

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

CDC has worked with public health institutions in Egypt for over 20 years. Egypt is part of CDC's Middle East/North Africa regional platform. CDC works with the Egyptian government, Ministry of Health (MOH) and other partners to build and strengthen the country's core capabilities. These include data and surveillance; laboratory capacity; workforce and institutions; prevention and response; innovation and research; and policy, communications, and diplomacy.

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### Data & Surveillance

- Supported expansion of Egypt's Event Based Surveillance system which serves as an early warning system for public health events



### Laboratory

- Provided technical assistance to Egypt's Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL) virology lab which serves as the nation's reference laboratory and is a WHO-designated National Influenza Center



### Workforce & Institutions

- Trained more than 3,000 public health officers and healthcare workers on surveillance for adverse events following immunization, communication skills to increase vaccine demand, and data management and evidence-based decision making



### Prevention & Response

- Eliminated indigenous wild poliovirus transmission in 2006. CDC assists with monitoring for wild poliovirus through ongoing environmental surveillance efforts



### Innovation & Research

- Expanded the evidence-base to inform prevention and control programs and policies related to influenza vaccination



### Policy, Communications & Diplomacy

- Collaborated with the MOH and local partners to implement a tobacco control campaign that reached over 50 million people across Egypt, Jordan, Iran, and Palestine

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

CDC supports efforts to protect Egypt's public's health by developing and strengthening disease detection and outbreak response systems. CDC provides capacity-building activities and training in:

- Epidemiology
- Surveillance
- Laboratory diagnostics
- Data management and reporting.
- Infection prevention and control
- Outbreak investigations and response

## Public Health Systems

CDC supports capacity building in surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, and data management and reporting focused on complying with International Health Regulations. CDC supported trainings for surveillance data analysis and data visualization to provide timely data for policy makers.

## Laboratory Systems Strengthening

Egypt's CPHL virology lab serves as the nation's reference laboratory. CPHL is a WHO-designated National Influenza Center. WHO Collaborating Center at CDC's Influenza Division routinely provides technical assistance and training to CPHL. This training includes support for sub-national laboratories. CPHL regularly shares influenza data and specimens with WHO Collaborating Centers. This data helps inform biannual global recommendations for influenza vaccine antigen composition.

## Workforce Development

CDC supports training health workforce through the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP). CDC's FETP helps Egypt build critical global health security capabilities. FETP trains future disease detectives and public health leaders. Key leaders at MOH are FETP graduates. CDC's Public Health Emergency Management Fellowship builds capacity for Egypt's National Rapid Response Team (RRT) Training. This 3-month immersion fellowship builds public health emergency management capacities within partner nations' public health authorities. The newly trained RRT members were deployed to investigate pediatric cases of Hepatitis A, early COVID-19 detection, and control Dengue outbreaks.

## Surveillance Systems

CDC supported expansion of Egypt's Event Based Surveillance (EBS) system which serves as an early warning system for public health events. This included capacity building of MOH staff to provide timely and quality data for decision makers through rebuilding the EBS system.

## Emergency Response

CDC supported the development of Egypt's National RRT Program in 2022 through the following activities:

- Development of the program's management team structure and their training
- Development of standard operating procedures
- Staffing and training the RRT first cohort on program and all hazards response

## IMMUNIZATION

Since 1995, CDC has been providing technical and financial support for vaccine-preventable disease control and prevention to the MOH. This assistance is offered both directly to and through WHO-EMRO. CDC provides support to WHO-EMRO and collaborates with MOH through CDC offices in the Middle East North Africa region. CDC assistance targets efforts such as eradicating polio, eliminating measles, preventing rubella and congenital rubella syndrome, and enhancing routine immunization services. During and shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic, emphasis was placed on supporting COVID-19 vaccine rollout and restoring routine immunization services.

## INFLUENZA

For over 20 years, CDC's Global Influenza Program, the MOH and partners have strengthened Egypt's capacity to respond to influenza threats. CDC works to achieve these goals by:  
Providing epidemiologic and laboratory technical support for influenza detection, response, and prevention  
Expanding the evidence-base to inform prevention and control programs and policies, including influenza vaccination  
Supporting pandemic preparedness

## SMOKING AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, and Palestine implemented a tobacco control campaign in 2022-2023 reaching over 50 million people in the region. The "United Against Tobacco and COVID-19" campaign was developed after many governments realized the increased risk of severe illness among smokers. This regional campaign was a collaboration with CDC, the MOHs, Vital Strategies, and The Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network.

