

## Korea announces strategic plan against emerging infectious diseases

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**To establish an integrated surveillance system to earlier alert a possible outbreak of an infectious disease**



The Korean Government has announced the medium- and long-term strategic plan against emerging infectious diseases. Under the strategic plan, the government has developed 24 projects in five major areas: surveillance and prevention, preparedness and response, recovery, infrastructure expansion, and research and development.

There are plans to strengthen event-based surveillance by taking advantage of diverse channels for information collection as well as the WHO's Epidemic Intelligence Open Sources (EIOS), to earlier detect infectious diseases circulating overseas.

The government will also establish a comprehensive intelligence platform for infectious diseases to earlier alert a possible wave of infections. Further, the government will secure an estimated 3,500 hospital beds designated to critically-ill patients that can be made ready for use within one week. Emergency mobilisation system will be set up under which human resources are mobilized at each stage of an infectious disease emergency.

The government will also establish an R&D system of securing vaccines and therapeutics within a short period of 100 or 200 days of a pandemic outbreak.