



ZAMBIA NATIONAL
PUBLIC HEALTH
INSTITUTE



MAY 2025

NEWSLETTER

ZNPHI

"A Centre of excellence in public health security"



Surveillance
and Disease
and Respose



Emergency
Preparedness
and Response



National
Public Health
Laboratory
Services



Strategic
Planning
and Information
Management



Public Health
Policy,
Diplomacy &
Communication



Field
Epidemiology
Program

ONE HEALTH

Public Health Security System Strengthening

(HR, AMR, Finance, Procurement, Leadership & Governance, Infrastructure & Equipment)

DIRECTOR GENERAL'S CORNER



Prof. Roma Chilengi

Director General

This May, the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) proudly took its place on the global stage at the 78th World Health Assembly, affirming our leadership and unwavering commitment to tackling the world's most pressing public health challenges. Through a powerful combination of technical contributions, strategic dialogue, and country level insights on antimicrobial resistance, disease surveillance, pandemic preparedness, and mental health, ZNPHI reinforced its role as the technical backbone of Zambia's public health security.

Our contributions extend beyond policy dialogue, we are actively transforming Zambia's health landscape. Through strengthened data systems, advanced surveillance, and evidence based interventions, we are driving measurable, lasting change. At the Assembly, ZNPHI's voice carried the strength and resilience of the Zambian people, demonstrating how strategic, multisectoral collaboration is protecting lives and fortifying health systems.

Yet, our mission continues. As Zambia's leading public health security institution, ZNPHI remains committed to innovation, accountability, and delivering real impact. This month's newsletter highlights the dedication, breakthroughs, and bold vision that define our journey toward a safer, healthier future for every Zambian.

EDITOR IN CHIEF'S CORNER



Dr. Doreen Mainza Shempela
Director Public Health Policy
Diplomacy & Communications

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the May 2025 edition of the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) newsletter! This month, we shine a spotlight on capacity building and innovation in public health. We proudly celebrated the graduation of Cohort 6 of the Advanced Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP), marking a new wave of skilled public health leaders ready to tackle health threats at all levels.

Additionally, we successfully participated in a Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) training to strengthen our strategies in engaging communities and promoting sustainable health behaviours across the country.

As we continue to lead in safeguarding Zambia's health security and resilience, this edition reflects our commitment to transparency, collaboration, and evidence-based action.

We hope this newsletter not only keeps you informed, but also inspires dialogue, partnership, and shared responsibility in building a healthier Zambia.

PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

ZNPHI Participates in the 78th World Health Assembly



The Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) successfully participated in the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA78), held in Geneva, Switzerland. The event brought together health leaders from 194 WHO Member States to address urgent global health challenges, including pandemic preparedness, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), climate change and health, and the ongoing negotiations around the WHO Pandemic Agreement.

ZNPHI was led by its Director General, Prof. Roma Chilengi, who actively contributed to high-level discussions, highlighting Zambia's public health priorities.

These included strengthening health systems, advancing universal health coverage, and supporting regional initiatives for local manufacturing of medicines and medical products.

ZNPHI's engagement at WHA78 reaffirmed Zambia's commitment to global cooperation and health diplomacy, while positioning the country as a key player in shaping international health policies.

The Institute remains committed to advancing Zambia's public health agenda through strategic global partnerships and evidence based advocacy.

PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

Zambia Joins UN Health for Life Initiative to Advance Adolescent Health

ZNPHI, led by Director-General Prof. Roma Chilengi, met with the UNIATF Secretariat at the 78th World Health Assembly to mark Zambia's selection under the UN Health for Life Fund. The initiative supports countries in tackling non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and mental health among youth aged 10-29.

With this support, Zambia will strengthen early prevention, expand youth-friendly services, and scale up healthier lifestyle promotion. ZNPHI will also enhance primary care using WHO's PEN and PEN-Plus

models, improve surveillance, and support key policy reforms including updates to the Liquor Licensing Act and Tobacco Control Bill.

Zambia joins Malawi and Rwanda as one of the first countries to benefit. ZNPHI remains committed to driving this important work for the health and wellbeing of Zambia's youth.

This initiative aims to improve the use of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) and public health data for informed policy-making and epidemic response.



PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

ZNPHI Showcases Digital Health Innovation at WHA78



On 23 May 2025, the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), in partnership with Resolve to Save Lives, convened a high-level side event at the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA78) in Geneva, Switzerland. The event highlighted Zambia's digital innovation in epidemic preparedness and response, with a focus on ZEBRA, the Zambia Emergency Bridge for Response Application and the 7-1-7 framework.

Prof. Roma Chilengi, ZNPHI Director General, shared

how ZEBRA will enhance outbreak coordination and support data-driven decision-making. Key outcomes included global recognition of ZEBRA as a digital intelligence model, commitments to expand its tools, and strengthened investment in Zambia's emergency response workforce.

The event reaffirmed ZNPHI's leadership in advancing a resilient, modern public health system.

PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

Zambia Highlights Role of Community Health Workers at WHA 2025

Zambia took part in a key side event on community health at the 77th World Health Assembly, hosted by the Community Health Delivery System (CHDS) and UNICEF. The meeting focused on the essential role of community health workers in delivering primary healthcare and achieving universal health coverage.

Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi, Permanent Secretary for Technical Services, represented Zambia on behalf of Health Minister Dr. Elijah Muchima, alongside Prof. Roma Chilengi, Director General of ZNPHI and Health Presidential Advisor.

In his remarks, Dr. Lishimpi reaffirmed Zambia's commitment to strengthening community health systems through the recruitment of Community Health Assistants (CHAs) to supervise and support Community Based Volunteers (CBVs). He emphasized that community health workers are critical to ensuring equitable access to care and enhancing early detection and response to public health threats.

The meeting concluded with a strong call to invest in community health workforces as the foundation of resilient and people centred health systems.



PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

Zambia Engages the Global Fund to Strengthen Health Partnerships and Sustain Progress

Zambia reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening global health partnerships during a high-level engagement with the Global Fund, held on the sidelines of the 77th World Health Assembly in Geneva.

The Zambian delegation was led by the Minister of Health, Honourable Dr. Elijah Muchima, and included Professor Roma Chilengi, Director General of the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), and Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi, Permanent Secretary for Technical Services. The team met with Mr. Mark Edington, Head of Grants Management at the Global Fund, to review progress, reinforce collaboration, and explore strategic opportunities in an increasingly dynamic global funding environment.

During the meeting, Honourable Dr. Muchima conveyed the Government of Zambia's deep appreciation for the Global Fund's ongoing support, particularly its investments in pharmaceutical hubs, which have significantly enhanced the country's drug supply chain and availability of essential medicines. He reaffirmed Zambia's commitment to increasing domestic health financing, promoting transparency, and ensuring the-

responsible use of health resources.

"Zambia is focused on building a resilient and sustainable health system that delivers for all," Dr. Muchima said. "Our partnership with the Global Fund is pivotal to achieving this goal."

Professor Chilengi emphasized the value of the partnership in strengthening Zambia's public health security, particularly in building real-time disease surveillance and response capabilities. He noted that the support received has played a critical role in enhancing the country's ability to detect and respond to public health threats more effectively.

The discussions also covered priority areas such as laboratory systems strengthening, health workforce support, and integrated data systems to drive evidence-based decision-making.

Both parties concluded the engagement with a shared commitment to sustaining health gains, accelerating progress toward universal health coverage, and advancing health equity and resilience for the Zambian people.



PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

Zambia Reaffirms Commitment to Global Health Security at WHA78



Zambia participated in the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA78) to reinforce its commitment to global health security and stronger pandemic preparedness. In its national statement, Zambia shared key progress-made in building a resilient health system, highlighting investments in emergency operations centres, modern laboratory infrastructure, pre-positioned medical stockpiles, and a trained, responsive health workforce. The country expressed full support for the WHO Pandemic Agreement, which seeks to ensure global solidarity and preparedness in responding to future health

threats. Zambia emphasized that its national frameworks are already aligned with the agreement's vision, underscoring its readiness to contribute to collective global action.

Zambia also commended the World Health Organization for its leadership in coordinating the development of the agreement and providing technical support to Member States. The country called on all nations to back a fair, inclusive, and accountable accord, and to invest in strong health systems that can protect populations everywhere.

ZNPHI Strengthens Capacity in Behaviour Change Programming through Certificate Training

From 7th to 12th May 2025, two staff members from the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) participated in a week-long Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) Certificate Training Workshop held at Palm View Lodge in Lusaka. The training was organised by UNICEF, in partnership with the University of Zambia (UNZA), and brought together participants from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, UNZA public health students, and communication professionals from various institutions.

The workshop was officially opened by Dr. Hikabasa Halwindi from the UNZA School of Public Health, who emphasized the importance of integrating evidence-based, community-informed strategies into health and development programmes to drive meaningful and lasting change.

The training aimed to build participants' skills in designing and implementing effective SBC interventions that go beyond awareness campaigns. It focused on the use of behavioural science, social research, and human-centered design to understand the motivations, barriers, and social contexts that shape people's behaviours.

Participants engaged in practical sessions on behavioral insights, journey mapping, rapid assessments, and the development of monitoring and evaluation plans. A key takeaway from the training was that impactful behavior change efforts must be rooted in empathy, data, and the active involvement of communities. Programmes that reflect the lived realities of the people they serve are more likely to be accepted, sustained, and scaled.

ZNPHI's participation in this certificate training has strengthened its capacity to design public health programmes that are people centered, data driven, and responsive to Zambia's dynamic health landscape. The lessons gained will support the Institute's ongoing efforts to promote healthier behaviors and stronger health outcomes nationwide.



Peleti and Kampamba Villages Mobilize Under Measles Response

Communities push back against preventable diseases and health misinformation

As part of the ongoing measles response, the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), in collaboration with the Northern Provincial and Mungwi District Health Offices, is conducting community orientation meetings in Peleti and Kampamba villages in Mungwi District, Northern Province.

These efforts aim to strengthen preparedness and response to measles, Mpox, and cholera at the grassroots level. However, health teams face an added challenge growing influence from mushrooming churches discouraging community members from seeking medical care.

“Some churches are telling people to rely solely on prayer, even when children are clearly sick,” shared one Community-Based Volunteer (CBV). “We respect faith, but prayer and medical care must work together to protect lives.”

CBVs are calling on traditional leaders to enforce community by-laws that support timely healthcare seeking, especially during disease outbreaks. They also encourage collaboration with faith leaders to ensure health messages are aligned with community values.

Measles Situation Overview

Peleti Village: 126 suspected cases, 9 confirmed

Kampamba Village: 279 suspected cases since 12 November 2024, 6 confirmed.

Despite these challenges, CBVs, local headmen, and health officials are united in their commitment to stop the spread of preventable diseases. ZNPHI urges all community members to seek care early and support ongoing public health efforts.



PHPDC CLUSTER

Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication

Taking Health Messages to the Heart of the Community



Reaching people with lifesaving health information begins with a simple but powerful principle: go where they gather.

In Makasa Village, Mungwi District of Northern Province, traditional leaders have embraced this approach by committing to use market days and railway stations as platforms for community sensitization on measles vaccination and disease prevention. These high-traffic,

familiar gathering points offer a strategic opportunity to engage with residents directly, share vital health messages, and encourage immunization.

This locally led initiative is helping to close immunization gaps and strengthen community resilience. By meeting people where they are, traditional leaders are playing a critical role in safeguarding public health and building stronger, healthier communities.

EPR CLUSTER

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Quarterly IHR TWG Meeting Sets Strategic Direction for 2025

The first Quarterly Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005) for 2025 was successfully held this month at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka. The meeting brought together key stakeholders to review implementation progress and reaffirm Zambia's commitment to strengthening national health security. Discussions focused on aligning the National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) with current

national priorities and global frameworks. The TWG also updated the 2025 operational plan to improve co-ordination, guide resource mobilization, and enhance multisectoral collaboration.

As the designated National Focal Point for IHR, ZNPHI continues to lead efforts to ensure a resilient and responsive public health system grounded in evidence based decision making and strong stakeholder partnerships.



EPR CLUSTER

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Developing Zambia's National Chemical Waste Management Guidelines



A pivotal five-day technical meeting commenced in Lusaka on Monday, June 19th, marking a significant step in Zambia's efforts to strengthen chemical waste management systems. The meeting was officially opened by the Acting Director General of the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), Dr. Nyambe Singange.

This intensive week of deliberations brings together national experts and key stakeholders to develop Zambia's first National Chemical Waste Management Guidelines. The initiative is being conducted in collaboration with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), whose technical support has been instrumental in driving the process forward.

The development of these guidelines reflects Zambia's commitment to addressing the growing challenges of

chemical waste, safeguarding both public health and the environment. Discussions throughout the week are focused on reviewing existing chemical waste practices, identifying gaps, and integrating global best practices with Zambia's local context.

Key outcomes will include clear protocols for the safe handling, storage, and disposal of chemical waste.

The guidelines aim to create a robust regulatory and operational framework that not only mitigates the health risks posed by hazardous chemicals but also promotes sustainable industrial development.

As the country continues to advance its public health and environmental protection agenda, these guidelines will serve as a cornerstone for building a safer, cleaner, and more resilient Zambia.

EPR CLUSTER

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Strengthening Zambia's Emergency Preparedness: PHEM Training Held

The Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), through its Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) department, conducted a foundational Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) training in Lusaka.

The training brought together multi-sectoral teams from districts across all provinces, with active participation from local authorities, the Zambia Airforce, and the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU).

Over five days, participants gained critical knowledge

on:

- The role and operations of Public Health Emergency Operations Centres (PHEOCs)
- Functions of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs)
- The Incident Management System (IMS)
- The 7-1-7 strategy for early outbreak detection and response

This initiative strengthens Zambia's ability to coordinate and respond to health emergencies, ensuring a more resilient public health system across the country.



FETP CLUSTER

Field Epidemiology Training Program

Uncommon Malaria Strain Detected in Kazungula District: ZNPHI Investigates Plasmodium Ovale Case

Malaria continues to pose a major public health challenge in Zambia, particularly in rural regions where transmission rates remain high. While *Plasmodium falciparum* is the most prevalent malaria parasite in the country, a recent case of *Plasmodium ovale* rare strain has prompted a public health investigation in Southern Province.

In May 2025, a seven-year-old boy presented at Makunka Mission Rural Health Centre with classic malaria symptoms, including fever, chills, headache, and general malaise. However, initial testing with a rapid diagnostic test (RDT) yielded negative results. When symptoms persisted after three days, clinicians conducted further testing using malaria microscopy, which confirmed infection with *Plasmodium ovale* an uncommon finding in Zambia.

In response, a multidisciplinary team comprising Advanced and Intermediate Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) Residents initiated an outbreak in-

vestigation. The team, supported by the Malaria Elimination Centre (MEC), conducted household surveys and collected blood samples from 432 individuals in Makunka and surrounding communities. Concurrently, MEC entomologists gathered mosquito specimens to assess the potential presence of local vectors carrying the parasite.

Laboratory analysis revealed no additional *Plasmodium ovale* cases among those tested. However, 12 individuals (3%) tested positive for *Plasmodium falciparum*, the dominant malaria strain in Zambia, and received appropriate treatment. Entomological findings from MEC are still pending and will provide further insight into local vector dynamics.

This case underscores the importance of advanced diagnostic tools and robust surveillance in detecting and responding to less common malaria parasites. The findings will inform malaria prevention strategies and help refine elimination efforts in Zambia.



FETP CLUSTER

Field Epidemiology Training Program

Cohort 25 Graduates from Frontline Field Epidemiology Training Program



On May 6, 2025, the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) and the Ministry of Health (MOH), with support from the Global Fund and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC), celebrated the graduation of 22 frontline health professionals in Eastern Province from the 25th cohort of the Frontline Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP).

The graduates completed rigorous, field-based training in applied epidemiology, equipping them with essential skills to strengthen disease surveillance, outbreak detection, and emergency response at the community level. Speaking at the event, ZNPHI Director General Prof. Roma Chilengi applauded the graduates for their achievement and emphasized their critical role in safeguarding public health. “You are now the first line of defense in protecting our communities and economy,” he said, highlighting ongoing threats such as Mpox, data quality issues, and cholera.

Dr. Charles Fanaka, Public Health Specialist for Eastern Province, recognized the impact of FETP alumni in managing past outbreaks, including anthrax and cholera. He encouraged the graduates to remain proactive and committed in their roles.

Dr. Nyambe Sinyange, Director of the Workforce Development Cluster and Zambia FETP Country Lead, commended the graduates’ resilience and encouraged them to publish their findings to contribute to Zambia’s growing body of public health knowledge.

This graduation marks a continued investment in Zambia’s health security by building a skilled and responsive frontline public health workforce.

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FETP CLUSTER

Field Epidemiology Training Program

Strengthening Zambia's Public Health Workforce Through Field Epidemiology Training

In an effort to bolster Zambia's capacity to detect, respond to, and prevent public health threats, the Zambia Field Epidemiology Training Program (ZFETP) has embarked on an ambitious training initiative targeting frontline public health workers across the country. Between 5 and 16 May 2025, ZFETP, with support from the World Bank through the Africa CDC Regional Investments Financing Project (ACDP), conducted intensive training workshops in Central, Luapula, and Southern Provinces.

The goal is to train five Public Health Workers per district in the Frontline FETP, ensuring that every corner of the country has skilled personnel ready to tackle public health emergencies. A total of 75 participants from 35 districts (10 in Luapula, 13 in Southern, and 12 in Central) attended these workshops. The sessions were officially opened by representatives from the respective Provincial Health Offices and the national leadership of the ZFETP Cluster.

The trainings provided a mix of theoretical and practical knowledge, focusing on the public health surveillance cycle, surveillance review, and data quality audits. Importantly, the sessions also emphasized a One Health Approach, integrating participants from the Ministry

of Livestock and Fisheries. This interdisciplinary strategy equips health workers with the skills to respond to complex threats at the human-animal-environment interface, including zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, food safety, and environmental health hazards. The Zambia Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) successfully conducted Workshop 2 for Cohort #31 of the Frontline program in Lusaka Province. Held in Chilanga, the workshop focused on critical areas aimed at strengthening participants' capacity to effectively respond to public health threats.

Key areas covered included outbreak investigation, questionnaire design, scientific communication, and geospatial mapping. Through hands-on sessions and guided instruction, participants acquired practical skills in conducting systematic outbreak investigations, designing and utilizing effective data collection tools, and clearly communicating findings to both scientific and non-scientific audiences.

In addition, the workshop introduced the use of geospatial tools for analyzing disease patterns and trends, an increasingly essential capability in modern public health practice.



FETP CLUSTER

Field Epidemiology Training Program

Advanced FETP Cohort 6 Graduates - 2025



Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) congratulates the 2025 graduates of the Advanced Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP). Their applied research addresses critical public health challenges, generating evidence to inform policy and strengthen health systems in Zambia.

Abdul Mohsin Ashraf Mohammed - Medical Doctor, Isoka District Hospital Studied hypertension among people living with HIV. Findings showed socioeconomic status had limited influence, underscoring the importance of healthcare access and lifestyle factors.

Hellen Kaoma - Laboratory Scientist, Macha Mission Hospital Analyzed COVID-19 in-hospital mortality (2020–2022). Risk factors mirrored global data: age, comorbidities, disease severity, and vaccination status.

Ruth Muwema – Medical Doctor, Kanyama Level One Hospital Researched cervical HPV infections. High prevalence among HIV-positive women highlighted the urgent need for early HPV vaccination campaigns targeting young girls.

Webster Kambinga - Medical Doctor, Lavushimanda District Health Office Explored ITN use among under-five children. Key factors included caregiver education, household wealth, and ITN availability. Recommends further qualitative studies to understand behavioral drivers.

Mutiti Geoffrey - Surveillance Officer, Chifunabuli District Health Office Investigated TB-related community deaths. Verbal autopsy proved useful in identifying key risk factors: age, gender, regional differences, and delayed care.

Martin Mwansa - Public Health Officer, Kalumbila District Health Office Assessed LLIN distribution and malaria trends (2017-2023). Found that seasonality and rural-urban disparities had a greater influence on malaria incidence than net distribution alone.

Francis Mwenya - Public Health Officer, DFMS Studied the impact of COVID-19 on measles cases in children under five. Noted increased incidence due to disrupted immunization and healthcare access during the pandemic.

Salipako Kennedy - Surveillance Officer, Kazungula District Health Office Focused on HIV testing uptake among adults (ZAMPHIA 2021). Women tested more than men; provider-initiated testing was a strong enabler. Barriers included age, income, and access.

Danny Kabwe - Surveillance Officer, Mwense District Health Office Estimated excess mortality during COVID-19 (2020–2022). Found significant mortality increases, especially among children under five and adults over 60, linked to limited immunity and health access.

Susan Munsanda Kapena - Veterinarian, Chibombo District Hospital Studied AMR in *E. coli* from poultry. Found resistance to Cotrimoxazole; antibiotic misuse

among farmers was a major contributor. Urges education and regulation through a One Health approach.

Kabeela Sambwa - Surveillance Officer, Chirundu District Health Office Compared malaria parasitemia (2018 vs 2021). Higher risk among rural children aged 12–59 months. Reduced ITN use and poor housing conditions were key contributors.

Kelvin Mwakapushi - Environmental Health Officer, Chongwe District Health Office Analyzed HIV trends in youth (PHIA 2016 & 2021). HIV prevalence declined while viral suppression improved, likely due to ART access. However, females remain disproportionately affected.

Leah Namonje - Medical Doctor, Chongwe District Health Office Examined TB risk factors among adults (PHIA 2016 & 2021). Age, marital status, HIV status, and urban/rural residence were significant predictors. Recommends integrated TB-HIV services.

Patricia Simuzingili - Surveillance Officer, Kazungula District Health Office Investigated predictors of infant mortality (ZDHS 2018). Key factors included birth weight, birth order, postnatal care, and regional variations. Advocates for strengthened maternal-child health services.



SDI CLUSTER

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

Advancing Mortality Surveillance in Zambia

This May, the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Home Affairs and Internal Security and with support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation convened a pivotal Mortality Surveillance Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis Meeting in Lusaka.

The meeting forms part of Zambia's broader efforts to close longstanding data gaps in mortality and vital statistics through the implementation of the Sample Based Registration System with Vital Statistics (SRS-VS). This national strategy aims to improve the completeness, quality, and timeliness of mortality data crucial for effective public health planning and timely interventions.

Zambia continues to face significant challenges in mortality surveillance, including underreporting of deaths, limited community level data, and incomplete civil registration systems. These gaps hinder evidence based health decision making and slow progress in critical areas such as maternal and perinatal health.

The SRS-VS initiative is poised to transform this landscape. Through a dual record system and community based data collection, the SRS-VS will generate na-

tionally and regionally representative data on mortality, fertility, and pregnancy outcomes. This innovative approach strengthens routine Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems while delivering real time insights for public health action.

A key focus of the meeting was community engagement, recognized as central to the success of the new system. Participants mapped and analyzed stakeholders including media outlets that can play a pivotal role in raising awareness and supporting accurate death reporting at grassroots level. From local radio stations to national newspapers and online platforms, the mapping exercise identified critical channels for mobilizing public support.

By enhancing community awareness and participation, the initiative aims to improve the accuracy of mortality reporting across all regions and demographics. This will help generate a clearer picture of Zambia's health landscape and accelerate progress toward both national health goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This meeting represents a significant milestone in achieving the core objective of the SRS-VS, ensuring that no death goes uncounted, and that every life informs a healthier, more resilient Zambia.



ZNPHI Leads Stakeholder Meeting on Pre-emptive Cholera Vaccination Strategy



The Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), in partnership with the Ministry of Health, joined key partners in a pivotal stakeholder meeting hosted by the Zambia Red Cross Society to plan Zambia's pre-emptive oral cholera vaccination (OCV) strategy.

With over 5 million Zambians at risk, the meeting marked a major step toward coordinated, data driven cholera prevention efforts.

Dr. Roma Chilengi, Director General of ZNPHI, stressed the importance of urgent, targeted action:

"This is more than a meeting, it's a call to action. Our success in cholera prevention depends on acting decisively, strategically, and in unity."

The engagement focused on:

- Prioritizing vulnerable communities
- Aligning OCV efforts with WASH and health systems strengthening
- Strengthening multisectoral coordination
- Enhancing resource mobilization

Through this national collaboration, Zambia is taking proactive steps to safeguard communities and prevent future cholera outbreaks. The meeting reflects the country's unwavering commitment to public health and a cholera free future.

SDI CLUSTER

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

ZNPHI Highlights Zambia's Leadership in Serosurveillance at Regional Summit

The Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) showcased Zambia's progress in data-driven public health during the 2nd Summit on Integrated Multiplex Serosurveillance, held from May 26–28, 2025, in Lilongwe, Malawi.

Dr. Musole Chipoya, Medical Epidemiologist at ZNPHI, represented Zambia at the summit and delivered remarks during the opening plenary. She presented Zambia's experience in utilizing serosurveillance data to guide vaccine policy, identify immunity gaps, and reach zero-dose children. She also shared how this data has been integrated into the national immunization

strategy and the 2025 work plan of the Zambia Immunization Technical Advisory Group (ZITAG).

Dr. Chipoya further outlined Zambia's plans to institutionalize multiplex serosurveillance platforms to support the introduction of new vaccines. Her presentation positioned Zambia as a leading example of how integrated serological data can inform immunization programming and drive targeted interventions.

Zambia's model was widely acknowledged by regional partners as a practical and scalable approach reinforcing ZNPHI's role in shaping resilient and evidence-based public health systems across the continent.



SDI CLUSTER

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

Strengthening Health Surveillance in Western Province: Successful Pilot in Five Districts



The Western Province pilot districts of Sikongo, Luampa, Senanga, Nalolo, and Mongu achieved a significant milestone by successfully implementing technical supportive supervision aimed at strengthening health surveillance systems. This initiative focused on enhancing disease monitoring, promoting real time reporting, and improving coordination among health workers on the ground.

Through on-site mentorship, health staff in these districts acquired critical skills to manage outbreaks more effectively. This hands on support enabled teams to produce more accurate disease data, facilitating quicker

and more informed responses to public health threats. The pilot's success led to notable improvements in disease reporting accuracy and outbreak management, ultimately reinforcing the resilience of local health systems. This achievement underscores the power of targeted, technical support in boosting public health capacity and protecting communities.

The Western Province experience sets a valuable example for scaling up similar supportive supervision approaches nationwide, ensuring Zambia's health system remains agile and responsive in the face of emerging health challenges.

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

A total of 130 healthcare workers were trained under this initiative, which represents a significant milestone in Zambia's efforts to strengthen its disease surveillance and response capabilities. The training focused on equipping private sector healthcare providers with

This initiative is part of Zambia's broader strategy to build a resilient and inclusive health system by ensuring that both public and private healthcare actors are adequately prepared to contribute to national health security. By bridging gaps in surveillance across sectors, the program enhances early warning systems and supports the country's ability to prevent and control disease outbreaks effectively.

SDI CLUSTER

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

ZNPHI Participates in Regional ToT Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness

ZNPHI joined counterparts from seven other countries at a Regional Trainer of Trainers (ToT) workshop on Public Health Emergency Management, held in Mombasa, Kenya. The training was organized by the Ministry of Health of Kenya in partnership with IGAD, ECSA-HC, and the World Bank.

Under the theme “To Enhance Pandemic Preparedness, One Health Approach, and Gender Equity,” the work-

shop focused on strengthening regional capacity for coordinated health emergency responses.

ZNPHI’s participation reinforces Zambia’s commitment to regional collaboration and capacity building in line with the One Health approach and inclusive public health strategies. Skills gained will support national efforts to enhance pandemic preparedness and health system resilience.



SDI CLUSTER

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

Strengthening Zambia's Epidemic Intelligence: EBS Supervision Mission Reaches All Provinces

ZNPHI, in partnership with Provincial Surveillance Officers, successfully conducted a nationwide supportive supervision mission on Event-Based Surveillance (EBS), covering all 10 provinces. The mission assessed EBS implementation at health facility and community levels, focusing on the functionality of reporting systems and frontline detection capacity. Encouraging progress was observed, especially in districts with active community surveillance volunteers.

However, challenges such as inconsistent tool usage, limited feedback to informants, and logistical constraints were noted.

The mission also served as a capacity building effort providing mentorship, refreshing staff knowledge on reporting protocols, and strengthening district level systems. This initiative supports Zambia's compliance with the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) and enhances national epidemic preparedness.



SDI CLUSTER

Surveillance and Disease Intelligence

Advancing Suicide Prevention And Surveillance at World Health Assembly 78

At the 78th World Health Assembly, Zambia joined global leaders, advocates, and mental health experts to spotlight the urgent need for suicide prevention and improved mental health surveillance.

Representing the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) and the Ministry of Health, Dr. Naeem Dalal, National NCDs, Injuries and Mental Health Specialist, shared Zambia's progress in enhancing suicide data systems, promoting timely interventions, and training media professionals in responsible reporting to reduce stigma.

Key global facts:

- 1 in 100 deaths worldwide is due to suicide
- Suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death among

people aged 15–29

- Every 40 seconds, someone dies by suicide
- For every suicide, 20 more people attempt it

Zambia is committed to expanding community based crisis response, decriminalizing suicide, and building a culture of open, informed dialogue on mental health.

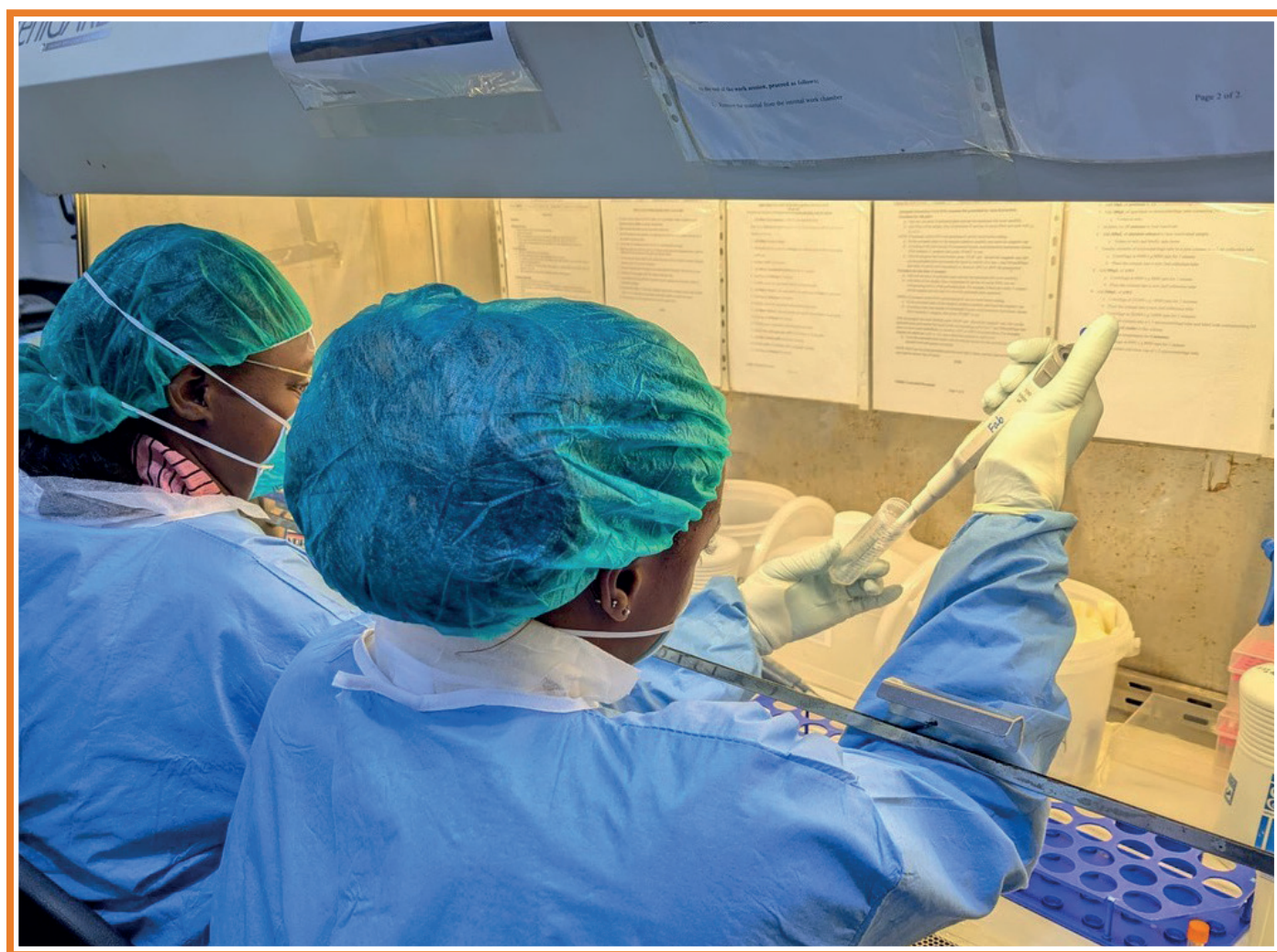
We thank our partners, including WHO, Africa CDC, Global Mental Health Action Network, United for Global Mental Health, and the International Association for Suicide Prevention for their collaboration in advancing this critical agenda.



NPHLS CLUSTER

National Public Health Laboratory Services

ZNPHRL Strengthens Regional Capacity through Wastewater Surveillance Training



The Zambia National Public Health Reference Laboratory (ZNPHRL) continues to play a pivotal role in enhancing the country's ability to detect and respond to emerging public health threats. In line with its commitment to regional collaboration and knowledge exchange, ZNPHRL recently participated in a wastewater surveillance training held in Uganda.

The training aimed to build capacity in environmental surveillance, equipping participating countries with

practical skills to monitor and analyze wastewater for early warning signs of disease outbreaks. This initiative supports the advancement of proactive public health interventions and reinforces the importance of environmental data in disease surveillance systems.

ZNPHRL's participation reflects Zambia's active contribution to regional health security efforts and the country's dedication to leveraging science and innovation in safeguarding public health.

Zambia Launches Phase 2 of African Leadership for AMR Action (ALAA) Project



The Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI), through the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Coordinating Committee and with support from Amref Health Africa, successfully convened a dissemination meeting to mark the launch of Phase 2 of the African Leadership for AMR Action (ALAA) project. Held in Lusaka, the meeting brought together key national stakeholders from government, health, agriculture, and civil society to foster a shared understanding of the project's goals and to align on a coordinated approach to implementation. This milestone event fea-

tured presentations on the findings of Zambia's AMR landscape analysis and an overview of the country's achievements and challenges in combating antimicrobial resistance.

Participants engaged in strategic discussions on the ALAA Phase 2 priorities and contributed to the development of a draft implementation plan. The meeting concluded with a collective agreement on next steps, reaffirming Zambia's commitment to advancing a multisectoral and impactful AMR response.

SPIM Conducts First Quarter 2025 Performance Review

The Department of Strategic Planning and Information Management (SPIM) held its first quarter performance review meeting for 2025 at Four Pillars Lodge in Chilanga. The session brought together directors, heads of units, and staff to assess progress on planned activities, identify implementation challenges, and explore strategies to accelerate delivery across the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI).

Dr. Cephas Sialubanje, Director of SPIM, delivered opening remarks on behalf of the Director General, Prof. Roma Chilengi. In his address, Dr. Sialubanje underscored the importance of consolidating monthly reports into timely quarterly submissions to ensure a comprehensive and accurate picture of institutional performance. He also emphasized the need for strict adherence to implementation timelines, particularly in

alignment with donor expectations.

Key observations from the review highlighted that implementation quality was given priority over the quantity of activities or expenditure. Departments were reminded to report only on activities within their approved action plans, and to enhance coordination with the SPIM Planning Unit during both planning and reporting phases. This collaboration is critical for ensuring that all relevant data is captured for meaningful performance reviews.

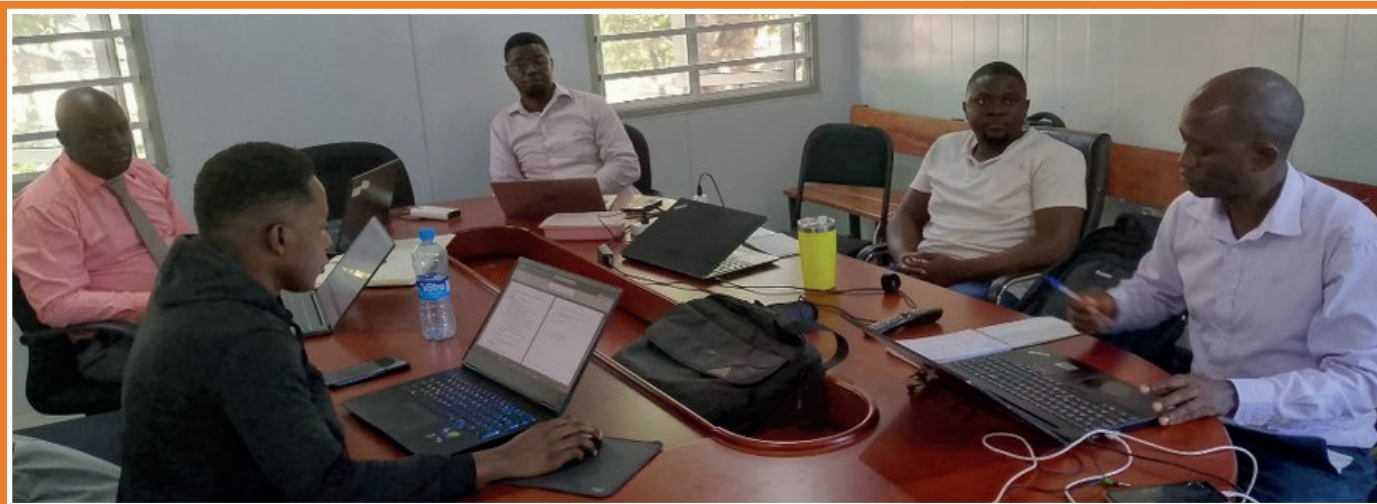
The meeting also stressed the importance of regularly updating the implementation tracker. Points of contact in each department were encouraged to ensure the tracker reflects real-time progress, which is essential for effective monitoring and accountability.



SPIM CLUSTER

Strategic Planning and Information Management

ZNPHI Alert-Threshold Program Registers Early Victories



When we last reported in April, the Surveillance Planning and Information Management (SPIM) team's Alert-Threshold Program was already beginning to reshape Zambia's early-warning landscape. Piloted since December 2024 in Central and Southern Provinces, the system uses statistical thresholds to detect unusual increases in disease cases. Just one month later, the program is showing tangible results, with district teams increasingly able to act swiftly on alerts and convert data into meaningful public health interventions.

In May alone, the Alert-Threshold Program generated 41 alerts statistical warnings that weekly case counts had crossed preset limits. With real time support from SPIM, district surveillance officers verified over half of these alerts. Fourteen were confirmed as genuine public health events requiring investigation or response, while eight were identified as data entry errors and corrected on the spot. Nineteen alerts remained under investigation at the end of the month, yielding an early verification rate of 53.7%. Every resolved alert, whether confirmed or discarded, contributes to improved data quality and brings the country closer to achieving the global 7-1-7 target for detection, notification, and response.

Field supervision in twelve of the pilot districts further demonstrated the system's value on the ground. In Sinazongwe, a cluster of anthrax alerts prompted the dis-

trict to begin planning a preparedness meeting ahead of the hot season, which is known for increased anthrax cases. This is a clear example of how the system is reducing the time between data detection and preventive action. In Serenje, the alert system helped confirm that rumors of a measles outbreak were unfounded, thereby preserving limited health resources. In several districts where alerts turned out to be false, investigations at the facility level led to immediate data corrections highlighting the tool's usefulness in routine data cleaning and quality improvement.

Cumulatively, from December 2024 through May 2025, the Alert-Threshold Program has generated 217 alerts across 26 pilot districts. Of these, 89 (41%) have been verified as true public health events, 65 (30%) have been discarded after confirmation of data errors or other explanations, and 63 (29%) remain under investigation. This means that 71% of all alerts have already been resolved, either through confirmation or correction an encouraging sign of growing capacity and discipline in rapid verification and response.

Looking ahead, SPIM will complete supportive supervision in the remaining nine pilot districts in June. As the program continues to scale, each alert interrogated brings Zambia one step closer to a surveillance system that can spot trouble early, respond quickly, and ultimately, save lives.

AWARDS

We proudly honored 10 outstanding staff members of the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) for their unwavering hard work, dedication, and passion. These individuals have demonstrated exceptional commitment to public health, working tirelessly to protect and improve the wellbeing of our nation.

Congratulations to our 2025 Labour Day Awardees:

- Mr. Danny Sinyange
- Dr. Stephen Longa Chanda
- Mr. Steven Nonde
- Ms. Janet Kaonga
- Ms. Saukani Banda
- Mr. Ernest Kateule
- Ms. Chitalu Nayame
- Mr. James Mwape
- Ms. Racheal Zulu
- Ms. Silvia Mwale



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RE-ADVERTISEMENT: Postgraduate Training Opportunities

The Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) is re-advertising key Master's and PhD training opportunities for staff, with a special emphasis on areas that will support the operationalization of the forthcoming BSL-3 laboratory.


These training programs are funded under the World Bank ACDC Project, with 9 PhD and 34 Master's scholarships available. While several staff have already applied, many critical areas remain unfilled. We encourage qualified staff especially those interested in biosafety, high-containment laboratory operations, and infectious disease research to apply.

Priority Areas for Master's Degree Training:

- Biosafety & Biosecurity
- Biocontainment Engineering
- Virology
- Pathogen Genomics
- Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- Clinical Laboratory Science
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Sciences
- Laboratory Management
- Mathematical Modelling
- Public Health Informatics
- Bioinformatics

Priority Areas for PhD Degree Training:

- Biosafety & Biosecurity
- Virology
- Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- Clinical Laboratory Science
- Biochemistry
- Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Biomedical Sciences



CALL FOR
APPLICATIONS
NOW OPEN

- Bioinformatics Risk Communication
- Environmental Microbiology

NOTE:

Special focus will be given to applicants whose training aligns with the needs of the upcoming BSL-3 facility and the ZNPHI health security research agenda.

Application Requirements:

- A formal application letter addressed to the Director General (Attention: Work force Development TWG)
- A recommendation letter from your supervisor
- Proof of meeting university admission requirements
- For PhD applicants: A research concept note aligned with the ZNPHI research agenda, including a proposed budget and identified supervisors

Deadline: 15th June 2025

Inquiries: Contact ZNPHI at info@znphi.co.zm

Let's build the next generation of public health experts.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) with support from Zambia Multisectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response Project seeks to recruit suitably qualified and experienced persons to be appointed in the underlisted positions:

1. DIRECTOR-NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH REFERENCE LABORATORY

Reports to: Director General

Location: Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI)

Job Purpose

Effectively coordinating and leading the Zambia National Public Health Institute Public Reference Laboratory. This entails close collaborating and working with a diverse group of organizations among them; the Ministry of Health laboratory staff, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock laboratory staff, as well as in country donor and stakeholder representatives. The Director will also support laboratories in building laboratory network and fostering collaboration and networking between the laboratories and building capacity for laboratories in data management and data sharing.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Timely advise on the key functions to be undertaken by the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) in support of public health functions
- Coordinate the establishment/strengthening of Zambia Public Health Laboratory Network for the country and collaborate with the RCC laboratory Cluster to support linkage with laboratories in other countries supported by the Southern Africa RCC
- Support laboratory capacity building activities for Infectious Diseases Detection and Surveillance (IDDS) program and ensure that country-level capacity for laboratory staff is built.
- Ensure program implementation adheres to appropriate laboratory technical standards, safety regulations and guidelines are strictly followed and that laboratory programs are technically sound.
- Contribute to the development of National laboratory policies for Public health laboratories
- To be responsible for ensuring that Laboratory reagents and supplies are available in order to ensure timely processing of all samples.
- To ensure that security documents and all information and data collected in the laboratory is kept safe in order to ensure confidentiality
- To participate in preparedness and response activities for infectious disease threats and specifically coordinate the laboratory based surveillance and response activities within the ZNPHI
- To work closely with the Epidemiologists to ensure that conditions reported in weekly surveillance reports are laboratory confirmed

- To work closely with the Public Health Emergency Operation Centre (PHEOC) Manager to ensure that disease outbreaks and public health incidents are responded to in real time
- Contribute to capacity building of public health laboratory teams at sub-national level to strengthen national surveillance systems
- To work with the necessary team to analyse ZAMPHIA data in relation to the bio-bank as well as leading in analysing laboratory data for decision making
- Contribute to conducting implementation/operational research, interpretation of research findings and implementation of research recommendations to improve service delivery
- To liaise with Senior staff within ZNPHI, Ministry of Health and other stakeholders and represent the Section at internal and external meetings
- Through the Director, ZNPHI will Foster collaboration with non-state actors supporting public health laboratory services in the country; and through the RCC, laboratory functions regionally encourage and assist laboratories with preparing for accreditation through locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally accepted accreditation agencies.

Qualifications

- Full Grade 12 School Certificate with minimum five O level credits including English and Mathematics
- Bachelor's Degree in laboratory services, molecular biology, biomedical sciences, microbiology or equivalent Master's Degree in laboratory services, molecular biology, biomedical Sciences, microbiology or equivalent
- PhD in laboratory services, molecular biology, biomedical sciences, microbiology is required
- Knowledge and experience in the laboratory diagnosis of infectious diseases including specific hands-on laboratory experience.
- Knowledge and experience with strengthening laboratories to achieve international quality standards including against ISO 15189 and/or SLMTA/SLIPTA.
- Familiarity with international biosafety regulations.

Minimum Relevant Experience

- 10 years post qualifying experience in medical laboratory systems and networks
- Experience working in the Health sector in Zambia will be an added advantage
- Proven ability and capacity to establish and manage Laboratory Systems and Networks
- Experience in supporting surveillance, emergency preparedness, and response
- Possess management and coordination skills for laboratory services and disease surveillance
- Proven track record in writing or contributing to technical reports in Laboratory Systems and

Networks will be an added advantage

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Demonstrable Skills and Competencies
- In-depth knowledge in veterinary medicine and/or infectious diseases, public health.
- Proven organizational and analytical skills, together with excellent interpersonal skills.
- Capacity to promote and implement collaboration and exchange with partners, toward the implementation of best practices.
- Proven ability to write technical documents in a clear and concise manner
- Ability to work under minimal supervision
- Knowledge of the Zambia health service delivery system
- Able to manage and coordinate diverse multisectoral, multidisciplinary teams
- Ability to engage with various national and international organizations and agencies for public health emergency preparedness and response
- Resource mobilization capabilities
- Risk assessment and identification of public health threats and hazards
- Good analytical skills of various public health situations including relevant data for policy formulation
- Planning and budgeting
- Supervision of multisectoral and multidisciplinary teams
- Able to work under pressure
- Team player
- Capacity building and mentorship
- Computer literate and able to manage electronic data systems

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2. FINANCE OFFICER

Reports to: Head-Finance

Location: Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) Job Purpose

To undertake accounting activities for Zambia Multisectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response Project in order to enhance accountability of public funds.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Timely and accurately undertakes payroll inputs in order to facilitate payment of salaries and other allowances
- Undertakes timely and accurately the maintenance of books of accounts in order to facilitate efficient storage and retrieval of information
- Ensures timely preparation of monthly expenditure statements in order to monitor levels of expenditure
- Drafts timely Audit queries responses for Zambia Multisectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response Project funding in order to facilitate decision making
- Undertakes timely preparation of all financial reports in order to facilitate decision making
- Maintains timely and accurate registers of damages and losses in order to facilitate recoveries of Zambia Multisectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response Project funds and property
- Records timely and accurately transactions in the cash book in order to enhance accountability.
- Captures financial transactions into the accounting package Maintains and updates asset registers
- Work closely with WHO Finance in resolving Zambia Multisectoral Pandemic Preparedness and Response Project finance related matters.
- Any other duties as assigned by the Supervisor

Qualifications & Experience

- Full Grade 12 School Certificate with minimum five O level credits including English and Mathematics
- Bachelor of Accountancy, ACCA or equivalent
- Master's Degree will be an added advantage

- Minimum of five (5) years of work experience in a similar or related position

Desired experience

- Experience working in or with a Governmental Agency
- Experience working in the health sector is desirable
- Familiarity with ZNPHI's role in health security in Zambia
- Experience working with and on Donor funded projects is an added advantage

Knowledge and Skills

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Knowledgeable about payroll management
- Must be computer literate and proficient in MS Office
- Capacity in decision making and problem-solving

3. INTERNAL AUDITOR

Reports to: Head-Internal Audit

Location: Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI)

Job Purpose:

Effectively undertake audit functions in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and this will include tests and controls, as necessary for performance of the audit.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Conduct an assessment of the adequacy of the Project's financial management system, including internal controls and evaluate the efficacy of risk management procedures that are currently in place.
- Develop and implement appropriate audit systems for the Project (Grant) to meet the requirements of the Government of Zambia (GRZ) and The World Bank at central level.
- Coordinate audit planning and management of the Grant and undertake timely audit assignments in order to assess the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- Conduct an assessment of the adequacy of financial and administrative delegation and segregation of duties and controls on whether expenditures incurred/ advances provided are duly authorized as per the financial and administrative delegation approved by the ZNPHI.
- Undertake compliance audits to assess the Grant's compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies and procedures.
- Develop action plans and establish expenditure tracking systems to ensure value for money in

the system.

- Assess whether Goods, works and services financed have been procured in accordance with relevant provisions of the Zambia Public Procurement Agency (ZPPA) and World Bank GRZ Procedures.
- Assess whether reconciliation of bank statements and accounts is regularly carried out on a monthly basis and necessary corrections on account of Bank's credits/debits and stale cheques are accounted for concurrently.
- Review Assets management in terms of completeness, existence, recording, safeguard and utilisation for the purpose intended including, physical verification of sample of assets.
- Ascertain the reliability of integrity, controls, security and effectiveness of the operation of computerized system. Conduct an assessment of the action on the recommendations made in the previous audit reports.

Qualifications& Experience

- Full Grade 12 School Certificate with minimum five O level credits including English and Mathematics
- Bachelor of Accountancy, Full ACCA or equivalent
- Master's Degree will be an added advantage
- Minimum of Five (5) years of work experience in a similar or related position

Desired experience

- Experience working in or with a Governmental Agency Experience working in the health sector is desirable
- Familiarity with ZNPHI's role in health security in Zambia
- Experience working with and on Donor funded projects is an added advantage

Knowledge and Skills

- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Knowledgeable about payroll management
- Must be computer literate and proficient in MS Office
- Capacity in decision-making and problem-solving

4. COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Reports to: Director- Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication Location: Zambia National Public Health Institute

Job Purpose

- To develop, coordinate and implement communication activities that enhance ZNPHI's public image, facilitate information sharing and support health promotion initiatives, thereby contributing to improved public health outcomes in Zambia.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Develop and implement communication plans and strategies aligned with ZNPHI's objectives and public health priorities.
- Ensures compliance with copyright laws, ethical guidelines, and publication policies in the preparation and dissemination of written materials. This may also involve obtaining permissions for copyrighted content, addressing conflicts of interest, and ensuring transparency and integrity in the editorial process.
- Prepare, edit, and disseminate communication materials including press releases, newsletters, social media content, reports, and IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) materials targeting diverse audiences.
- Manage and update ZNPHI's website and social media platforms to ensure timely and accurate dissemination of information.
- Coordinate media relations, including organizing press briefings, interviews, and responding to media inquiries.
- Support public health campaigns and events by producing communication materials and providing logistical support.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of communication activities and prepare regular reports on communication outputs and outcomes.
- Collaborate with internal teams, partners, and stakeholders to ensure consistent messaging and effective communication.
- Maintain a repository of communication materials, media coverage, and publications for reference and reporting purposes.
- Provide communication support during outbreak investigations and emergency responses as needed.
- Assist in capacity building by providing communication training and guidance to ZNPHI staff and partners.
- Perform other related duties as assigned by supervisors.

Qualifications & Experience

- Full Grade 12 School Certificate with Five O Level Credits Including English and Mathematics
- Bachelor's degree in Journalism, communication sciences, Mass Communication, Public Relations, or related field.
- Minimum of 6 years' experience in communications, preferably in public health, development or non-governmental organizations.

Desired experience

- Proven skills in writing, editing, and producing communication materials for multiple platforms.
- Experience managing social media accounts and website content management systems.
- Familiarity with public health terminology and health promotion communication is an advantage.

Knowledge and Skills

- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint).
- Experience working with donor-funded projects and knowledge of ZNPHI's role in health security is desirable.
- Capacity in decision-making and problem-solving.

5. SENIOR SCIENTIFIC WRITER

Reports to: Director- Public Health Policy, Diplomacy and Communication Location: Zambia National Public Health Institute

Job Purpose

To lead and coordinate the production of scientific manuscripts, policy briefs, technical reports and other knowledge products that effectively communicate ZNPHI's research findings, public health data and policy recommendations to diverse audiences including government, partners and the public.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Lead the writing, editing and quality assurance of scientific manuscripts, policy briefs, technical reports and other communication materials.
- Ensures compliance with copyright laws, ethical guidelines and publication policies in the preparation and dissemination of written materials. This may also involve obtaining permissions for copyrighted content, addressing conflicts of interest and ensuring transparency and integrity in the editorial process.

- Translate complex scientific data and research findings into clear, concise and audience appropriate documents.
- Collaborate closely with researchers, epidemiologists, public health experts, and program managers to gather accurate information and ensure scientific rigor.
- Develop and implement editorial guidelines and standards for scientific writing within ZNPHI.
- Coordinate the review and publication process, ensuring timely dissemination of knowledge products.
- Support the preparation of manuscripts for submission to peer-reviewed journals and other scientific platforms.
- Monitor emerging trends, best practices, and innovations in scientific communication and writing.
- Assist in organizing workshops or training sessions on scientific writing and communication for ZNPHI staff and partners.
- Ensure all written materials adhere to institutional branding, style and quality standards.
- Contribute to the development of communication strategies that enhance the visibility and impact of ZNPHI's scientific outputs.
- Perform other related duties as assigned by the Head of Department.

Qualifications & Experience

- Full Grade 12 School Certificate with Five O Level Credits Including English and Mathematics
- Bachelor's Degree in Public Health, Epidemiology, Demography, Development Studies, Life Sciences, or related field.
- Minimum of 6 years' experience in scientific writing, editing, or related roles, preferably within public health or biomedical research environments.
- A Master's degree in Public Health, Epidemiology or related discipline is an added advantage.

Desired experience

- Proven track record of substantive editing, copyediting, and proofreading of scientific manuscripts, reports, and technical documents.
- Strong knowledge of editorial principles, style guides (e.g., APA, Chicago Manual of Style), grammar rules and publication standards.
- Excellent writing, editing, and communication skills, with the ability to convey complex information clearly and effectively to diverse audiences.

- Experience managing editorial workflows, production schedules, and publication processes.
- Experience in preparing manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals and knowledge of the publication process.
- Experience mentoring or supervising junior writers or editorial staff is desirable Knowledge and Skills
- Proficiency in using editorial tools and software (e.g., Microsoft Word, Adobe Acrobat, editing software).
- Strong understanding of public health, epidemiology, and biomedical terminology.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English.
- Ability to work collaboratively with multidisciplinary teams.
- Strong organizational and project management skills, with the ability to prioritize tasks, meet deadlines, and work effectively in a fast-paced environment

6. LOGISTICIAN – PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (PHEOC)

Reports to: Director-Emergency Preparedness and Response

Location: Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI)

Job Purpose

Effectively ensure the efficient and effective deployment of resources, supplies and personnel during public health emergencies. This position is responsible for coordinating logistics to support the institute's response efforts, enabling a timely and well-coordinated response to emerging health threats.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Develop and implement logistics plans in collaboration with the Emergency Response Team in order to ensure availability of resources and supplies
- Coordinate with relevant stakeholders to ensure alignment of logistics activities with overall emergency response objectives.
- Effectively coordinate in collaboration with the Procurement Unit, the procurement of medical supplies, equipment, and pharmaceuticals required for emergency response.
- Manage supply chain activities, including inventory control, storage, and distribution of essential supplies.
- Assess and ensure the readiness of facilities to support emergency response activities.
- Coordinate the setup and maintenance of temporary facilities, including field hospitals and treatment centers.
- Effectively participate in the planning and management of transportation of personnel,

equipment and supplies during emergency responses

- Collaborate with relevant government agencies, NGOs, and international partners to facilitate the smooth flow of logistics information and resources at all times
- Participate in coordination meetings to align logistics activities with broader emergency response strategies.
- Implement security and safety measures for logistics operations in coordination with the Security Officer
- Ensure compliance with safety standards and protocols during emergency response activities.
- Develop and manage budgets for logistics activities, ensuring cost-effective and accountable use of resources.
- Monitor expenditures and provide regular budget reports to the Emergency Response Team.
- In collaboration with the Procurement Unit, maintain accurate and up-to-date records of logistics activities, including procurement, inventory, and distribution.
- Prepare regular reports on logistics operations for internal and external stakeholders.
- Provide training to logistics staff and other relevant personnel on emergency response protocols and procedures.
- Contribute to the development of capacity-building initiatives to enhance logistics capabilities within the institute.
- Conduct regular evaluations of logistics processes and identify areas for improvement.
- Implement lessons learned from previous emergencies to enhance future logistics planning and execution.

Qualifications & Experience

- Full Grade 12 School Certificate with Five O Level Credits Including English and Mathematics
- Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, medical logistics or related field
- Masters Degree in Logistics and/or Supply Chain Management is desirable
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in emergency response, public health management or disaster management.
- Experience working with and on Donor funded projects is an added advantage

Desired experience

- Proven experience in logistics management, preferably in the context of public health emergencies.

- Familiarity with public health systems and emergency response protocols.
- Strong organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Familiarity with ZNPHI's role in health security in Zambia
- Interpersonal skills, patient, confidentiality, facilitation skills
- Capacity in decision-making and problem-solving

Knowledge and Skills

- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must be computer literate and proficient in MS Office
- Ability to work under pressure in fast-paced and dynamic environments.
- Proficiency in logistics software and tools.
- Commitment to ethical and accountable use of resources.

All interested persons meeting the above qualifications and experience should send their written applications to the undersigned with verified copies of academic and professional qualifications, Full Registration with relevant professional bodies and Latest Practicing Licenses where applicable and detailed Curriculum Vitae with at least three references including their contact numbers.

The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday, 6th June, 2025. All applications must be clearly marked on the envelope indicating the position one is applying for. Kindly note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted. interested candidates should address their application letters to:

Director General
Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI)
Stand 1186, Corner Addis Ababa Drive & Chaholi Road.

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