

IANPHI has made significant advances in 2020, including adopting the legal status of an international non-profit association; gaining new members and partners; expanding our activities, advocacy and representation at national, regional, and international meeting; responding to the urgent needs of members responding to the COVID-19 pandemic; and developing a new 2021-2025 strategic vision to ensure IANPHI build on its strengths in this decade.

IANPHI's key achievements during 2020 are highlighted below.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Created an [IANPHI COVID-19 resources webpage](#) by the U.S. Office with contributions from the Secretariat and our members.
- Organized [seven webinars](#) to discuss how IANPHI members are addressing and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Launched an ongoing IANPHI "Lessons Learned Initiative" to highlight how IANPHI members have dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic and to identify shared key issues and perspectives. These activities shared through the IANPHI network will inform continued efforts to respond to COVID-19 and foster further the development of national public health institutes (NPHIs).
- With funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and CHAMPS (funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), NPHIs were able to capitalize on the investments made previously in surveillance, laboratory, and training to respond to COVID-19. Countries included Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia.

IANPHI REGIONAL NETWORKS

- Within IANPHI Europe, IANPHI provided a unique forum for directors of European national public health institutes to openly discuss the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 IANPHI European Directors' Meeting was replaced by a series of virtual webinars that tackled NPHI specific topics in the context of COVID-19 pandemic including a teleconference for IANPHI-Europe members on Risk Communication and Prevention of COVID-19.
- Despite the cancellation of the IANPHI Latin America & the Caribbean meeting in March, the network had regular meetings that discussed issues such as diagnosis, serology, genomics, the role of primary health care in the current situation, vaccine production, logistics and strategies.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTES

- Members of IANPHI Asia organized two webinars on national public health response to COVID-19 led by the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, respectively. IANPHI Asia network contributed actively to the “IANPHI Lessons Learned” initiative.
- The IANPHI Africa regional meeting held during the IANPHI annual meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 2019 was supported by funding from U.S. CDC. It covered topics related to leadership and capacity building of African NPHIs. The IANPHI Africa regional network also led a Francophone webinar highlighting the NPHI directors from Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire and Guinea discussing how their institutes responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. The IANPHI Africa regional network also actively shared lessons learned from COVID-19 during a series of calls with Anglophone and Francophone countries.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- Collaboration with the headquarters of the World Health Organization (WHO), along with the active work with WHO EURO, continued benefiting all involved parties.
- With the Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA), IANPHI now has a role in accreditation of education and training programmes in public health, in partnership with Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER).
- IANPHI’s communications team provided support for Africa CDC Institute for Workforce Development Clinical Community of Practice weekly webinars.

TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

- Despite restrictions on travel due to COVID-19, IANPHI U.S. Office and U.S. CDC continued to successfully introduce NPHIs to the Stage Development Tool (SDT). The first virtual implementation of the SDT was performed with Cote d’Ivoire’s Institut National de Santé Publique in September 2020. The SDT offers facilitated discussion guides, to determine a NPHI’s level of maturity and identify internal capacities to develop, which enables an NPHI to create work plans in order to strengthen their public health functions.
- IANPHI and U.S. CDC updated [two SDT discussion guides](#) (laboratories and International Health Regulations) and created two new guides focused on multisectoral efforts and national-subnational relationships.
- IANPHI developed a [Best Practice on Peer-to-Peer Visits](#) and a related [Case Study](#) featuring NIH Pakistan and the Netherlands’ RIVM are available on the IANPHI website. Fostering connections among NPHIs is a core tenet of IANPHI’s mission. IANPHI supports these linkages in a number of ways. One strategy is peer-to-peer visits, in which leaders and staff from one NPHI visit each other to share experiences, lessons learned, and wisdom about building or strengthening NPHIs.

COMMUNICATIONS

- IANPHI communications launched a revamped [website](#) with simplified navigation, making tools and resources more visible.
- IANPHI communications published a redesigned [IANPHI Insider newsletter](#), using a new digital format to improve its readability on mobile devices and the visibility of its content to search engines by making it available on the IANPHI website.
- With contributions from the secretariat, member institutes and partners, IANPHI created the [IANPHI COVID-19 resources webpage](#).
- Between March and October, IANPHI facilitated seven [COVID-19 webinars](#).

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

- **2021-2025 Strategic Vision:** Work to revise and update IANPHI's strategy has been led by Public Health England and supported by the Secretariat, US Office, and a dedicated working group representing IANPHI's membership along the year. It resulted in a proposal of five priorities: 1) Strengthen the professional relationships within IANPHI's unique global forum, 2) Harness the collective expertise of members to develop public health capacity globally, 3) Engage, support and grow IANPHI's diverse and unified membership base, 4) Advocate NPHIs as key public health actors, 5) Build an agile association to support its members through change.
- **IANPHI Code of Practice:** Part of the renewed IANPHI Strategy, initiated in Rome by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health in 2017, a reflection on a Code of Practice for NPHIs focusing on scientific independence has taken place this year and will continue to develop through a Working Group to advance this initiative in 2021.
- **Virtual Election and General Assembly:** The Secretariat along with host FIOCRUZ implemented a smooth and transparent process to organize, for the first time in the history of the Association, online elections, to renew the Board, integrate new members, discuss and approve the 2021 budget and elect the regional networks Chairs and Vice Chairs. The election process was supervised by observers from the Executive Board to present democratic and transparent results to the members of the IANPHI network.
- **Executive Board Meetings:** IANPHI Executive Board (EB) members have been strongly involved in the leadership and management of the Association, particularly with the development of a Strategy for 2021-2025, the organisation of IANPHI meetings (regional and global), the representation of IANPHI to important international public health events, the creation of new tools, budget management, and the renewal of the Board, among other areas. Five EB meetings were held in 2020.
- **Collection of Dues:** Despite a difficult year due to the pandemic, the collection of member dues exceeded the target by the Secretariat (212 300 EUR vs 200 000 EUR), thanks to the engagement of the members, their responsiveness and support to the Association.