



# LEARNING IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

RTI International, Washington DC  
April 21, 2020

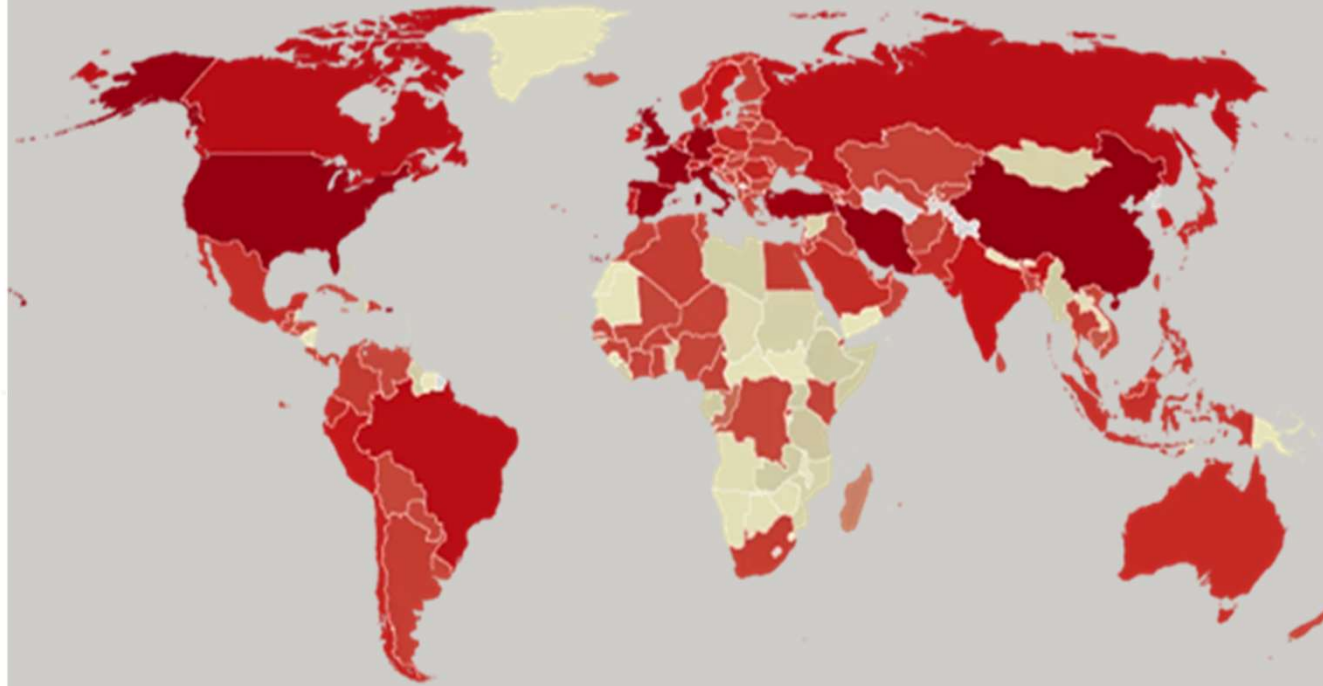
**Stacey Young, PhD**

Agency Knowledge Management and  
Organizational Learning Officer  
Bureau for Policy, Planning & Learning  
US Agency for International  
Development



Photo by Anna Shvets from Pexels

# WHERE ARE WE NOW?



## The Washington Post

**“The past weeks have seen the first confirmed cases of covid-19 in some of the world’s biggest, most congested slums. Public health experts fear that the volume of infections in parts of the developing world may be far greater than current official estimates. A study in Brazil by a consortium of universities projected that the country’s actual number of coronavirus cases could be 12 times the current reported figure.”**



Photo by Gustavo Fring from Pexels

**BBC**  
**NEWS**

“Africa has a burden of diseases different to other continents. There are good reasons to fear that COVID-19 will be particularly dangerous to tens of millions of people with tuberculosis or whose immune systems are compromised by HIV.”



Photo by Parij Borgohain from Pexels

# 1ST & 2ND ORDER IMPACTS

- disease burden, weak health surveillance and health care systems
- economic failures
- impacts on vulnerable populations
- security threats
- compromised rights and governance

# HAVE WE BEEN HERE BEFORE?



- MENINGITIS
- ENCEPHALITIS
- HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER
- TUBERCULOSIS
- BIRD FLU
- DENGUE FEVER
- PNEUMONIA
- SWINE FLU**
- SMALLPOX
- CHIKUNGUNYA
- MERS
- RUBELLA
- AIDS/HIV**
- RABIES
- WEST NILE VIRUS
- ZIKA**
- MALARIA
- EBOLA**
- YERSINIA PESTIS
- MEASLES
- SARS
- CHOLERA**
- RIFT VALLEY FEVER
- LASSA FEVER

# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- What's happening?
- What else we can do?

## SILVER LININGS?

- more flexible work environments?
- opportunity to elevate local knowledge
- opportunity to learn what a global response entails and can enable (relevance for climate change)