

Future Global Trends

One of the most important global trends, which will remain a challenge in the future if not action is taken, is the literature gap when it comes to dissemination of monitoring and evaluation of disaster interventions. The analysis of the M&E component of emergency preparedness, management and response and its dissemination amongst all stakeholders is crucial to improve on existing systems and build resilience of the surveillance systems and communities. This issue pertains to governments across the world (HICs and LMICs). A few reasons can explain the current weakness seen in dissemination of disaster plans' M&E. First of all, implementing proper dissemination mechanisms would require the existence of a main coordinating body that would be in charge of overseeing the dissemination process and if it is up to the standards established. Such governing bodies typically are either underrepresented or completely absent in INGOs and governments, which leads to different organizational pillars working in silos with no guidance or accountability on how to disseminate and with whom. The steps to be taken in order to improve this operational gap would first be to invest in more research on how global health agencies can upscale the dissemination of the lessons they have learned from their emergency response programs. Furthermore, increasing cross-sectoral collaboration and decision-making power among different stakeholders and team members could foster an environment in which dissemination of experiences and results would thrive as it would provide incentives for workers to have more responsibility and accountability for the sustainability of their work and the impact they have on communities.

It will require tremendous administrative efforts to integrate this governing body as well as establish and enforce the dissemination standards. All of this means the organizations would have to go through internal structural changes. This is difficult even in big international agencies which tend to have a pre-established organizational structure that is really difficult to alter. Furthermore, it would require increased capacity and financial and human resources which some organizations and governments lack, particularly in low and middle income countries. This could potentially increase the already existing gap in literature. Therefore it is important to identify innovative, cross-cutting ways to approach dissemination of global disasters with all stakeholders (i.e: funders, communities impacted, other government bodies etc.) in order to find cost-effective ways to achieve it.

References

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