

CDC in Mozambique



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Established in 2000, CDC Mozambique collaborates with the Government of Mozambique (GRM), Ministry of Health (MOH), National Public Health Institute (NPHI), civil society, and partner organizations to build and strengthen the country's core public health capabilities. These include data and surveillance; laboratory capacity; public health workforce and institutions; and prevention and response to health threats. Priority program areas address HIV, tuberculosis (TB), malaria, cholera, polio, and respiratory viruses such as influenza and COVID-19.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Data & Surveillance

- Worked with the GRM to help build surveillance and laboratory capacity to detect and respond to influenza which was further leveraged and expanded to include SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus



Laboratory

- Facilitated six reference laboratories in achieving international standard accreditation (ISO:15189)



Workforce & Institutions

- Supported training for 150 public health professionals who graduated from the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)
- Established a distance learning platform, known as Telesaude to provide case management support using hotlines, and distance learning for training activities



Prevention & Response

- Delivered integrated HIV and TB health services to 498 health facilities, provided over 1.3 million people with HIV antiretroviral treatment (ART), and distributed more than 6 million HIV tests
- Delivered over 17 million mosquito nets, 110 million rapid diagnostic tests and 89 fast-acting malaria medicines since 2007
- Coordinated and implemented 9 rounds of polio vaccination campaigns

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

CDC works with MOH to strengthen health systems through building capacity in human resources for health (HRH), public health infrastructure, health information systems, surveillance, and laboratory systems. CDC activities include:

- Supporting strengthened capacity, sustainability, and effectiveness of HRH
- Strengthening laboratory infrastructure, services, and systems for HIV and TB diagnostics and treatment monitoring
- Supporting NPHI's capacity for multi-disease testing, surveillance, and outbreak preparedness and response
- Enhancing the availability, accessibility, quality, and use of program and public health data
- Strengthening electronic health and laboratory information systems, including those for HIV and TB
- Conceptualizing research, conducting population-based and behavioral surveys, and strengthening disease surveillance
- Promoting a country-owned, sustainable, and resilient health system

Workforce development

CDC helped Mozambique establish FETP in 2010 which helps increase the country's capacity to investigate and respond to disease outbreaks. FETP trains participants in applied epidemiology, laboratory management, data collection, and translation of data into evidence-based action. FETP fellows support MOH and NPHI with HIV and TB surveillance, monitoring, and evaluation, outbreak investigations and emergency response.

Emergency response

CDC strengthens local capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks and other public health threats, including the COVID-19, polio, and cholera responses. Activities have included strategic planning and coordination, disease surveillance, laboratory testing and quality assurance, infection prevention and control, vaccination campaigns, continuity of essential health services and clinical care, and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.

HIV AND TB

CDC has helped develop and strengthen Mozambique's response to the dual HIV and TB epidemics since 2000. CDC is one of the lead US government agencies supporting the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief program, and working with MOH, other government partners and various international and local partners to achieve epidemic control and establish health systems that support the national HIV response program in Mozambique. The program is aligned with the global goals for HIV epidemic control set by the UNAIDS. Key activities include:

- Delivering integrated HIV and TB health services in 498 health facilities

- Supporting development and implementation of national guidelines, tools, and workforce capacity and building to advance quality of service delivery
- Establishing and implementing disease surveillance

MALARIA

Mozambique faces a significant malaria risk, with its entire 32 million population vulnerable, particularly in the central and northern regions. In partnership with USAID, CDC supports implementation of PMI and collaborates with the MOH and NPHI to implement malaria prevention and control activities. These efforts aim to decrease malaria-related illness and deaths in the country, particularly in the provinces of Zambezia, Nampula, and Manica. Key activities include:

- Indoor residual spraying
- Monitoring to understand insecticide susceptibility, behavior, population and distribution of mosquitoes that transmit malaria
- Providing malaria tests, antimalarials, and malaria preventive treatments
- Ensuring quality care of people with malaria
- Drug resistance monitoring to ensure antimalarials remain effective
- Supply chain management
- Social and behavioral change

INFLUENZA

CDC has worked with the GRM to help build surveillance and laboratory capacity to detect and respond to influenza. This platform was leveraged and expanded to include SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus. Mozambique participates in the World Health Organization's External Quality Assessment Project for influenza laboratories. The project helps strengthen diagnostic capacity and preparedness to respond to influenza outbreaks worldwide by monitoring quality and performance standards.

POLIOVIRUS OUTBREAK RESPONSE

Mozambique faces significant challenges in maintaining routine immunization rates. The country is the current epicenter of a wild poliovirus outbreak, with two concurrent vaccine-derived poliovirus outbreaks ongoing. CDC continues to support the nationwide polio response as a key partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. CDC has deployed epidemiologists and scientists to priority provinces to help detect polio cases and plan, implement, and monitor campaigns. Additionally, residents and graduates of Mozambique's CDC-supported FETP have deployed nationwide to support active case finding and campaign monitoring. CDC's activities to prevent polio and respond to polio outbreaks include:

- Strengthening polio case finding, contract tracing and surveillance
- Coordinating and implementing vaccination campaigns
- Implementing vaccine uptake monitoring

