

Tracking pandemic preparedness and response (PPR) and activities with transnational benefits through the keyword field

TOSSD Task Force Issues Paper¹ - Agenda item 7
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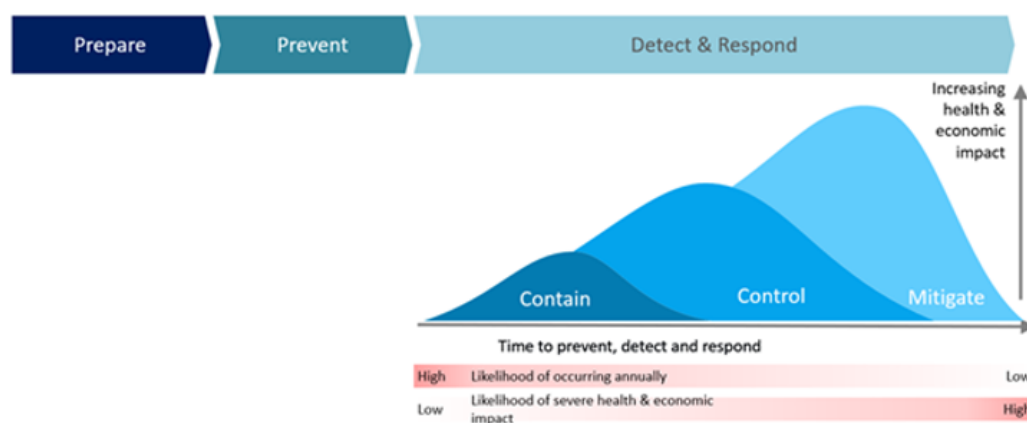
Introduction

1. This paper follows up on the previous discussions of the Task Force on tracking Pandemic Preparedness and Response (PPR)² and activities with transnational benefits.³ It makes concrete proposals for tracking these dimensions through the keywords field.

Tracking Pandemic Preparedness and Response

2. At the 14th Task Force meeting, members generally supported the proposal to track pandemic preparedness in the keywords field. This would respond to high demand for such data, for example from the World Health Organisation (WHO) that has been strongly advocating for such tracking in multiple discussions held with the Secretariat. So far, to extract figures on support to PPR the Secretariat has been using, as a proxy, all the sector codes related to the control of infectious diseases. However, disease control is only one dimension of PPR (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Continuum of outbreak, epidemics, and pandemics: from prepare and prevent to detect and respond



Source: WHO.

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² See the [summary](#) the 14th Task Force meeting (item 5).

³ See the [summary](#) of the 17th Task Force meeting (item 5).

3. For the WHO, better data on support to PPR would allow a better monitoring of funding gaps both for PPR as a whole and for individual PPR dimensions. Given that some PPR dimensions tend to be underfunded compared to others, for the WHO it would be useful to have as much granularity as possible in this tracking. At the same time, the Secretariat stressed the need to strike a balance between an appropriate level of granularity that is desirable for global PPR monitoring purposes on the one hand, and practicality/capacity for reporters to implement such tracking on the other hand.
4. Based on this, the WHO experts⁴ propose two separate keywords for “preparedness” and “response”, with two additional keywords under “preparedness” as follows:
 - **# PPR_Preparedness:** Activities which improve capacities to anticipate, respond to and recover from the impacts of likely, imminent, or current health emergencies.
 - **# PPR_Preparedness_Surveillance:** Activities aimed at supporting organised collection, monitoring, assessment, and interpretation of information to support the management of health risks and events, including laboratory-based activities.
 - **# PPR_Preparedness_Other:** Activities aimed at protecting communities and health systems from the impacts of health emergencies, including ensuring that research and development activities, medical countermeasures and coordination are in place to deal with likely, imminent, or current health emergencies.
 - **# PPR_Response:** Activities triggered by the detection of a health risk.
5. Regarding preparedness, the overarching keyword would be used only if the reporter is not able to allocate the activity to one or the other preparedness subcomponent.
6. Note that these definitions are primarily based on the human health components of PPR. PPR extends also to animal health. For comprehensive tracking of PPR in line with the “One Health” approach, the above keywords could be complemented in the future with keywords tracking PPR in animal health, which is primarily monitored by the World Organisation for Animal Health.

Tracking activities with transnational benefits

7. At the 17th Task Force meeting, members discussed the issue of tracking activities with transnational benefits and requested the Secretariat to investigate the possibility of using keywords to indicate the geographical reach of benefits.
8. The advantage of such a keyword would be that it would allow a more comprehensive tracking of the geographical reach of transboundary benefits, as it would also be applicable to pillar I. This would allow the compilation of data on total TOSSD contributions to international public goods (IPGs) and to address global challenges, and respond to demands for data on such activities carried out in TOSSD recipient countries.⁵

⁴ The definitions proposed by WHO experts draw on the [WHO \(2020\) Glossary of Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Terminology](#) and [WHO \(2022\) 10 proposals to build a safer world together – Strengthening the Global Architecture for Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Resilience: draft for consultation](#).

⁵ A recent example is a paper prepared by NORAD on “how much Norwegian foreign aid is channelled towards international public goods”. The importance of tracking support to IPGs in pillar I was also previously discussed by the Task Force.

9. The following keyword is proposed to the Task Force for consideration:

- **# Transnational_benefits_[region]**: identifies the regional or global reach of the benefits that the activity is expected to generate. The keyword would be used in association with the regional and multi-regional categories included in the TOSSD recipient list (see Table 1), e.g., **# Transnational_benefits_[Africa]**, **# Transnational_benefits_[Global]** etc.

Table 1. Regional and multi-regional categories in the list of TOSSD recipients

Africa	Micronesia
America	Middle Africa
Asia	Middle East
Caribbean	North of Sahara
Caribbean & Central America	Oceania
Central America	Polynesia
Central Asia	South & Central Asia
Developing countries	South America
Eastern Africa	South Asia
Europe	South of Sahara
Far East Asia	Southern Africa
Global	Western Africa
Melanesia	

10. To facilitate the implementation of this keyword, the Task Force could consider the development of an indicative table, which identifies some but not all activities with transnational benefits through a mapping with other TOSSD fields, in particular sector codes, modalities, channels, and recipient codes (see illustration in the Annex). The keyword could also be used for other activities with transnational benefits not easily identifiable with existing classifications. For example, a road construction project reported against a specific recipient country can be part of a broader regional programme.

Issues for discussion

Members are invited to share their feedback on the two proposals for keywords on pandemic preparedness and response (PPR) and transnational benefits.

How do members assess their capacity to use these keywords?

Annex. Indicative table of TOSSD activities with transnational benefits

# Transnational benefits	Themes	Possible way to identify the activities in TOSSD
# Transnational benefits_global	Climate mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keyword #Mitigation
	Control of global infectious diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector code COVID-19 control (12264) • Sector code Infectious disease control (12250) • Sector code STD control including HIV/AIDS (13040)
	R&D on global issues (e.g., renewable energy, global diseases such as HIV or cancer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All research sector codes⁶ when reported with “global” or “developing countries, unspecified” as recipients
	International peace and security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International crime prevention, including the following sector codes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Non-agricultural alternative development (43050) ○ Agricultural alternative development (31165) ○ Narcotics control (16063) ○ Fight against transnational organised crime (1513010) ○ Countering violent extremism (1513020) • Disarmament of Weapons of Mass Destruction (1520010) • International criminal justice (1516020)
	Global norms and standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of multilateral organisations’ expenditures related to their global normative functions (e.g., section of the UN Regular Budget related to the “General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management”)
	Support to refugees/protected persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modalities on support to refugees / protected persons (I01, I02, I05)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector code Biodiversity (41030)
# Transnational Benefits_[region]	R&D on regionally specific issues (e.g., diseases specific to some regions, food crop cultivars).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All research sectors when reported with regional recipient codes
	Control of regionally specific infectious diseases (e.g., malaria, tuberculosis)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector code Malaria control (12262)⁷ • Sector code Tuberculosis control (12263)

⁶ TOSSD research sectors include: Educational research, Medical research, Research for prevention and control of NCDs, Energy research, Agricultural research, Forestry research, Fishery research, Technological research and development, Environmental research and Research/scientific institutions.

⁷ For example, malaria research might benefit mostly people in Africa, which represents 95% of malaria cases and 96% of malaria deaths globally. See <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact->

	Regional peace and security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International peace operations (channel UNDPO)
	Regional infrastructure (regional transportation networks, transboundary water management, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector Transport & storage (210) when reported with regional codes • Sector River basins development (14040) when reported with regional recipient codes
	Regional norms and standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section of the UN Regular Budget related to the UN regional commissions