

GHS2026 Conference Workshops

Day One - Tuesday 9 2026, 4pm-6pm

Room 302

System Mapping for Surveillance Performance Assessment (SyMPA): A participatory approach to strengthening One Health outbreak detection and response in resource-constrained settings

This workshop addresses the theme “One Health Pathogen Detection, Data Sharing, and Information Hazards” by focusing on strengthening surveillance systems for timely pathogen detection and improving cross-sector information flows. We introduce SyMPA (System Mapping for Surveillance Performance Assessment) a participatory, field-tested tool that combines system mapping of information flows, integration points, and governance arrangements with empirical performance assessments. Through collaborative gap analysis and joint action planning, SyMPA identifies where information systems break down and supports prioritisation of actionable improvements. Designed for emergency-prone LMICs, SyMPA operationalises One Health principles to overcome structural barriers and enhance real-time detection and response.

Aim & Objectives:

- To demonstrate the SyMPA method: Train participants in participatory mapping techniques to visualise surveillance system data flows, integration points, and governance structures, moving beyond qualitative assessments to empirical, data-driven evaluation.
- To enable collaborative identification of system bottlenecks and improvement priorities: Equip participants with tools to systematically identify surveillance system strengths, weaknesses, and high-impact intervention points using hands-on exercises.
- Foster peer-learning and consensus-building: Enable international and multi-sectoral stakeholders to jointly review surveillance partnerships, identify gaps, and co-create actionable improvement plans that strengthen surveillance collaboration and align with International Health Regulations (IHR) obligations and One Health principles.

Target audience:

This workshop is intended to provide public health practitioners, surveillance system managers, epidemiologists, emergency response coordinators, and policymakers from LMICs with practical training on participatory surveillance system evaluation and performance improvement. Particularly valuable for those implementing IHR core capacities or One Health surveillance platforms in resource-constrained and emergency-prone settings.



Proposed Geographical or Population Focus:

Primary focus: Low- and middle-income countries, particularly emergency-prone or resource-constrained settings. Open to: All conference delegates interested in One Health surveillance system strengthening, with content emphasising LMIC contexts.

