



**World Health
Organization**

COVID-19 Pandemic: Global policy insights

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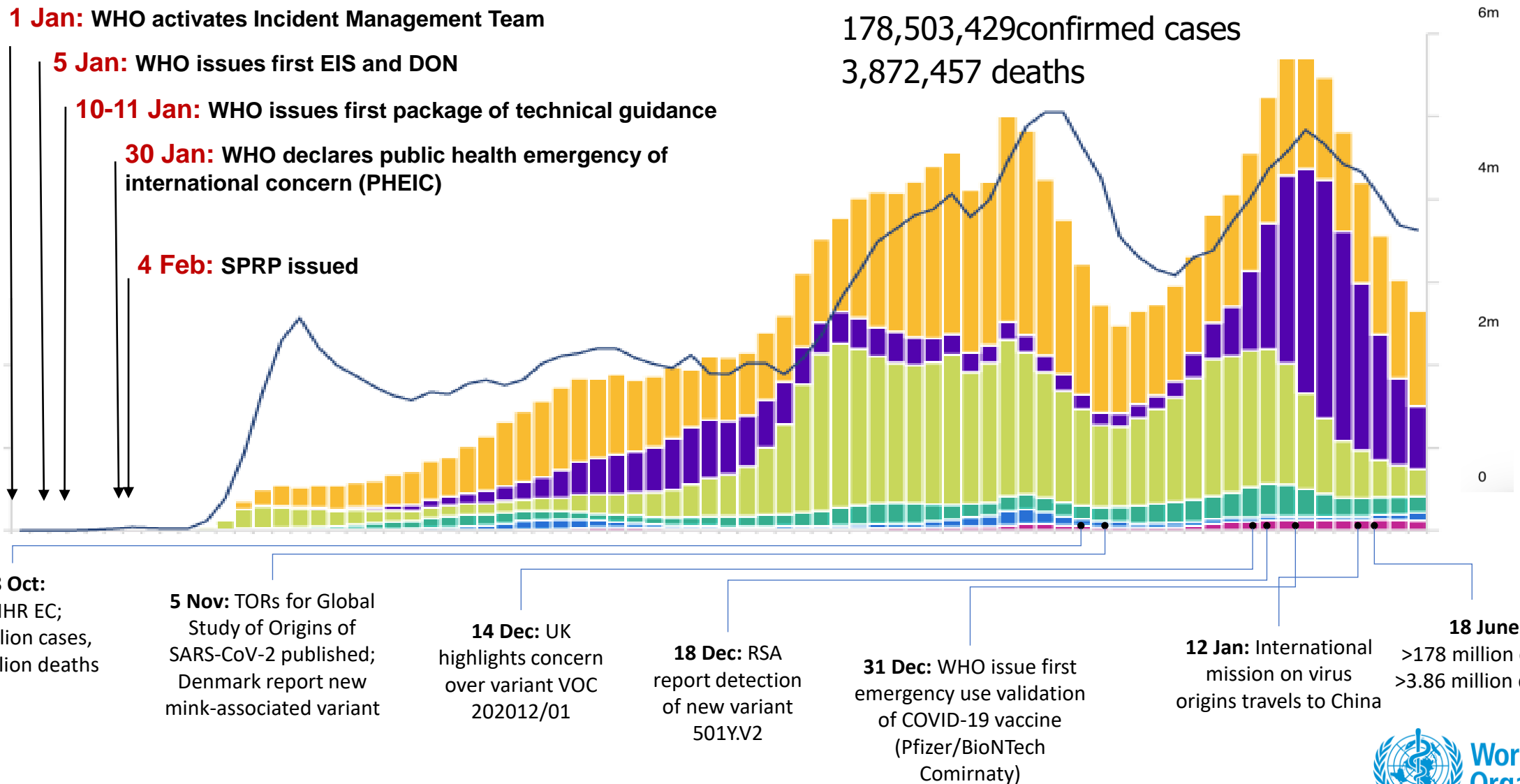
COVID-19 Health Operations and Technical Lead
World Health Organization, Health Emergencies Program

GLOBAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRENDS



Cumulative as of 22 June 2021

178,503,429 confirmed cases
3,872,457 deaths



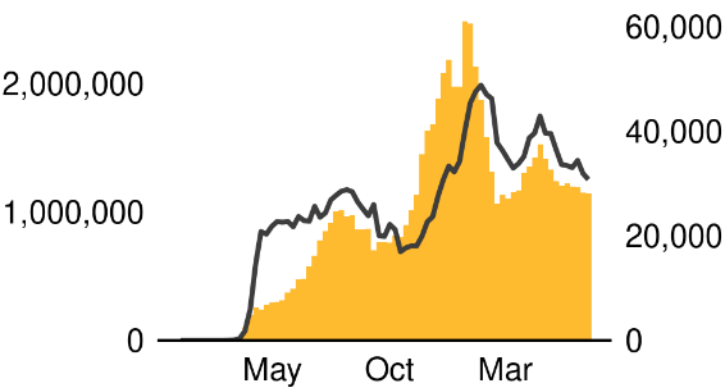
* Data are incomplete for the current week. Cases depicted by bars; deaths depicted by line.

REGIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRENDS

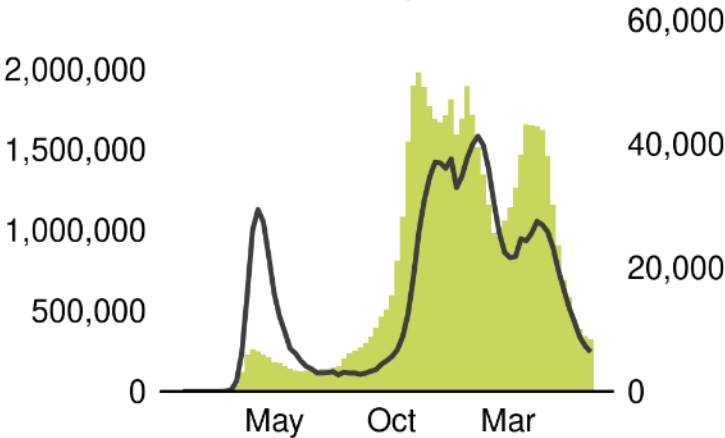


Number of cases

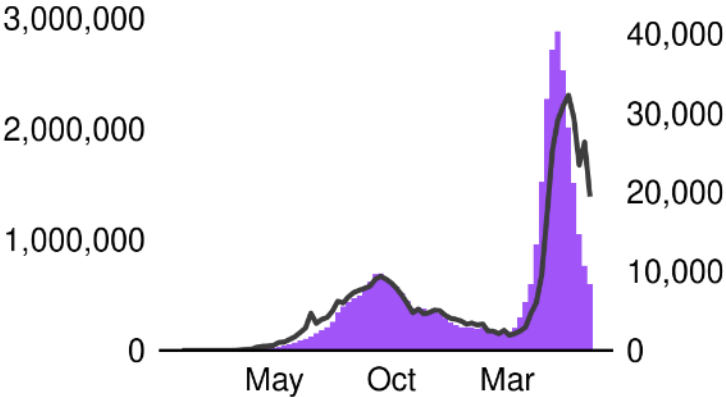
Americas



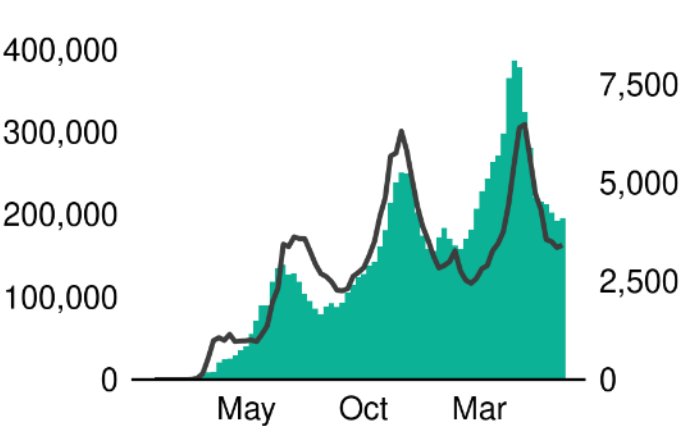
Europe



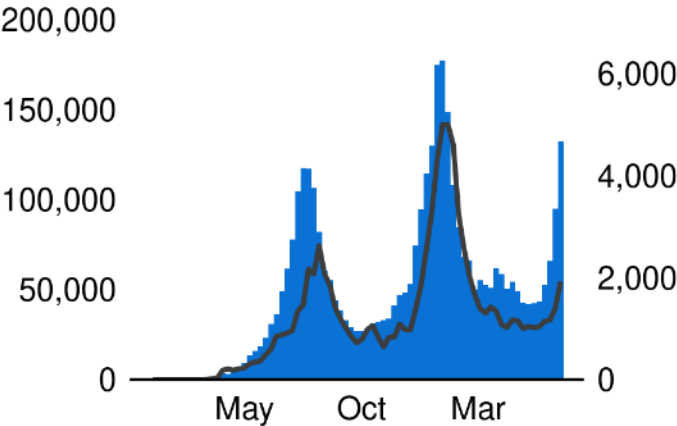
South-East Asia



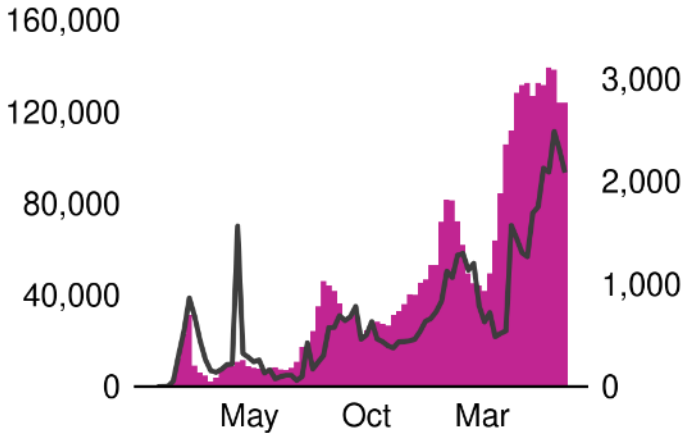
Eastern Mediterranean



Africa



Western Pacific



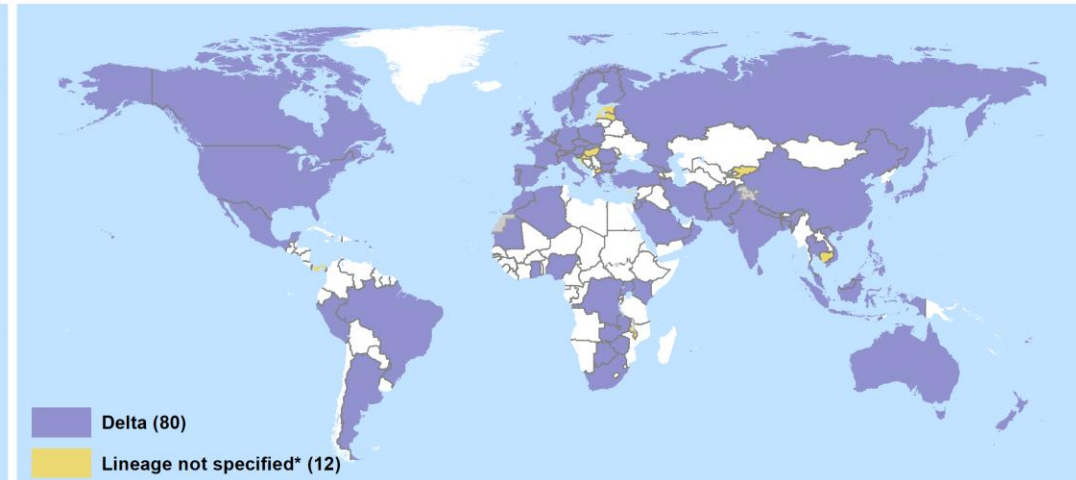
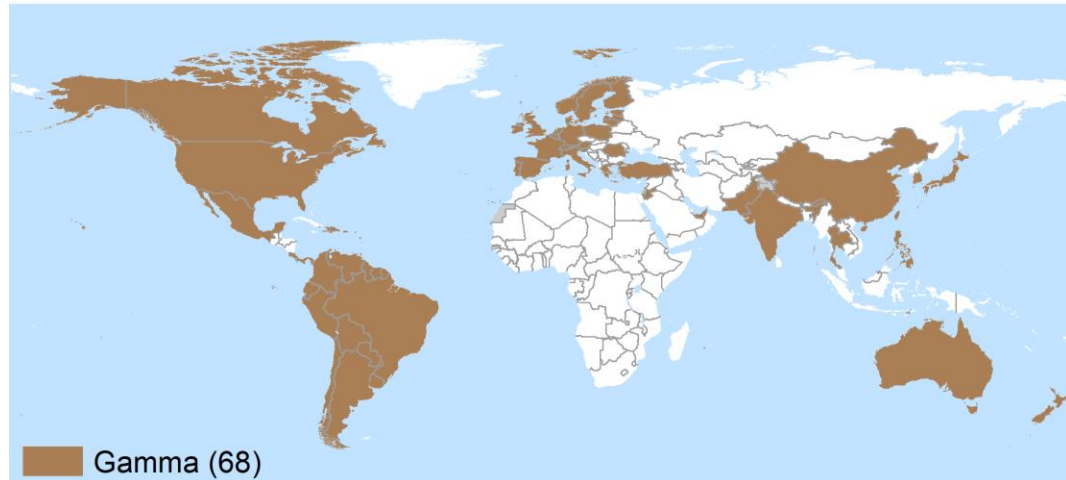
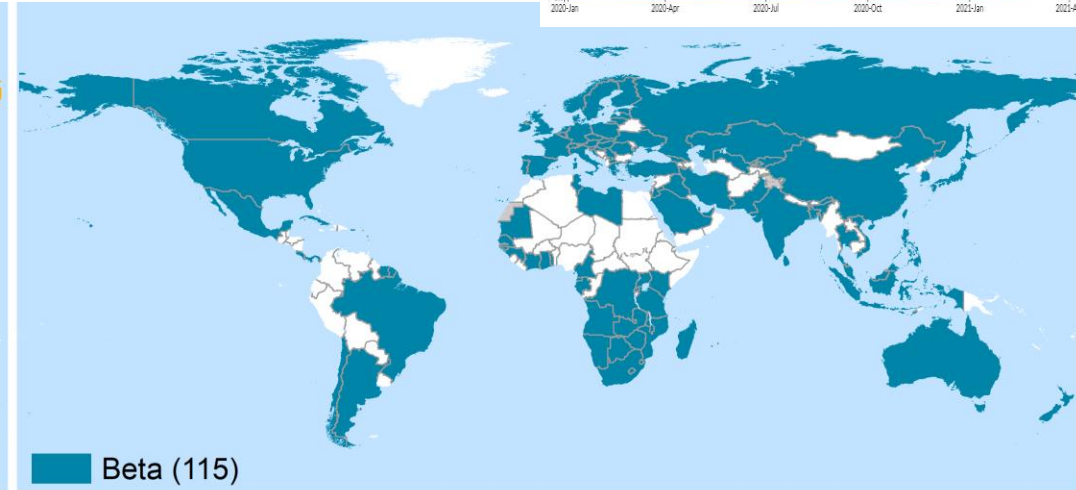
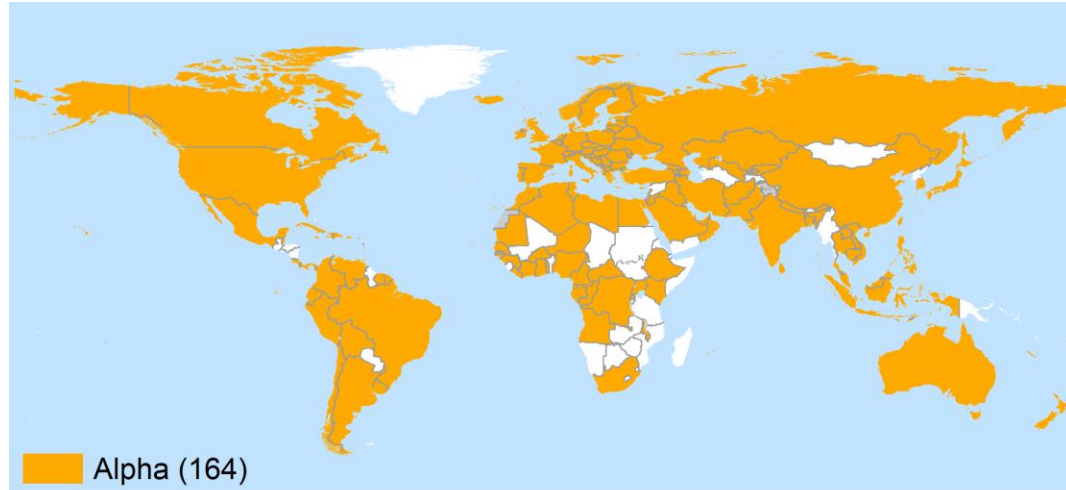
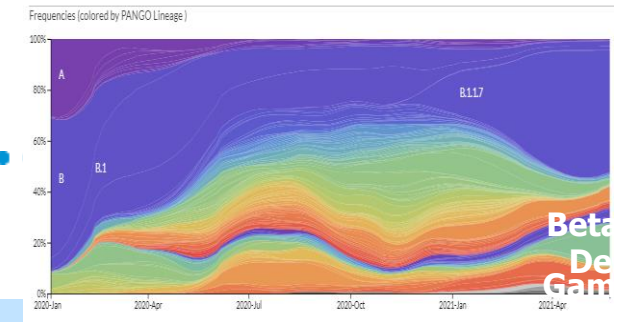
Number of deaths

Date of report

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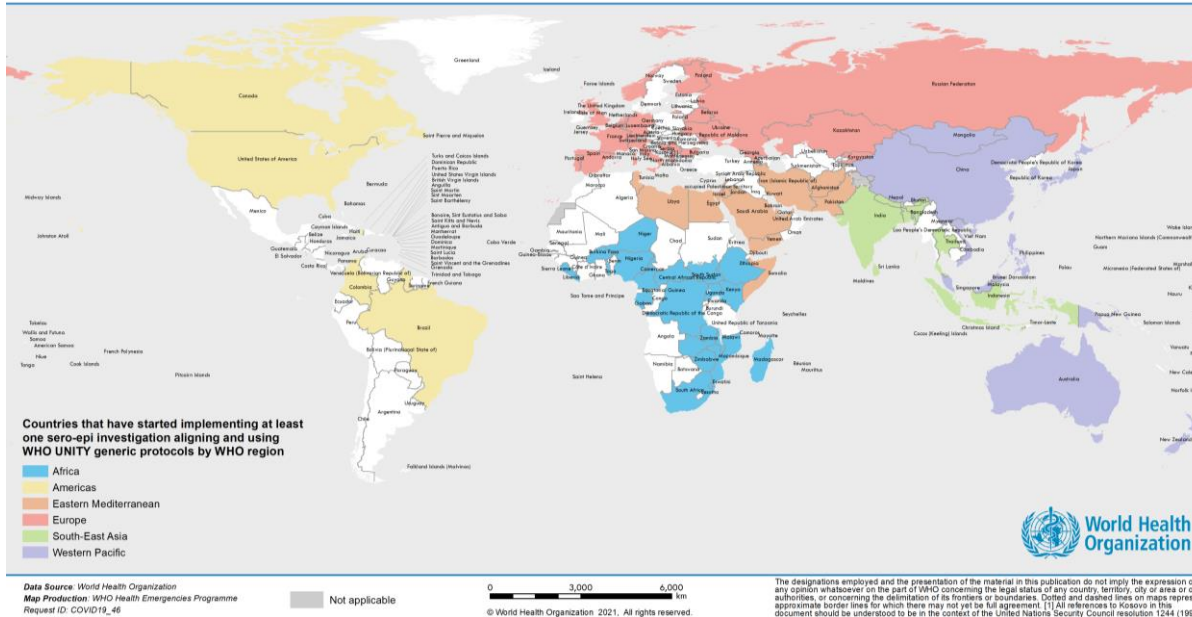
SARS-CoV-2 VARIANTS OF CONCERN



Population Immunity

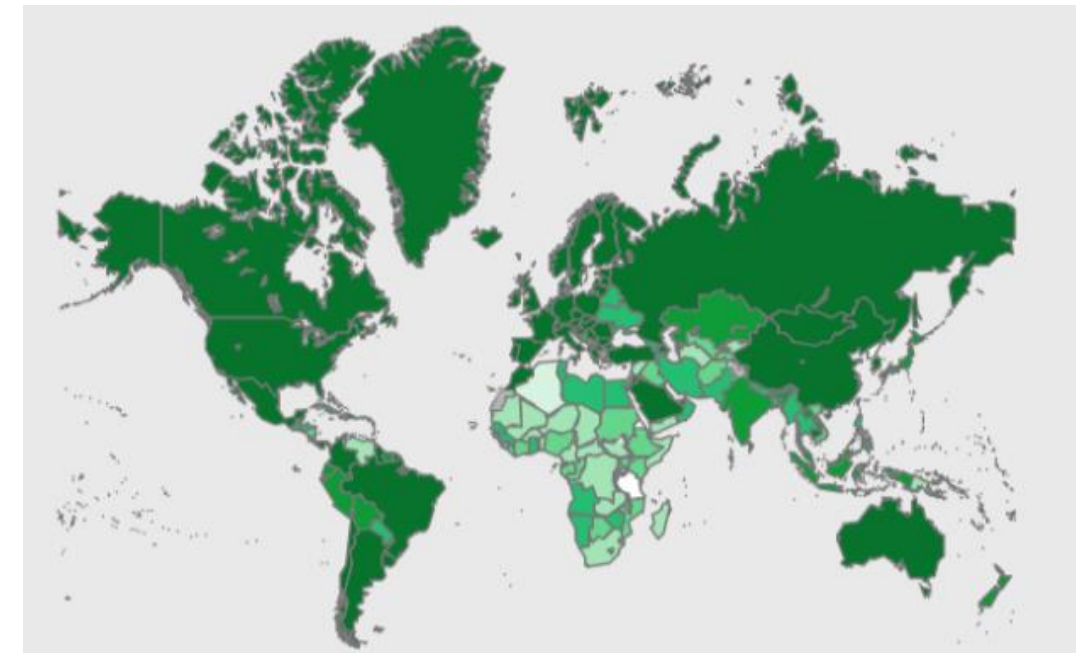


SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence Studies



Total COVID-19 doses administered per 100 pop

2,625m vaccine doses administered
(as of 21 June 2021)



A total of **81 member states** ($81/194= 42\%$) have started implementing at least one sero-epi investigation using WHO Unity studies master protocols

- AFRO (21), EMRO (13), EURO (25), PAHO (5), SEARO (6), WRPO (11)



SPRP 2020 – WHO GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR COVID-19



**Suppress
transmission**



Protect the vulnerable



Save lives

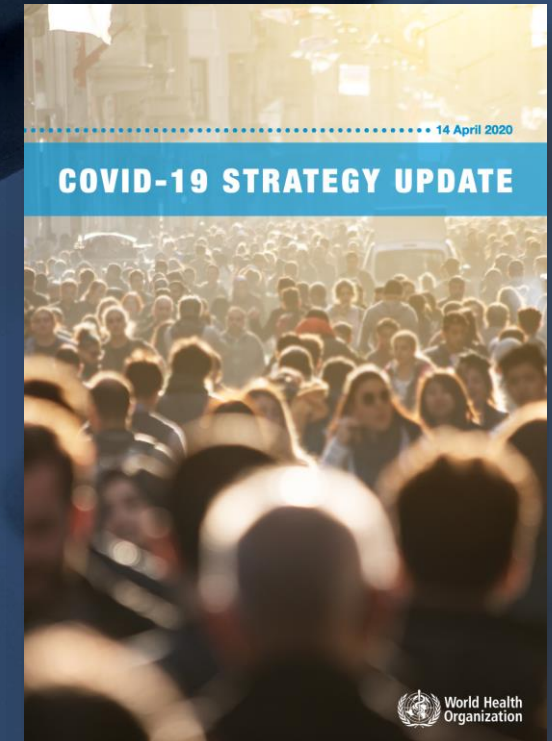


WHO global strategy for COVID-19:

Suppress transmission, save lives and livelihoods

The global strategic objectives:

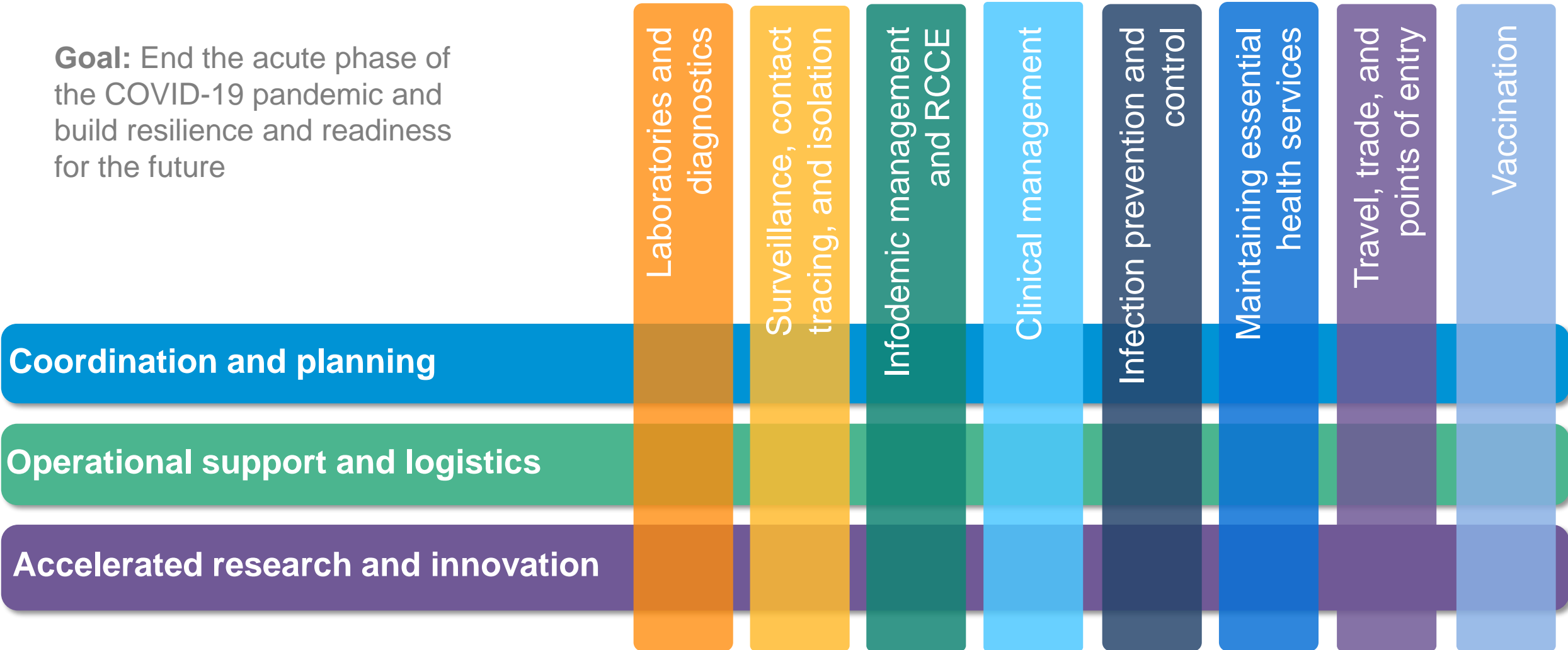
- **Mobilize** all sectors and communities to ensure that every sector of government and society takes ownership of and participates in the response and in preventing cases through hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and individual-level physical distancing.
- **Control** sporadic cases and clusters and prevent community transmission by rapidly finding and isolating all cases, providing them with appropriate care, and tracing, quarantining, and supporting all contacts.
- **Suppress** community transmission through context-appropriate infection prevention and control measures, population level physical distancing measures, and appropriate and proportionate restrictions on non-essential domestic and international travel.
- **Reduce** mortality by providing appropriate clinical care for those affected by COVID-19, ensuring the continuity of essential health and social services, and protecting frontline workers and vulnerable populations.
- **Develop** safe and effective vaccines and therapeutics that can be delivered at scale and that are accessible based on need.



SPRP 2021 – INTEGRATED PILLARS



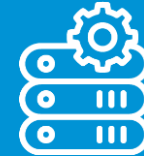
Goal: End the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic and build resilience and readiness for the future



TRANSLATING EVIDENCE INTO KNOWLEDGE AND ACTION



Science drives our understanding... Our guidance.... Our actions...



Translating technical knowledge...



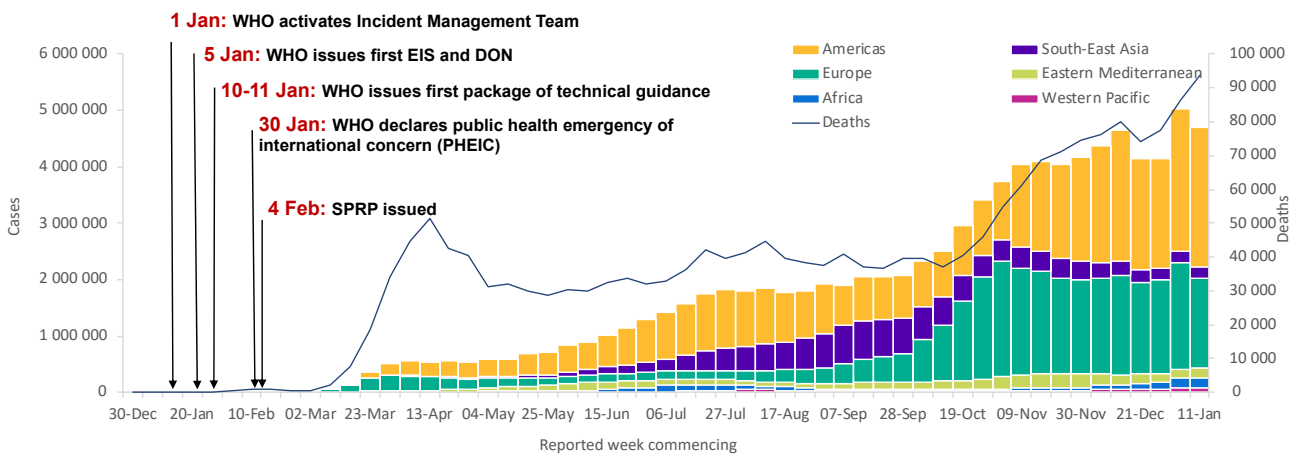
...into coordinated action



...using appropriate methods.



Early actions related to advice and guidance....

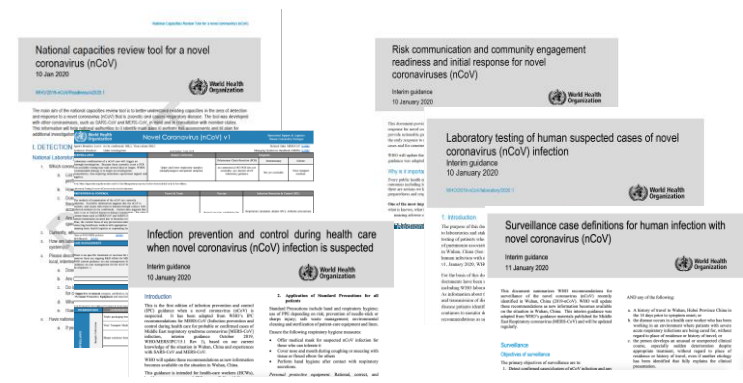


5 January 2020

- EIS <https://extranet.who.int/ihr/eventinformation/event/2020-e000001>
- DON <https://www.who.int/csr/don/05-january-2020-pneumonia-of-unknown-cause-china/en/>

9-12 January 2020

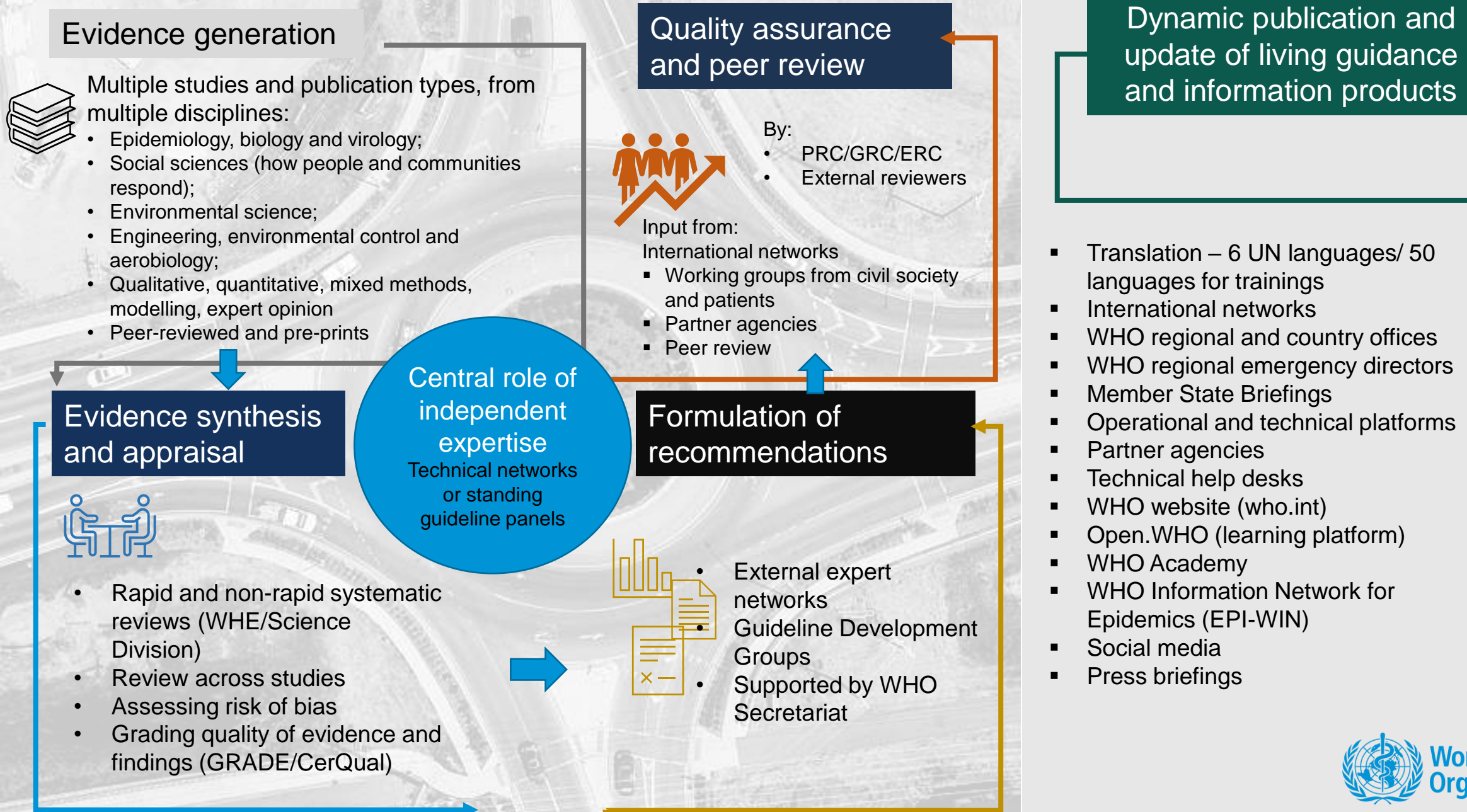
- National capacities review tool (9 Jan)
- Disease commodity package for operational support and logistics for the novel coronavirus (9 Jan)
- Infection prevention and control (pub 10 Jan)
- Laboratory testing (pub 10 Jan)
- Risk communication and community engagement (pub 10 Jan)
- Surveillance case definitions (pub 11 Jan)
- Clinical management (pub 12 Jan)
- First PCR assay (pub 13 Jan)



Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan

- First SPRP of 4 February 2020; updated April 2020; Jan 2021
- Operational Planning & Partners Platform

Knowledge to practice pathway

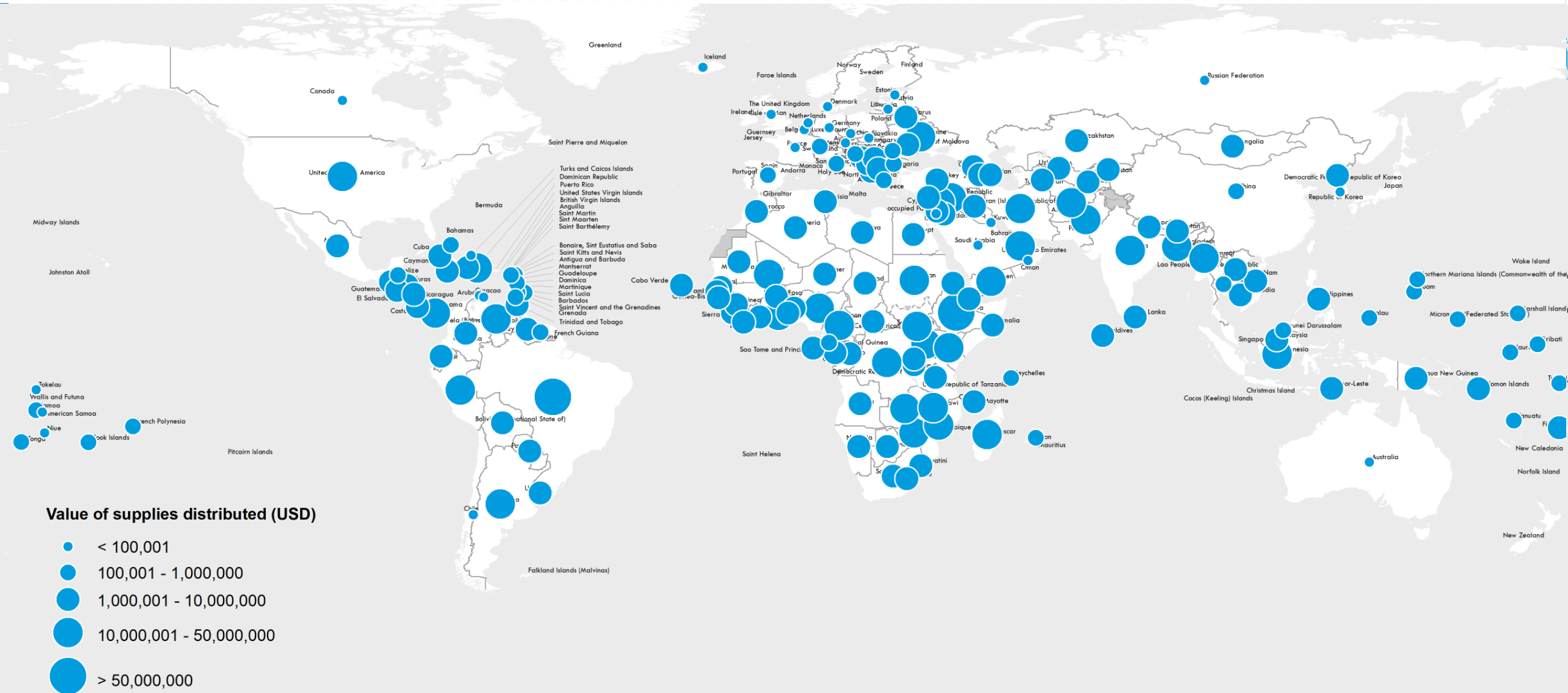
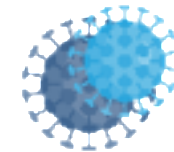


WHO emergency guidelines are focused on emergency needs

- Challenges in developing guidance during a public health emergency often include urgency, limited resources and a lack of available data
- To address these challenges and to accelerate the guidance development process:
 - the scope of **emergency interim guidelines** is generally limited compared to standard guidelines (standard WHO guidelines often include multiple research questions)
 - the evidence to inform recommendations can be based on existing WHO guidelines or expert opinion instead of for example a systematic review
- Although the **emergency interim guidelines development process is accelerated**, it continues to be based on the WHO guidelines principles and the processes as described in the WHO guideline development framework*

* Health emergency interim guidelines: a WHO guideline development framework and toolkit
<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/258982>

Scaling: Critical supplies - COVID-19 supply chain taskforce



Data Source: World Health Organization,
Map Production: WHO Health Emergencies Programme
 Request ID: COVID19_45

0 3,000 6,000
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Key challenges



- **Global situation remains highly unstable:** Much of the world remains susceptible to infection, variants continue to emerge and impact, implementation of PHSM remains inconsistent, vaccination is uneven and inequitable
- **Systems remain significantly under pressure:** Health care systems, health workers, global supplies, surveillance systems, contact tracing
- **Communities remain under-engaged and under-empowered:** to implement proven Public Health and Social Measures until it is safe to relax measures.
- **Inequities are prolonging the impact and duration of pandemic:** Urgent action is required not only to redress inequitable access to health care and to vaccines, but to ensure that countries have the capacity to translate vaccines into vaccination, diagnostics into effective surveillance, and therapeutics into treatment.

Following through and staying the course



Strategic objectives remain the same

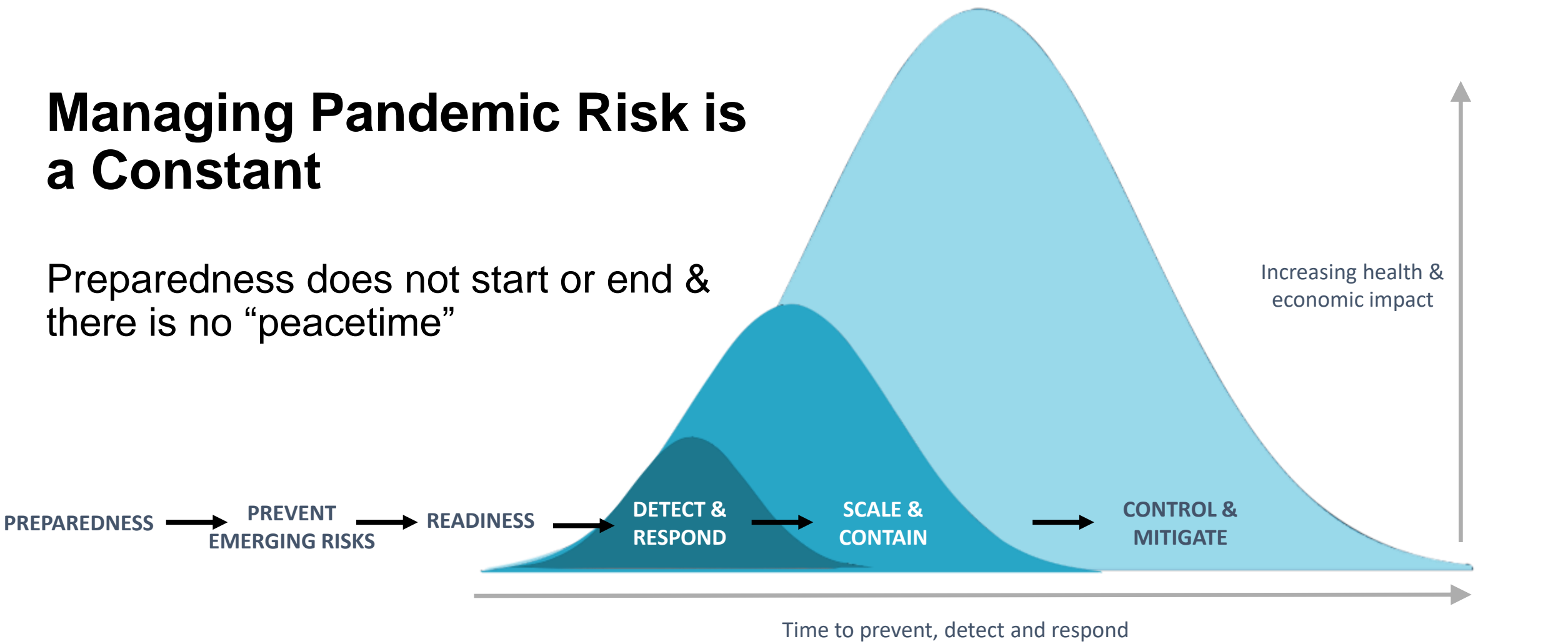
- Reduce exposure
- Suppress transmission
- Protect the vulnerable
- Reduce morbidity and mortality

Priority actions

- Enhance national, regional and global **surveillance, monitoring and public health decision** making for COVID-19
- **Maintain focus** on continued implementation of effective Public Health and Social Measures and needed to suppress transmission with a focus on **empowered and engaged communities**
- Scale up research, production of and equitable distribution of **vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics**
- Strengthen **public health and health systems resilience, capacities and workforce** capabilities in all countries to utilize interventions effectively
- Support countries in **safely opening up** with continued risk management adapted to local contexts

Managing Pandemic Risk is a Constant

Preparedness does not start or end & there is no “peacetime”



High likelihood of occurring annually	Low likelihood of occurring annually
Low likelihood of severe health & economic impact	High likelihood of severe health & economic impact



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Thank you

