

CAPACITY BUILDING THROUGH TRAINING OF 120 LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS IN BIO RISK (BIOSECURITY AND BIOSAFETY) AND BIO THREAT RISK REDUCTION IN GUINEA CONAKRY, 2016-2017

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The world's most widespread epidemic of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) began around December 2013. Within six months, cases were found throughout Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, countries that eventually suffered 28,616 cases and 11,310 deaths due to the outbreak. Initial response was marked by disease surveillance gaps and weaknesses but heroic efforts eventually led to monumental successes. Laboratory infrastructure in these countries was weak and unprepared to respond effectively. In Guinea, Santé plus Organization, the Ministry of health /National Laboratory Direction, with the support of CRDF GLOBAL and EMPHNET organized seven (7) training of 120 peripheral laboratory agents in Bio risk (biosecurity and biosafety). The main objective was to contribute to Guinea laboratories' system straightening on bio threat and bio risk reduction through increase capacity building of laboratory agents in biosecurity and biosafety. At the end, 120 participants have accomplished (certification) their training with an average of participants' knowledge increased up to 80%. During the training sessions, some lessons were learnt including: the full implication of administrative and health authorities the great interest and satisfaction of participants to the topics covered. After 12 months following the regional training sessions on bio risk training sessions, a Qualitative survey involving 110 out of 120 professional who completed the training sessions organized: 110 /120 are in place working in their laboratory among with 90% declare using their skills after training to improve their biosecurity procedure especially the waste management and the biomedical sample management (collect, conditioning and transfer); More than half (60/110) interviewee declare "training their colleague on the use of the EPE"; Almost all of interviewee (90/110) declare "having organized sensitization sessions either with stakeholder or with the Community to address the bio threat risk prevention especially in with Ebola Forecarria and Gueckedou place where Ebola have killed the most. Many of interviewee (80/110) declare "improving the waste management quality in their lab"; (40/110) interviewee declare "the need of a National bio risk policy in Guinea". Many of the trainees (100/110) would like to be part of the Guinea bio risk organization to promote the biosecurity, biosafety and the bio threat risk reduction in Guinea.

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