

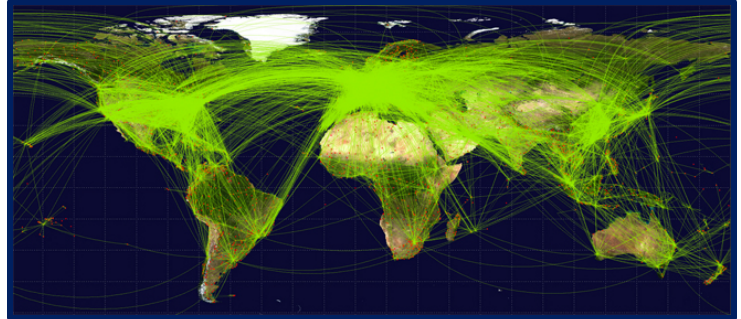
CDC & Global Health Security

Focusing on a Safer Future

Because our world is more connected than ever, a disease threat that occurs anywhere can very quickly spread across borders and become a threat to people worldwide.

Our health is vulnerable today because of:

- New diseases that emerge and spread, such as MERS-CoV and influenza H7N9
- Travel and trade between countries
- Rise of diseases that are drug resistant
- Dangerous pathogens that may be released, either accidentally or deliberately



These threats are serious, which is why CDC is actively working to strengthen and expand **global health security**. CDC's science-based strategy is centered on three concepts:

Prevent

- Control the emergence and spread of dangerous diseases, like those that are drug resistant, have high death rates, or for which we have no immunity or treatment
- Ensure that dangerous pathogens and toxins are safely managed and stored in laboratories worldwide
- Apply knowledge gained from epidemic investigations to prevent future epidemics

Detect

- Identify infectious diseases early and close to the source
- Establish national laboratory systems to discover pathogens that can cause epidemics
- Expand field epidemiology training programs to ensure a reliable and accessible skilled workforce of epidemic experts



Respond

- Manage epidemics and other public health emergencies effectively
- Train and equip rapid response teams with unique public health and crisis management skills
- Establish emergency operations centers (EOCs) to lead and manage the response
- Create a real-time information system combining data on emerging diseases, global travelers, product supply chains, and other essential information



Protection on Multiple Fronts

CDC uses multiple platforms and partnerships to prevent health threats from spreading, including [Global Disease Detection Centers \(GDD\)](#), [Field Epidemiology Training Programs \(FETP\)](#), [Epidemic Intelligence Service \(EIS\)](#), the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and other programs. These gold standards in public health have been widely embraced and adopted by other nations, widening the world's health security net by increasing technical skills, developing laboratory systems, and connecting data to improve decision-making and prevent, detect, and respond to diseases more effectively.

History and Experience

CDC has been a leader in improving global health security for many decades. CDC's Global Disease Detection Program, created in 2004, now has 10 Centers in strategic positions around the world, and CDC has a global operations center in Atlanta which provides rapid technical response to countries requesting assistance. In 2014, CDC responded to 315 outbreaks via the GDD network, including outbreaks of anthrax, hemorrhagic fever, and cholera, and CDC discovered four wholly new disease threats in 2014. FETP, meanwhile, has operated internationally since 1980 and has produced more than 3,100 graduates that today form a capable squadron of "disease detectives" reaching 70 countries.



Global Health Security Agenda

While progress has been made, global programs often have too few resources, focus on specific diseases, and require long term scale-up to provide the coverage that is needed to protect against epidemics. These gaps increase the risk that outbreaks could cross borders and cause large-scale public health emergencies and major economic impact.

To fill these gaps, CDC and its U.S. and global partners are accelerating work on global health security through the Global Health Security Agenda (GHS Agenda). The GHS Agenda is an effort by nations, international organizations, and civil society to better protect our world from infectious disease threats through strengthening health systems. The agenda builds on the framework of the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations (IHR).

Recognizing that we are all responsible for keeping each other safe, more than three dozen countries have committed to working together on the agenda, which lays out 11 objectives (also called "action packages") that have been agreed upon by the countries. Within each objective are targets to help measure progress and determine success. As part of the U.S. commitment to the GHS Agenda, the U.S. Government is working collaboratively with partners to reach all 11 objectives and their targets in 30 countries over the next 5 years. Participating countries will help set their own priorities in reaching the agenda's goals.

Working towards interconnected emergency operations centers, laboratories, and health information systems, and developing skilled health professionals across the globe; CDC partners with countries so they can better protect their own populations, while adding a layer of protection for the United States and the rest of the world from the spread of epidemics.