Pathogen Pandemics held on 24-26 April 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Webinar participants: We welcome inputs on key themes that may be missing in this Call to Action. Please share by 30 March 2023 to rprp@who.int.



Thank you

Acknowledging:

- Countries: Ministries of Health and other sectors and levels engaged
 - Partners: involved in respiratory pandemic preparedness
 - WHO: three-level steering committee & technical units providing inputs
-

Contact: rprp@who.int

