

### Priority in **SHORT TERM**

Distilling Containing lessons learned COVID-19

### Start with **EASIER AREAS**

Assessments, knowledge exchange, dialogue, coordination, joint capacity development

### Expand to **ADVANCED AREAS**

Harmonization of standards, setting up regional mechanisms and cross-border solutions



## Reality Check

Regional Health Challenges



overall burden of

disease in the region.

Non-communicable diseases (NCD) form the largest part of the



**Emerging infectious and** other communicable diseases are declining but remain a threat

Continual financing required to control acute and chronic infectious diseases.

Emerging infectious diseases, such as COVID-19, pose persistent threat

# **Epidemics and pandemics**

The CAREC region is especially prone to outbreaks due to increasing connectivity, population mobility, urban hubs, and livestock raising and trading



Malaria, dengue, and Japanese encephalitis

Some CAREC countries are exposed to outbreaks of other communicable diseases



are often in poor working and living conditions with limited access to social protection and health

Labor migrants, services.



services, especially in rural

areas, remains substandard.

Reality

Check

Health System

Development

The quality of health





- health workforce Aging workforce
- Staff mix and recruitment
- Urban-rural maldistribution
- Education
- Enforcement of standards and accreditation



- **Fragmented** national health information systems
- Parallel surveillance systems
- Lack of integration of the private sector
- Fragmentation between facilities at national, provincial, and local level



The quality, availability, and affordability of medicines

- substandard and falsified medicines
- over-the-counter sale and incorrect use of antibiotics resulting in increasing antimicrobial resistance



Strengthen regional

Regional surveillance and rapid response One Health approach

 Regional health security infrastructure International Health Regulations Combatting antibiotic resistance

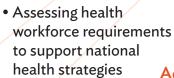
Add value to ongoing COVID-19 response efforts



# Support health systems development through regional cooperation



for health





and technology

- Advance transfer of technologies to facilitate pharmaceutical manufacturing in the region
- Advance regulatory coordination and reliance policies
- Explore joint procurement



- Leveraging innovative digital solutions to advance regional health cooperation
- Harmonization of eHealth standards and advancing interoperability

Health information systems

# Improve health care for migrants, mobile populations, and border communities



- Assessing current state of portability of health care benefits and liabilities across borders
- Develop joint strategies to improve access to health services for most vulnerable in border
- Further assess cross-border health services along the CAREC economic corridors
- Improving information at pre-departure stages
- Support regional collaboration in access and financing of health services for migrants
- Introducing fully pledged migrant health insurance schemes