

From
the People of Japan

Press release

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UNOPS and the Government of Japan partner to strengthen cholera response in Lagos, Nigeria

A vital project initiative titled "*Emergency Support for Cholera Response and Preparedness in Lagos, Nigeria*," has been officially launched to tackle the escalating cholera outbreak in Lagos State.

Lagos, Nigeria – July 10, 2025 – With funding of \$1 million from the Government of Japan's Supplementary Budget, the project will be implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) for 12 months, from March 1, 2025, to February 28, 2026.

The project's primary goal is to strengthen Nigeria's capacity to respond to cholera outbreaks by procuring essential medical supplies for the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC). This strategic intervention aims to enable rapid and effective management of cholera outbreaks in Lagos State, thereby reducing morbidity and mortality rates.

The initiative responds to the severe and widespread cholera crisis in Nigeria, exacerbated by the rainy season, which has increased contamination of water sources. Concurrent humanitarian crises, including internal displacement and severe flooding in early 2024, have overwhelmed existing health resources and intensified the cholera outbreak, particularly in Lagos, which accounts for over 20% of cases nationwide.

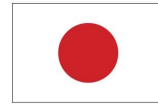
The project is expected to increase the NCDC's capacity to coordinate the cholera response and preparedness efforts in Lagos. Key activities include the procurement, delivery, and handover of essential medical supplies, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) supplies, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and sanitation supplies, and sample collection and diagnostic equipment to the NCDC. The specific types and quantities of these supplies will be determined following a detailed needs assessment during the second and third months of project implementation. This project is estimated to benefit approximately 2 million people across five Local Government Areas (LGAs) most affected by cholera this year: Lagos Island, Eti-Osa, Lagos main island, Alimosho, and Kosofe.

The implementation of this project underscores the Government of Japan's unwavering commitment to global health and its vital role in responding to health crises. This contribution aligns with Japan's Country Development Cooperation Policy for Nigeria, which prioritises improving "*inclusive and robust health and medical systems*." Japan's timely and substantial financial support will enable the swift procurement and deployment of critical supplies, ultimately saving lives and mitigating the outbreak's consequences.

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About UNOPS

UNOPS offers practical solutions across peace and security, humanitarian and development operations. We help the United Nations, governments, and other partners, such as the European Union and its Member States, manage projects and deliver sustainable infrastructure and procurement globally. Read more: www.unops.org.

About the Government of Japan

The Government of Japan (GOJ) actively supports Nigeria's development through its Embassy, JICA, and UN Agencies. Key contributions include grassroots human security projects in healthcare and education, significant investment in Nigeria's startup and innovation ecosystem, including a new hub in Abuja and a unique venture fund, and support for agricultural self-sufficiency, particularly in rice production. Japan also aids in strengthening health systems, improving diagnostic capacity for disease control, like cholera, and developing infrastructure and power supply. This cooperation aligns with Nigeria's economic diversification goals and emphasises human security.