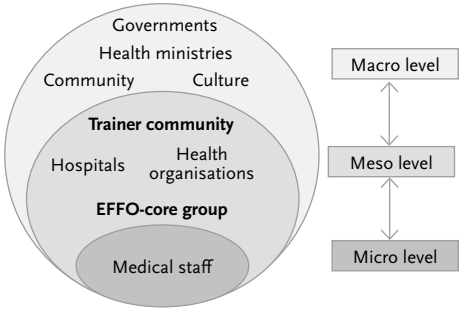

EFFO is a transcultural and cross-national project. Actors from different system levels (micro, meso and macro level) are being included during planning and implementation.

The EFFO project is coordinated by the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) which has been a WHO Collaborating Centre for Emerging Infections and Biological Threats since 2016.

A "colorful" mix of professionals is integrated on different levels. Governmental as well as non-governmental organizations are represented as well as scientists and artists.

A key feature in the network of international experts is the project's homepage. EFFO publishes all documents for the trainers online. The training material is updated if necessary.

www.effo.rki.de

Involved actors and partners

GHP Programme

STAKOB
Ständiger Arbeitskreis der Kompetenz- und Behandlungszentren für Krankheiten durch hochpathogene Erreger

Medical Mission Institute Würzburg
Catholic Advisory Organisation for International Health

CHRISTOPH SCHLINGENSIEFS
OPERNDORF AFRIKA

Institute of Tropical Medicine and International Health Berlin

Supported by:

Federal Ministry of Health

on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag

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Project management: Dr. Luzie Verbeek, Dr. Janina Straub
Version: September 2018

EFFO

ROBERT KOCH INSTITUT

Epidemic control with EFFO

- ✓ Train-the-Trainer-Program
- ✓ For clinical staff
- ✓ Emphasis on highly contagious and life-threatening diseases (Ebola virus disease and others)
- ✓ Available in French, English and German
- ✓ Network of international experts

EFFO stands for ***Efficiency by Edification*** and is a training program. The contents and didactics of the program were developed by German, Burkinabè and Senegalese experts in 2014. The project had its origin in the urgent need for a response to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa 2013–2016. EFFO is situated in the interface of emergency assistance, research and development cooperation.

EFFO sees the clinical staff in a key position during outbreak control. Detecting an outbreak and preventing nosocomial infection requires the implementation of theoretical and practical knowledge by the clinical staff in their daily routine. This includes diagnostics, primary care, isolation, communication and initiating contact tracing.

EFFO is evaluated with knowledge tests and simulation exercises the results of which are incorporated in the project's concept and are part of the quality management.

EFFO supported numerous health facilities with gloves, soap and personal protective equipment among others. Several hundred persons in the medical sector were trained. There are two main target groups:

- ✓ Trainers
- ✓ Staff of health facilities

The following modules are taught during the 3-day training:

- ✓ Disease-specific knowledge (e.g. Ebola virus disease, Lassa fever)
- ✓ Community response
- ✓ Standard precautions
- ✓ Triage & isolation
- ✓ Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- ✓ Waste Management

Findings from cognitive psychology are integrated in the training concept. The trainers improve their didactic skills with different techniques, including methods used in theatre pedagogy. Since 2017, EFFO has been cooperating with the Operndorf Afrika (international art project) in Burkina Faso and since 2018 EFFO has been building up a new network of trainers in Rwanda.

EFFO is based on the following principles:

- ✓ Quality
- ✓ Transparency
- ✓ Safety and Error culture
- ✓ "Do no harm" principle

Quality is crucial for the project's success. This refers to the teaching method, the contents, practical skills and also material.

A reflected tolerance for error during trainings and when dealing with personal protective equipment aims to improve flexibility and to increase security in a real scenario.

Fear and anxiety can be beneficial and even vital but may also inhibit action. Trainings with scenarios and involvement of experts with field experience will prepare clinical staff psychologically and practically for a real outbreak.