



GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY PROGRAM

Fact Sheet: **STOP Spillover**

OVERVIEW

More than 70 percent of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases originate from animals, and outbreaks of Ebola, avian influenza, mpox, and other viruses have demonstrated the tremendous global risks that can be posed by zoonotic disease spillover to humans. For over a decade, USAID has invested in understanding risks presented by the spillover of zoonotic diseases into humans and how early country-level and country-led interventions are key to preventing and reducing the impact of outbreaks.

Strategies to Prevent (STOP) Spillover, a USAID-funded project led by Tufts University, is a global consortium consisting of experts in human, animal, and environmental health that uses innovative approaches to reduce the risk of spillover from animals to humans that have the potential to cause outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics.

PROJECT GOALS

STOP Spillover enhances global understanding of the complex drivers of viral spillover in known pathogens and augments sustainable national capacities in risk analysis and mitigation, spillover intervention, and behavior change. STOP Spillover achieves these goals by strengthening the capacity of

priority countries to:

- **Objective 1:** Monitor, analyze, and characterize the risk of priority zoonotic viruses spilling over from animals to people.
- **Objective 2:** Develop, test, and implement interventions and policies to reduce the risk of priority viral zoonotic spillover.
- **Objective 3:** Mitigate the amplification and spread of priority zoonotic viral diseases if spillover occurs.

APPROACH

Human behavior is an important driver of the evolution and epidemiology of infectious diseases. Humans share pathogens with species we contact most closely and consistently, which can lead to pathogens jumping from one species to another. STOP Spillover not only reduces spillover and amplification risk, but also empowers partners to institutionalize knowledge in existing local systems, adapt learning to their context, and continuously grow expertise. STOP Spillover's vision is for priority countries across Africa and Asia to gain critical knowledge about spillover ecosystems and to refine and use that knowledge effectively, efficiently and sustainably to reduce the risk of zoonotic viral spillover and subsequent spread. Equitable partnerships with local communities and institutions are critical to this vision.

COUNTRIES

STOP Spillover operates in countries at high risk for emergence and re-emergence of known zoonotic viruses with pandemic potential. STOP Spillover targets its surveillance, lab, risk communication, and other capacity strengthening activities in places where known zoonotic viruses are likely to make the jump from animals to humans. In 2024, STOP Spillover worked in six countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Vietnam.

PROJECT PARTNERS/IMPLEMENTERS

STOP Spillover is implemented by a consortium that brings deep technical and community engagement expertise, experience and relationships in USAID's priority global health security countries, and proven success implementing USAID-funded programs. Through its distinctive constellation of universities, Tufts University alongside other partners like Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN), the Southeast Asia One Health University Network (SEAOHUN), and the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b), promote national commitment, empower local expertise, and facilitate South-South collaboration.