



# Country Support Platform (CSP) Operational Highlights

BIANNUAL UPDATE - JANUARY TO JUNE 2023

GTCC Photo

## KEY CSP MILESTONES

- 5** Countries (Bangladesh, DRC, Nigeria, Mozambique and Zambia) directly supported to develop the National Cholera Plans (NCP)
- 4** Countries (Bangladesh, DRC, Nigeria, and Zambia) receiving direct support for development of advocacy efforts
- 5** Countries (Bangladesh, DRC, Nigeria, Mozambique and Zambia) supported via oral cholera vaccination (OCV) campaigns
- 36** Technical experts (NCP, WASH, OCV, Advocacy) deployed to the CSP Countries, including in Tanzania, Ethiopia and East Africa
- 18** Cholera trainings and workshops facilitated and supported
- 1** New Country identified to receive a Programme Manager (Mozambique)
- 1** Cholera research focal point to support the GTFCC global cholera research agenda identified
- 1** Head of State confirmed as a Global Cholera Champion - President of Zambia
- 1** Joint global workplan developed to ensure cohesion between the GTFCC Secretariat and CSP
- 1** Cholera advocacy documentary (Nigeria) initiated as part of the Global Cholera Champion campaign





## NATIONAL CHOLERA PLAN: ACTIVITIES TECHNICAL SUPPORT & ENGAGEMENTS

### PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

- A total of 3 multisectoral workshops (Kick-off, Hotspot mapping, and Case Management) have been completed in close collaboration with the Communicable Diseases Control (CDC) under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) Bangladesh and its stakeholders as of June 2023.
- CDC DGHS with the support of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) conducted a Priority Areas for Multisectoral Interventions (PAMIs) followed by the validation workshop in February with a total of 48 participants from 18 organizations to finalize the PAMI's identification for acute watery diarrhea/cholera in Bangladesh.
- PAMI targeting 27% of the total population in Bangladesh has been validated based on the GTFCC guideline and was presented at the GTFCC Surveillance Working Group May meeting in Mozambique.
- DGHS with the support of icddr,b conducted an OCV campaign from February - March at Bhasan Char Island in Hatiya, Noakhali. A total of 28,522 displaced Rohingyas were vaccinated which accounts for 96% coverage. While the second dose of vaccine reached 86% of the first dose population.
- The CSP Programme Manager (PM) worked closely with CDC DGHS and the Department of Management Information System (MIS), to include dehydration status and Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) results on the on-going diarrhea surveillance to monitor cholera incidence. This addition was done in 2023, with a new template operational from June 2023.
- CDC DGHS together with Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control & Research (IEDCR), MIS, icddr,b, and CSP has developed a RDT testing protocol for Bangladesh.
- CDC DGHS with the support of the MIS conducted a nationwide surveillance training from February - May for more than 1,295 health care workers in 34 batches across the country on the updated Acute Watery Diarrhea/Cholera testing protocol and updated diarrheal reporting template.
- As part of the risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) efforts supported under IFRC Pilot Programmatic Partnership, BDRCS and CDC DGHS developed an [animation video](#) on diarrheal disease prevention. This is currently aired on the local prime channel - DBC TV.
- Additionally, there are on-going efforts to develop and disseminate standardized cholera control messages in close collaboration with Aspire to Innovate (A2I), a special programme of the government's Digital Bangladesh agenda funded by UNDP.
- Since the completion of the [Bangladesh cholera stakeholder dashboard](#) in close coordination with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, WASH Cluster and icddr,b - the dashboard is now also hosted on the WASH cluster website.

### NIGERIA

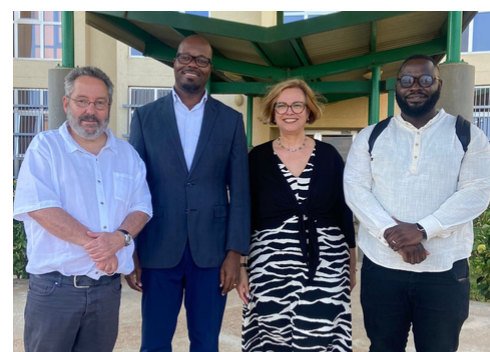
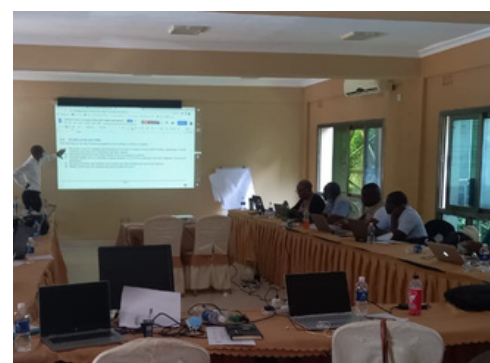
- The National Strategic Plan of Action for Cholera Control (NSPACC) Validation workshop in Abuja took place from 12 - 17 June and saw the involvement of the Director-General (DG) of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Dr Ifedayo Adetifa. The DG also held a media briefing to showcase NCDC's commitment to control cholera in Nigeria by 2027.
- The NSPACC Validation workshop involved 65 participants representing key federal ministries, state-level actors and NGOs. They first reviewed the outcomes of previous workshops where gaps, hotspots and pillar priorities had been identified and analysed to then debate and agree on the details of its multi-sectoral cholera control plan.
- The NSPACC development process was launched in June 2022 after which the NCDC and CSP facilitated a total of 4 NSPACC workshops (Kick-off, Pillar review meeting, Second Pillar review meeting and NCP Validation) with 1 more workshop (National Laboratory Cholera Guideline) on-going.
- Nigeria seeks to make a submission to the Independent Review Panel (IRP) by August 2023, and upon the acceptance by the IRP, the NCDC will proceed to launch the NSPACC, including publishing and dissemination of the document.
- Additionally, with support from the CSP and IFRC Nigeria Communications team, a cholera advocacy documentary is being produced to promote efforts on the National Cholera Control agenda with key government representatives and policy makers. The documentary trailer will be launched during the CSP Side Event in observance of the GTFCC Annual Meeting this month, in Annecy, France.

**Media Engagement Highlight:**  
NCDC working to strengthen cholera prevention mechanisms - DG



## REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

- A total of 8 Multisectoral Cholera Elimination Plan (MCEP) workshops (Kick-off, Design of Revised MCEP, Stakeholder Mapping exercise, technical validation, Mid-term review process and M&E framework design) have been completed in close collaboration with the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) and its stakeholders as of June 2023.
- The MCEP is in the mid-term review report and is currently being validated and now awaiting approval from Senior Government leadership. Concurrently, the MCEP's M&E framework is being developed with the support of CSP's International M&E Consultant.
- The CSP PM has had a courtesy call with the New National Cholera Elimination Coordinator, Dr. Nyuma Mbewe, with ongoing discussions to set up a Cholera Elimination Secretariat within ZNPHI.
- As part of the broader IFRC Cholera outbreak response efforts, the CSP PM is part of a Sub-Regional Task Team, as a Liaison Officer coordinating IFRC outbreak response for Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Mozambique. Technical support given includes the Zambia Cholera outbreak response within the Zambia Cholera Incident Management System set up for the outbreak.
- Given the recent outbreak, IFRC allocated a Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) that enabled Zambia Red Cross to deliver effective cholera intervention support.
- The CSP PM provided technical inputs to ZNPHI on the proposal submission to Global Fund to support the health systems strengthening and ensured the inclusion of Laboratory gaps at sub-national levels.
- With the support of Consultants from the Global Health Visions (GHV), a communications and advocacy package consisting of an investment case and marketing collateral is being finalized.
- Since the cholera outbreaks across the Southern Africa region mostly from cross-border activities, the CSP is exploring plans with stakeholders to support a Cross-border (Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, DRC, Mozambique) Surveillance Workshop in ensuring a stronger cross-border cholera surveillance that will prevent future cross-border-related cholera outbreaks.
- The CSP PM facilitated engagements with key national partners leading to the inclusion of strategic stakeholders, such as the German Development Agency (GIZ) in the National Cholera Task Force.
- These engagements also resulted in increased prioritization of cholera hotspots by stakeholders (both government and partners) in key activities. For example, the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development is actively prioritizing cholera hotspots in its ministerial budget preparation exercise, especially on Sanitation and Hygiene interventions.



## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- A total of 4 NCP workshops (Kick-off, Hotspot validation, Technical validation & OCV Multi Year Planning) completed as of June 2023.
- The NCP document was finalised and validated in March 2023 with the National Task Force and stakeholders, with an intention to submit the NCP to the Independent Review Panel (IRP) soon.
- The 2023 DRC National Budget includes NCP listed activities, and the CSP PM is committed to follow-up with relevant agencies for an effective funding disbursement to allow the implementation of the NCP activities.
- The OCV multi-year plan (MYP) has been developed with the support of the CSP International OCV Consultant and submitted to GTFCC & GAVI for review.
- As a result of on-going engagements with key national partners funding longer term WASH, an advocacy partnership meeting will be held in August.
- With the newly formed government, all planned activities such as the NCP dissemination is scheduled to take place between July - August.

## MOZAMBIQUE

- The CSP PM (SDC Secondment) has been deployed to Mozambique in May 2023 to support the on-going NCP development work coordinated by the Institut Nacional de Saud (INS).
- The CSP PM had the opportunity to network with key national and international counterparts (Mozambican Ministry of Health and other GTFCC partners) during the GTFCC Surveillance Working Group Meeting in Maputo.
- Besides meeting with the INS, additional bilateral engagements took place with GTFCC partners such as WHO, SDC, CDC, UNICEF, MSF and IFRC to discuss their activities in Mozambique and the multisectoral partnership efforts.
- In the coming months, the CSP PM aims to support the review/revision processes and finalization of the NCP through additional coordination and workshops. A hotspot update process is currently also ongoing following one of its worst cholera outbreaks earlier this year.

# GLOBAL CSP ENGAGEMENTS

## UN Water Conference & GTFFC WASH Working Group (WG) Meeting in New York, March 2023

- The CSP Resource Mobilization (RM) and Advocacy Senior Officer and Senior WASH Consultant represented the CSP at the WG Meeting hosted by UNICEF. Besides technical presentations, the CSP facilitated communication strategy between IFRC and the GTFFC Secretariat. As a result, a joint statement was developed by the GTFFC Steering Committee, which was signed by the IFRC Secretary General.

## CSP Team Retreat in IFRC Geneva, March 2023

- The CSP Team came together for a retreat to assess our progress, acknowledge challenges and successes since the operationalisation of the CSP, and establish a priority work plan for the upcoming months. The sessions were also attended by the GTFFC Secretariat and BMGF (virtually).

## GTFFC Advocacy Task Team Meeting in WHO Geneva, April 2023

- The CSP Resource Mobilization (RM) and Advocacy Senior Officer participated in the meeting focused on reviewing and refining the GTFFC Advocacy and Communications workplan. A dedicated session was held for CSP Programme Managers to share lessons learned from their on-going national level partner engagements.

## GTFFC Surveillance, Epidemiology, Laboratory Working Groups Meeting in Mozambique, May 2023

- 3 CSP Team members were active participants of the meeting.

## Regional Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV) Training in Nepal, May 2023

- The CSP collaborated with the GTFFC Secretariat to co-organize a regional Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV) training in Nepal. Over 40 senior officials from Ministries of Health in India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Nepal, as well as partner organizations, received training on preparing OCV request proposals, understanding key data requirements, and utilizing relevant tools for vaccine request submissions







# STRENGTHENED COORDINATION WITH IFRC REGIONS & NATIONAL SOCIETIES

- The CSP ensures **representation and visibility of IFRC and National Societies** in CSP Countries at the National Cholera Task Force and technical pillar working groups.
- The CSP works in synergy with IFRC Health Programs, such as **Immunization**, to align objectives and enhance support to Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV) campaigns.
- Collaboration with the IFRC's Health and Care operations has strengthened the CSP's capacity, as PMs are empowered to provide **multi-sectoral interventions** on the development of the Disaster Response Emergency Funds (DREF) request.
- The CSP leverages IFRC's Prevention and Response Actions through the **One WASH initiative** as the CSP is included in the One WASH Axis 2 and Axis 3 focusing on an effective mechanism of technical expertise, resource mobilization and partnerships.
- CSP **collaborated with the Nigerian Red Cross** and the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG) to develop the WASH baseline field assessment tool. 50 National society staff in Nigeria were trained to perform an assessment through the newly developed tool.
- IFRC's **WASH Missions in East Africa** led by IFRC's Senior WASH Officers and the CSP Nigeria Programme Manager involved fundraising efforts for the CSP with USAID and the Islamic Development Bank.
- The IFRC is extending its **RCCE technical support** with the CSP through a dedicated RCCE consultant who is providing guidance for strengthening RCCE elements and activities in the National Cholera Plans.





# LATEST CSP TEAM MEMBERS



**EMMETT KEARNEY**  
NCP SENIOR OFFICER



**CATHERINE MAKWE**  
OCV/NCP ROVING  
DELEGATE



**DYRCKX DUSHIME**  
CORPORATE SERVICES  
COORDINATOR



**BARBARA WILDI**  
PM MOZAMBIQUE

## How can GTFCC partners and donors help the CSP?

- Coordination: Helping the CSP in supporting national coordination – sharing information on activities and projects implemented in cholera affected countries.
- Technical assistance: Supporting the CSP with technical expertise – responding directly to countries requests or indirectly through expert loan (skill-based sponsorship) or through the GTFCC – CSP expert pool.
- Advocacy & Resource Mobilization: Aligning as one behind the national cholera control plans to help governments engage in cholera elimination in a structured and coordinated way.

## Country Support Platform

The Country Support Platform (CSP) is an operational entity hosted at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) that supports cholera-affected countries (Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Mozambique and Zambia) with technical assistance in the development and implementation of the National Cholera Plans, advocacy and resource mobilization efforts, and capacity building, which feeds into GTFCC's global cholera prevention strategy - Ending Cholera by 2030 Global Roadmap.

## Contacts

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