Vision
A world where people live healthier, safer, and longer lives

Mission
Protect and improve health globally through science, policy, partnership, and evidence-based public health action

Goals
Goal 1. Health Impact: improve the health and well-being of people around the world

Goal 2. Health Security: improve capabilities to prepare for and respond to infectious disease, other emerging public health threats, and public health emergencies

Goal 3. Health Capacity: build country public health capacity

Goal 4. Organizational Capacity: maximize potential of CDC's global programs to achieve impact

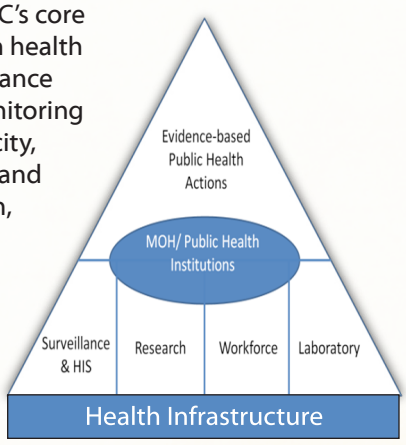
Core Technical Strengths
- Providing technical expertise
- Implementing evidence-based public health programs
- Developing surveillance and strategic information systems
- Translating research into public health policy and practice
- Building public health workforce capacity
- Strengthening laboratory systems
- Improving emergency preparedness and response capabilities
- Conducting monitoring and evaluation activities

CDC Global Health Strategy

The vision of CDC's global heath strategy is a world where people live healthier, safer, and longer lives through science, policy, partnership, and evidence-based public health action.

For 60 years, CDC has provided domestic and global public health leadership and has formed partnerships all over the world to achieve public health goals and meet emerging health challenges. The foundation for CDC's global health engagement is technical rigor and expertise, special partnerships, an emphasis on capacity building and health impact from programs, and a commitment to science and evidence. CDC's greatest assets are its staff in the United States and around the world and the trust and credibility they have developed with partners and the public.

CDC Core Technical Strengths
CDC's global health strategy is built around CDC's core strengths. Broadly, CDC has unique expertise in health systems strengthening, such as disease surveillance and health information systems (including monitoring and evaluation), public health laboratory capacity, workforce development, operational research, and public health actions and programs. In addition, CDC has deep technical expertise in infectious and non-communicable disease-specific areas, implementation and evaluation of specific public health programs, and provision of technical assistance to ministries of health (MOHs), other public health institutions, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).



CDC's Public Health Framework for Health Systems Strengthening

Partnerships
Partnerships are a cornerstone of CDC's global health work, and CDC works in concert with many partners to achieve its global health goals. CDC works with other U.S. Government agencies to implement the U.S. Government's global health agenda. Globally, CDC's principal partners are MOHs and agencies of the United Nations, especially the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). CDC also works directly with NGOs, health institutions, multilaterals, universities, and the private sector.

CDC assigns staff in countries, many embedded in MOHs and at WHO, and deploys others from the U.S., to provide technical assistance, mentoring, and broad support to build national and regional capacity. These technical exchanges offer technical expertise from CDC to partners, but also create opportunities for CDC to learn from partners and communities from direct in-country engagement. CDC recognizes the central role played by MOHs and understands that long-term sustainability for in-country health activities is contingent on country ownership and MOH programmatic and management capacity to plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate programs.

Center for Global Health
Office of the Director

CS233161

Strengthening Country Public Health Capacity

To build country capacity, CDC shares its expertise in conducting, translating, and adapting scientific evidence into policies and program implementation. Over time, increasing the capacity of countries to implement and evaluate their own public health activities lessens the need for direct U.S. support and increases country ownership and sustainability of public health programs. In addition, stronger public health detection and response capacity in partner countries reduces the chance that health threats will affect the U.S.

© David Snyder/CDC Foundation
CDC builds global capacity for malaria prevention and control by training scientists in endemic countries to assess mosquito resistance to insecticides.

Building on Existing Public Health Infrastructure

CDC's longstanding partnerships with host countries, for example its role as a partner in the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), frequently offer infrastructure that can serve as a foundation for deeper engagement, strategic collaboration, integrated health programming, and increased country ownership. PEPFAR is led by the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator, Department of State, and leverages CDC's core strengths while bringing together all U.S. Government agencies under a whole-of-government approach. Through PEPFAR, CDC has worked with countries to build laboratory networks, improve surveillance capabilities, create health information systems, develop service delivery models, and strengthen workforce capacity. This infrastructure can be leveraged to maximize investments and enhance CDC's ability to address other public health issues.

Shaping the Global Health Agenda

CDC plays a prominent role in shaping the future global health agenda through engagement with partners, serving as a key contributor to development of guidelines and strategies, and effectively delivering public health programs on a bilateral as well as multilateral basis. Multilateral involvement through such mechanisms as deployment of staff and allocation of resources can shape global, regional, and country-level public health policy and goals; influence global, regional, and country-level program implementation; provide leadership and support for global laboratory networks; and contribute to global public health research and innovation. Guided by science and impact, CDC will continue to provide worldwide technical assistance for both the unfinished business of infectious diseases and the evolving challenges of non-communicable diseases.

Photo courtesy of Alan Janssen
As a key Global Polio Eradication Initiative partner, CDC provides critical scientific, technical, and financial support for polio immunization activities.

To view the CDC Global Health Strategy in its entirety, please visit:

www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/strategy