Staying Safe: The Importance of Biosafety Training for Healthcare and First Responders Heroes











Biosafety Training for Healthcare and First Responders in Central Asian and South-East and Eastern European Countries





Funded by the EU & USA







ISTC implemented a project funded by the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk-Mitigating Centres of Excellence Initiative (EU CBRN CoE) and the Bio-Engagement Program of the United States Department of State, with support from the Dutch Global Partnership Programme and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

• Biosafety training helps to protect both individuals and the wider community from the dangerous effects of infectious diseases, improving response times disease outbreaks and ensuring that safety protocols are followed correctly. It's crucial to keep those safe in high-risk roles like first responders, medical personnel, and laboratory staff, in order that they can help the general population during a disease outbreak or pandemic.













Healthcare workers faced higher infection risks, staffing shortages, and significant death toll during COVID-19 pandemic.



• For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, medical professionals and first responders faced a significantly higher risk of infection and death compared to the general population, due to their frequent exposure to infected individuals in hospitals, emergency rooms, and other high-risk settings.

As result:



According to a World Health Organization (WHO) study, healthcare workers accounted for about 10% of COVID-19 cases globally.



Tragically, many healthcare professionals lost their lives to COVID-19 due to their close contact with infected patients. For example, in the United States over 3,600 healthcare workers had died by the end of 2020, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These numbers highlight the significant risks faced by frontline workers during the pandemic.



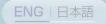
The high infection rates among healthcare workers led to a significant strain on health systems. Hospitals in heavily affected regions, resulting in staffing shortages because many doctors, nurses, and support staff were either sick or quarantined after exposure. This created further challenges in managing the overwhelming number of COVID-19 cases.















Project trained biosafety trainers, benefiting medical staff, first responders, and laboratory workers globally.



 The main goal of the project was to train trainers in Biosafety. Main beneficiaries were medical personnel, first responders, laboratory staff, and others in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

The project supported continued efforts of those communities to be prepared for an outbreak or pandemic.



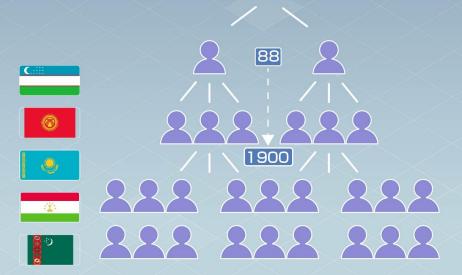
Project Training Strategy - Train Trainers



• International Trainers Train National Trainees.

Newly Trained National Trainers are supported to Train other trainers and specialists.

Before COVID-19



During COVID-19



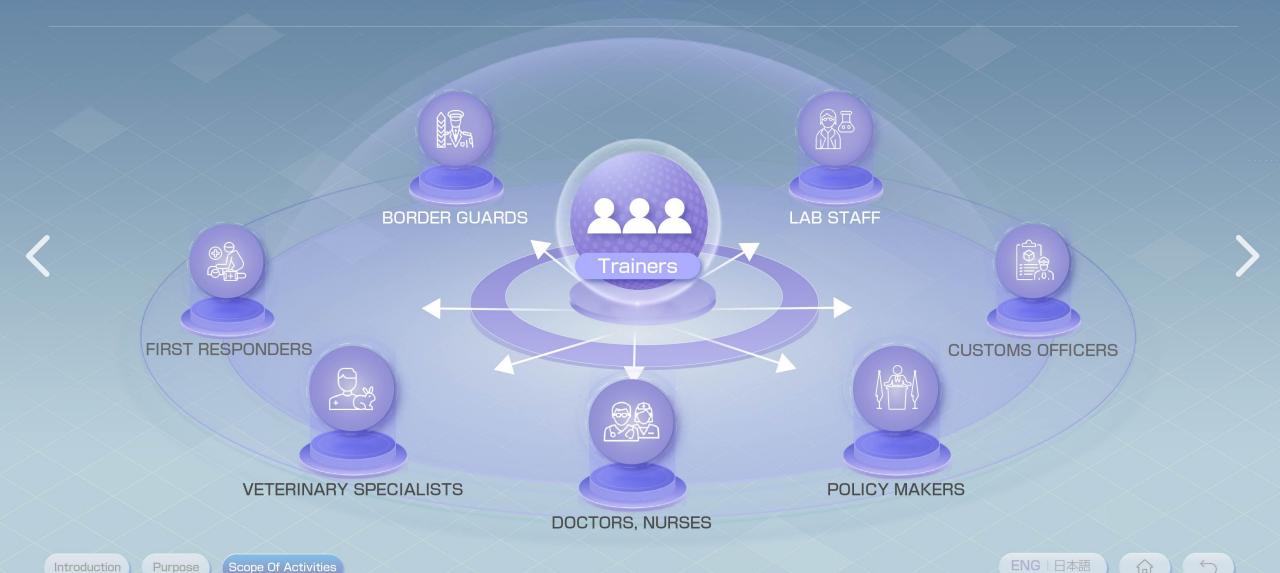






Types of training supported by project

















Biosafety workshops



















Handover ceremony

Mobile, disease surveillance Isboratories to Uzbekistan.
Under EU CBRI 20E Project 53.

14 July 2021











