

Summary report on the

WHO-EM/EPI/313/E

# Intercountry training workshop on surveillance of measles and other vaccine- preventable diseases and monitoring and evaluation of national programmes on immunization

Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt  
13–18 January 2013



**World Health  
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

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## **1. Introduction**

The WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean organized an intercountry training workshop on surveillance of measles and other vaccine-preventable diseases and monitoring and evaluation of the national programmes on immunization for countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region. The workshop was held in Sharm El-Sheikh during the period 13–18 January 2013. It was attended by national EPI managers, officers of vaccine-preventable diseases surveillance and data managers from 16 countries of the Region: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, occupied Palestinian territory, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen. Also in attendance were representatives of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and UNICEF country offices and WHO staff from headquarters, the Regional Office and country offices.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- review measles/rubella surveillance and EPI monitoring and evaluation system;
- train responsible national EPI staff on improving measles/rubella surveillance and accurate generation and monitoring of measles surveillance indicators;
- brief responsible national EPI staff on measles elimination validation process;
- discuss the regional reporting system with the national focal points;
- conduct hands-on training on EPI data management, data analysis and interpretation; and
- brief national focal points on recent approaches and tools for monitoring immunization programmes.

Dr Nadia Teleb, Regional Adviser, Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, inaugurated the meeting.

She underlined that the systematic monitoring and evaluation of performance and impact of the immunization programmes was crucial to provide data and information that could guide priority-setting, decision-making, planning and resource mobilization and allocation. It was also vital for identifying the gaps, measuring success in implementing the set strategies, and documenting progress towards achieving the targets.

## **2. Summary of proceedings**

The meeting proceedings and topics were planned according to the framework of monitoring and evaluation of immunization programmes discussing monitoring impact i.e. surveillance part at the beginning in the first three days and then monitoring output i.e. immunization coverage and methods of validating and evaluating EPI and supplementary immunization coverage was covered in the last three days. Impact monitoring was covered in four sessions which included measles/rubella surveillance, outbreak investigation, validation of measles/rubella elimination and sero-surveys. Output monitoring was also covered in several sessions and included the EPI reporting system, data analysis and using data for action, data validation and regional and global reporting.

The workshop proceedings also included several group work sessions that covered calculation of measles/rubella surveillance performance indicators, case studies on measles surveillance and outbreak investigation and response and data for action. The workshop included a session on the monitoring and accountability framework of the Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP) where the participants agreed upon the reporting requirements for monitoring GVAP implementation. They also discussed and agreed on a number of further recommendations for actions by Member States and WHO.

A workshop evaluation was conducted including pre-test and post-test, day-to-day evaluations and workshop evaluation. Results will be used to

guide future training workshops on surveillance, monitoring and evaluation.

### **3. Recommendations**

#### *To Member States*

1. Report monthly district level (third administrative level) data on vaccination activities and vaccination coverage to the Regional Office. The monthly data should be reported quarterly during the second week of the second month after the reporting quarter.
2. Report measles/rubella case-based surveillance data weekly according to the agreed variables and indicators. Data should be reported on Thursday of the second week after the reporting week. Reporting will start from the first week of April.
3. Timely report the agreed-upon indicators of the GVAP monitoring and accountability framework so that a progress report can be submitted to the Regional Committee, as per the WHA resolution.
4. Conduct a hepatitis B serosurvey as a standalone survey or as part of any other serosurvey, to document progress towards achieving the hepatitis B control target.

#### *To WHO*

5. Provide a list of updated variables and indicators related to measles case-based surveillance with their operational definitions as soon as possible.
6. Propose a list of questions for measuring confidence in immunization as part of the GVAP monitoring and accountability framework.





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