

The Global Virome Project

The Transformative Power of Big Data

Preventing, Detecting, Responding and
Recovering from Future Threats

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Why a Global Viral Surveillance Network is Critical for Ensuring *COVID19 Never Again!*

- COVID19 has dramatically illustrated that the world is **not prepared** for emerging threats
- Our core **strategy of “reacting”** to an emergent threat is a recipe for disaster
- That all future threats already pre-exist, circulating among wildlife allows us an opportunity to **transform our strategy from “reacting” to being “proactive”**: *Go to the viruses before they come to us*
- We also know that the risk of viral “spillover” is greater when it involves a combination of “high risk” animal hosts interacting with human populations in “high risk areas” – **hot spots**
- This insight allows an opportunity to **strategically target** certain animal and human populations in geographic “**hot spots**” for **enhanced surveillance** for early signatures of spillovers
- It also allows for **targeting human behaviors and practices** that trigger spillovers – **for prevention**
- Ultimately a global network monitoring the genetic and ecologic evolution of “high risk” viruses allows the opportunity to **forecast** the emergence of future threats, **prevent** their emergence and early **identification** when they do for rapid isolation and **elimination**