





# Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA)

**Annual Report 2024** 



# Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA)

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**Report Summary** 

The 2024 Health Emergencies Alliance Annual Report highlights WHO's critical work in preparing and responding to global health emergencies, as well as the collective impact of HEA partners in saving lives. This year's report captures the evolution of the HEA's model, key strategic events, and major contributions and commitments from donors and partners, demonstrating how collaborative action strengthens preparedness, accelerates response, and delivers measurable impact in communities most at risk. Through these efforts, the HEA continues to support WHO's mission to protect health, reduce suffering, and build resilient health systems worldwide.





# WHO Foundation's CEO Letter



Dear HEA members, thank you. Your support has not only been instrumental in saving lives, but continuous in keeping hope alive around the world as crises increase. During 2024, WHO confronted one of the most complex years on record, responding to **51 emergencies across 89 countries and territories**, that demanded organization-wide mobilization. From the devastation in Gaza and Sudan to widespread cholera outbreaks in Yemen, South Sudan, and Myanmar, health emergencies grew more frequent, more protracted, and more interlinked.

The scale of need was staggering. In the **Greater Horn of Africa** alone, **53.5 million** people faced acute food insecurity, including **11.4 million** children under five suffering from severe malnutrition. In Afghanistan, **23.7 million people** required humanitarian assistance, while Ukraine's war left **12.7 million in need**, with attacks on health facilities reaching historic levels.

In Gaza, 90% of the population was displaced, while more than 90% of health facilities were damaged, and outbreaks of polio and other diseases re-emerged.

This is an opportunity to protect families, children, and health system everywhere from preventable outbreaks. Right now, every dollar will have twice impact.

The Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA) has proven essential to WHO's ability to act quickly and strategically in the midst of crises. Established to connect corporate partners, foundations, and philanthropies with WHO's frontline emergency response, the HEA has evolved into a platform for resource mobilization, and innovation. In 2024, contributions to the HEA helped power rapid response funds, expand emergency stockpiles, and sustain operations across fragile settings, ensuring WHO could remain the provider of last resort when health systems collapsed.

This report demonstrates how HEA partnerships extend far beyond financial support. By amplifying advocacy and engaging healthcare professionals, HEA members strengthened WHO's reach in emergencies from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen, and beyond. The collective impact of these partnerships is measured in lives saved, outbreaks contained, and essential health services delivered to millions of people in the world's most vulnerable settings. Thank you again, it is with pride we see the HEA grow and adapt to challenges no matter the circumstances.

**Anil Soni** CEO of WHO Foundation



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# Global emergency scale:

- In 2024, WHO responded to 51 graded emergencies worldwide, including 21 at the highest Grade 3 level, reflecting the increasing frequency, complexity, and severity of crises that stretch across regions.
- Conflict and political instability left 12.1 million people in need of health assistance, with WHO and partners targeting 2.7 million individuals for life-saving interventions.
- In Gaza, 90% of its 2.3 million residents were displaced, while more than 90% of health facilities were damaged.
- In the Greater Horn of Africa alone, 53.5 million people faced acute food insecurity, including 11.4 million children under five suffering from severe malnutrition.
- WHO sustained essential health services in fragile contexts: 37,000+ people in Myanmar were screened and nearly 7000 treated for NCDs. While in Afghanistan, trauma and maternal health care were maintained across all 34 provinces, and in Somalia 51 health facilities were equipped with solar power to secure oxygen supplies during floods and drought.

## **Actions:**

- WHO coordinates over **280** partners to reach **41.1 million** people with health services in the region
- In 2024, support to WHO's **Health Emergency Appeal** enabled life-saving responses across the 51 emergencies worldwide. With your contributions, WHO prioritized the most at-risk communities, reinforced fragile health systems, and launched rapid interventions in 28 countries through the Contingency Fund for Emergencies, ensuring swift action against cholera, dengue, mpox, and other urgent threats.
- In the same year, WHO reached millions across crisis settings: 1 million children in Gaza and the West Bank were vaccinated against polio, 5000 medical evacuations were carried out in Ukraine, and 46,000 people in Sudan received life-saving cholera treatment. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, vaccination campaigns contained mpox across six provinces.

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We are still on the ground, despite the difficult situation in the country. As CHWs, we are not idle, and we are trained to help the most vulnerable. It's a duty, and it's a source of pride for us,

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#### **Esterline Dumezil**

Community Health Worker (CHWs) - Cite Soleil, Haiti







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# WHO's Work in Emergencies 2024

2024 saw WHO respond to overlapping health crises of an unprecedented scale, with 51 graded emergencies across 89 countries, including 21 at Grade 3 requiring the highest organizational support. From protracted conflicts to climate-driven disasters and large-scale disease outbreaks, WHO's ability to act rapidly and at scale was made possible through donor solidarity and partnerships like the Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA).

In **Afghanistan**, WHO sustained trauma, maternal, and disease surveillance services across all **34** of its provinces, enabling more than **2.2 million consultations** and training thousands of health workers. In the **Greater Horn of Africa**, encompassing Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Djibouti, and Uganda, WHO reached **41.1 million people** with health services, including measles and cholera vaccination campaigns that together covered over **18 million children**.

In Ukraine, WHO oversaw 1,462 medical evacuations, supported trauma and rehabilitation services, and delivered care to over 3.5 million people despite relentless attacks on health facilities. Across Yemen, 3.3 million cholera vaccines and 3.5 million polio vaccines were administered, alongside 4,424 metric tons of medical supplies reaching 6.5 million people.

Somalia saw 1.24 million cholera vaccines delivered, while 369 mobile health teams brought services to displaced communities. In the occupied Palestinian territory, WHO delivered over 2000 metric tons of medical supplies, provided 8.8 million liters of fuel to sustain hospitals, coordinated 5,325 medical evacuations, and supported more than 7.3 million primary care consultations, all under extraordinary conditions. Sudan faced the world's largest displacement crisis, with 15 million uprooted, and yet we saw 9.2 million people vaccinated against cholera and 8.9 million children protected against measles.





HEA members were central to making these results possible. Merck and Pfizer each contributed USD 100,000 to WHO's 2024 Emergency Appeal fund, enabling WHO to allocate resources flexibly across emergencies. The Firuza Foundation supported outbreak response and hub operations, by channelling resources to WHO's Emergency Hub in Nairobi. Fondation S's catalytic funding to the WHO Foundation, helped teams move more resources for the Nairobi Emergency Hub, ensuring faster deployment of supplies across East Africa.

Together, this collective action ensured that WHO could remain the world's health responder of last resort, protecting the most vulnerable when health systems collapsed.

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With the support of donors, we will save lives, meet critical health needs for the most vulnerable, and help communities emerge from crises with a greater ability to tackle future health threats. That support allowed us to assist millions of people in 2023. As we enter 2024, the solidarity and support of the international community is needed more than ever,

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#### Dr Mike Ryan

Former Executive Director of WHO's Health Emergencies Programme









## 41 Million

People in the Greater Horn of Africa received health services coordinated by WHO and 282 partners with HEA support. In 2024, 53.5 million people across the region faced acute food insecurity, with 11.4 million children under five malnourished.



## 2000

Metric tons of supplies and 8.8 million liters of fuel delivered by WHO to keeping hospitals running under siege conditions in Gaza. In 2024, 5,325 patients were medically evacuated from Gaza for life-saving treatment abroad.



## 9.2 Million

Doses of oral cholera vaccine were administered in Sudan during 2024. This rapid intervention, supported by flexible HEA funding, was critical in preventing a wider epidemic amid the world's largest displacement crisis.



## 3.56 Million

People in Ukraine received medical care supported by WHO in 2024. Modular clinics, trauma care, and emergency evacuations ensured continuity of health services despite over 2,100 verified attacks on healthcare.



## 100,000

Each Masimo, Merck and Pfizer contributed USD 100,000 each as part of their HEA membership in 2024. Their support to WHO's Emergency Appeal provided flexible funding for urgent health responses across multiple crises.



# 200,000

Firuza Foundation channeled USD 200,000 to WHO's Nairobi Emergency Hub helping expand regional stockpiles, and mobile diagnostics.



# 1.1 Million

Mpox vaccine doses were allocated to 12 countries through the multi-partner Access and Allocation Mechanism, with WHO also delivering 758,000 doses to 7 countries. This was made possible thanks to Merck's critical contribution towards combating mpox and limiting the spread of this preventable disease.



WHO alongside Africa CDC, and local communities are working together to prevent and respond to mpox outbreaks by coordinating mpox response in Africa through the Continental Incident Management Support Team.



WHO is actively coordinating response efforts with partners, including the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN). More recently, 15 experts have been deployed to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya, through GOARN, to support the response in areas such as data management and analytics, epidemiology and surveillance, laboratory, case management, infection prevention and control, risk communication and community engagement.



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WHO has been present in the affected zones since day one, supporting us with diagnostics, coordination and vaccination. Their role is indispensable,

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Senior Ministry Health Official, North Kivu Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo.









# **Selected Countries Highlights**

# Gaza

In 2024, Gaza endured one of the most severe health crises of our time. By December, over 45,000 people had been killed and more than 108,000 injured, with children making up a significant proportion of the casualties.

The destruction of health infrastructure was catastrophic, leaving more than 90 percent of hospitals and clinics damaged and only a fraction still partially functional.

WHO also coordinated the evacuation of thousands of critically ill patients, giving them access to care that had become impossible inside Gaza. Supplies, fuel, and trained medical teams made the difference between life and death on a daily basis. For countless families, WHO was the last line of hope, keeping hospitals open and health workers able to treat the wounded and care for newborns despite shortages and bombardments.

In February 2024, WHO evacuated 32 critically ill patients, including children, from Nasser Medical Complex in southern Gaza after the hospital was left non-functional by heavy damage.

WHO sustained emergency health services



Supporting

7.3 Million

primary health consultations.



Enabling over

106,000

trauma patients to receive



More than

# 1.6 Million

mental health consultations were conducted, underscoring the immense psychological toll of conflict on families and children.







# Story: Jana in Gaza

<u>Jana</u> is a lively toddler battling rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare aggressive cancer now affecting her bladder and kidneys. She urgently needs treatment outside Gaza as delays put her young life at grave risk.

Stories like Jana's spread throughout Gaza lead WHO in coordinating the evacuation of **5325** patients from Gaza to access care abroad in spite of the closure of the Rafah crossing and access restrictions. Additionally, at the height of the bombardments, WHO-supported teams kept Al-Aqsa Hospital functioning despite severe shortages. Staff relied on WHO-supplied trauma kits to treat hundreds of injured patients daily.

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At a time of crisis, when delays could cost lives, support from WHO enabled immediate action, keeping hospitals running, equipping health workers, and ensuring essential care reached those most in need.

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**Dr Rakan Nassereldine**Minister of Public Health





# Ukraine

Ukraine entered its third year of full-scale conflict with its health system under immense strain. By the end of 2024, 12.7 million people were in need of humanitarian aid, with 9.2 million requiring direct health assistance.

Attacks on hospitals and clinics continued relentlessly, with WHO documenting 65 separate assaults on health facilities in 2024 alone.

Through coordinated evacuations, over 1,400 patients were transferred to safety in other countries. In cities like Odesa and Kharkiv, new safe spaces and modular health units offered not only treatment but also dignity, especially for mothers and children who had lost homes and security. WHO's presence gave communities reassurance that care would continue even under the most difficult conditions.

In response, WHO scaled up life-saving services:



More than

# 3.56 Million

people received medical care, including 5400 trauma patients who required urgent interventions.



To strengthen access, WHO supported

208

health facilities and installed modular clinics in hard-hit oblasts, while outreach units delivered 24,000 consultations to communities cut off by the fighting.



Beyond physical health, WHO trained

8,700

frontline workers in trauma care, noncommunicable disease management, and mental health support, laying the groundwork for recovery amid the devastation.







# Story: A Safe Space in Odesa

WHO supported **208** primary healthcare facilities, ensuring services for **3.56 million** people. Outreach units delivered **24,000** consultations, and trauma care reached **5400** patients. In Odesa, modular clinics were installed to replace destroyed infrastructure, while **1462** medical evacuations transferred patients to **28** countries.

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The people of Ukraine have courageously endured the consequences of three years of full-scale war since 2022. Continuous attacks on medical facilities put pressure on the health system, but with the support from WHO and our partners, we're ensuring the availability of medical care services, continuously investing in recovery and transformation of the health system

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**Viktor Liashko**Minister of Health of Ukraine





# Mpox in Africa

While conflicts captured global headlines in 2024, Africa faced a different but no less urgent threat. Mpox resurged at alarming levels, with over 19,900 confirmed cases and 64 deaths across 20 African countries.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, and Burundi bore the brunt of the outbreak, where fragile health systems struggled to respond. WHO declared mpox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in August.

HEA partners were central to this effort.

Merck's €150,000 contribution directly supported WHO's mpox response, ensuring faster testing and equitable vaccine allocation. Our collaboration did more than fight one outbreak. It demonstrated how investments in preparedness protect entire regions, laying the foundation for faster responses to the next threat.



**Deploying** 

500

experts, expanding laboratory capacity from 9 to 19 national laboratories.



Delivering

97,000

diagnostic tests alongside 1.2 million items of protective equipment.



Through the Nairobi
Emergency Hub,
prepositioned supplies
were dispatched
rapidly to 15 countries,
reducing outbreak
containment times and
helping control spread
into urban areas.







# **Mpox in Africa: A Global Preparedness Story**

In order to meet the rapid rise of mpox cases, WHO integrated mpox surveillance into the Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (IDSR) system in Africa. WHO also held a third community of practice call, engaging Member States, operational partners, civil society and academia to explore strategies for strengthening the research ecosystem that supports producing rapid community evidence in the mpox public health response for safe and scalable care.

WHO AFRO and Africa CDC co-organized an mpox vaccination stock-taking meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Fifteen countries participated in the discussions which focused on optimization of targeted country mpox vaccination strategies, dose-sparing options, and lessons learned.

By the end of 2024, WHO had delivered **97,000** diagnostic tests, **1.2 million** Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) units, and allocated **899,000** vaccines to **nine** priority African countries. Also thanks to HEA support, the Nairobi Emergency Hub dispatched diagnostics across **15** countries within days, reducing outbreak containment times.

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The infection prevention and control inputs provided to us by WHO ensure safety for ourselves and others. No frontline staff should put themselves at risk while saving lives.

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**Dr Pululu Mbala José** Coordinator, Mpox Treatment Center, Kinshasa, DRC









# The Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA)

## The Evolution of the Health Emergencies Alliance

The Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA) was created in 2022 to channel the power of private-sector partnerships into WHO's work in emergencies. At its inception, the Alliance focused on mobilizing urgent support for life-saving response, splitting contributions evenly between programmatic work and operational costs. In its early phase, the HEA proved its value quickly, mobilizing one million dollars in its first year, which supported WHO in responding to both new and protracted crises across the globe.

By 2024, the HEA had matured into a platform not only for response but also for preparedness, reflecting the growing recognition that today's emergencies cannot be tackled with reactive funding alone. To better support WHO's impact where needs are greatest, the HEA shifted its structure from a 50-50 split to an 80-20 allocation model. Now, 80 percent of every member's contribution goes directly to WHO's programmatic emergency work, while 20 percent sustains the HEA Secretariat and alliance-building activities. This change reflects both the growth of the Alliance and the demand from members for their resources to drive maximum impact on the ground.





## From Response to Preparedness: A New Role in Global Health Security

The evolution of the HEA also marks a shift from being a response mechanism only to becoming also a contributor to preparedness and resilience. While HEA members continue to power WHO's Global Health Emergency Appeal and Contingency Fund for Emergencies, their collective support now also underpins the WHO Investment Round and broader work to strengthen readiness. This integration means that HEA resources are increasingly linked to long-term goals, ensuring WHO can prepare health systems before the next crisis strikes, while still being able to react immediately when emergencies unfold.

In 2024, this model was tested and proved effective. Through pooled contributions, the HEA supported emergency preparedness activities ranging from stockpiling essential supplies to strengthening disease surveillance systems.

By embedding itself within WHO's broader emergency architecture, the HEA has grown from an emergency lifeline into a platform for resilience, where partners not only respond to today's crises but also invest in preventing tomorrow's.

What began as a novel partnership in 2022 has now become an established community of global companies and philanthropies working alongside WHO. Members like Merck, Pfizer, Firuza Foundation and others demonstrate that private-sector engagement can be both rapid and sustainable, advancing the shared mission of saving lives while protecting global health security

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The medical supplies provided through WHO are a lifeline for our health facilities. From pediatric kits to essential medicines, these deliveries ensure we can respond to urgent needs on the ground. Health partners across the region depend on this supply chain to keep their services running. Continued support is essential to maintain this flow and ensure no patient is left without care.

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#### **Mohamed Shihada**

Senior Logistics Officer, Independent Doctors Association





## Partner Impact through the HEA

- Merck: Provided USD 150,000 in direct support to Mpox response operations.
- Pfizer, Masimo, and Merck: Each contributed USD 100,000 to WHO's Emergency Appeal 2024, supporting the global pool for rapid responses across crises.
- Firuza Foundation: Provided USD 200,000 to bolster WHO's Nairobi Emergency Hub, expanding stockpiles and enabling faster delivery of emergency supplies across East Africa.
- Firuza Foundation and Merck: Both took part in our events during UNGA 2024 with valuable insights.

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WHO has been present in the affected zones since day one, supporting us with diagnostics, coordination and vaccination. Their role is indispensable.

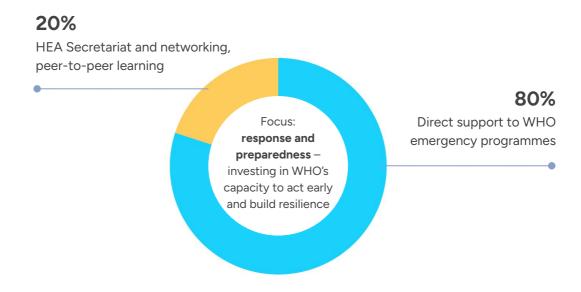
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Senior Ministry Health Official, North Kivu Province, DRC





# 2024: Scaling for Greater Impact



#### Result:

HEA contributions channelled not only to WHO's Emergency Appeal and Contingency Fund, but also to preparedness initiatives and the WHO Investment Round

## From Response to Preparedness

- HEA funding now also supports stockpiling of essential supplies, strengthening disease surveillance, and regional hub readiness.
- Contributions integrate into WHO's long-term emergency architecture, ensuring health systems are ready before the next crisis.
- HEA has become a platform for resilience, enabling members to save lives today while preventing tomorrow's emergencies.
- Global Visibility and Partnerships: At the 2024 United Nations General Assembly, the WHO Foundation, hosted by ELMA Philanthropies, convened a high-level event in order to catalyze momentum for the Emergency Hubs initiative and deepen donor engagement. WHO AFRO leaders, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa, and Dr. Dick Chamla, Director, Emergency Preparedness and Response, WHO Regional Office for Africa, showcased how Emergency Hubs exemplify a shift from reactive response to strategic preparedness, ensuring resilience across Africa.

A short video was produced to raise visibility on the work of WHO AFRO Emergency Hub in Nairobi and is available <u>here</u>.





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# Congratulations ServiceNow

We are proud to welcome **ServiceNow** as one of the newest members of the **Health Emergencies Alliance (HEA)**. By joining this community in 2025, ServiceNow has become part of a growing movement of global leaders committed to saving lives and strengthening health systems in times of crisis. The decision to support WHO's emergency work through the HEA comes at a moment when the world is confronting some of the most complex and overlapping humanitarian emergencies on record. For millions of people living through conflict, disease outbreaks, and climate-driven disasters, this commitment represents more than funding: it is solidarity, action, and hope.

Prior to officially joining the HEA family, ServiceNow pledged **USD 50,000 in 2024** for stockpiling activities for the Emergency Hub in Nairobi, with further support anticipated in 2025. This contribution will help WHO deliver life-saving services in fragile contexts while also investing in preparedness to build resilience for the future. Through the HEA's model, **80 percent** of ServiceNow's support goes directly to WHO's programmatic work, ensuring rapid emergency response and preparedness where needs are greatest. The remaining **20 percent** strengthens the HEA itself, enabling peer-to-peer learning, knowledge sharing, and strategic convenings among members. This balance ensures that ServiceNow's commitment achieves both immediate and lasting impact.

The value of ServiceNow's engagement goes far beyond financial contribution. As a technology-driven company with a global reach, ServiceNow brings not only resources but also innovative perspectives on how to improve emergency coordination and scale solutions. Their partnership reinforces the HEA's role as a unique convening platform, where the private sector and WHO can work together to protect health and dignity in the most challenging contexts.



In joining the HEA, **ServiceNow** joins peers such as **Fondation S**, **Merck**, **Pfizer**, and **Firuza Foundation**, who together have mobilized millions of dollars and delivered critical support to WHO-led responses across Africa, the Middle East, Europe and beyond. ServiceNow's decision to stand alongside them is both timely and vital, strengthening WHO's capacity to act as the world's health responder of last resort.



We extend our warmest congratulations to **ServiceNow** for becoming part of the **Health Emergencies Alliance**. This partnership will save lives, build resilience, and demonstrate the power of global solidarity. Together, we are shaping a future where no emergency leaves communities without the care they need.

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It has been a privilege to see the HEA family grow and evolve into a stable force with a single focus: bringing support, better health, and empowerment to all, no matter where they are in the world. We warmly congratulate ServiceNow on joining the HEA family, as we continue to embrace more diversity and strength in our membership.



Valerie Boulet

Chief Development Officer - WHO Foundation







# **HEA Global Events**& Strategic Roundtables



## **MedTech Strategic Roundtable**

In May 2024, the WHO Foundation hosted a MedTech Strategic Roundtable during the World Health Assembly, in collaboration with **MedTech Europe**. The event brought together private-sector leaders, WHO experts, and industry representatives to discuss the role of medical technology in supporting emergency response and preparedness. With nearly 300 million people projected to need humanitarian assistance in 2024, the roundtable highlighted how innovations in diagnostics, supply chains, and medical technologies can help respond quickly and saving lives. This dialogue marked a significant step in aligning the MedTech sector with WHO's priorities and in exploring how HEA partners can expand their role in resilience building.



### **ELMA Philanthropies Breakfast at UNGA**

On the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2024, the WHO Foundation, with the support of **ELMA** Philanthropies, convened a high-level breakfast to showcase the work of the Nairobi Emergency Hub and the vision for regional hubs across Africa. Speakers included Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa, and Dr. Dick Chamla, Director of **Emergency Preparedness and Response at** WHO AFRO. The event gave donors and partners a first-hand look at how hubs shorten response times by pre-positioning supplies and coordinating surge personnel. It also reinforced the HEA's role in linking private-sector contributions with WHO's operational needs on the ground.







### **Strategic Roundtables and Convenings**

Throughout 2024, the HEA matured as a convening platform for private-sector leaders committed to global health security. Webinars and in-person meetings provided rapid updates on evolving crises and explored opportunities for sector-specific engagement; from pharmaceuticals and logistics to entertainment and technology. These convenings confirmed the HEA's unique position as both a fundraising vehicle and a trusted forum where WHO can engage directly with corporate actors. They also built peer-to-peer learning between members, helping new partners like ServiceNow and long-standing ones like Fondation S to align their contributions with WHO's priorities.



#### **Building a Community of Practice**

The HEA's events in 2024 reflected more than networking; they were steps toward creating a true **community of practice** around health emergency preparedness. By pairing high-level dialogue, such as the UNGA breakfast, with technical roundtables like the MedTech meeting, the Alliance demonstrated how the private sector can contribute knowledge as well as funding. These events reinforced a shift from reactive response to preparedness, ensuring that contributions from HEA members are leveraged for maximum global impact.







# Conclusion

In 2024, the Health Emergencies Alliance strengthened its role as a trusted platform linking the private sector with WHO's life-saving work. From Gaza and Ukraine to mpox outbreaks in Africa, HEA members helped WHO act as the health responder of last resort, ensuring essential supplies, medical evacuations, and emergency care reached millions of people in crisis. The shift to an 80-20 funding model underscored the Alliance's growth, channeling more resources directly to WHO's programmatic work while sustaining a space for strategic dialogue and partnership. Looking ahead, the HEA is poised to play an even greater role in preparedness. By investing not only in emergency response but also in surveillance, stockpiling, and hub readiness, the Alliance contributes to building resilience within health systems before the next crisis strikes. Events such as the MedTech roundtable and the UNGA breakfast have deepened engagement and created a community of practice among members, proving that private-sector leadership is indispensable in global health security. As the Alliance expands, its future prospects are clear: to continue mobilizing sustainable funding, to scale innovation and preparedness, and to ensure that no community is left without the health care it needs when disaster unfolds.

With global health funding shrinking and misinformation rising, the world seems to be poorly equipped to adequately face the threats of the 21st century. Diseases once relegated to history such as measles are resurgent in the United States. Gains against the HIV/AIDS epidemic have stalled, putting new generations at risk. Meanwhile, climate change is endangering the livelihoods of thousands with the fewest resources to prepare and adapt. The capacity of disease surveillance institutions to share data and expertise has been severed, bringing the next pandemic ever closer to our homes. Against this backdrop, the Health Emergencies Alliance is more important than ever. With a growing array of potential health crises, the HEA must remain focused and harness 21st-century tools to address 21st-century threats. This is why, in 2025, the HEA will narrow its scope to a strategic focus, namely how WHO is - and can - use artificial intelligence to better prepare for health emergencies, particularly those driven by climate change. Through regular interactive discussions with technical experts and WHO leaders, and a field visit to the WHO **Emergency Hub in Dakar** to explore cutting-edge applications, HEA members will be at the forefront of innovation in health emergency preparedness.

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I am thankful for the free health care services, like medical consultations, laboratory testing and medicine, that meet most of our needs. I hope these services will continue uninterrupted.

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Yassin Mohammed
Displaced from Khartoum, Sudan









# **Thank You**