

## Workshop on After-Action Reviews (AAR) and In-Action Reviews (IAR)

### AGENDA

22,23,26 November 2021, 09:00-13:00 CET  
Venue: virtual

#### DAY 1: 22 November 2021

- 09:00 – 09:10 Welcome and Introduction  
09:10 – 09:30 Course outline and Objectives  
09:30 – 10:00 Participant introduction  
10:00 – 10:30 WHO approach to AARs and IARs  
10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break
- Methodological Aspects of AAR**
- 10:45 – 11:05 Best practices in AAR methodologies (ECDC)  
11:05 – 11:25 Qualitative research principles important to AAR  
11:25 – 12:15 Group work
- Real world examples**
- 12:15 – 13:00 AARs of West Nile Virus in 4 European Countries: Flavia Riccardo, Italy  
13:00 – 13:15 Wrap up session

#### DAY 2: 23 November 2021

- 09:00 – 09:15 Recap of Day 1
- Designing and Planning AARs and IARs**
- 09:15 – 09:30 AAR and IAR process (in brief)  
09:30 – 10:15 Group Work Designing an AAR to address COVID-19  
10:15 – 10:45 Discussion  
10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break
- Thematic cross-cutting issues**
- 11:00 – 11:20 Behavioural research and pandemic response  
11:20 – 12:05 Decision making  
12:05 – 12:50 Targeted IAR examples (NL, Germany, Ireland)  
12:50 – 13:00 Wrap up session

#### DAY 3: 26 November 2021

- 09:00 – 09:15 Recap of Day 2  
09:15 – 12:15 Converting theory to practice:  
Interactive session walking through an online IAR methodology  
12:15 – 13:00 Wrap up session and feedback questionnaire

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## Scope and purpose

The overall aim of this workshop is to strengthen the capacity and provide participants with the knowledge and skills for conducting After-Action Reviews (AAR) and In Action Reviews (IARs) in response to the COVID-19 response and Public Health Emergencies.

## The training course covers key areas

- Characteristics and phases to construct good quality IARs and AARs
- Different methodologies and designs for AAR, including consideration of the role of an IAR
- Selection of appropriate methodologies for IARs and AARs
- Stakeholder analysis for AARs and IARs
- Selection and development of IAR and AAR trigger questions
- Lessons learnt through IAR and AAR process
- Examples of AARs and IARS conducted by Member states

## What will participants gain from attending the course?

Upon completion of the Workshop, the participants should be able to:

- Understand the concepts behind IARs and AARs
- Design and conduct their own IARs and AARs
- Be aware of the resources available in ECDC to support the design and delivery of AARs and IARs
- Recognise research evidence as one of many factors that can influence policy making
- Share examples, from their own experience where possible, of interventions that have effectively informed policy making for detection/assessment, preparedness, response/control or recovery in the field of infectious diseases
- Identify relevant resources and tools to identify and evaluate different kinds of evidence, especially systematic reviews and high-quality single studies
- Identify evidence-based mechanisms to enhance and support the use of research evidence in policy making
- Prepare an activity to cascade learning in their institutions or country of origin based on the content of the workshop.

## Target audience

The course has been designed for public health professionals, who as part of their professional responsibility, are or are likely to be involved in AARs, IARs, or who wish to develop lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, and who commit, as one step towards strengthening the capacity of AAR, to cascade knowledge gained from the training in their professional setting.