

**Date:** July 11, 2025

**Time:** 3:15-4:45 PM

 **PARALLEL SESSION**

# SYMPOSIUM ON MULTILATERAL FINANCING FOR PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

Session 4: Bridging Financing Gaps for  
Pandemic Preparedness

Presented By **Dr. Dinesh Arora**



**1<sup>ST</sup> INSPIRE**  
HEALTH FORUM

Inclusive, Sustainable, Prosperous and Resilient Health  
Systems in Asia and the Pacific



 **INSPIREhealth2025**

This is not an ADB material. The views expressed in this document are the views of the author/s and/or their organizations and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy and/or completeness of the material's contents, and accepts no responsibility for any direct or indirect consequence of their use or reliance, whether wholly or partially. Please feel free to contact the authors directly should you have queries.



**If another pandemic strikes, are we better prepared to respond than we were during COVID-19?**

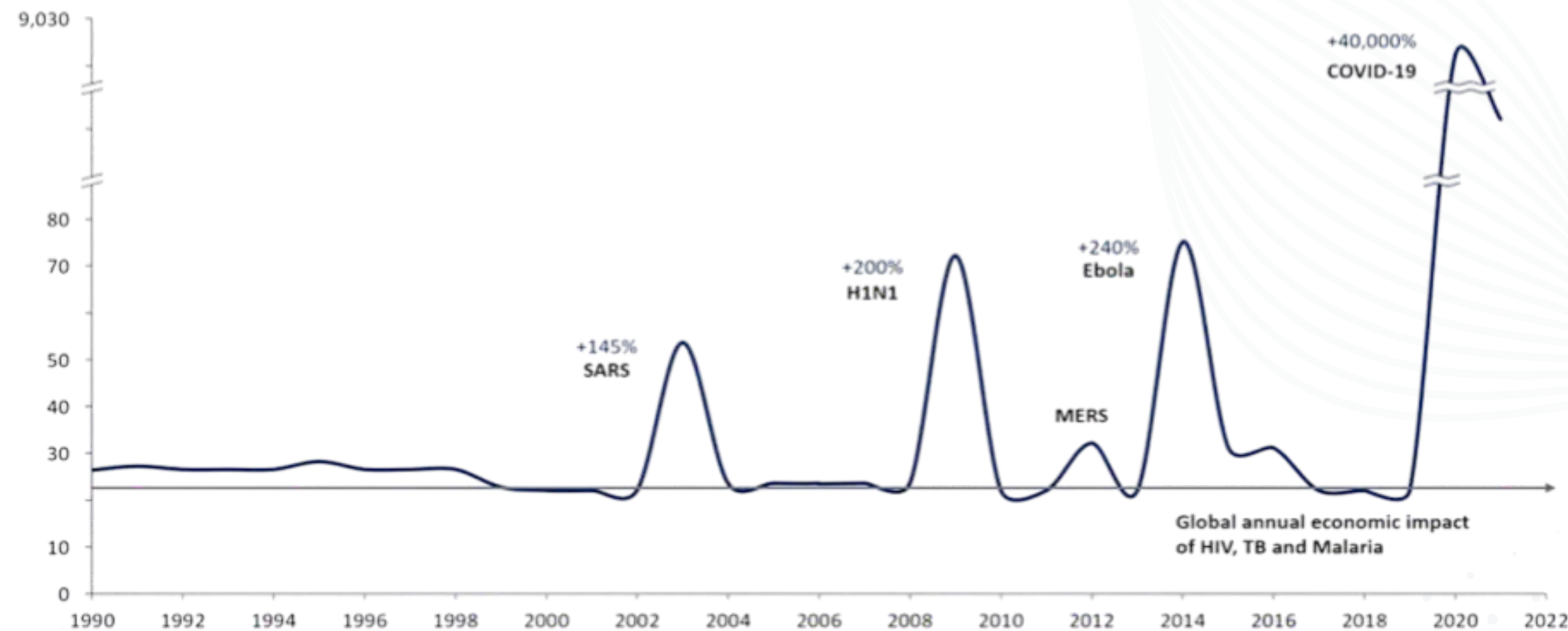




# ..... PAIN AND NEGLECT FOR TOO LONG

## ..... COVID-19 ..... Impact

### Economic impact of outbreaks (in US\$ billion)



- 7 million reported deaths
- ~28.5 million excess deaths
- ~US\$24 trillion in global cost

Source

<https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/5760109c4db174ff90a8dfa7d025644a-0290032022/original/G20-Gaps-in-PPR-Financing-Mechanisms-WHO-and-WB-pdf.pdf>



# COVID-19 Pandemic | Response Spotlights

## Countries / International organisations caught off-guard

- Risk anticipation, emergency preparedness insufficient.<sup>1</sup>
- Need for renewed multilateral collaboration

## Mixed track record in pandemic response

- COVAX – great idea, challenging implementation.<sup>3</sup>
- Regulatory gaps & Supply Chain gaps came to the fore.<sup>4</sup>

## Scientific community demonstrated remarkable cooperation

- The genetic decoding for COVID-19 completed quickly
- Novel vaccine manufacturing done within months.<sup>2</sup>

## Increased appetite for data and digital interventions

- Pharmaceutical interventions proved more effective
- Adoption of telemedicine, interoperable IT systems.<sup>5</sup>



**The COVID-19 crisis exposed chronic underinvestment in health systems and PPR**

1 <https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/first-lessons-from-government-evaluations-of-covid-19-responses-a-synthesis-483507d6/>

2 Bok K, Sitar S, Graham BS, Mascola JR. Accelerated COVID-19 vaccine development: milestones, lessons, and prospects. Immunity. 2021 Aug 10;54(8):1636-1651. doi: 10.1016/j.immuni.2021.07.017. Epub 2021 Aug 3. PMID: 34348117; PMCID: PMC8328682 <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34348117/>

3 <https://time.com/6096172/covax-vaccines-what-went-wrong/>

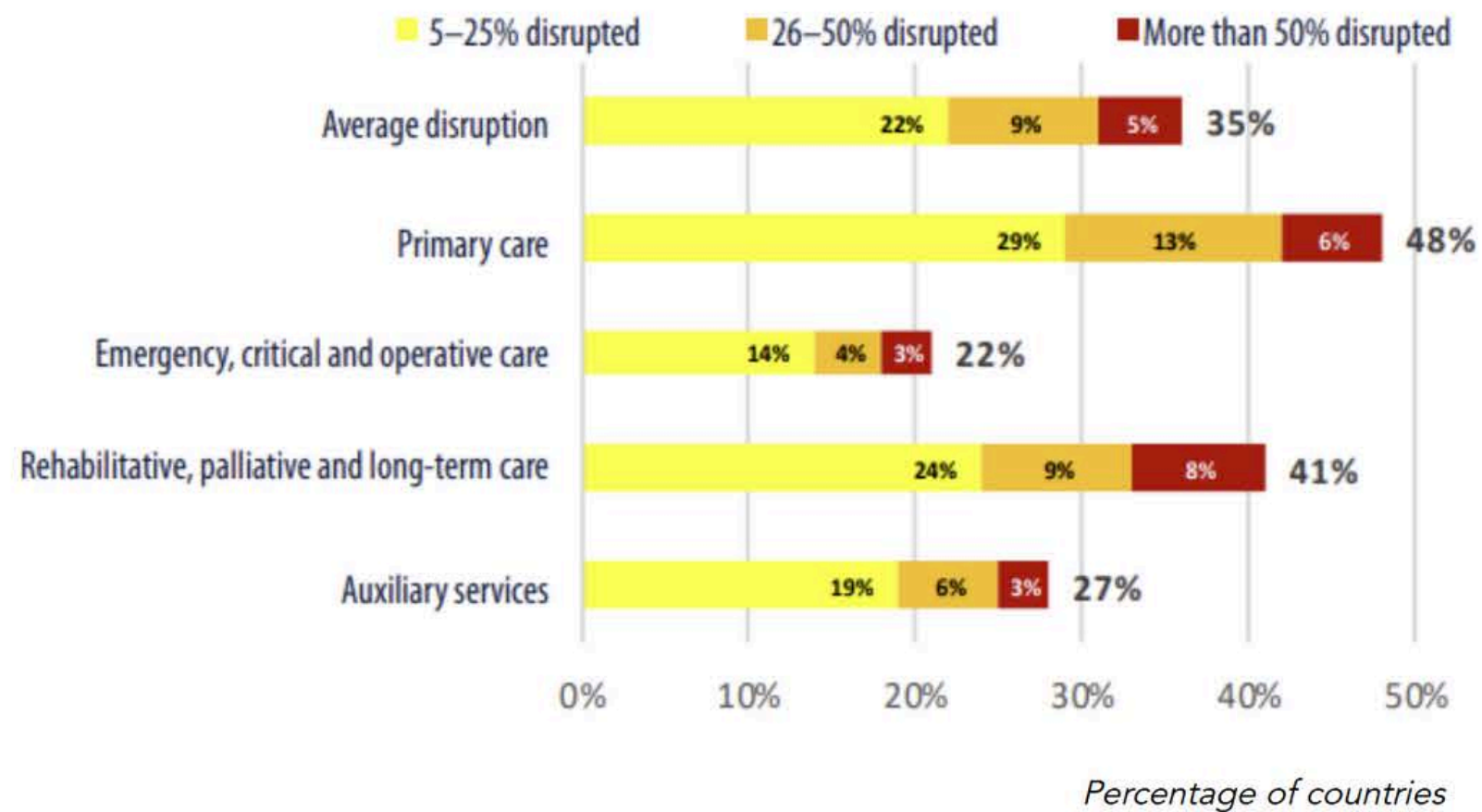
4 <https://hongkongfp.com/2022/03/19/qa-where-did-hong-kong-go-wrong-in-its-fight-against-covid-19/>

5 <https://www.cowin.gov.in/> | <https://surokkha.gov.bd/>

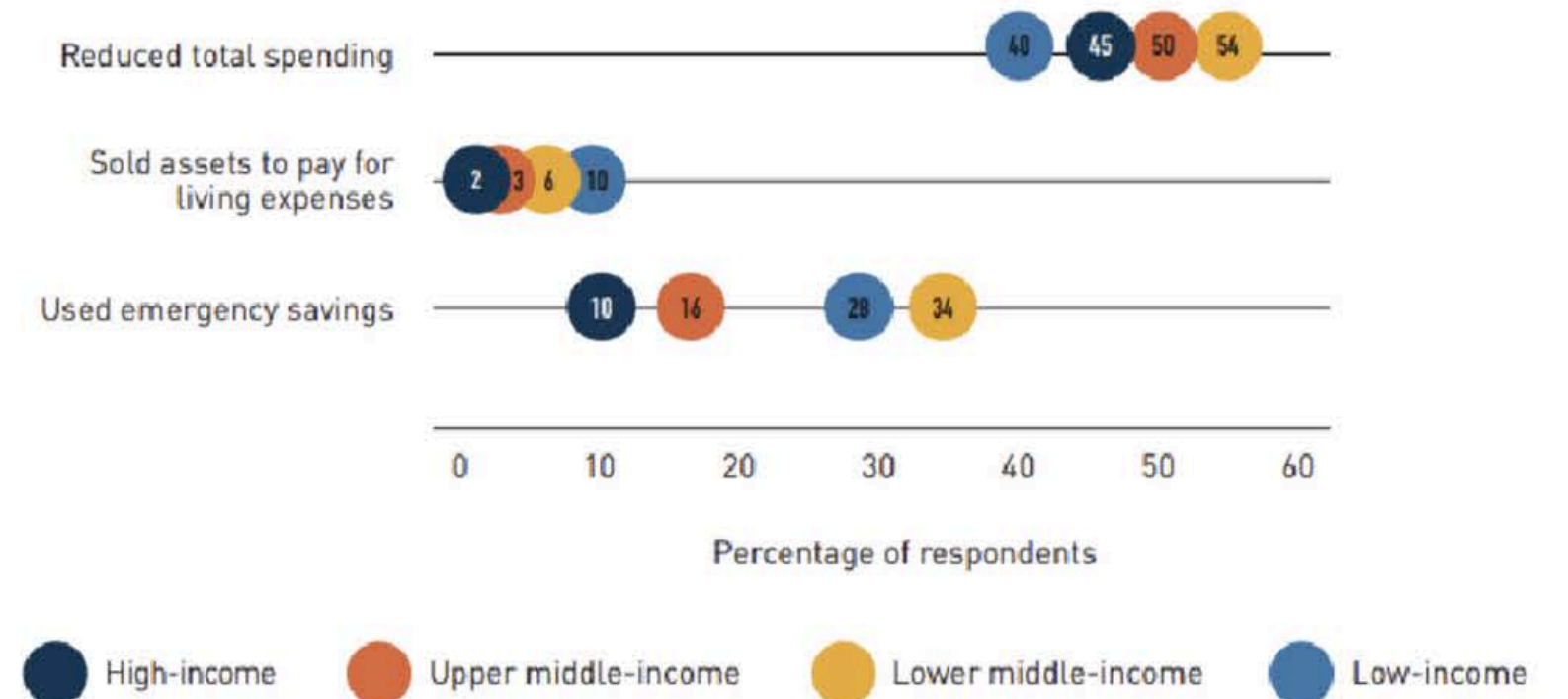


# Health Service Disruption

Average percentage of countries reporting disruptions in essential health services across service areas, January–March 2021 <sup>1</sup>



Percentage of households who experienced decrease in income, multi-country evidence <sup>2</sup>



Reasons for health service disruption included lack of workforce, fear of COVID-19 infections, and financial hardship

<sup>1</sup> Second round of the national pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic: January–March 2021: interim report, 22 April 2021. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021 (<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/340937>, accessed 22 November 2021)

<sup>2</sup> Global monitoring report on financial protection in health 2021. Geneva: World Health Organization and World Bank; 2021.





# GOAL OF PPR

Countries and regional/global networks are better prepared to prevent, detect, contain, and rapidly respond to pandemics.





# Economic case for Pandemic Preparedness

50%+

✓ Chance that another COVID-like pandemic will hit us in the next 20 to 25 years

\$1703

✓ Dollar value of health gains per \$1 invested in PPR

\$1102

✓ Dollar value of economic gains per \$1 invested in PPR

40-  
124

✓ Average deaths averted per 100,000 population

..... The potential costs of events occurring could be 700 times greater than the prevention costs.



# Paradigm Shift Needed in Health Systems

From	To
“Break glass in emergency” response systems	“Always on” systems and partnerships that can scale rapidly during epidemics
Uneven disease surveillance	Strengthened global, national, and local mechanisms to detect infectious diseases
Waiting for outbreaks	Integrated epidemic-prevention agenda and capacity development
Scramble healthcare capacity	Systems ready to surge while maintaining essential services
Underinvestment in R&D for emerging infectious diseases	Advanced collaborative equitable research and development





# Four Key Pillars in PPR



Globally networked  
surveillance and research



Resilient national  
systems



Supply of medical  
countermeasures and tools



Global governance and  
Financing





# IFI INNOVATIONS IN PPR FINANCING

PPR dedicated window	Response dedicated window
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strengthen One Health HR, collaborative surveillance, Digital</li><li>• Support contract manufacturing and pooled procurement platforms</li><li>• Build supply chain logistics and cold chain investments for VTD delivery</li><li>• Support diversified domestic VTD manufacturing capacity where feasible</li><li>• Pre Agreement with major suppliers including adverse events compensation liability</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surge financing vehicles for VTD and essential medical supply deployment</li><li>• Flexible, fast-disbursing emergency lending mechanisms tied to public health triggers</li><li>• Create cross-border health workforce surge capacity for response</li><li>• Establish safety net surge</li><li>• Relax country lending limits</li><li>• Regulatory strengthening</li></ul>

Support Regional and Multi-Country Cooperation for Health Security





# WHO's Pandemic Agreement holds promise?

- Setting the principles, approaches and tools for better international coordination and strengthening the global health architecture for pandemic prevention, preparedness and response
- Establishing an Intergovernmental Working Group to develop a Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing system (PABS) equitable and timely access to pandemic-related health products





**Thank You**



**1<sup>ST</sup> INSPIRE**  
HEALTH FORUM