Meeting on strengthening surveillance of WRD

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One-day planning meeting  
Bonn 31 March 2014

• Develop a joint understanding of the scope and specific activities envisaged under Programme Area 2
• Specifically agree on the scope and purpose of the technical meetings (WASH and WRD).
• Decided on an expert meeting in Bonn in October.
Meeting on surveillance of WRD
Bonn 23-24 October 2014

• Organized by the WHO Regional Office for Europe
  Together with the lead-Parties Norway and Belarus

• Attended by:
  – 33 participants from 18 Member States
  – experts from ECDC
  – WHO CC for Health Promoting Water Management and Risk Communication at the University of Bonn.
  – WHO CC for Research on Drinking-Water Hygiene at the German Federal Environment Agency.
  – Joint Secretariat.

• Financially supported by:
  – Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services
Meeting objectives

• Review available evidence of the WRD situation in the WHO European Region
• Share countries’ approaches and experiences in setting up, implementing and maintaining WRD surveillance systems
• Define key challenges and support needs for improving WRD surveillance systems
• Discuss the content, gaps and possible update needs for the technical guidance document on WRD surveillance, previously prepared under the Protocol’s mandate.
Meeting conclusions I

- WRD surveillance and outbreak response systems are essential requirements of the Protocol
- Majority of countries have surveillance systems and outbreak alert and response mechanisms in place.
- Importance of effective communication to public
- Country presentations confirmed that:
  - Web-based notification systems improve reporting in terms of timeliness and coordinated intervention throughout all levels.
  - Surveillance and outbreak investigation outcomes inform policy interventions and improvement programming at national level.
  - Outbreak registers support identification of deficiencies and prioritization of interventions spatially and over time.
Meeting conclusions II - challenges

• Reporting challenges
  – Uncertain burden of WRD -> may compromise attention to WRD at policy level.
• Weaknesses more severe in rural areas due to lack of laboratory, human and financial capacities.
• Lack of linkage between DWM and WRD surveillance.
• Emerging pathogens and non-communicable disease outcomes are not well covered by many surveillance systems.
• Climate change may challenge WRD surveillance
Meeting conclusions III

• 2011 technical guidance on WRD
  – Good basis for training activities. (But perhaps not for the local level.)
  – Need to disseminate to target audiences
  – There were several suggestions for amendments to be considered in a possible second edition.
Follow up Actions after the meeting

• Review Protocol reporting template and Guidelines on the Setting of Targets
  → To measure more effectively the effects of targets

• Regional/sub-regional capacity building workshops on WRD surveillance and outbreak response systems:
  • Target countries
  • Develop a survey to identify and target needs in target countries?
  • Train the trainers?
  • Bring together relevant sectors (WRD and WQM)?
  • To be carried out 2015/16
  • Priority to countries with plans for follow up.

• Update the technical guidance on WRD based on the recommendations provided at the meeting?
Nordic Baltic network for DW and Health Meeting Dec 2014

• Topics
  – Mandate of network
  – Protocol Water and Health
  – DW monitoring
  – WRD surveillance

• There’s still time to register!
• Back-to-back planning meeting with WHO secretariat for further work on program area 2.1 and 2.3
Thank You for Your attention!