

# MAKING AN IMPACT

## INVESTING IN EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT

Managers are critical to keeping the public health engine running smoothly. However, many low-to-middle income countries lack strong programs to train managers who know how to translate data into action.

CDC has developed a new initiative called Improving Public Health Management for Action (IMPACT), which will work with ministries of health in partner countries to strengthen public health management across eight core competencies.

IMPACT aims to develop skilled public health advisors. Graduates will work alongside scientists to implement public health programs and prepare for and respond to public health threats.

The program builds on the successes of CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service, Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP), Sustainable Management Development Program, and Public Health Associate Program. Much like FETP, IMPACT is a two-year, competency-based, hands-on learning program. Fellows learn by doing, spending a quarter of their time in classroom training and the remainder in field-based assignments.

IMPACT provides structured mentorship and supervision to assist fellows as they prepare to advance the future of public health in their countries.

## WHERE IS IMPACT NOW?

In 2016, IMPACT will launch pilot programs in Bangladesh and Kenya.

In Bangladesh, the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) will host the program under the Ministry of Health. The program’s in-country champion, Professor Dr. Mahmud Rahman (Director of IEDCR), emphasized IMPACT’s importance in providing a clearly defined career path in the Ministry. He believes this will lead to more efficient public health programs.

Rahman says, “We need to teach them to take initiative in all activities and to always push for innovative ideas to improve our country’s health. At the Ministry, we must provide incentives, make opportunities for them to improve their performance, and place candidates in appropriate leadership positions where they can make an impact.”

## EIGHT CORE COMPETENCIES

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**Program Planning and Management**
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**Communication**
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**Community Partnership Development**
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**Analysis and Assessment**
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**Organizational Leadership and Systems Awareness**
- 
**Basic Public Health Sciences and Practices**
- 
**Budget and Financial Planning**
- 
**Emergency Planning, Preparedness, and Response**

“CDC can’t be everywhere. That’s why we focus on helping countries develop their own cadres of public health workers who can find the disease, isolate patients, trace and monitor any contacts, and stop the exposures.”

TOM FRIEDEN, MD, MPH  
(CDC Director)