**Case Study: Collaborative Efforts: The World Health Organization and Evidence Aid Knowledge Hub for the WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management**

**Introduction and Background**
This case study highlights the partnership between the World Health Organization (WHO) Kobe Centre and Evidence Aid. Together they established a Knowledge Hub to support the online presence and dissemination of the Guidance on Research Methods in Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management. Health emergencies and disasters pose significant challenges to healthcare systems worldwide. In these critical situations, evidence-based research plays a crucial role in informing effective policies, interventions and strategies. Evidence Aid was identified as the WHO Kobe Centre’s key partner in recognising the importance of evidence in emergency response and preparedness as a result of its commitment to improving the quality and accessibility of evidence in humanitarian settings.

**Objectives**

1. To establish a **complete Knowledge Hub** that provides easy access to up-to-date guidance on research methods and tools related to health emergency and disaster risk management.
2. To **promote evidence-based decision-making** by synthesising and disseminating the best available research methods.
3. To **strengthen the capacity of healthcare professionals, researchers and policymakers** in utilising research methods for health emergency and disaster risk management.
4. To facilitate **knowledge exchange and collaboration** among global stakeholders working in emergency and disaster settings.

**Key Activities**

**Content development:** Evidence Aid collaborated with WHO experts and researchers to develop materials to support the evidence-based guidance, systematic reviews and methodological frameworks tailored to health emergency and disaster risk management. The resources were designed to address critical research gaps, methodological challenges and emerging issues in the field.

**Resource curation:** Evidence Aid took the lead, curated, and organised the extensive range of resources and developed user-friendly resources to enhance accessibility within the Knowledge Hub.

**Knowledge dissemination:** The WHO Kobe Centre and Evidence Aid developed joint communication strategies disseminating the resources in the Knowledge Hub to a global audience using various platforms such as webinars, conferences and social media as well as online resources as described above.

**Capacity building:** Evidence Aid facilitated videos and slideshows to enhance the educational component of the guidance for healthcare professionals, policy makers and researchers working in emergency and disaster settings. These capacity building resources aimed to strengthen skills in study design, data collection, analysis and interpretation within the context of health emergencies.
Outcomes and Impact

1. **Accessibility**: A centralised platform offering easy access to a wide range of resources. [https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/en/what_we_do/health-emergencies/research-methods](https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/en/what_we_do/health-emergencies/research-methods)
2. **Knowledge exchange**: Endorsed a community of practice by encouraging collaboration and shared learning amongst stakeholders.
3. **Enhanced capacity**: Strengthened the capacity of individuals to work in emergency and disaster settings.
4. **Evidence utilisation**: Bridging the gap between research and practice.

“We were excited to work on producing knowledge materials in different formats with Evidence Aid for the Guidance, making it more accessible and usable and appreciated the strong support of Evidence Aid. We are looking forward to expanding on this work and disseminating the Guidance further”.

*Dr Ryoma Kayano of the WHO Kobe Centre – on completion of the project.*

Conclusion

The partnership between the WHO Kobe Centre and Evidence Aid shows the power of collaboration in advancing evidence-based research in emergency and disaster settings. By using the expertise of both organisations, the Knowledge Hub¹ has become an invaluable resource for individuals and institutions worldwide. Through joint efforts, we have contributed to strengthening the evidence base, improving preparedness, and ultimately enhancing the resilience of researchers in times of crisis for the humanitarian sector and beyond.

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¹[https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/en/what_we_do/health-emergencies/research-methods](https://extranet.who.int/kobe_centre/en/what_we_do/health-emergencies/research-methods)