Monitoring COVID-19 Response Capacities

Background

The rapid spread of COVID-19 calls for a rapid evaluation and regular monitoring of response capacities and potential gaps at country level.

The HeRAMS Initiative has adjusted its process, platform and technical support to help countries implement such an evaluation and monitoring. HeRAMS COVID-19 is a rapidly configurable and deployable system. It is easy to use, cost-effective and generates information products of direct use to decision-makers involved in the response.

HeRAMS COVID-19 is currently being deployed in Mali and Sudan.

When can it be used?

HeRAMS COVID-19 monitors the following response areas:

- **Infrastructure**: health facilities and other facilities involved in the management of the outbreak (e.g. temporary isolation and treatment facilities, morgues)
- **Basic amenities**: incl. WASH
- **Inpatient capacity**
- **Services**: IPC, triage, screening, diagnostic, isolation and case management capacities
- **Human resources**: incl. COVID-19 specific training
- **Equipment and supplies**: incl. ventilators, oxygen supplies, PPE

Implementation process

The implementation of HeRAMS-COVID19 follows the following process:

- **Form customization**: the standard form used as a basis for the monitoring is discussed and adapted to local needs by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and health sector actors when relevant
- **Integration of pre-existing data**: pre-existing data on health facilities and other relevant data are identified, cleaned and integrated
- **Evaluation and monitoring network**: focal points tasked with data collection/verification are identified and their details communicated by the MoH and health sector actors when relevant
- **System setup**: the system is readied for deployment with the integration of the customized form, pre-existing baselines and the network of focal points: [www.herams.org](http://www.herams.org)
- **Training**: focal points are trained. Additional online training material is available in English, Arabic and French
- **Baseline setup**: the first round of data collection takes place on the HeRAMS platform and establishes the baseline
- **Analysis and reporting**: results are accessible in a variety of formats incl. online dashboards, pdf reports and data/tabular exports
- **Monitoring**: subsequent rounds of data collection help ensure the information is regularly updated and disseminated through the same online process

Timeline

The overall implementation timeline is mostly dependent on the time required to complete steps 1, 2 and 3 mentioned above. The following steps are usually rapid and can be iteratively improved throughout the process.

Outputs

HeRAMS COVID-19 aims at ensuring that core information on health resources and services that are essential to the management of COVID-19 is systematically made available to decision-makers involved in the response. Outputs include:

- a fully functional process and platform that can entirely and autonomously be managed at country level
- information products in a large variety of formats including online dashboards, maps, reports and raw data exports/tables

**Request support**

Support for feasibility assessments and system implementation can be requested at [herams@who.int](mailto:herams@who.int)