

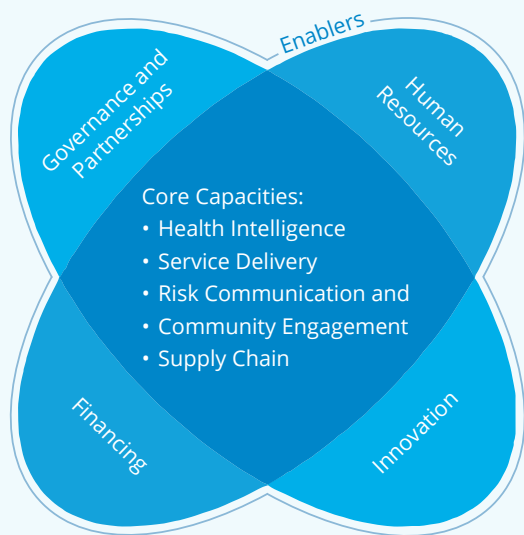
# Change Cannot Wait: Building Resilient Health Systems

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed structural weaknesses in health systems worldwide and underscored the importance of building stronger, more integrated health systems to help prevent, prepare for, and respond to health crises. The critical moment that will determine countries' resilience against future shocks is now.

## Features of resilient and integrated health systems



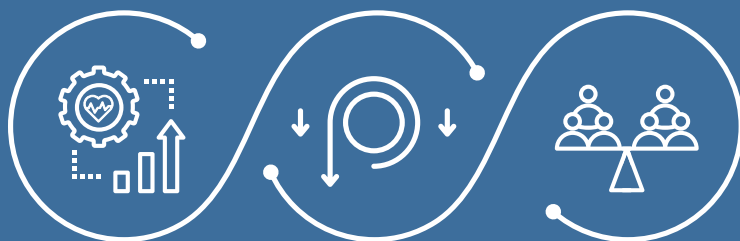
## Key Enablers & Capacities to Improve Resilience



## Actions for governments to build more resilient health systems:

- Governance:** Invest in stronger public health institutions; update legal and regulatory frameworks; strengthen risk-informed planning and decision-making processes
- Partnerships:** Adopt multi-sectoral and One Health coordination platforms; engage with the private sector and civil society
- Health financing:** Prioritize, protect, and track investments in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR); set up contingency funds for health emergencies; reduce financial barriers in access to crisis and essential health services
- Human resources:** Expand the community health workforce; build multi-disciplinary and frontline competencies for PPR
- Innovation:** Invest in an agile regulatory system; strengthen collaboration and capacity for research
- Health intelligence:** Strengthen early warning and epidemic intelligence functions; leverage digital tools and new technology for data collection and analysis
- Health service delivery:** Assess readiness of health facilities for shocks; develop essential services continuity and surge plans; invest in community centered primary health care with integrated public-health functions; develop coordinated network of health facilities
- Community engagement:** Develop risk communication capacity and enable two-way risk communication; include community representation in governance; strengthen rumor and misinformation monitoring
- Supply chain:** Develop crisis-ready supply chain with forecasting capacities and logistics plans; ramp up domestic production capacity; improve regional cooperation

## Investing in health resilience is key



Improves health and productivity

Reduces mortality and morbidity

Enables equity and public trust

## Where should countries invest first?

With shrinking health budgets following the COVID-19 crisis response, countries need to set priorities for high-yield resilience spending.

The most impactful and cost-effective public investments are those that strengthen public health functions, health promotion, disease prevention and primary health care.

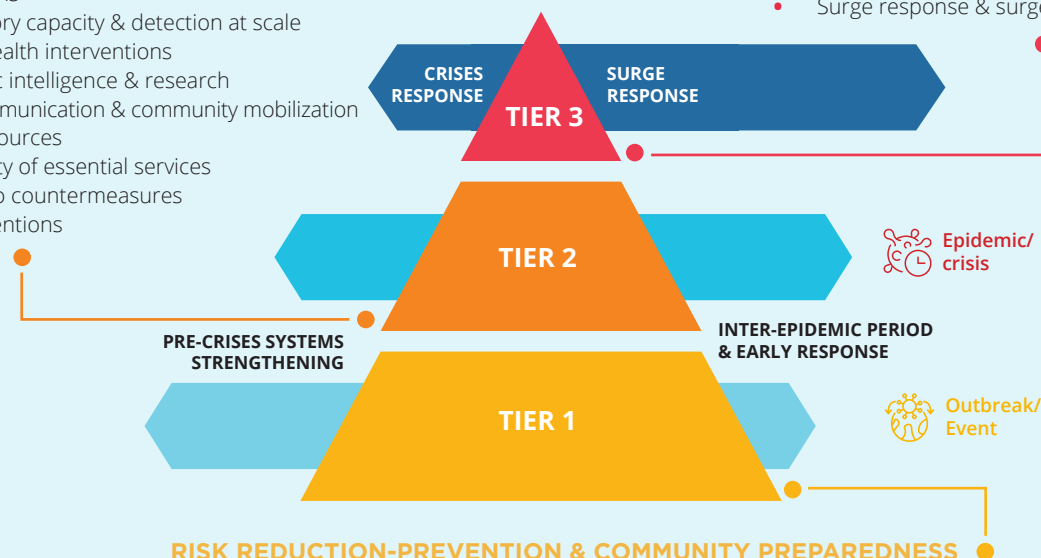
## Three-tiered framework to help prioritize health investments

### DETECTION, CONTAINMENT & MITIGATION

- Emergency management systems & response operations
- Laboratory capacity & detection at scale
- Public health interventions
- Epidemic intelligence & research
- Risk communication & community mobilization
- Agile resources
- Continuity of essential services
- Access to countermeasures & interventions

### ADVANCED CASE MANAGEMENT & SURGE RESPONSE

- Hospital infrastructure
- Advanced critical care capacity
- Surge response & surge resources mobilization



- Leveraging Primary Health Care
- Surveillance, early warning, specimen referral & transport systems
- Data & information systems
- Multi-sectoral coordination & risk reduction interventions

- Emergency preparedness
- Health workforce capacity
- Strong public health institutions
- Policy & legal underpinnings
- Procurement & delivery systems
- Community engagement

**Fundamental change in health systems cannot wait.** The World Bank Group has long been committed to helping developing countries build stronger, more resilient health systems and provide quality, affordable health services to everyone – especially to the poorest and most vulnerable populations.

Our \$30 billion global health portfolio includes over 200 projects that help countries take a comprehensive approach to improving health outcomes, especially for poor and vulnerable people, by strengthening primary care and key public health functions.