Global Health Security

A preeminent first responder, International Medical Corps assists those in urgent need anywhere, anytime, no matter what the conditions, providing lifesaving health care and health care-related emergency services—often within hours.

And that’s just where we start.

We stay on to help survivors build a better future. We work with the community, hire and train local staff, develop partnerships at all levels and evaluate progress to ensure quality. With a staff of more than 7,800 worldwide – 96% of whom are recruited locally – our teams ensure that the knowledge required to prepare for and respond effectively to an emergency remains anchored in the community and that residents can better respond should disaster strike again.

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

Our increasingly interconnected world with highly mobile individuals, dependent food and medical supply chains and globalized economies creates a progressively vulnerable environment for rapid onset epidemics and pandemics. A single localized outbreak in a remote village can now become a global health crisis. Global health security is about making the world safer and more secure from these threats.

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA

The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) seeks to accelerate progress towards a world safe from infectious disease threats and promote health security as an international priority. International organizations, technical experts, and leadership from over 40 countries as well as US government agencies from multiple sectors are collaborating to facilitate regional and global cooperation in achieving GHSA objectives of prevent, detect and respond to public health threats. For more information visit globalhealth.gov

International Medical Corps has taken a lead role within the landscape of the Agenda in three notable ways

1 International Medical Corps is a leading member of the GHSA Nongovernment Organization (NGO) steering committee
2 International Medical Corps is one of eight NGO organizations that make up the Global Health Security Leadership Consortium
3 International Medical Corps, as of July 2015 is a member of the Next Generation Leadership comprised of young public health, medical and policy professionals from around the world who will advocate the principles of the GHSA and influence policy in their governments
International Medical Corps participates in National Immunization Day campaigns around the world and incorporates routine immunizations in the provision of primary health care in over 15 countries on three continents. Furthermore, International Medical Corps has provided training for microscopists and other laboratory technicians and designed guidelines and protocols to improve laboratory systems in nine countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

For over three decades, International Medical Corps has worked with local governments and communities to improve their ability to respond to disasters including infectious diseases outbreaks by improving community surveillance and reporting public health events of international concern in Afghanistan, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Jordan, Mali, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Nigeria.

Drawing on 30 years of experience training local health workers in the world’s disaster-prone areas, International Medical Corps continues to contribute to several GHSA Action Packages globally.

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International Medical Corps’ Global Health Security Activities

Bacterial meningitis response in the Chad-Sudan border region

Immunizations in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Burundi, Darfur, Chad, CAR, DRC, Cameroon, Nigeria, Kenya, Haiti, S. Sudan, Libya and Philippines

Cholera prevention and treatment in Haiti

Cholera response in Afghanistan, Cameroon, the DRC, Pakistan, South Sudan and Zimbabwe

Ebola prevention and response in Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali and Sierra Leone.

Epidemiology training through Field Epidemiology Training Programs (FETPs) in Afghanistan, the DRC, Iraq, Pakistan and South Sudan

Pandemic planning and preparedness in Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, the Philippines, Tanzania and Uganda