

International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN)

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About International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN):

- It is a **public health network** to **prevent and detect infectious disease threats** before they become epidemics or pandemics.
- The IPSN, **with a Secretariat hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO) Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence, brings together experts worldwide** at the cutting-edge of genomics and data analytics, from governments, philanthropic foundations, multilateral organizations, civil society, academia, and the private sector.
 - All share a **common goal**: to **detect and respond to disease threats before they become epidemics** and pandemics, and to **optimize routine disease surveillance**.
- IPSN will **rely on insights generated from pathogen genomics**, which helps analyze the genetic material of viruses, bacteria, and other disease-causing micro-organisms to determine how they spread and how infectious or deadly they may be.
 - Using these data, researchers can **identify and track diseases** to improve outbreak prevention, response, and treatments.

- **Members will work together in dedicated groups** focusing on specific challenges, supported by funding through the IPSN to scale up ideas and projects in pathogen genomics.
 - By strengthening the pathogen genomic surveillance ecosystem, the IPSN enables faster detection of new pathogens and enhanced tracking of the spread and evolution of diseases.
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Q1: What is the World Health Organization (WHO)?

WHO, established in 1948, is a specialized agency of the United Nations that connects nations, partners and people to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable – so everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health. WHO currently has 194 member states. World Health Assembly (WHA) is the highest decision-making body of WHO and comprises representatives from all member States.

News: International pathogen surveillance network announces first round of grants towards understanding disease threats

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