

U. S. CDC Ethiopia



Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/global-health/countries/ethiopia.html>

Since 2001, CDC and the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) have collaborated to build and strengthen the country's core public health capabilities. These include data and surveillance; laboratory capacity; workforce and institutions; prevention and response to health threats; innovation and research; and policy, communications and diplomacy. Priority program areas address strengthening HIV and tuberculosis (TB) prevention efforts, global health security, health systems strengthening and workforce development.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Data & Surveillance

- Worked with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) to implement a national surveillance system (DHIS2) that collects infectious disease data from health facilities



Laboratory

- Strengthened laboratory quality assurance systems and specimen referral networks to improve recovery efforts in conflict-affected regions



Workforce & Institutions

- Supported training for 1,833 disease detectives who graduated from the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)



Prevention & Response

- Established emergency operations centers in 11 of 13 regions to respond to COVID-19, Ebola and Marburg virus preparedness, meningitis, cholera, measles, severe acute malnutrition, dengue fever, chikungunya, scabies, drought-related public health issues, flooding, and internal displacement



Innovation & Research

- Supported trials of smaller measles vaccine (5 dose) compared to usual presentation (10 dose) to assess the impact on vaccine coverage and wastage



Policy, Communications & Diplomacy

- Supported campaign efforts and routine services to provide safe and effective voluntary medical male circumcision, reaching over 250,000 males

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

CDC's global health security efforts in Ethiopia help enhance the country's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to disease outbreaks. The work focuses on strengthening the country's public health systems across the following core areas:

Laboratory Strengthening

CDC provides guidance on specimen management and biosafety to deliver diagnostic-specific recommendations. CDC also supports the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) to establish a national framework for biosafety and biosecurity.

Workforce Development

Through FETP, CDC strengthens Ethiopia's workforce capacity to identify and stop health threats before they spread. The program consists of three levels of training: frontline, intermediate, and advanced. Participants learn to gather critical data and turn it into evidence-based action. FETP graduates are critical to preparedness and response efforts. FETP-Advanced has 692 graduates since 2009 and 155 current residents. Specific specialty tracks have been established—including malaria, HIV, and noncommunicable diseases. FETP-Intermediate has 19 graduates and 18 current residents since 2021. FETP-Frontline has a total of 1,144 graduates since 2017 and 80 current residents. Additionally, 156 surveillance officers from police and defense forces also received training.

Surveillance Systems

CDC works with the EPHI to implement a national surveillance system (DHIS2) that collects infectious disease data from health facilities.

Public Health Emergency Management

CDC supports the Public Health Emergency Management system, which involves preparing, preventing, detecting, responding, and recovering from public health threats.



HIV

Through the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC partners with Ethiopia to:

- Provide comprehensive HIV treatment and prevention
- Intensify TB co-infection, prevention, timely detection, and treatment
- Help the government's scale-up cervical cancer screening and treatment among women living with HIV.
- Strengthen integration of non-communicable diseases into HIV care, including hypertension, diabetes mellitus and mental health disorders
- Strengthen laboratory systems

CDC supports Ethiopia's efforts to reach HIV epidemic control by 2030. CDC accomplishes this through enhanced case-finding, linkage to treatment, and viral load testing. CDC also supports efforts for continued adherence and retention of patients on ART. CDC also partners with EPHI to strengthen disease detection, surveillance, and response functions. CDC helps to strengthen laboratory personnel capacity, quality assurance systems, specimen referral networks, and improve recovery efforts in conflict zones. CDC also implements intensified TB case finding and TB preventive therapy to reduce TB-associated deaths for people living with HIV.

IMMUNIZATION

CDC's immunization experts partner with Ethiopia to:

- Eradicate polio and eliminate measles
- Develop an evidence-base for ways to better deliver vaccines
- Strengthen the national routine immunization program
- Provide technical support to introduce new vaccines
- Support outbreak investigation and responsive immunization campaign activities for measles, polio, cholera, COVID-19, and other vaccine preventable diseases
- Support routine immunization programs in evaluating current practices, introducing new vaccines, and designing approaches to improving access and vaccine coverage

MALARIA

Through the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), CDC assigned a resident advisor to help implement malaria prevention and control activities in Ethiopia. CDC's technical support includes investigation of insecticide resistance and research on durability of long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets. With U.S. support, Ethiopia is close to achieving malaria elimination in more than 230 districts.

