

Center for Global Health



"Our global health work is the right thing to do. When lives can be saved easily and with minimal investment, we have a responsibility to do it."

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH;
Director, CDC

Our Mission

For more than 60 years, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has used its scientific expertise to help people throughout the world live healthier, safer, and longer lives. Specifically, the agency's Center for Global Health leverages its resources and CDC's scientific expertise to assist other countries to build public health systems to identify and address their health threats, ensure emerging threats are caught and contained before they can spread, and implement proven interventions quickly and cost-effectively.



More than 280 CDC full-time and 1,500 locally employed staff are on the ground assisting 56 countries around the world to ensure that people live healthier, safer and longer lives.



Activity Snapshot

- CDC, UNICEF, and the government of Assam, India, implemented and evaluated child vaccination campaigns in several districts. After on-the-job training, a need discovered during the evaluation, vaccination rates increased by 29% among 12- to 23-month-old children in one district.
- In 6 years, the Central Asia Field Epidemiology Training Program has graduated 34 epidemiologists who learned new skills through hands-on investigation of outbreaks. Today, 29 are sharing their knowledge with their colleagues in national public health institutions, several in senior positions.
- A study by CDC, Kenyan, and Tanzanian researchers found that health workers needed hands-on training to effectively use new rapid diagnostic tests for malaria. After instruction, health workers stored tests at the proper temperature and humidity, followed quality control procedures for accuracy, and better interpreted results. Today, children and adults are diagnosed quickly and get the right treatment.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Global Health's Divisions

CDC's Center for Global Health supports international partners through programs and initiatives developed through its four programs.

Division of Global HIV/AIDS

The Division of Global HIV/AIDS (DGHA) provides technical assistance to host governments, working through its strong partnerships with Ministries of Health and local and international partners. DGHA collaborates with partners to implement integrated HIV/AIDS clinical and preventive services and systems, develop and strengthen laboratory services, and provide epidemiologic science, informatics, and research support to develop sustainable public health systems in resource-constrained countries. DGHA is a key implementer of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria

The Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria (DPDM) works with the U.S. Government and other partners to prevent and control parasitic diseases in the United States and throughout the world. DPDM provides technical support in diagnostic, consultative, and epidemiologic services and training. The division plays a lead role in the President's Malaria Initiative for monitoring and evaluation, surveillance, and operations research by advising the U.S. Malaria Coordinator on priorities for malaria control and prevention.

Division of Global Disease Detection and Emergency Response

The Division of Global Disease Detection and Emergency Response (DGDDER) collaborates with partners to strengthen public health systems abroad and build essential infrastructure in host countries. CDC has established Global Disease Detection regional centers in China, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Thailand, and South Africa as the foundation for achieving these goals. By providing leadership and technical assistance, the division increases preparedness and response to prevent and control naturally occurring and man-made threats to health.

Division of Public Health Systems and Workforce Development

The Division of Public Health Systems and Workforce Development (DPHSWD) contributes to improving the health of the people of the United States and other nations by partnering with foreign government ministries, educational institutions, Federal agencies, and international organizations. DPHSWD supports the establishment of strong in-country public health leadership and management expertise. DPHSWD is home to CDC's signature Field Epidemiology Training Program through which CDC has established 35 self-sustaining programs that have produced more than 2,100 graduates from 51 countries.

Center for Global Health Atlanta:

For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333
Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348
Email: cdcinfo@cdc.gov Web: www.cdc.gov | www.cdc.gov/globalhealth