Protecting Health and Building Capacity Globally

The Division of Global Health Protection (DGHP) within CDC’s Center for Global Health works 24/7 to protect the health and well-being of Americans and other people around the world. CDC is helping countries prevent disease and more rapidly detect, fight and control disease outbreaks where they are occurring and before outbreaks cross borders.

Mission

DGHP works with ministries of health and other partners to improve the health and well-being of people globally by building public health capacity to prevent disease, disability and death from communicable and non-communicable diseases. DGHP helps ensure global health security by protecting the health of Americans and other people around the world by supporting the implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005), establishing Field Epidemiology Training Programs and Global Disease Detection Centers, detecting emerging health threats, supporting the development of national public health institutes, advancing noncommunicable disease prevention and control, and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

Organization

Emergency Response and Recovery Branch applies public health and epidemiologic science to reduce the health impact of disasters and emergencies, including complex humanitarian events, on populations and to strengthen the recovery of health systems in these settings.

Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) Branch supports FETP that train residents who play a critical role in conducting field investigations and sharing scientific data and ideas that can improve health outcomes on a daily basis and in times of crisis.

Global Disease Detection (GDD) Branch supports CDC’s platform for developing and strengthening global capacity to rapidly detect, accurately identify, and promptly contain emerging infectious disease and bioterrorist threats that occur internationally.

Global Health Security Branch leads CDC’s global health security engagement with other U.S. government agencies and programs, multilateral institutions such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank, ministries of health, and other international organizations to promote mutual strategies, research, and policies.

Noncommunicable Disease (NCD) Unit aims to reduce the burden of NCDs, injuries, disabilities, environmental health hazards and related deaths through science, capacity building and public health action, working in collaboration with ministries of health, WHO, and other public and private sector partners.
Accomplishments

- Since 2006, the GDD Centers have responded to over 1,200 disease outbreaks and public health emergencies.
- Since its inception, the GDD Operations Center has alerted programs across CDC to numerous disease events and enabled them to respond to over 80 requests for technical assistance from over 40 countries.
- ERRB helped vaccinate over 60,000 children in the Za atari refugee camp in Jordan.
- Since 1980, CDC has helped establish 50 FETPs and produced more than 2,800 graduates from 69 countries.
- NCD Unit provided technical assistance to the World Health Organization to develop global NCD targets and indicators.

Future Direction

- Support host countries in building core capacity to achieve IHR compliance
- Develop and improve metrics to show CDC’s success in developing global health security capacities
- Ensure quality training for all FETP residents by working to establish an FETP accreditation process and standards
- Enhance country capacity for surveillance and outbreak response at all levels of the public health system
- Reduce the burden of specific noncommunicable diseases
- Strengthen country level planning, policy-making and program management for NCDs
- Continue strategic partnerships with U.S. government agencies, United Nations agencies, and non-governmental organizations to address public health problems in international emergency settings and in refugee or displaced populations