

Communities have a key role to play in global health security. The Red Cross/Red Crescent epidemic preparedness programme empowers volunteers and communities to: identify risks; recognise and notify epidemic alerts; take early action to control disease. The programme set out to establish community-based surveillance (CBS) as a preparedness model – yielding earlier detection and action to halt outbreaks at the outset. This paper reports on the mid-stage CBS implementation experience and results in Indonesia, Kenya, Sierra Leone and Uganda.

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