

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response

Pulling efforts together at National and Regional Levels

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Organized by: ORHB, Universities in Oromia, ORHB AC, OPA, IOHPA, EEHA, EEA

What is planned to be accomplished?

- Emphasize on COVID-19 as a global challenge
- Shade light on preparedness plan in prevention and management of the pandemic
- Highlight on Ethiopia's state of preparedness and response
- What is going on in Oromia – Bureau and AC linkage
 - What is AC and reason
 - Composition and role
 - Directions for improved response
- Way forward

COVID-19 as a global pandemic

S.No	Type of flues	Profile
1	Black plague (1327)	Europe most hit, reduced pop'n by 25%
2	Spanish Flu (1918)	Killed 2% of the population and was global, deadliest
3	Hong-Kong Flu (1968-69)	biggest flu pandemics of the 20th century, low CFR
4	SARS (2003)	across 17 countries –15% CFR
5	Swine flu (H1N1-2009-10)	11-21% of the global population with low CFR
6	MERS (2012)	it only affected a small number of countries but 30% CFR
7	Ebola (2013)	Stay dormant for long/multiple dormant, west Africa
8	Bird flu (H5N1 -2013)	Limited people to people transmission, difficult to trace, multiple outbreak
9	Bird flu (H7N9-2016)	
10	Common Cold	Seasonal flu happens every year worldwide with 0.1% CFR
11	vCoV-2 -2019-20	Global feature, relatively low CFR, fast spreading

COVID-19 as a global pandemic

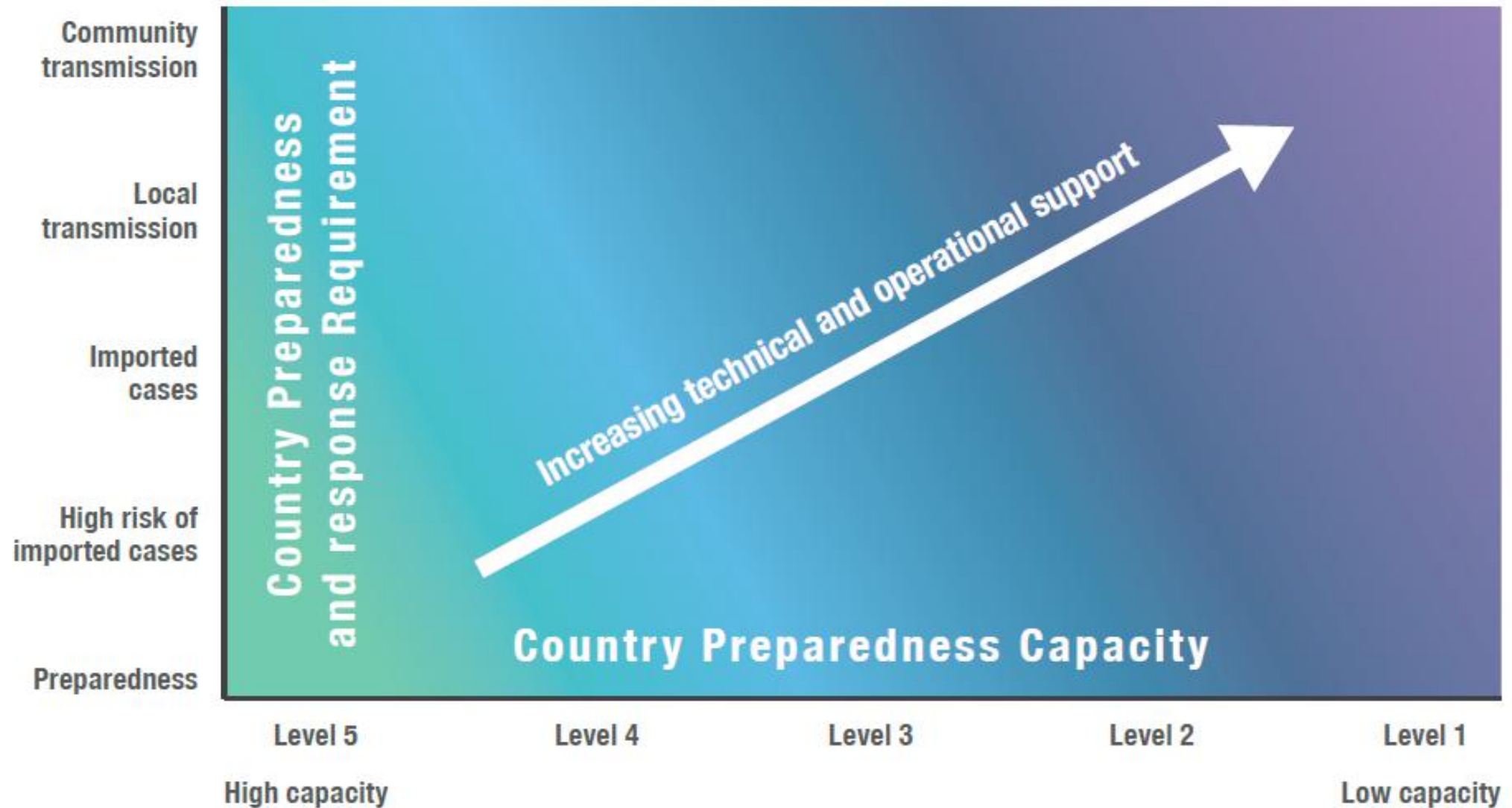
- COVID-19 pandemic is a global health crisis of the 21st C and the greatest challenge since WW II. It has quickly spread in just 3 months to every single country across the world except Antarctica. Africa including Ethiopia is yet to see the worst face of the pandemic.
- Countries drew lessons from others to take measures to slow the spread of the virus (tracing → testing → treating patients) in addition to public health measures including lockdown, stopping schools and public events including markets, quarantining etc.
- The pandemic moving like a wave is much more than a health crisis – with its devastating social, economic and political crises that will leave deep scars.

Pandemic preparedness and response checklist (WHO, 2005)

Tasks	Essential
1. Preparing for an emergency 1.1 Getting started 1.2 Communication and control 1.3 Risk assessment 1.4 Communication 1.5 Legal and ethical issues 1.5.1 Legal issues 1.5.2 Ethical issues 1.6 Response plan by pandemic phase	4. Preventing spread of the disease in the community 4.1 Public health measures 4.2 Vaccine programmes 4.3 Antiviral use as a prevention method
Surveillance 2.1 Inter-pandemic surveillance — General — Early warning 2.2 Enhanced surveillance 2.3 Pandemic surveillance	5. Maintaining essential services 5.1 Health services 5.2 Other essential services 5.3 Recovery
3. Case investigation and treatment 3.1 Diagnostic capacity - Local laboratory capacity - Reference laboratory availability 3.2 Epidemiological investigation and contact management 3.3 Clinical management	6. Research and evaluation 7. Implementation, testing and revision of the national plan

Emergency preparedness plan (WHO Feb 3, 2020)

Figure 3 Country risk and vulnerability mapping



Objective of strategic preparedness plan and response are

- Limit human-to-human transmission, including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and healthcare workers, preventing transmission amplification events
- Identify, isolate, and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Address crucial unknowns regarding clinical severity, extent of transmission and infection, treatment options, and accelerate the development of diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities, and counter misinformation, rumors etc;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

Measures by Ethiopia

- Activated its Independent Management System (IMS) under the national PHEOC on 27 January 2020 to optimize the national level coordination of the preparedness and readiness efforts.
- Strict PoE screening and vigilant follow-up procedures being implemented on incoming travelers at ports
- 24/7 functioning toll-free hotline was established to provide information to and receive alert from the public
- Put up the capacity to test COVID-19 within the country that has now expanded to regions
- Coordination mechanisms put in place at different levels and since

Where are we now as a country?



- Government has stepped up its effort to detect, isolate and treat with enhanced contact tracing and increased testing capacity through Enhance Health Facility Readiness and RCCE so as to reduce mortality.
- Coordination mechanism at different level from PM led to EoC team
- In country and Global professional group voluntary support enhanced – AC to the minister with seven thematic areas

What about in Oromia

- Early stage FMoH and EPHI were quite active in preparedness and response
- Regional preparedness and response system were alerted later
- With evident limitation of regional capacity as compared to Federal and due to evidences of Oromia's vulnerability duty minded and committed PAs (OPA), experts from within the Academics, NGOs Oromos in Diaspora joined hands to support the regional response
- Initial discussion was made with the authorities of the RHB and based on that guiding ToR was developed in the spirit of WE CAN SET THE TONE FOR COUNTRY WIDE RESPONSE

Oromia AC Teams and leads

RCCE	Dr. Zewdie B (5)	Medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, supplies, and logistics	Dr. Worku B (3)
IPC	Dejene K (3)	Testing and laboratory facilities	Prof Zeleke M (3)
FR&CM	Dr. Senbeta G (6)	Partnership and Resource Mobilization	Dr. Kebede W (4)
Surveillance and contact tracing	Dr. Adugna W (5)	University support mobilization and engagement	Dr. Lammi G(3)
Epidemiology and Evidence generation	Dr. Taye T (4)	Social and Economic Analysis	Dr. Gutu T (3)
Integrated mental health and psycho-social support	Matiwos S (4)		

Way forward

- Oromia is larger than many African and European countries – This puts the region more vulnerable to COVID-19
- Unless we all pull our efforts the disaster is yet to come – no complacency
- If we work together, listen to each other, pull our experts and resources together we can set the tone for country wide response beyond Oromia
- This training is an initial test of such capacity we have across the globe that when pulled together can make much difference
- Those who participate in this training would do as much with the same spirit and we all will shine together and so does our region

Thank you for your attention