



# SGS

## Strengthening Genomic Surveillance

### Context

Genomic surveillance (GS) is crucial for monitoring known and newly emerging pathogens and for efficiently responding to infectious disease threats with epidemic or pandemic potential. It can transform public health action by providing a deeper understanding of pathogens and their evolution and circulation in the human population. Good GS enables the public health sector to make evidence-based decisions on the management of pathogens with epidemic and pandemic potential, which contributes to their effective mitigation and containment. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed challenges for genomics in public health surveillance systems, and RKI partners involved in different GHPP projects are increasingly asking for training and support in implementing or strengthening GS. The project therefore targets national and regional public health laboratories in countries with existing GHPP projects, providing their public health workforce with a basic skillset in sequencing and bioinformatic data analysis and strengthening overall GS capacities. By bringing different project participants together, it also provides a networking platform and opportunities for further collaboration, exchanges and support.

### Objective

Strengthening GS capacities within GHPP projects in the areas of next-generation sequencing and bioinformatic data analysis.

### Key facts

**Duration**

1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

**Budget**

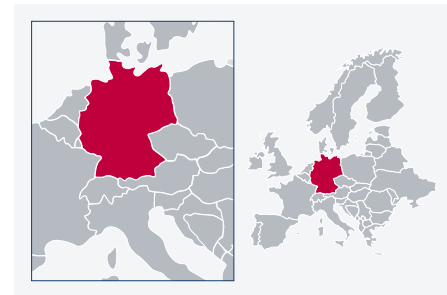
~ EUR 80,000

**Partner countries**

Germany

**Region**

Europe

**Implemented by**

Robert Koch Institute (RKI)

**Commissioning party**

German Federal Ministry of Health  
(BMG)

### Thematic focus

Strengthening of public health systems

Surveillance and reporting

Laboratory diagnostics

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## Activities



### TRAINING AND COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT

Conducting a workshop featuring two training modules on sequencing and bioinformatic data analysis with international GHPP project partners



### NETWORKING AND COOPERATION

Fostering the development of a network bringing together the participants of existing GHPP projects; enhancing cross-country engagement, knowledge sharing and data exchange

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**GHPP, the Global Health Protection Programme** of the German Federal Ministry of Health, promotes networking, exchange and cooperation between specialized German and international public health actors. By reducing health risks and strengthening health systems at the national, regional and international level, in particular relating to pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response, the GHPP fosters public health protection – worldwide.

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