



Gates Archives

The Exemplar

November 2023

Hi Friend,

It's been almost four years since the first reports of an unknown disease that, not too long after, would devastate the entire world.


The global health community, including Exemplars in Global Health, is still researching the **COVID-19** response and learning about its ongoing impact, and we will likely continue doing so for a long time. What we do know: another pandemic similar to COVID-19 may come in our lifetime, and investing in preparedness will be critical. Implementing and scaling early warning systems is one tool that can help us improve preparedness against future outbreaks of infectious diseases.

Early warning systems, or EWS, collect and analyze data from a variety of sources, such as health systems, news and social media, and climate and environmental data, to forecast public health threats. When fully developed and implemented, EWS can enable public health decision makers to better mitigate hazards and risks, allocate resources, and respond accordingly.

Exemplars in Global Health, along with our partners at Brown University, will be studying how EWS have been implemented to enable rapid detection and response to disease outbreaks. Our recently announced **Advance Warning and Response Exemplars (AWARE)** project will explore key drivers that lead to successful EWS, by researching the barriers and facilitators to developing, implementing, and sustaining robust EWS in low-resource environments. As with all Exemplars work, bright spots in EWS will be identified so we can learn from them to inform solutions across countries and contexts.

Four years is both a long time and a blink of the eye, and while lockdowns and social distancing may (at times) feel like a distant memory, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to impact us all. We look forward to investigating and sharing how EWS can support epidemic preparedness and response across the globe, ensuring our world is safer and healthier for all.

Best,
Niranjan Bose

 **Gates Ventures**
Niranjan Bose, PhD
Managing Director, Health and Life Sciences

Exemplars in Global Health is studying a new topic area:
early warning systems.

[LEARN MORE](#)

EXEMPLARS STORIES

Dr. Wilmot James: from fighting apartheid to preparing for the next pandemic

Dr. James, Senior Advisor to the Brown Pandemic Center, spoke about the importance of researching early warning systems for infectious diseases.

COVID-19 demonstrated the power of a potential game-changer: self-tests

Self-testing can increase access to critical medical information and improve countries' pandemic responses.

EVENTS

United Nations Climate Change Conference (#COP28)

November 30 – December 12, 2023

The 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference, or COP28, is an annual conference hosted to assess global progress towards mitigating and adapting to climate change. This year, COP28 will highlight the connection between climate change and health through the first ever Health Day and will call upon the governments in attendance to endorse the Declaration on Climate and Health.

2023 African Society for Laboratory Medicine Conference (#ASLM2023)

December 12 – 15, 2023

Hosted in Cape Town, South Africa, this year's African Society for Laboratory Medicine Conference, ASLM, will bring together health care professionals to discuss the latest diagnostic advancements and policy developments in laboratory medicine taking shape across Africa.

Exemplars is now on Facebook! Follow us for updates and resources from across the Exemplars in Global Health community.

[FOLLOW](#)

ABOUT

Join Exemplars

We're a passionate and dedicated community of global health leaders working on the biggest challenges of our time. Register to join the conversation.

