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NON-COMPETITIVE DIVISION

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Emergency
Management Fellowship: Strengthening the International Public Health
Workforce

Since 2013, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S. CDC) has provided the Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Fellowship to international public health professionals. The PHEM fellowship aims to build an international workforce to establish public health emergency management programs and public health emergency operations centers to increase capacity in participating countries.

In March 2021, all 141 graduates of the fellowship were invited to complete a web survey designed to examine their past and current job roles and functions, assess their contributions to their country's COVID-19 response, and identify technical assistance needs for strengthening national preparedness and response systems. The survey response rate was 63.1%. We summarized the data by geographic region and fellowship cohort. Overall, findings show that fellowship graduates play a critical role in PHEM capacity development, have served in key roles in their country's COVID-19 response, and desire continued engagement between U.S. CDC and PHEM

fellowship alumni to strengthen the community of practice for international public health emergency management.

Presentation Theme: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established the Public Health Emergency Management Fellowship (PHEMF) in 2013 to build public health preparedness and response capacity in the international public health community. The fellowship provides participants with three months of classroom and hands on training and mentorship from CDC experts, in Atlanta, Georgia. Each class of fellows is comprised of professions from different countries, which fosters peer to peer learning and helps build a global community of practice. To date, CDC has trained 141 PHEM fellows from 36 countries on emergency management. PHEMF graduates return to their home countries and integrate emergency management principles into their national preparedness and response programs. The poster will demonstrate the impact of the fellowship on home country COVID-19 responses and discuss technical assistance needs to sustain global preparedness and response capacity.

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