2020 has been an incredibly challenging year, but together we have achieved so much for learning and capacity development in health emergencies. We will close the year with 4.7 million enrolments across more than 240 courses on the OpenWHO platform. Whether you worked with us to ensure OpenWHO provides the latest, life-saving health knowledge, translated resources into national and local languages, or joined our growing community of learners on the platform, we are so grateful for your support. Watch our one-minute video message here.

In the new year, we are committed to continuing to provide free access to expert knowledge to help you manage the COVID-19 pandemic and improve public health. We challenge each of you to help us spread the word about these free learning resources by bringing 20 people you know to OpenWHO in 2021. Wishing you all a safe and healthy new year.

“The is such amazing training and time to help during COVID-19 especially now when the infection seems to be spiking and more health workers are victims.” - OpenWHO user, COVID-19 occupational health and safety course
OpenWHO wins Gold at Learning Technologies Awards

The OpenWHO learning platform, powered by Hasso Plattner Institute solutions, was awarded the Gold prize for the 'Best international digital transformation of a training programme in response to COVID-19' at the Learning Technologies Awards on 18 November.

"The judges were impressed by the speed and scalability of OpenWHO, the dynamic learning environment created to lead and facilitate a worldwide frontline response to the pandemic now and in the future," the panel noted.

Others shortlisted in the category included the British Council, Novartis, Open University of Hong Kong, University of Fort Hare and Metlife.

New courses on COVID-19 vaccines, country intra-action reviews close 2020

Working with WHO expert teams, OpenWHO launched the following courses in December to transfer critical knowledge for the evolving COVID-19 pandemic:

- a course to provide health workers with knowledge for safe and efficient COVID-19 vaccine administration;
- a course to help focal points in countries develop national deployment and vaccination plans for COVID-19 vaccines; and
- a course to help countries conduct national and sub-national intra-action reviews to identify and share best practices and apply lessons learned during the ongoing COVID-19 response to change the trajectory of the outbreak.

The new courses close a landmark year for OpenWHO, in which the platform produced an average of 13 COVID-19 courses and 4 new languages each month. This led to an average 415,155 monthly enrolments on the platform, with 80% in COVID-19 courses.

You can read a peer-reviewed article analyzing platform use and incidence of COVID-19 in Education Sciences here, and OpenWHO’s reflections on pandemic learning in newSpecial here.
The COVID-19 pandemic brought a surge of new users to the OpenWHO platform in 2020.

The graph above illustrates the growth in total OpenWHO enrolments, COVID-19 course enrolments and certificates awarded by the platform, alongside the growth in COVID-19 course and language offerings.

The first COVID-19 course launched on 26 January in English and by the end of December the platform hosted 148 COVID-19 courses spanning 22 topics and 43 languages.

Mainly fueled by the COVID-19 courses, OpenWHO has grown exponentially (+2669%) in one year of responding to its first pandemic, a key motivation for its creation. Total enrolments increased from 160 000 in January to 4.7 million in December.

2020 milestones: OpenWHO.org

- **January**: 100 000 course enrolments. 1st COVID-19 course launched introducing emerging disease.
- **March**: 1 million course enrolments. New COVID-19 learning channel for national languages.
- **May**: 3 million course enrolments. COVID-19 courses available in 26 languages.
- **July**: 4 million course enrolments. 'Best Communication Paper Award' for COVID-19 publication.
- **September**: 9 million views of introductory COVID-19 video in 18 languages.
- **November**: Gold winner at Learning Technologies Awards for COVID-19 work.

- **February**: 10 COVID-19 courses, spanning 4 topics and 6 languages.
- **April**: 2 million course enrolments. Peer-reviewed article in Journal of Medical Internet Research.
- **June**: 100% COVID-19 course launched. 4.6 million words translated for pandemic learning.
- **August**: 2.2 million certificates issued. New learning channel for infection prevention and control.
- **October**: New COVID-19 course and learning channel for clinical management.
- **December**: 148 COVID-19 courses, spanning 22 topics and 43 languages.