

# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT EPIDEMICS

Disease outbreaks disrupt economies and existing systems and often lead to loss of life. Although outbreaks are unavoidable, being prepared to tackle them can drastically reduce their impact. Everyone can play a role to find, stop and prevent disease outbreaks before they get out of control. Here's what you can do to help.

## POLITICIAN

- Prioritise epidemic preparedness funding during annual budget negotiations
- Hold government accountable for closing epidemic preparedness gaps - before, during and after an election

## THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF HEALTH / THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH

- Ensure that NCDC coordinates the National Action Plan on Health Security (NAPHS) through regular updates
- Provide political leadership in advocacy for increased funding for epidemic preparedness

## HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

- Prioritise epidemic preparedness funding during annual budget negotiations
- Hold government leaders accountable for closing epidemic preparedness gaps - before, during and after an election

## BUSINESS LEADER

- Make the business case for epidemic preparedness funding to decision-makers
- Contribute financially to epidemic preparedness efforts in your host communities and Nigeria in general
- Participate in epidemic preparedness advocacy and related coalitions

## COMMUNITY LEADER

- Tell your local, state and federal representatives about why your community needs epidemic preparedness funding to thrive
- Mobilize your community to ask decision-makers to support increased epidemic preparedness funding

## TRADITIONAL LEADER

- Reach out to political representatives to explain the need for action on epidemic preparedness from your perspective as a community leader
- Educate community members about the importance of epidemic preparedness, and encourage them to speak up about the benefit of increased funding for your community

## JOURNALIST

- Gather information from relevant sources and apprise yourself of the status of epidemic preparedness in Nigeria
- Ask decision-makers about epidemic preparedness funding, and highlight its importance in your coverage
- Conduct investigative journalism to highlight the impact of epidemics on communities arising from inadequate funding as well as success stories recorded as a result of robust funding or the implementation of effective preparedness policies

## HEALTH WORKER

- Reach out to decision-makers to explain why increased funding for epidemic preparedness is vital for health care workers, and to ask for their support
- Demand that decision-makers fund essential training and supplies for health workers, including personal protective equipment

## PROFESSIONAL BODY (ORGANISED LABOUR UNIONS, ASSOCIATIONS OF HEALTH PRACTITIONERS, ETC.)

- Share your story and speak to decision-makers from your professional experience about the importance of epidemic preparedness in our nation

## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

- Encourage domestic resource mobilisation to sustain epidemic preparedness
- Advocate for increased government spending on epidemic preparedness from an international perspective

## RELIGIOUS LEADERS/ RELIGIOUS GROUPS

- Talk to decision-makers about why your group supports more funding for epidemic preparedness in Nigeria
- Mobilise members to ask decision-makers to support epidemic preparedness within their communities

## CONCERNED CITIZENS

- Tell your political representatives why you support increased funding for epidemic preparedness, and ask for their support

**PREVENTING EPIDEMICS IS  
EVERYONE'S BUSINESS.  
GET INVOLVED AND TAKE RESPONSIBILITY**