

U.S. CDC Vietnam



Accessible Link: www.cdc.gov/global-health/countries/vietnam.

CDC has worked with the Government of Vietnam since 1998. CDC provides direct technical support and expertise to the Vietnam Ministry of Health (MOH) to build and strengthen the country's core public health capabilities. These include data and surveillance; laboratory capacity; workforce and institutions; prevention and response; and innovation and research. Program areas address priority diseases, including HIV, tuberculosis (TB), and influenza.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Data & Surveillance

- Developed a surveillance system for antimicrobial resistant pathogens that is used in 54 laboratories across the country



Laboratory

- Supported annual sharing of approximately 2,000 influenza positive specimens from poultry to CDC Atlanta to support pandemic preparedness



Workforce & Institutions

- Supported training for more than 400 staff who graduated from the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) since 2019



Prevention & Response

- Lead the national implementation of HIV recency testing to rapidly mobilize resources and technical assistance as part of a provincially-led public health cluster response



Innovation & Research

- Published more 20 publications on influenza surveillance and research, including H5 virus circulation in live bird markets

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

CDC's global health security work in Vietnam focuses on reaching the goals outlined in the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) and strengthening the country's public health systems across the following core areas:

Laboratory systems strengthening

CDC has helped Vietnam develop national strategic plans, a public health reference laboratory network, a biosafety and biosecurity system, whole genome sequencing capacity and improved the capacity of clinical laboratories to detect antimicrobial-resistant pathogens.

Emergency response

Decades of investment in global health security, partnerships, HIV and TB control, and pandemic preparedness efforts have built strong foundations that Vietnam leveraged to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Vietnam was at the forefront of global efforts to detect COVID-19 outbreaks and was a leader in the rapid deployment of vaccines, successfully achieving a 95 percent adult vaccination rate for primary doses. CDC's technical staff continue to partner with the MOH to ensure emergency preparedness for public health threats by:

- Developing national guidelines for surveillance, quarantine, laboratory testing, and infection prevention and control (IPC)
- Assisting in investigations to protect communities
- Providing data analysis to the government to make informed decisions
- Providing training on sample collection, biosafety, and testing
- Supporting vaccine equity, increased demand, and distribution
- Supporting risk assessments regarding border surveillance and testing requirements

Workforce development

CDC supports training public health professionals through FETP in all 63 provinces in Vietnam. Through FETP, CDC strengthens Vietnam's workforce capacity to identify and stop outbreaks before they spread.

Immunizations

CDC supports the Government of Vietnam to improve vaccine coverage and ensure equitable access to vaccines. The agency helps accomplish these goals through hepatitis B elimination activities, support of future new vaccine introductions, and targeting hard-to-reach populations in Vietnam for delivery of routine immunizations.

HIV AND TB

As a key implementer of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC supports Vietnam to reach HIV epidemic control through:

- Providing technical support to the MOH, academic institutions, provincial HIV programs, community organizations, and the private sector
- Prioritizing continuity and quality of HIV services
- Advancing scientific innovations and equity for key populations
- Supporting Vietnam's National TB Program (NTP) to strengthen the capacity of laboratories and TB screening and detection for children and adolescents
- Providing technical assistance to strengthen efforts to find, cure, and prevent TB, HIV-associated TB, and multidrug-resistant TB
- Building capacity to operationalize new and existing TB control tools and using evidence to propel data-driven TB control and prevention activities
- CDC Vietnam continues to support the transition of HIV and TB services to domestic financing and program responsibility.

INFLUENZA

CDC has partnered with Vietnam to provide support for influenza preparedness since 2005. CDC helped establish two National Influenza Centers in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City that can rapidly detect novel or seasonal influenza viruses. CDC supports influenza surveillance, such as in severe acute respiratory infections, and supports improved testing quality through domestic and international training, as well as a proficiency testing program. CDC also strengthens national capacity to detect avian influenza outbreaks through activities such as live bird market surveillance.

Additionally, the agency supports national capacity to respond to novel influenza viruses. Annually, over 2,000 specimens from hospitalized patients in 3 of 4 regions in Vietnam are tested for influenza viruses. Selected human and poultry specimens with positive influenza A results are sent to the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center in Atlanta for further characterization and potential inclusion as candidate vaccine strains. CDC also facilitates collaboration between human and animal health sectors.

