UCSF Institute for Global Health Sciences

At a Glance

UC San Francisco scientists, staff and students work in almost every region of the world in pursuit of UCSF’s mission: advancing health worldwide. The Institute for Global Health Sciences harnesses the power of UCSF’s cutting-edge science to create lasting solutions that improve health and strengthen health systems.

Employing the Institute’s strategy, called STEPS to Impact, our faculty, researchers and staff—experts in implementation science, education and policy development—work alongside our in-country partners to support the prevention, treatment and elimination of conditions that cause health burdens among the underserved.

The IGHS strategy starts with Science — understanding the basic biological and social factors that produce disease.

The next step is Technology — creating tools that can be used to help patients — such as a diagnostic test to determine if a woman is at risk for a premature birth—and tools to help health systems improve their performance — such as applications to help epidemiologists track an epidemic.

E stands for Economics — thinking through ways to make interventions as cost-effective as possible for low-resource settings.

P is for Policy — working with global and country-level officials to put proven approaches into practice.

The final step is Society — working closely with communities and individuals affected by disease to understand their cultural context to maximize their impact.

These STEPS to Impact bring results: the Institute is producing breakthroughs in infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis; improving outcomes in maternal and newborn health, and launching new programs addressing emerging global health threats like diabetes, cancer, climate change and mental health.

IGHS is also a pioneer in education, launching the nation’s first ever Master’s degree in Global Health and expanding a leading PhD program. Our students explore critical health challenges and develop solutions through focused training and mentorship by world-renowned faculty. The Institute’s education mission also includes building capacity of our partners abroad, and exploring online programs to reach new audiences.

Facts & Figures

**Founded:** August 1, 2003 by Haile T. Debas, MD
**Executive Director:** Jaime Sepulveda, MD, MPH, MSc, DrSc
**Funding:** $92,819,201
(90.7% from sponsored projects)
**UCSF rankings in NIH research funds**
#1 Malaria
#1 HIV/AIDS
#7 Emerging infectious diseases

# of faculty & staff: 357
# of current MS and PhD students: 45
# of MS in Global Health alumni: 307
# of countries in which IGHS works: 50
# of countries in which UCSF works: 144
# of UCSF investigators working in global health: 1,071

**Major areas of focus**
- Diplomacy and advocacy
- Health economics
- Health financing & funding
- HIV/AIDS
- Improving health systems
- Malaria
- Maternal & child health
- Measurement and evaluation
- Reproductive health

*Funding total includes the AIDS Research Institute and covers the fund year 7/1/18–6/30/18.

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