

Dengue & Global Health Security: Are We Prepared for the Next Arbovirus Pandemic

EVENT DETAILS

Date	Thursday, 11 June 2026
Time	07:00 – 08:00 (Breakfast Session)
Format	Moderated Panel Discussion
Venue	Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre + Live Online Stream
Capacity	50–70 attendees at venue
Host	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Takeda

EVENT SYNOPSIS

Arboviruses, like respiratory pathogens, carry pandemic potential demonstrating the capacity to disrupt health systems and economies at scale. Dengue is the world's most rapidly expanding vector-borne disease yet it remains chronically underestimated as a global health security threat. Driven by climate change, rapid urbanisation, and shifting vector ecology, dengue outbreaks are intensifying in scope and frequency, exposing persistent gaps in surveillance, clinical preparedness, and integrated prevention. Dengue is the most tractable entry point for building collective readiness for the next arbovirus emergency. This session hosted by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Takeda convenes regional leaders to examine what a shift from reactive outbreak management to sustained, prevention-first preparedness would require and what it means for the broader global health security architecture.

OBJECTIVES (PUBLIC)

- Define priority gaps in national and community-level surveillance, including digital tools and climate-informed early warning systems
- Examine regional outbreak patterns, cross-border spillover risks, and implications for health system resilience
- Assess enablers and barriers to prevention innovation, including vaccine readiness, access, and policy adoption
- Elevate community engagement as a structural pillar of arboviral preparedness
- Propose concrete near-term actions to strengthen global health security frameworks for arboviral threats, using dengue as the template

SESSION AGENDA

The session is structured around five core elements of the WHO pandemic preparedness framework: surveillance, clinical care, coordinated outbreak response, access to innovation and countermeasures, and empowered communities.

Opening remarks by IFRC and Takeda

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

Moderator

- Dr Sushma Bhusal, IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Office

Panellists (TBC)

- Dr. Jurai Wongsawat, Senior Advisor, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health Thailand TBC
- Dr. Eric Pena, Former Vice Minister , Ministry of Health Peru TBC [virtual attendance]
- Dr. Derek Wallace, Takeda
- TBC, Malaysia MOH
- TBC , WHO WPRO

REGISTRATION

In-person attendance is limited to registered conference participant

Registration for online only attendance is open to all