# Global Health Security

IMA World Health (IMA) supports countries and communities in preventing, preparing for and responding to outbreaks or pandemics in accordance with the Global Health Security Agenda. IMA collaborates with governments, faith-based organizations, national partners and the private sector to mitigate threats and strengthen global health security by ensuring integrated, quality health care services for the world's most vulnerable people living in fragile settings. IMA works with state and community actors to support preparedness and health resilience activities, systems strengthening for rapid outbreak and case detection, and emergency management activities for immediate response.

## Prevent and Prepare

**Health Systems Strengthening:** IMA works with local actors to assess and address gaps within the six WHO health system building blocks: health service delivery, health workforce, health information systems, access to essential medicines, health systems financing, and governance. In so doing, IMA strengthens both short- and long-term capacity to establish and strengthen resilient health systems.

**Community Engagement:** Early and effective community engagement is key to preparing for potential pandemics or other public health emergencies. IMA works in communities to promote social cohesion, positive behavioral changes and gender equity as critical elements in prevention and preparedness efforts.

## Detect

**Data Collection and Reporting:** IMA works with governments at all levels to collect, analyze and apply data for planning and program improvement. IMA has been instrumental in scaling-up District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2), an open-source health data management system to collect data on national public health statistics, and other facility level data collection in challenging contexts such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Kenya.

**Community-based Surveillance:** IMA helps train, equip and mobilize health workers in community-based surveillance, including those making house-to-house visits. If a government response becomes overwhelmed, IMA supports or supplements ministry of health responses to fill gaps in specific health areas, as needed.

**Contact Tracing:** When required, such as with the Ebola response or, more recently, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, IMA collaborates with WHO-supported contact tracing teams to conduct daily surveillance and case monitoring. Officials then report those findings, using WHO-approved contract tracing data collection tools.

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## Respond

**Supply Chain Management:** IMA has deep experience preserving and mobilizing emergency supply chains, having done this successfully in difficult settings such as South Sudan during and after the conflict of 2013, in eastern DRC and, most recently, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Health Worker Training:** Alongside local actors, IMA leverages in-house and external expertise to train staff (train the trainers) and to ensure subsequent training for health workers at the community and facility levels.

**Rapid Mobilization:** In the face of crisis, IMA understands that time is precious. We have acted quickly to ensure health workers—during the Ebola outbreak in eastern DRC, for example—have the equipment and resources necessary in emergencies to reach at-risk communities. Similarly, IMA and our partners mobilized rapidly to support faith-based health care networks across Africa to promote COVID-19 vaccine awareness and support vaccine delivery.

**Enhanced Facility Response:** IMA helps health facilities strengthen their capacity to curtail transmission and safeguard staff and patients through deeper understanding of relevant protocols and supply chains, as well as through improvements in waste management, potable water supplies, solid waste management and containment systems for suspected patients.

## In Practice

### Ebola: Strengthening Community Prevention, Response and Recovery

IMA's leadership in the 2018-2020 Ebola outbreak response in the DRC included delivery of nearly $1 million in personal protective equipment (PPE) to frontline healthcare workers, the establishment of 78 Ebola triage and isolation units, and installation of water supply and hygiene systems at 164 health clinics. Funded by USAID, IMA's Ebola Virus Disease in North Kivu and Ituri: Strengthening Community Prevention, Response, and Recovery project supported community-based prevention and response in 25 of the most affected health areas, where more than 387,000 people were at risk. This included extensive training in community-based surveillance and training more than 1,000 religious and community leaders on Ebola messaging, a key strategy for building community trust.

Further, IMA and our partners ensured the continuity of essential health services during the prolonged humanitarian crisis. IMA continued to support Ebola containment and recovery with the Ebola Virus Disease in DRC: Strengthening

## CORUS

### The Corus Effect

Founded in 1960, IMA World Health is a leading public health organization operating in some of the world's most fragile settings. Through partnerships with change agents at the local and national level, our work centers on four strategic pillars: global health security, health systems strengthening, social and behavior change, and integrated primary health care support and delivery.

IMA World Health is part of Corus International, an ensemble of global leaders in international development and humanitarian assistance. In addition to IMA World Health, the Corus family of organizations includes global non-governmental organization Lutheran World Relief, U.K.-based technology for development company CGA Technologies, impact investing group Ground Up Investing, and direct trade company Farmers Market Brands.

We operate as permanent partners, integrating expertise, disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome global health challenges, develop productive and stable economies, improve resilience in the face of climate change, and respond to natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

Community Prevention, Response, and Recovery project. IMA's multi-pronged program addressed urgent needs to end the Ebola epidemic and prevent its resurgence through community outreach and mobilization, social and behavior change communications in schools and places of worship, health facility-based infection prevention and control, WASH and waste management in health facilities, and a "wrap around" strategy which provided critical training, supplies, and support to implement a primary healthcare (PHC) package addressing leading drivers of maternal and child mortality.

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