



GHS2024 Conference Workshops

Day One - Tuesday 18 2024, 1:30pm-6:00pm – Room C3.2

FHI 360 - Assessing and Optimizing Diagnostic Networks to Improve Performance during Routine and Shock Health Events

The correct and prompt diagnosis of emerging infectious diseases remains challenging for countries, especially in resource-limited settings. The diagnostic technology landscape is constantly evolving, and countries struggle to rapidly identify the critical needs in their diagnostic network and use existing and new resources optimally. This leads to less-than-optimal procurement and delayed detection and response to disease outbreaks. This workshop will provide knowledge and hands-on experience to policymakers, donors, and stakeholders on the tools and approaches/methods for comprehensively assessing the critical gaps in diagnostic networks for infectious threats, and developing actionable recommendations to effectively address the gaps. Using our approach that integrates assessments at the national and facility levels coupled with advanced geospatial analyses, we will guide the participants to develop optimization models for enhancing access and optimal use of diagnostic capacities.

Aim:

Provide knowledge and hands-on experience for comprehensively assessing and optimizing the diagnostic network and tailor needs-based models that are understood by decision-makers, implementable within budgetary considerations, and sustainable.

Objectives:

- Describe Diagnostic Network Assessments/Diagnostic Network Optimization (DNA/DNO) integration and expected outcomes;
- Have participants practice using data for decision-making process through example datasets; and
- Explore advanced geospatial tools used in DNO

Target audience:

Laboratory leaders and decision-makers from national, provincial, or regional staff from resource-limited settings to understand the concept and the process; Funders interested in supporting the diagnostic network strengthening and optimization to recognize the investment needs Implementing agencies with the capacity and interest in supporting Ministries of Health for conducting DNA and DNO