



STIP in Emergency Response & Recovery: Lessons from the Ebola Outbreak in West Africa

Vivian Ranson | USAID/Lab Ebola Recovery Team
May 24, 2016

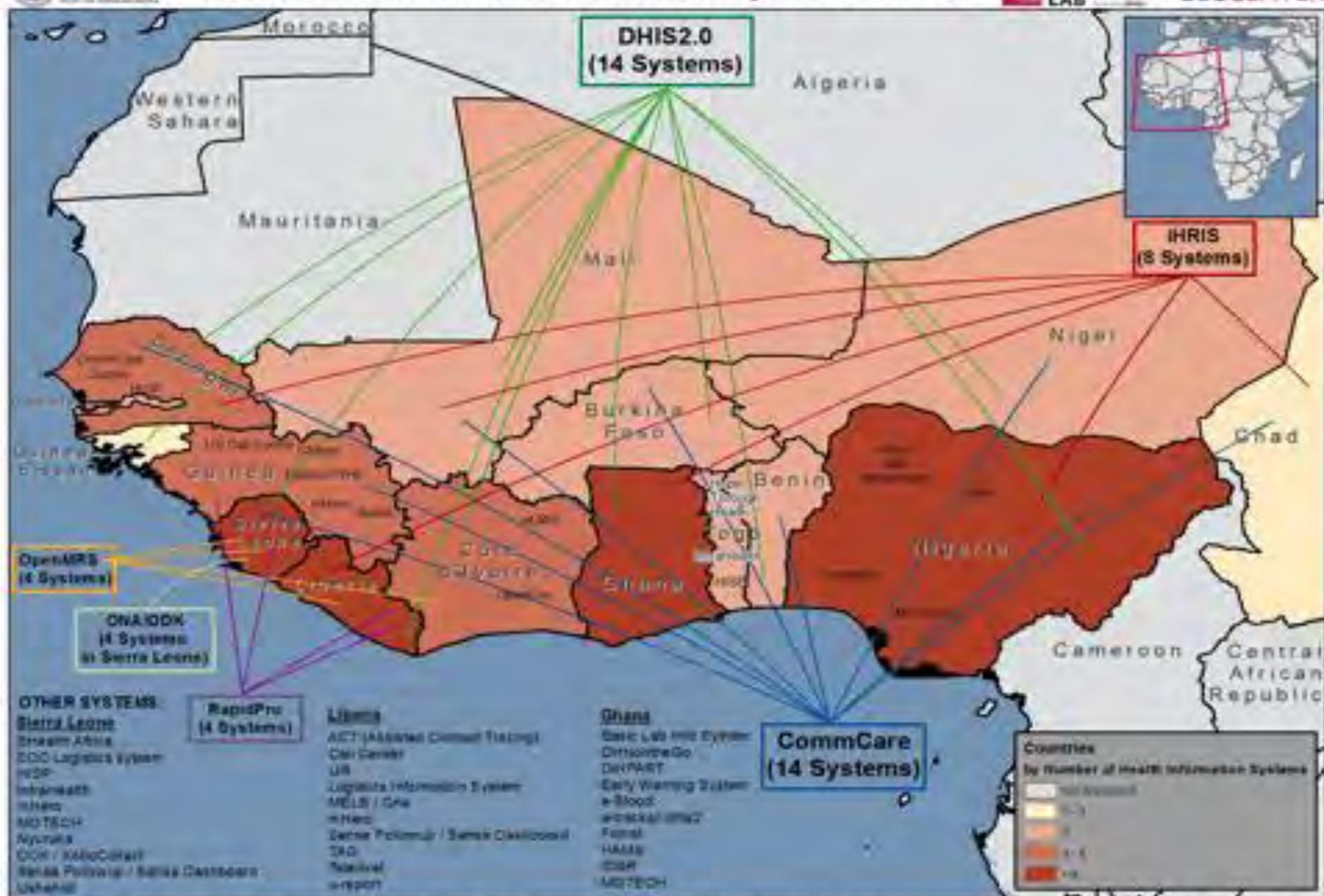
Agenda

- **Lessons learned:** STIP in the context of emergency response (25 min)
- **Transition to recovery:** STIP approaches for resilience (20 min)
- **Activity:** integrating STIP in Mission programs (20)
- **Q&A and wrap-up** (5-10 min)

Why does the Ebola response matter?

- **It's not just Ebola.** Emergency response and recovery challenges apply to a broad range of shocks, from environmental to economic
- **Disaster and development are critically linked.** Large-scale emergencies and humanitarian crises amplify the importance of development needs for infrastructure, information, and resources
- Recovery efforts require Missions to adapt programming
- **STIP can improve response and drive recovery.** Use of new technologies such as GIS and mobile tools can help enable rapid response and improve recovery programming





Effective STIP integration in response and recovery builds resilience for future shocks

Response

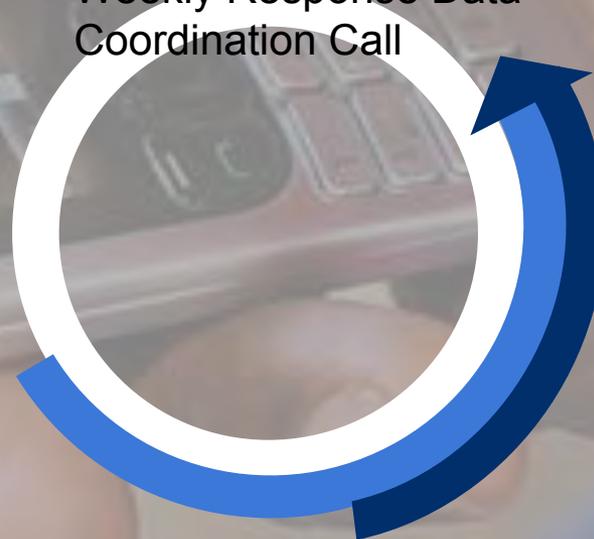
- Fighting Ebola Grand Challenge
- DART Information & Technology Advisor
- Weekly Response Data Coordination Call

Recovery

- HIS Governance
- Public-Private Partnerships (GDA)
- Connected Health Workers

Resilience

- Connectivity Infrastructure
- Regional Health Informatics Team & Interoperability Solutions (BAA)
- ePayment of Health Workers



Recovery efforts are developed from lessons learned during the Ebola response in West Africa

Challenges in Ebola Response



Government buy-in and complex **stakeholder coordination** are critical



Government-led stakeholder and donor coordination, aligned with national strategy



Response needs **field presence** and understanding of **local context**



Build capacity of local partners and leverage natural interest of private sector partners



Limited ability to drive **innovation and new operational models** in a disaster context



Invest in existing systems and build capacity for two-way communication with frontline health workers, especially in non-emergency times



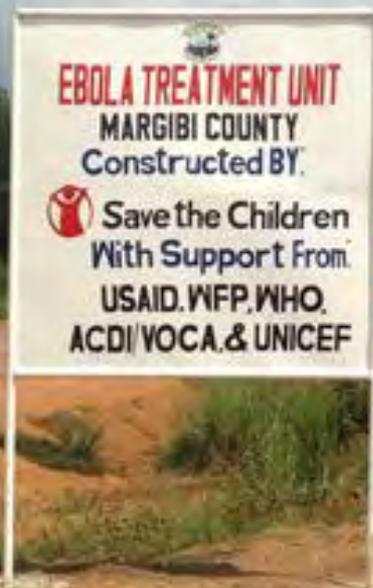
Sharing and use of collected data is a major challenge for both response and recovery



Invest in data environment: connectivity, capacity for data use, feedback loops with community-based, frontline health workers

Improve data sharing by setting common standards, building interoperability, using existing systems, and linking to decision

Perspective from USAID/WA and USAID/Liberia



ACTIVITY: Integrating STIP in Mission Programs

What kind of shock has your region experienced, or is at risk of?

- **Conflict:** *social or political, such as election violence or violent extremism*
- **Epidemics:** *Avian Influenza, Ebola, MERS-CoV, Zika*
- **Food Security:** *severe weather, such as drought, or massive crop failure*
- **Natural Disasters:** *earthquakes, floods, hurricanes*

ACTIVITY: Integrating STIP in Mission Programs

In small groups, discuss:

- How would the shock affect current Mission Programs?
 - *Program results, timing, funding, resources*
- What is most important to be able to respond to?
 - *What information or coordination is needed?*
- How could STIP mitigate challenges or address needs?
 - *S: are there research or other scientific capacity needs?*
 - *T: could new technologies help in response and recovery?*
 - *I: what are challenges and gaps in the response?*
 - *P: what private sector partners have response capacity and/or naturally aligned interests?*
- What capacities could be built now?



Thank You!



Regional Health Information Systems Policy and Strategy: *Sharing data between ECOWAS countries*

Stephen Menard

Regional Program Development Officer at USAID/West Africa

Tuesday May 24, 2016

STIP Summit 2016; Pretoria, SA

OUTLINE

- Health Information Systems in West Africa: background and existing strategies
- Vision and Implementation of the Regional HIS Strategy
- USAID Partnership with local stakeholders for Regional HIS in West Africa

Regional Health Information Systems in West Africa



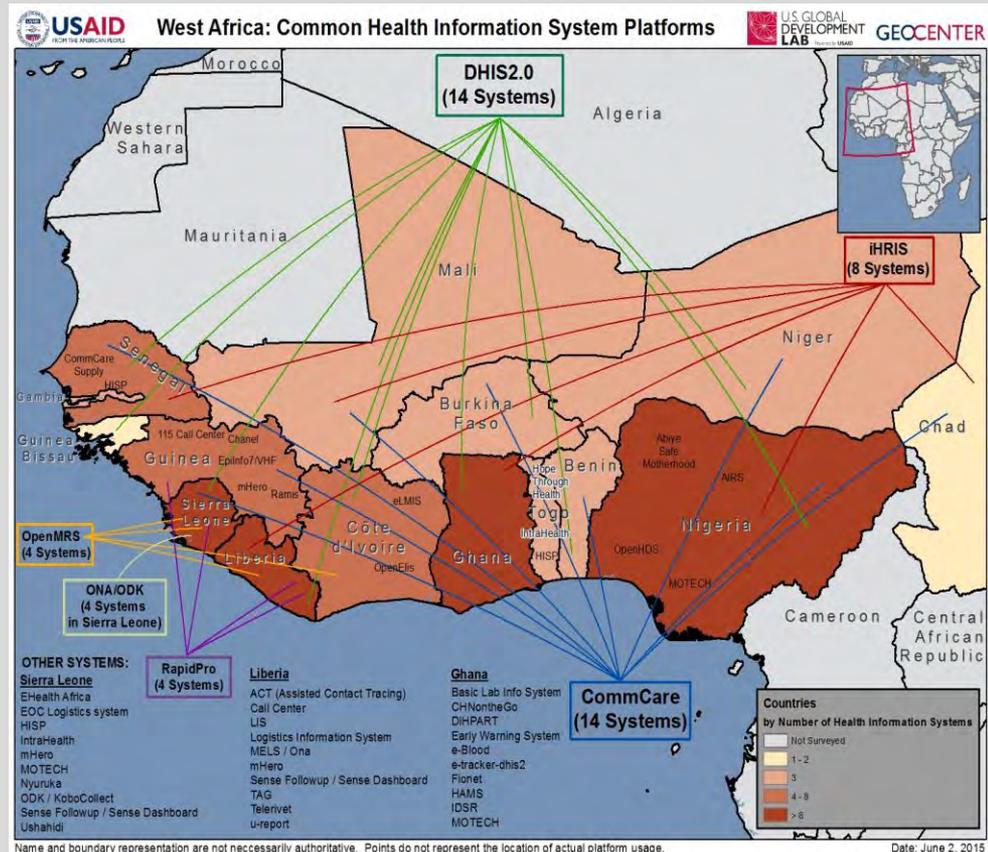
BACKGROUND

• West Africa Health Organization

- ECOWAS Agency for Health
- Governed by the Assembly of ECOWAS Health Ministers
- Mandated to promote policy harmonization and regional integration for health

• Gaps in HIS:

- Low institutional, human resource and infrastructure capacity
- Lack of coordination among government entities and development partners
- Fragmented systems that don't "speak" to one-another
- Variety of standards and indicators
- Low availability of and accessibility to data in the region
- Lack of evidence-based decision-making and programming

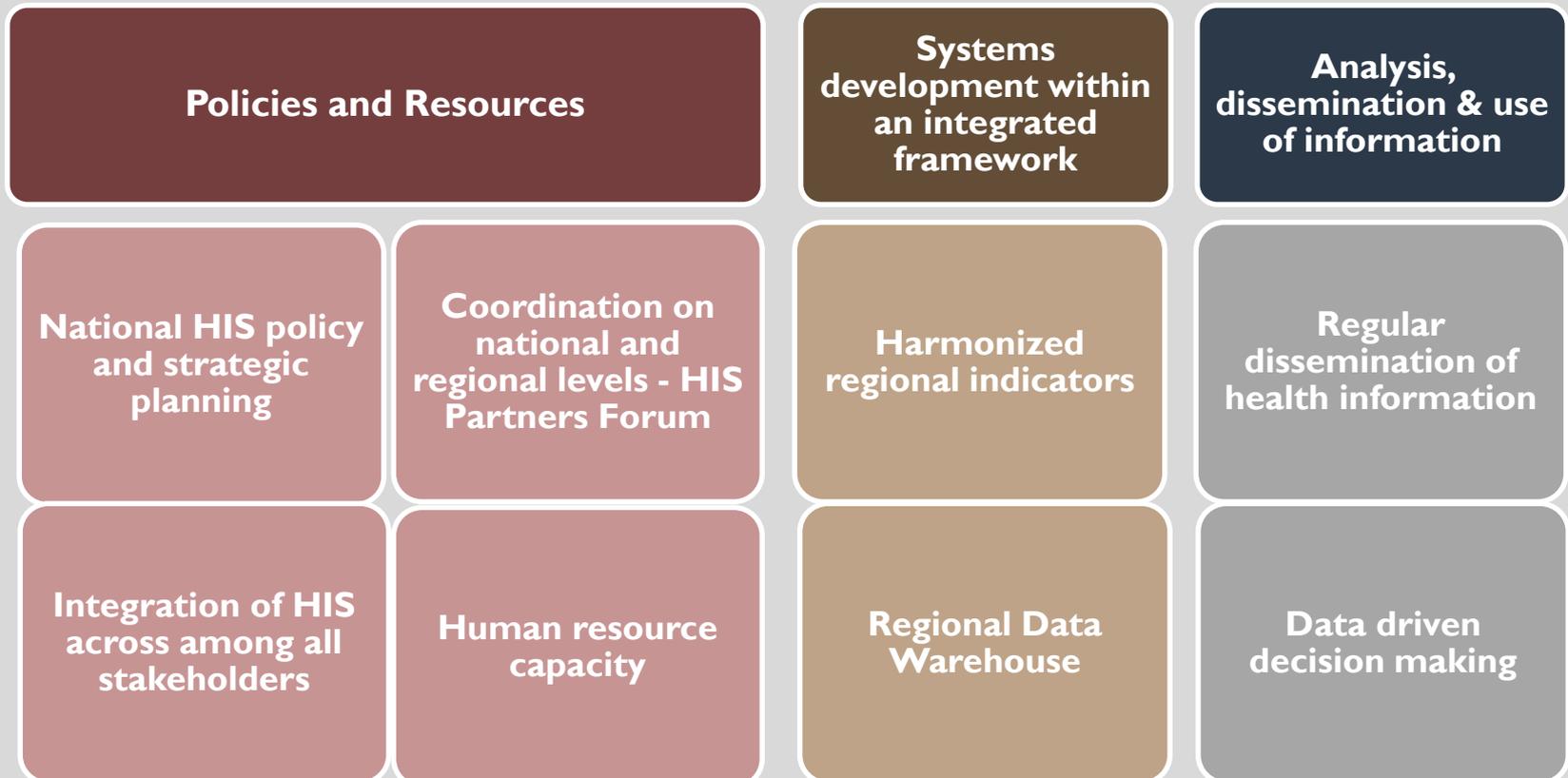


ECOWAS Regional Health Information Systems Policy and Strategy

- West Africa Health Organization's (WAHO) initiative and part of its mandate
- WAHO's Driven by identified gaps in HIS
- Adopted and signed by Ministers of Health of all 15 ECOWAS member states in the 2012 ECOWAS Health Ministers Assembly in Guinea
- Relevance underscored during the Ebola outbreak and response (challenges around detection, cross border transmission, cross border data sharing)

HIS STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

Quality health information is available, easily accessible and used for informed decision making, improved health services and monitoring of health status of populations at all levels of the ECOWAS region

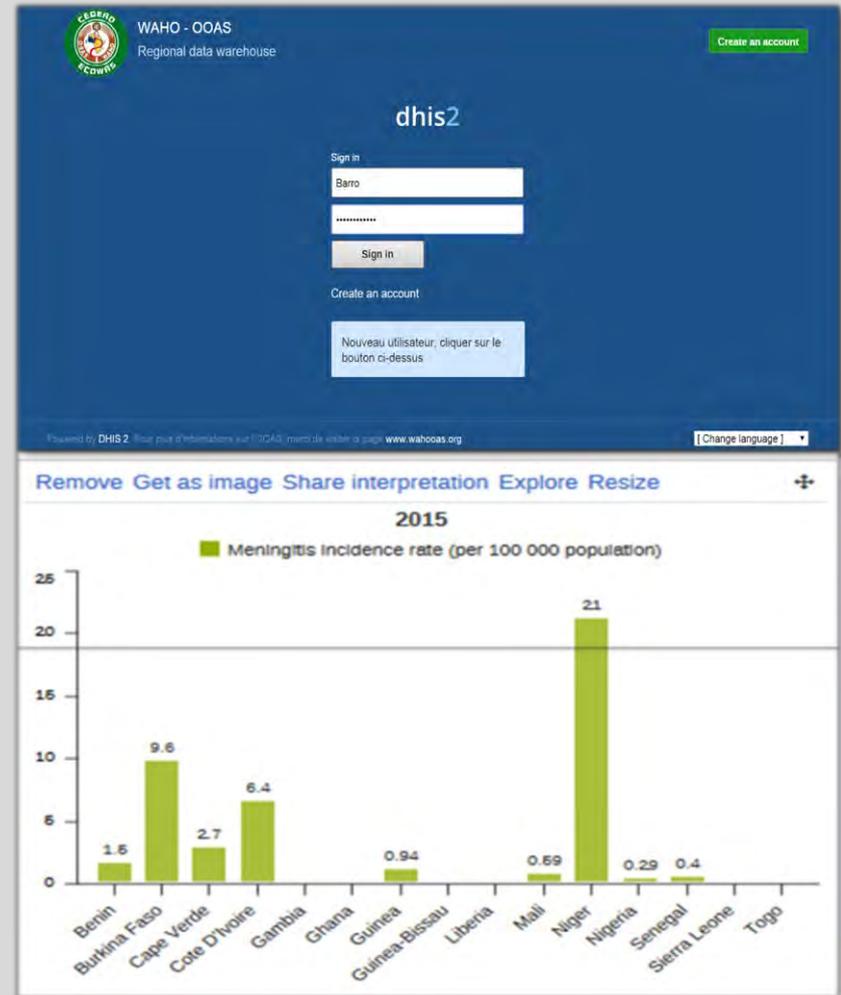


Source: Adapted from ECOWAS Regional Strategy and Policy Document; 2012

REGIONAL DATA WAREHOUSE



- Owned by WAHO and submitting Ministries of Health
- 13 out of 15 ECOWAS states currently share national and sub-national data
- Web-based application supported by DHIS-2 platform
- Used to store, analyze, report, share and monitor the quality of data
- Has the capacity to receive national data automatically and to import/ export using Excel spreadsheets



Annual HIS and IDSR Managers Meetings

- Convened by **WAHO** Annually

- **Participants:**

- National HIS managers
- National IDSR managers
- Development partners

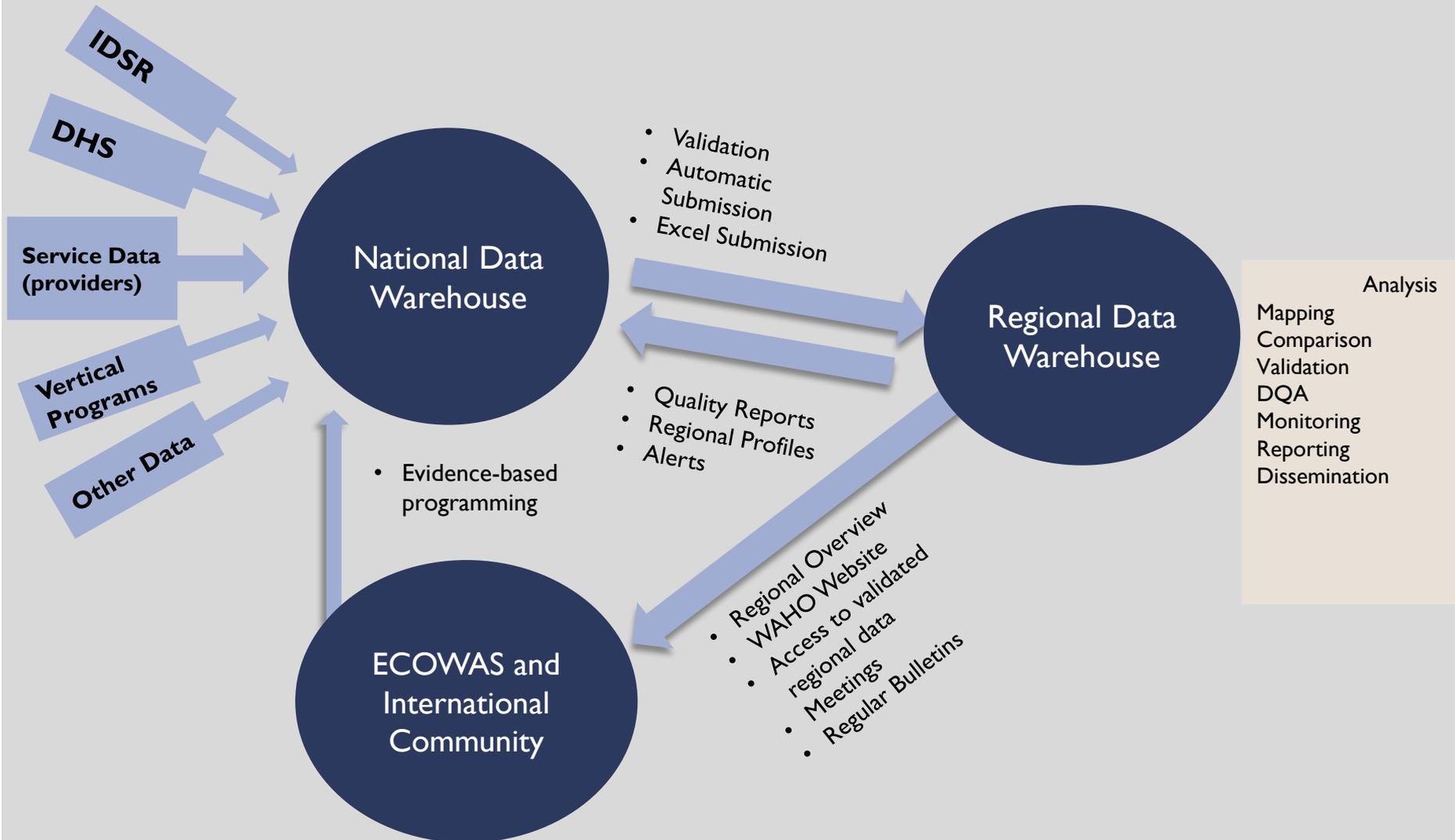
- **Purpose:**

- Promote collaboration for integrated regional HIS,
- Discuss challenges and gaps; share best practices among countries
- Develop technical and policy recommendations for the Assembly of Health Ministers
- Create enabling environment for innovation and partnerships

Vision and Implementation



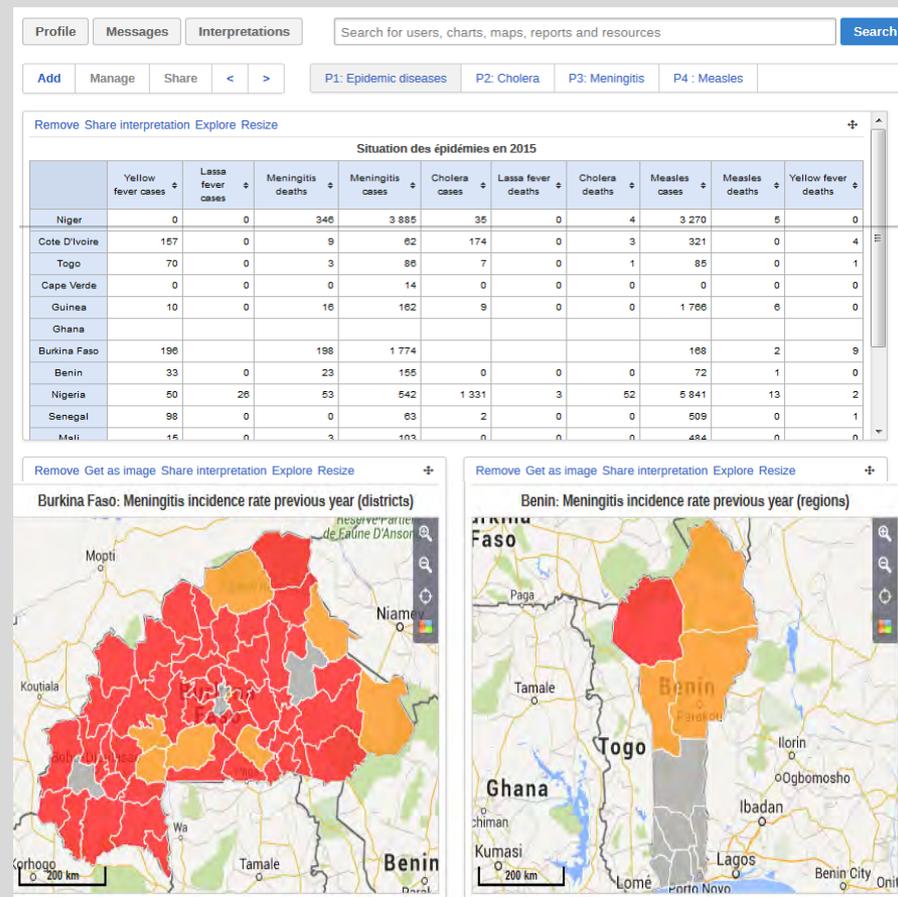
VISION BEHIND THE REGIONAL DATA WAREHOUSE: *Data Flow Patterns*



POTENTIAL WHEN FULLY OPERATIONAL



- Real-time access to quality health data
- Oversight and surveillance of cross-border transmission of infectious diseases
- Improved monitoring of health outcomes
- Reinforced culture of data driven decision making
- A case is made for increased investments in HIS

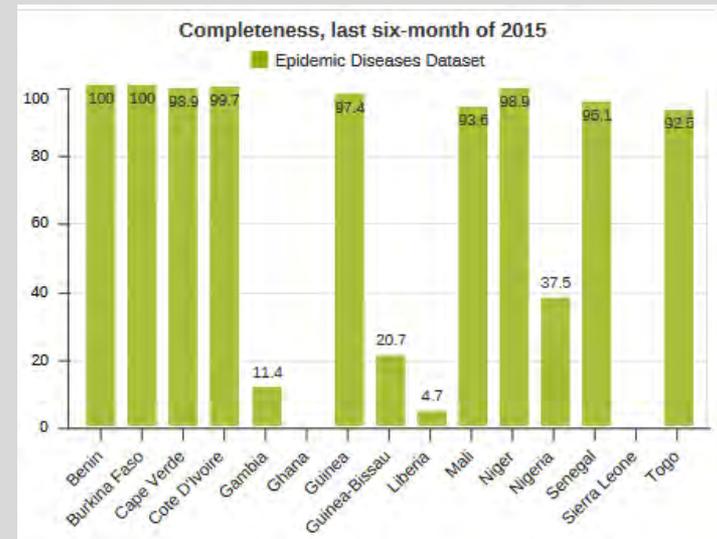


Source: WAHO Regional Data Warehouse

Challenges to Implementation



- Collaboration to avoid duplicated efforts
- Technical capacity
- Political commitment
- Quality of data and timely reporting
- Demonstrated benefits to member states and the international community
- Limited investments in integrated HIS



— **USAID/WAHO Partnership on Regional HIS in West Africa**



USAID/WAHO PARTNERSHIP ON HIS

- Technical and Political Partnership for strong and resilient health systems in the region
- 2010 - 2012 – WA Lead
 - Strengthen WAHO's leadership capacity with a focus on developing and disseminating the regional HIS Policy
- 2012 - 2016 – LMG
 - Strengthen WAHO's leadership, management and governance capacity with a focus on tools to implement the regional HIS Policy
- 2015 - 2019 – Assistance to WAHO
 - Strengthen leadership and technical capacity at the regional and national levels

Leveraging from Partnerships and Collaboration

- World Bank/University of Oslo
- Global Development Lab
- USAID/W
- US CDC/WHO
- USAID's bi-lateral investments in HIS in West Africa

HOW DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES APPLY



Designed and led by WAHO, and national HIS and Surveillance managers



Builds on existing policies, practices and tools



Employs a regional approach for harmonization, replication and scale-up



Owned by WAHO and ECOWAS member states (lead implementation)



Promotes data use and “cross-national” data sharing for evidence – based decision making on common health challenges



Driven by collaboration and partnerships among national, regional and international stakeholders

Next Steps

- WAHO Annual Minister Meeting November 2016
- Lab/WA collaboration to highlight various STIP applications relevant to the Ministry level meeting
- Build interest and possible points for collaboration
- How to manage expectations and then how to engage and move forward on points of interest?



SERVIR West Africa

- Strengthening capacity of CILSS Agryhmet - STIP Mandate to ECOWAS client members
- Demand driven Geo-spatial products into the hands of Decision-makers



OBRIGADO
MERCI
THANK YOU

*USAID/West Africa
Regional Health Office
24 Fourth Circular Road
P. O. Box 1630 ,Accra, Ghana
Phone +233-21-741-200*

