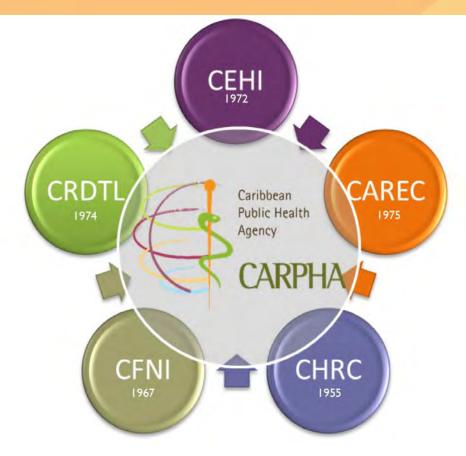
# Caribbean Public Health Agency

# CARPHA

### **The CARPHA Story**



Video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JJcqRB5E11">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JJcqRB5E11</a>



# Vision Healthy People, Healthy Spaces, Healthy Caribbean

### **Objectives**

- Promote physical and mental health and wellness
- Provide strategic direction in analysing, defining and responding to public health priorities
- Promote and develop measures for the prevention of disease
- Responding to public health emergencies
- Support relevant objectives of Caribbean Cooperation in Health





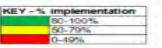
### **CARIBBEAN COOPERATION IN HEALTH (CCH)**





### CARICOM States Parties Annual Reports to the 71<sup>st</sup> World Health Assembly, 2018

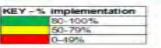
### Tas American Micelth Organization Saint Vincent & the Granadinas -70th WHA 70ch Jamaica - 70th 48 Belize - 69th Saint Lucia -Saint Kitts | Trinklad & Tobago Antigua & Barbuda Granada - WHA Dominica Bahamas Barbados Suriname Guyana Average WHA Nevis WHA 킂 **Core Capacity** Legislation / Policy / Financing 75 75 50 50 50 -100 -Coordination and Communication / NFP 63 67 63 -Surveillance 75 66 30 Response Preparedness 53 -70 En Risk Communication 73 71 --24 Human resources 60 60 Laboratory 76 Los I Points of Entry Zoonotic Events 78 67 71 Food Safety Events 100 73 3.5 63 2.7 73 73 Chemical Events 77 77 69 2.2 5.4 6.5 Radiation Emergencies



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### **Regional Health Security**



 Regional Coordinating Mechanism on Health Security (RCMHS) CARPHA is chair, includes CARICOM and OECS Secretariat, IMPACS, CDEMA, PAHO, US CDC, PHE, PHAC and Member States

- Regional Security Cluster collaboration: CARPHA, CDEMA, IMPACS, RSS; EU-supported via Global Crisis Response Support Program (GCRSP)
  - Improving coordination in responding to health, security, environmental, humanitarian events;
  - Sustainable financing mechanisms for the cluster



### **Desired Impact Prevent 5.6 of Roadmap**

- Comprehensive, legally embedded national oversight program for pathogen biosafety and biosecurity
- Minimal number of facilities housing high risk microorganisms including in research, diagnostic, and biotechnology facilities
- Expand the regional cadre of biological risk management experts
- Ensure sustainable biological risk management best practices are in place using common educational materials.
- Promote the use of rapid and culture-free diagnostics as a facet of biological risk management.



### **Prevent, Detect, Respond**

- CARPHA possesses the necessary infrastructure (Biosafety Level 3 containment facility) and competencies to quickly detect high threat pathogens which can negatively impact national and regional security given the heavy reliance on our reputation as a tourist destination, receiving over 50 million cruise and international tourist arrivals per year
- National Focal Points for Laboratory Biosafety and Biosecurity in place for 23 countries since 2016
- Mapping and Survey of facility biosafety capacities (Nov 2016 August 2017): > 500 laboratory facilities identified across 19 countries; ~ 5 BSL-3 laboratories identified; few laboratories with capacity to work with or store high consequence pathogens
- Use of an "intermestic" multi-sectoral approach,



### **Capacity building**



Guyana, 2019



Suriname, 2017



Barbados, 2018





Belize, 2018

Preventing disease, promoting and protecting health



OECS, 2017

# National Policies and Frameworks for Pathogen Biosafety and Biosecurity

- Draft National Laboratory Policies (17 CMS) Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, etc.
- Local context, cross-sectoral collaboration imperative, sensitization to other international treaties e.g. Cartagena Protocol on Biodiversity (GMMO,GMO), WHO, OIE/FAO
- Regional Meeting for the Development of National Frameworks for Pathogen Biosafety and Biosecurity June 26 – 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in Port-of-Spain, TRT (The Bahamas, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad/Tobago)
  - The objective of this meeting is to initiate the development of a national framework for pathogen biosafety and biosecurity for facilities including but not limited to human, animal, agriculture and research facilities as described under Prevent 6.1 (WHO JEE) and Prevent 3.1 (GHSA).



### **Sample Transportation**

- Strengthen regional mechanism for transport of infectious substances
- 66<sup>th</sup> COTED Transportation Meeting in June 2017 reviewed Item 10 Transboundary Movement of Goods of Public Health Importance put forward by CARPHA.
- Mandated the CARPHA and the CARICOM Secretariat to develop proposals for operations of commercial courier service providers within CARICOM to comply with a mandatory requirement to handle goods considered to be "public health goods for the maintenance of regional health security". Such public health goods include infectious substances categorized as Category A, Category B and Exempt substances in accordance with the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations;
- **Agreed** to encourage the regional airlines to sign MOUs with CARPHA for the [gratis] transboundary movement of biological samples considered public health goods as a matter of corporate social responsibility.



# **CHAMPIONS REQUIRED**

- Advocate for the APPROVAL of the National Laboratory Policies (MoH, Standards Bureaus)
- Support National Focal Points, Laboratory Biosafety and Biosecurity
- **Champion** the development for your national framework for pathogen biosafety and biosecurity (ensuring relevant representation at all levels throughout process)



### **Thank You**



For more information on CARPHA, visit our webpage: <u>http://carpha.org</u>

