

## Background

The International Public Policy Observatory was commissioned by GO-Science to complete a review to help inform a meeting that the Cross-Government Social and Behavioural Science for Emergencies (SBS-E) Steering Group is organising with UK funders on 13 December 2023.

This document was further updated in liaison with Carrie Heitmeyer at GO-Science ahead of a further meeting on 20 February 2024.

The International Public Policy Observatory was asked to consider:

- Whether other countries have in place systems/infrastructure similar to their group for proactively identifying and addressing social and behavioural science evidence gaps for future emergencies.
- The existing research mechanisms, institutes or frameworks for funding social and behavioural science research needed either pre-emergency (to inform preparedness) or during emergencies (for example sleeper studies).

The work was conducted by IPPO colleagues, Carol Vigurs, Research Officer and Mukdarut Bangpan, Associate Professor in Evidence-Informed Policy and Development at the EPPI Centre.

## Summary

We sought to conduct an internet-based search and map of research organisations in selected individual countries and international organisations that meet demands for research for emergency preparedness and response, that described a social science component and information on their funding mechanisms and frameworks. The Social and behavioral science component was diverse in aims, seeking to bring social science to understand non-pharmacological, social interventions, community contexts and, socio-cultural considerations, and research on research: understanding research demand, research capacity, creating a robust evidence base, and using evidence for decision making.

For the purposes of this report, 'emergency' has been defined as public health emergencies: disease outbreaks, environmental disasters and other humanitarian crises.

### **How networks and activities are described**

There was a range of different activities and products described by the different organisations we found. Networks and collaborations stated that they included a social or behavioural science component to emergency preparedness, were often multidisciplinary, bringing together social or behavioural science with the natural, medical and health sciences

and using different terms when describing their activities and outputs. This could make it difficult to locate both the organisations themselves and the evidence methods and research outputs they produce and where there may be gaps.

### **Funding mechanisms and frameworks**

While not explicitly described on websites of the organisation, some types of funding could be inferred. Research funding was either in the short term for calls of research to address evidence gaps, longer term to monitor and track research, but there was less information on how to fund a “surge” capacity to respond increased demand for research during an emergency, as well as other activities such as funders and donors mapping, decentralising funds to local hubs, and setting up collaborations to pool resources.

### **Knowledge capacity building**

Many of the organisations built-in civic engagement as a core part of research, given the important role engagement plays in understanding and responding to differential impacts of emergencies on different groups of people as well as local contexts that impact on intervention outcomes. This could take the form of research methods training for citizens and health workers, coproduction of research and community involvement in designing and delivering responses but there was little information available from the websites as to how to fund this as part of emergency planning or in a time of crisis.

### **Types of collaboration**

We identified a set of networks/groups that were set up by national/international agencies such as WHO, EU, UNICEF, FCDO, for example:

- **The WHO R&D Blueprint novel Coronavirus COVID-19 Social Science Working Group**, which aimed to use social science methods to generate rigorous evidence, develop strategic health response plans and understand the intended and unintended societal impact of epidemic-control decisions. Group members include experts from across global regions and social science disciplinary approaches. The group members can change to reflect the priority areas.
- The US-based **Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN)**, established by the combined efforts of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) the Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN) aims to “(connect) decision-makers grappling with difficult issues to the evidence, trends, and expert guidance that can help them lead their communities and speed their recovery”.<sup>1</sup> The evaluation report of the organisation emphasises the importance of the process of identifying the topic, the engagement between the group members and policy makers, and the knowledge translation of the outputs.
- **The Social Science in Humanitarian Action Platform**, funded by the UK FCDO and the Wellcome Trust, provides evidence, training and support spaces to support the work focusing on the social dimensions of emergency. Their fellowship programme builds emergency response capacity by pairing social scientists with practitioners to enhance localised community responses.

In addition, two groups bring together expertise from big data, social sciences and technology. These are:

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<sup>1</sup> See Marcotte and Suhay (2021).

- **The Cellule d'Analyse en Sciences Sociales (CASS)**, a social science analytics cell, pioneers innovative approaches to generate evidence from epidemiological, behavioural and social sciences.
- **Convergence**, set up by higher education institutions in collaboration with public and private partners, harnesses expertise and knowledge spanning health sciences, social sciences, humanities, and technological innovation.

Lastly, several initiatives were established to meet policy demands or respond/prepare to specific emergencies such as Knowledge for Development (K4D) programme, Zika Social Science network, Ebola response anthropology platform, Australia Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub, the national severe storms laboratory (USA).

### **Funding frameworks and mechanisms**

There was little detail given on organisational websites as to the exact funding frameworks and mechanisms for social and behavioural science in emergencies (to note, however, reporting of funding, e.g., the mix of funders and funded, are not always reported on websites).

While not explicitly described on websites of the organisation, some types of funding could be inferred for emergency preparedness.

- Short term funding

Short term funding for emergency preparedness could take the form of open calls for research where there had previously been identified gaps in knowledge, such as those identified from living maps of research or funding and research trackers.

- Long term funding

Funding for longer term emergency preparedness research included maintaining “living research” (that is research that is ongoing, and continuously updated as new research becomes available) known risk topic areas e.g. environmental hazards, on specific disease risks e.g. Ebola, Cholera and disease risks with pandemic potential. and as yet unknown risks e.g. Pathogen X, that could be deployed rapidly to meet specific evidence demands. Longer term funding also includes training future leaders and experts by funding PhDs and fellowships and capacity building by funding professional training programmes.

- Real-time demands or “Surge”

There was little information on what mechanisms and frameworks exist to rapidly fund a surge in demand for research evidence. Emergency preparedness activities to build surge capacity included research activities mapping and rapid deployment and coordination of community and local networks and collaborations for sharing resources and expertise. Data and research sharing, and sharing of best practice in real time was described in several emergency response organisations in the form of open databases and online platforms, online forums

### **Evidence products and outputs**

The types of evidence products varied but included rapid reviews and rapid synthesis of evidence, rapid knowledge briefs, rapid policy briefs, technical reports and guidance documents.

Several organisations reported emergency preparedness and planning outputs as updateable databases of research evidence themes of types of risk such as COVID19 and other disease outbreaks, or humanitarian emergencies, and were described as living labs, living research, or living maps which could be rapidly deployed for specific evidence needs around that theme. The term “sleeper study”, referring to advance planning protocols, R&D and ethics board approvals ready to fast-track processes for trials to quickly mobilise when needed, was not found in disaster or emergency planning that included social research (it was, however, found in medical research protocols).. One example of a clinical research consortium is the collaboration between the International Federation of Acute Care Trialists and the International Severe Acute Respiratory and Emerging Infection Consortium [ISARIC] that test protocols for infection diseases annually. Access to these databases varies from queries for research managed by the host organisation or they may be fully open to policy makers and practitioners for use to query or to update with new data. The evaluation of the activities of the Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN) (Marcotte and Sunay 2021), successful outcomes came from proactively identifying policy makers and the professional associations representing them to make evidence products at speed and make these accessible to a non-specialist audience.

The EU-funded Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness group (GloPID-R) is a global network of funders that invest in research to improve pandemic preparedness and response. It was established in 2013 in response to a request for coordination by the Heads of International Research Organizations and aims to coordinate funding efforts for future research needs as well as address research gaps and research capacity to respond to urgent research evidence demands. The group plans to release a new tracker of research funding and evidence in early 2024 as part of PACT, the Pandemic Analytical Capacity and Funding Tracking Programme. The tracker will be a living Rapid Research Needs Appraisals (RRNAs) platform for clinical research in new and emerging infectious diseases. The need for the inclusion of social science in emergency preparedness was described as ongoing and that additional support from the EU secretariate to support GLOPID-R was warranted.

In learning the lessons from the COVID19 experiences, WHO R&D Blueprint novel Coronavirus COVID-19 Social Science Working group organisation worked to overcome some of the barriers identified in the use of evidence to inform policy by providing advanced research training for health practitioners and technical guidance for research related to perceptions of risk, trust and drivers and increasing research capacity.

## Relevant research evidence

As part of this rapid scoping exercise, we have identified relevant studies (Table 2) that can be systematically analysed to provide a more in-depth understanding of the existing mechanisms or frameworks to mobilise knowledge and expertise in social sciences and resources for preparing and responding emergencies.

## How did we get these results?

We conducted a web-based international scan for organisations, networks, collaborations and institutions that exist to respond to urgent evidence demands that included social research, and the mechanisms and frameworks to rapidly deploy funding for social science research in emergencies.

We used free text and phrases searching in google for synonyms for groups, such as networks OR collaborations combined with synonyms for social research OR evidence AND emergencies OR disaster.

From this list of 22 relevant organisations, we developed a coding table of key characteristics of the organisations of type of disaster planning the organisation was focused on, the reach of action, such as regional, national or global, the aims of the organisation, the composition of the organisation, whether the organisation was a funder or was funded and the types of evidence outputs from the organisation.

### Further Information

The International Public Policy Observatory (IPPO) is an Economic Social Research Council (ESRC) funded project. IPPO is a collaboration, hosted at University College London, with partners at University of Glasgow, Queens University Belfast, Wales Centre for Public Policy, the EPPI-Centre, International Network of Government Science Advisors (INGSA) and The Conversation.

If you require further information about the project, or to discuss this piece of work please contact the Operations Manager at the International Public Policy Observatory at [ayden.wilson@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:ayden.wilson@ucl.ac.uk)

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Table 1: Examples of networks/groups

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
Global	Societal Experts Action Network	<p>To “quickly provide actionable responses to urgent policy questions,”</p> <p>A National Research Council, which increased the use of scientific research in industry and national defence development.</p> <p>The National Research Council has now been replaced by program units, through which the three academies generate advice for policymaking. In 2015, the group was rechartered as the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, and is governed jointly by these three divisions.</p>	Health, disease, environmental	<p><b>FUNDED:</b> Government, philanthropic</p> <p>National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)</p>	The SEAN Executive Committee will work with the SEAN Advisory Group and extended network of leading individuals and institutions in the social, behavioral, and economic (SBE) sciences, to facilitate rapid responses to actionable questions from decision makers.	Rapid policy briefs Rapid expert consultation	<a href="#">An initial evaluation of the SEAN</a>	In its effort to “quickly provide actionable responses to urgent policy questions,” SEAN established a unique process. Its process of identifying topics on which to provide guidance was especially novel. In a departure from NASEM’s practice of fielding requests from federal policymakers in Congress and the Executive Branch, SEAN focused its efforts on state and local policymakers and engaged professional associations that represented them. The substantial nature of the dialogue between SEAN staff and policymakers and their representatives appears to go far beyond the norm at NASEM. In creating products, SEAN relied on NASEM procedures but expedited them. Finally, SEAN staff and the Executive Committee worked to create products that could be easily absorbed and,

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								thus, used by the lay public.
Global	WHO R&D Blueprint novel Coronavirus COVID-19 Social Science working group	The COVID-19 social science research agenda aims to (1) generate high-quality social science evidence for achieving the goals of national strategic public health response plans; (2) develop and employ strong methodologies, and theoretical frameworks to tackle current epidemic challenges; and (3) understand (non-intended) consequences of epidemic-control decisions. Priority thematic areas were also identified.	COVID-19	<b>FUNDED</b>	The working group aims to ensure representation among its members. Group members bring expertise from across global regions and diversity across social science disciplinary approaches. The group includes members with specific expertise in priority thematic areas and with cross cutting expertise. Group membership may change during the course of the epidemic in the event that new priority areas become known and new expertise is needed.	The social science working group has contributed to the global public health response through coordinated action and partnership with multiple stakeholders and partner agencies.	<a href="#">Report</a> achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Convened a global consultation on evidence gaps and research priorities to advance community centred approaches to health emergencies</li> <li>- Contributed to technical and guidance documents</li> <li>- Training</li> <li>- Provided technical guidance for research related to perceptions of risk, trust and drivers</li> <li>- Advanced research among health workers</li> <li>- Working with ethics working group</li> <li>- Understanding the challenges related to uptake of evidence inform policy during COVID 19</li> <li>- Highlight policy lessons</li> </ul>



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Global	GloPID-R (the Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness)	<p>Our aim is to increase preparedness and speed up the research response to outbreaks with pandemic potential.</p> <p>(Experts) discussed all aspects of the outbreak and ways to control it including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The natural history of the virus, its transmission and diagnosis; animal and environmental research on the origin of the virus, including management measures at the human-animal interface;</li> <li>Epidemiological studies</li> </ul>	Infectious diseases	<p><b>FUNDER</b></p> <p>This research was funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) using UK Aid from the UK Government to support global health research, as part of the EDCTP2 Programme supported by the European Union.</p>	Funders in research related to new or re-emerging infectious diseases.	<p>Living maps Rapid research needs appraisals</p> <p>Current projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PACT, the Pandemic Analytical Capacity and Funding Tracking Programme</li> <li><a href="#">Funders' Forum for Social Science Research on Infectious Diseases.</a></li> <li>Social Science Mapping project</li> </ul>	<p>Website <a href="https://www.glopid-r.org/our-work/">https://www.glopid-r.org/our-work/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.glopid-r.org/our-work/">https://www.glopid-r.org/our-work/</a></p> <p><a href="#">The role of the GloPID-R Funders on Data sharing</a></p> <p><a href="#">Recommendations and considerations For GloPID-R</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Coordinated investment to improve preparedness and rapid research responses.</a></li> <li>Including research and policy teams</li> <li>Develop data sharing requirements in principles and policies or in grant conditions.</li> <li>Data management plan</li> <li><a href="#">Scenario planning</a></li> <li><a href="#">The importance of cohort studies, ethics process, sustainability of funding</a></li> <li><a href="#">Ending COVID-19 meetings</a></li> </ul>
Global/online	Social Science in humanitarian action platform	Our vision is to encourage emergency responses which are effective, adaptive, contextually informed, sensitive to	Emergencies that relate to health, conflict or the environment	Funded SSHAP is supported by the UK Foreign,	Institute of Development Studies, Anthrologica , Gulu University, Le Groupe d'Etudes	Provide evidence on demand, capacity-building, and networking space	<a href="https://www.socialscienceinaction.org/">https://www.socialscienceinaction.org/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fellowship</li> <li>Regional hubs</li> <li>Resources such as rapid synthesized knowledge briefs</li> </ul>

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		vulnerabilities and power relations, planned in consultation with affected communities and local institutions, and based on social and interdisciplinary science and evidence.		Commonwealth and Development Office and the Wellcome Trust, with previous funding from UNICEF.	sur les Conflits et la Sécurité Humaine (GEC-SH), London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Juba, CRCF Senegal, University of Ibadan and the Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre.			
Global	Analytics for Operations working group (AfO) Chaired by the Cellule d'Analyse en Sciences Sociales/ Social Sciences Analytics Cell (CASS)	To provide and facilitate better access to tools, guidance, lessons learned and technical support on using integrated, social sciences research and evidence to inform outbreak response in humanitarian settings	Health emergency	Funded UNICEF	Researchers from academic institutions, non-governmental organisations and UN agencies who are directly working in operational research in humanitarian settings.	Since 2018, the CASS has worked to bring together different actors from academic and applied research (epidemiologists, health analysts, social scientists, market and other researchers), governments, UN and NGOs (national and international) to inform public health strategies and response in outbreaks in humanitarian contexts	Not an evaluation report but the document that outlines activities.  <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/19r30-bZPmnrVIHRMzUN7BctPvpKPJoua/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/19r30-bZPmnrVIHRMzUN7BctPvpKPJoua/view</a>  <a href="https://www.unicef.org/drcongo/media/5406/file/COD-CASS-">https://www.unicef.org/drcongo/media/5406/file/COD-CASS-</a>	- Not reported

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							<a href="#">maximizing-use-evidence.pdf</a>	
Global	<u>Collective service</u>	To transform how the public health and the humanitarian sectors coordinate, implement, monitor, and resource collaborative approaches to community-led responses for public health emergencies. The Collective Service supports governments and partners involved in national and local responses for public health emergencies through its three major platforms:	Public health emergencies	Funded	the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN),		YES  <a href="#">Joint Evaluation of the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Collective Service</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Framework</a></li> <li>- Where social science data has been identified as necessary to support local responders in their actions and decisions, five key steps can be followed: 1) Conduct the primary research, 2) Develop social science data to evidence products, 3) Transform data into action: knowledge translation, 4) Enhance social structures and science activities, and 5) Identify and respond to capacity development needs Conduct the social science primary research Design research protocols with clear objectives, methodology, ethical considerations, and aligned with</li> </ul>

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								<p>programmatic priorities Design and test data collection tools from qualitative, quantitative or mixed-methods approaches Collect and analyse data, and interpret findings Disseminate outputs and track the use in programmatic actions.</p>
Global	<b>Convergence</b>  Netherlands	TU Delft, Erasmus MC and Erasmus University Rotterdam are jointly investing in Convergence. The integration of our knowledge and expertise within the medical, technical, social and economic sciences, as well as the humanities will give rise to new insights, technologies, and methodologies.	Pandemic and disaster preparedness	FUNDED	TU Delft, Erasmus MC and Erasmus University	<p>Doctoral programmes</p> <p>The Social and Urban Resilience for Pandemics and Disasters (SURE)</p> <p>(SURE) Living Lab aims to better understand which conditions temper these effects. To improve resilience, it is not only necessary to identify risks, but also to investigate what works. Subsequently, we focus on how groups form and citizen initiatives</p>	<p>Pandemic and Disaster Preparedness Center PDPC</p> <p><a href="#">Towards an interdisciplinary approach to disasters and pandemics</a></p>	<p>Policy, practice and research</p> <p>Targeted interventions</p> <p>Investigating knowledge gaps in the pandemic</p> <p>Infectious disease factor model</p> <p>Resilient healthcare systems</p> <p>Long-term COVID-19 strategy</p>

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						<p>take root. We also explore how to guide and encourage this process. In addition, using an app, we train citizens to distinguish between facts and disinformation.</p> <p>1: Climate change and vector-borne virus outbreaks  2: Predicting, measuring and quantifying airborne virus transmission  3: Pandemic lessons for flood disaster preparedness  4: Towards social and urban resilience  5: Integrated early-warning surveillance methods and tools</p>		
Global	<a href="#">DISASTER Research Unit</a>	<p>Freie Universitat Berlin</p> <p>A social science research institution specialising in</p>	Disasters	Funded	Research institutions	Examples of interdisciplinary projects		

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		interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research into disasters.				WEXICOM IV - Weather warnings: a research approach combining meteorology, social sciences, and psychology .		

						<p>SEMSAI – aims to explore how model-based forecasts can be adjusted to better reflect the future and how communication of forecasts influences behaviour</p> <p>CliWaC – a historical-sociological study          CliWaC will bring together social and natural science as well as practical expertise from stakeholders to support the governance of mitigation and adaptation measures in response to climate change.</p> <p>HoWas2021 - Governance and communication during the flood crisis in July 2021          ATLAS-ENGAGE - Civil Society Involvement in</p>	
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						<p>Population Protection</p> <p>The ATLAS-ENGAGE project, funded by the BBK, aims at a meta-analysis of approaches from research and practice to deal with these challenges and to integrate different forms of engagement</p> <p>SUNAMI RISK - Multi-risk assessment and cascade effect analysis in cooperation between Indonesia and Germany - Joint research on tsunamis induced by volcanoes and landslides</p> <p>INCREASE - Inclusive and Integrated Multi-Hazard Risk Management and Engagement of Volunteers to INCREASE Societal Resilience</p>	
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						in Times of Changing Climates RESIK - Resilience and Evacuation Planning for Socio-Economic Infrastructures in a Medico-Social Context (completed)		
Global	<u>CRED Centre for research on the epidemiology of disasters</u>	Université catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain)	CRED's research scope includes two main axes: natural disasters and crisis situations caused by civil strife, conflict or others. CRED studies broader aspects of humanitarian crises and emergencies, such as socio-economic, gender and	FUNDED	The Centre became a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre in 1980.	By providing a wealth of data on health issues arising from disasters and conflict, CRED seeks to improve needs-based preparedness and responses to humanitarian emergencies. EM-DAT: International Disaster database CE-DAT: Complex Emergency Database		The Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) provides <b>free access</b> to the full Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) for <b>non-commercial</b> purposes. Users on behalf of academic organizations, universities, non-profit organisations and/or international public organization (UN agencies, multi-lateral banks, other multi-lateral institution and national governments), are granted free access to EM-DAT, after acceptance of the present conditions of use.

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			environmental issues, with a strong focus on the special needs of vulnerable groups such as women and children.					
EU/Global	Sonar-global network <a href="https://sonar-global.eu/">https://sonar-global.eu/</a>	Sonar Global bolsters the contribution of the social sciences in the prevention of and response to infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).	Health, infectious diseases and Microbial Resistance	European Commission-funded		vulnerability assessments, models of community engagement and developed training curricula for social scientists and health researchers. Working through regional hubs, we encourage local leadership and foster global collaboration.	YES	This paper describes the process, advantages and limitations of a qualitative methodology for defining and analyzing vulnerabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic
	Social science in humanitarian action	A programme of work focusing on the social dimension of emergency responses	Humanitarian, Health, conflict	Wellcome Trust-DFID Joint Initiative on Epidemic Preparedness.		Mpox, Cholera, Ebola, Covid19, refugee crisis and displacement  Produces evidence reviews	YES	

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SEA	The WHO's South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF)	The fund is designed to provide financial support for the first three months following a disaster that occurs in an affected country to support lifesaving health interventions and fill in critical gaps. Effective and efficient disbursement processes followed at the most critical initial 24 h after an emergency, which was an essential component of execution of emergency response.	Health emergencies	FUNDER	A Working Group constituted by the representatives from MS from the Region oversees the fund and decides on disbursement of it as a support to the affected country in immediate aftermath of an emergency		<a href="#"><u>Southeast Asia Region during 2014-2023: synthesis of experience</u></a>	- Key components of this initiative included capacity-building, the establishment of the South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF), and the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005). This synthesis highlights the region's achievements in event reporting, development of national actions plan, successful Early Warning, Alert, and Response System (EWARS) implementation, and improvements in core capacities under IHR (2005). It also underscores the challenges associated with cross-border data sharing and regional collaboration that could strengthen ERM and enhance readiness for effective synergistic response.

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UK	Knowledge for Development' (K4D) programme		Humanitarian , Health, conflict	FUNDED: Foreign, Common wealth and Developm ent Office FC DO	<u>Institute of Development Studies / Education Development Trust / Itad / Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine / Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at the University of Manchester / University of Birmingham / University of Leeds</u>		<a href="#">YES</a>	
Brazil/global	Zika Social Sciences Network <a href="https://fiocruz.tghn.org/zikanetwork/">https://fiocruz.tghn.org/zikanetwork/</a>	To understanding and managing the emergency demanded an interdisciplinary and comprehensive approach to give a proper response.	Zika	Funded	It was convened by Fiocruz and gathers researchers and institutions to join combine efforts to address issues that arose from this experience from a social sciences and humanities perspective.	Its structure consists of a General Coordination, Executive Coordination, Executive Staff, Research Groups and Commissions.	<a href="https://gh.bmj.com/content/54/e002307">https://gh.bmj.com/content/54/e002307</a>	The Network's labor is guided by a series of guidelines, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The use of social sciences perspective to mediate and analyze how the Zika epidemic articulates in very different domains of practice and its challenges;</li> <li>- The understanding that biomedical, social, legal, economic and political practices and</li> </ul>

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								<p>interventions produce different “Zikas” in order to investigate the multilevel consequences of these interventions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attention to the inequities of class, race, and gender, and to their intersections;</li> <li>- The understanding that policies, sciences, and social practices produced by Zika’s enactments are contingent, and produced in a specific time and place. However, the lessons learned from this scenario can be applied not only on new epidemics but also on other neglected diseases, due to similarities on the population usually affected;</li> <li>- The acknowledgment of the role of each stakeholder (academy, funders, industry, govern, media, health workers), including</li> </ul>

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								the general public and civil society as key actors
Sierra Leone, Uganda, Liberia	Ebola response anthropology platform  <a href="https://www.ebola-anthropology.net/">https://www.ebola-anthropology.net/</a>	Anthropologists providing advice on how to engage with crucial socio-cultural and political dimensions of the Ebola outbreak and build locally-appropriate interventions.	Health, epidemic	Part funded by the UK's Department for International Development/DFID, now the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office/FCDO),	Academics from LSHTM, IDS, Sussex and Exeter.	Thematic working groups  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identifying/Diagnosing Cases.</li> <li>- Attending to the Dead.</li> <li>- Care of the sick</li> <li>- Clinical Interventions and Research</li> <li>- Preparedness.</li> <li>- News, briefings and publications were disseminated via the Emergency Ebola Anthropology Network's listserv.</li> </ul> discussion boards for open discussions between anthropologists and others interested in a social science perspective.	Yes	SEARCH IMPACT LEARNING · Positioning of study team with key decision-makers, with awareness of 'opportunity windows'  · Creating timely, tailored evidence products to inform a specific dialogue  A common theme of the findings was the need to involve local communities, in all their diversity, in respectful dialogue when designing and delivering responses ; another was the importance of avoiding one-size-fits-all approaches but instead attuning humanitarian responses to political-economic, social and cultural contexts to increase the effectiveness and impact of responses to Ebola

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						The Rapid Response service answers queries on the Ebola outbreak with the aim to enhance current efforts to contain the epidemic by providing clear, practical, real-time advice about how to engage with crucial socio-cultural and political dimensions of the outbreak and build locally-appropriate intervention		
Australia	<a href="#"><u>Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub</u></a>	The Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub (the 'Knowledge Hub') is a national, open-source platform that supports and informs policy, planning, decision making and contemporary good practice in disaster resilience. The Knowledge Hub highlights current and emerging themes in the resilience sector, linking national guidelines with research and fostering	Health, environmental, natural, Fire, biohazards	The Knowledge Hub is managed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience on behalf of the Australian Government,		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Actively supporting, growing and sustaining a range of networks across sectors and jurisdictions.</li> <li>- Enabling those with a role in disaster risk reduction and resilience to come together to learn,</li> </ul>		▪

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
		collaboration among leading agencies and organisations. The Knowledge Hub also houses information on historical Australian disasters.		and replaces the Emergency Management Knowledge Hub		<p>develop and innovate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collecting, developing, curating and sharing knowledge to educate and promote good practice in disaster risk reduction and resilience.</li> <li>- Providing a central focus point for national thought leadership on disaster risk reduction and resilience</li> </ul>		
Korea	Government infrastructure	Integrated Disaster and Safety Information System to support cross-government risk information sharing.	Disasters	Funded	Government agencies	Based on a 3-D geospatial information system (GIS) the system makes available all the data and information necessary to conduct risk assessment at the national and local levels. The	<a href="#">OECD report</a> Ministry of the Interior and Safety (2019[46]), Integrated Disaster and Safety Information System, <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	



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						System's web based Disaster Management Portal is accessible to central and local governments to access this information as well as to upload their own information.	.mois.go.kr/eng/sub/a03/bestPractices1/screen.do; Kang (2016]), Disaster Early Warning Services in the Republic of Korea, <a href="http://www.safekorea.go.kr/ids">http://www.safekorea.go.kr/ids</a>	
Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Malaysia	Transcend ,University of Salford	to develop an advanced digital platform which can be used by various government agencies and communities to work together to analyse, forecast, visualize and debate disaster risk and to choose development plans that ensure sustainability and equitable resilience which will help guide climate change adaptation and decision making.	Natural disasters	FUNDED awarded almost £1 million from the UK Research and Innovation Collective Fund The project is a 3-year programme funded by ESRC and GCR	University of Salford	Living Labs, in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Malaysia which will work collaboratively with a range of government organisations, NGOs and marginalized communities to transform current practices. Evidence-based decision making that exploits the power of data, modelling, urban simulation and visualisation is at		

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
						the heart of this project.		
USA	National Severe Storms Laboratory <u>NSSL RESEARCH</u>	Our mission is to conduct social science research with the goal of minimizing the impacts of hazardous weather on society.	Natural disasters	FUNDED NOAA's Sea Grant Extension Network	NSSL researchers collaborate with colleagues at the University of Oklahoma's Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis, the OU Center for Applied Social Research, the OU Center for the Analysis and Prediction of Storms, the University of Akron, Howard University	Research areas: <b>Emergency Management</b> NSSL collaborators conduct ethnographic research with emergency managers during live events. This helps researchers understand the complex decision-making processes of emergency managers during severe weather outside controlled testbed environments. <b>Broadcast Meteorology</b> researchers include broadcasters directly in the HWT spring experiment, and they also conduct interviews and focus groups with broadcasters outside the testbed environment. This feedback is used in		Insights generated from this work inform recommendations for the communication products, practices and policies of forecasters, emergency managers and broadcast meteorologists, in addition to the research agendas of other social scientists.

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
						<p>conjunction with feedback from emergency managers and forecasters to refine how uncertainty information is generated and disseminated.</p> <p><b>Weather Forecasters</b> NOAA National Weather Service forecasters participate in experiments in the NOAA Hazardous Weather Testbed that evaluate their decision-making processes</p> <p><b>United States Public</b></p>		
	BePrepared consortium	Maastricht university	Pandemic preparedness	<p>FUNDED by ZonMw</p> <p>ZonMw programmes and funds research and</p>	12 universities, including Maastricht University (Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences and Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience), TNO, Pharos,	<p>The BePrepared research focuses on four themes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What socio-psychological and environmental factors influence the</li> </ul>		<p><b>A toolkit for policymakers</b> We will review literature, analyse existing data, conduct questionnaires and experiments, as well as interview citizens and policy makers to learn how future pandemic policies can be better</p>

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
				innovation in health, healthcare and well-being, encourages the use of this knowledge and highlights knowledge needs. 1 year	Trimbos Institute and RIV	<p>behaviour people can adopt to prevent infectious diseases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How resilience of citizens and communities can be strengthened, and citizens and organisations involved in policy.</li> <li>- How social science advice can be used in policy and government communication.</li> <li>- How research methodologies can be improved to model the effects of measures.</li> </ul>		designed, adapted, and used in models to predict and control a pandemic. This will advance science and should also result in a better-filled toolbox for municipalities, GGDs, the RIVM and policymakers."
USA	<u>The Disaster Networking Collaborative</u>	Pandemics	The Disaster Networking Collaborative (DNC) supports	FUNDED  The network is supported	The Pediatric Pandemic Network launched with five children's hospitals in 2021, and	The DNC is a Quality Improvement (QI) collaborative. QI <u>collaboratives</u> ,	National assessment	The National Pediatric Readiness Project (NPRP) empowers emergency departments (EDs) to improve their

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
			collective efforts to identify and share best practices and cost-effective solutions to enhance each children's hospital's infrastructure to prepare for disasters. Children and adolescents are particularly vulnerable and have unique physical, mental/behavioral, and social needs that must be addressed in disaster preparedness and response, and disasters can further exacerbate issues of health	by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.	expanded to 10 in 2022. The network's hospitals represent diverse regions across the U.S.:	which are free to participants and anchored in <u>QI science</u> , engage health care leaders in networking opportunities, identification of evidence-based practices, and local efforts to improve pediatric emergency care. Collaboratives bring together health care practitioners from diverse settings to develop and share best practices and collectively integrate the needs of children into emergency care systems.		capability to provide high-quality care for children, also known as being "pediatric ready."

Reach	Name of group/network	Main focus	Type of emergency	Type of funding	Composition /patterns	How engaged/ outputs	Sources	Outcomes/Mechanisms/ Framework
			inequities that affect pediatric populations.					

**Table 2:** Relevant studies

<b>Integrating social science in emergency preparedness and response</b>
Bardosh, K.L., de Vries, D.H., Abramowitz, S. et al. Integrating the social sciences in epidemic preparedness and response: A strategic framework to strengthen capacities and improve Global Health security. <i>Global Health</i> 16, 120 (2020). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12992-020-00652-6">https://doi.org/10.1186/s12992-020-00652-6</a>
Bardosh K. Global aspirations, local realities: the role of social science research in controlling neglected tropical diseases. <i>Infect Dis Poverty</i> . 2014;3(1):35.
Carter SE, Gobat N, Zambruni JP, Bedford J, van Kleef E, Jombart T, et al. What questions we should be asking about COVID-19 in humanitarian settings: perspectives from the social sciences analysis cell in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. <i>BMJ Glob Health</i> . 2020;5(9):e003607.
Carter SE, Ahuka-Mundeke S, Pfaffmann Zambruni J, Navarro Colorado C, van Kleef E, Lissouba P, Meakin S, le Polain de Waroux O, Jombart T, Mossoko M, Bulemfu Nkagirande D, Esmail M, Earle-Richardson G, Degail MA, Umutohi C, Anoko JN, Gobat N. How to improve outbreak response: a case study of integrated outbreak analytics from Ebola in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. <i>BMJ Glob Health</i> . 2021 Aug;6(8):e006736. doi: 10.1136/bmjgh-2021-006736. PMID: 34413078; PMCID: PMC8380808.
Gooding, K., Bertone, M.P., Loffreda, G. et al. How can we strengthen partnership and coordination for health system emergency preparedness and response? Findings from a synthesis of experience across countries facing shocks. <i>BMC Health Serv Res</i> 22, 1441 (2022). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-022-08859-6">https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-022-08859-6</a>
Janes CR, Corbett KK, Jones JH, Trostle J. Emerging infectious diseases: the role of social sciences. <i>Lancet</i> . 2012;380(9857):1884
Leslie M, Fadaak R, Davies J, et al Integrating the social sciences into the COVID-19 response in Alberta, Canada <i>BMJ Global Health</i> 2020;5:e002672.
Passos MJ, Matta G, Lyra TM, et al. The promise and pitfalls of social science research in an emergency: lessons from studying the Zika epidemic in Brazil, 2015–2016 <i>BMJ Global Health</i> 2020;5:e002307.
Van Bavel JJ, Baicker K, Boggio PS, Capraro V, Cichocka A, Cikara M, et al. Using social and behavioural science to support COVID-19 pandemic response. <i>Nat Hum Behav</i> . 2020:1–12.
WHO (2018). Integrating social science interventions in epidemic, pandemic and health emergency response: report of an informal consultation. Available: <a href="https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/259933/WHO-WHE-IHM-2018.1-eng.pdf">https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/259933/WHO-WHE-IHM-2018.1-eng.pdf</a>
<b>Evidence-based responses</b>

Hempel S, Burke RV, Hochman M, et al. Allocation of scarce resources in a pandemic: rapid systematic review update of strategies for policy makers. <i>JCE</i> . 25 May 2021 [Epub ahead of print]. DOI: 10.1016/j.clinepi.2021.04.021 .
Jillson IA, Clarke M, Allen C, Waller S, Koehlmoos T, Mumford W, Jansen J, McKay K, Trant A. Improving the science and evidence base of disaster response: a policy research study. <i>BMC Health Serv Res</i> . 2019 May 2;19(1):274. doi: 10.1186/s12913-019-4102-5. PMID: 31046763; PMCID: PMC6498534.
Nelson J, Yannias-Walker A (2021) FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF SURGE STUDY. ActionAid. UK
Strahan K, Keating A, Handmer J (2020 ) Models and frameworks for assessing the value of disaster research. <i>Progress in Disaster Science</i> . Vol 6. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pdisas.2020.100094">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pdisas.2020.100094</a>
<b>Evaluations of networks</b>
Giles-Vernick T, Kutalek R, Napier D, Kaawa-Mafigiri D, Dückers M, Paget J, et al. A new social sciences network for infectious threats. <i>Lancet Infect Dis</i> . 2019;19(5):461–3.
IFRC, WHO, UNICEF (2023) Joint Evaluation of the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Collective Service Evaluation Report
Marcotte D E, Suhay E., (2020-2021) An Initial Evaluation of the Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN). School of public affairs. Washington DC.
WHO (2021) WHO R&D Blueprint COVID-19 WHO COVID-19 Social Science in Outbreak Response Achievements. WHO