Foundations of Global Health

Actors, Foundations & Careers

"Demand that your government pays more attention. It’s immoral that people in Africa die like flies of diseases that no one dies of in the United States. And the more disease there is, the more political unrest there will be, leading to more Darfs, which the U.S. will have to pay to fix."

~Former U.S. President Bill Clinton

Learning Objectives

- Identify changing face of global health actors
- Describe the benefits and concerns related to Global Health Initiatives
- Identify contributions to global health from a variety of actors and foundations
- Identify global health challenges and career paths to meet these needs

Global Health Challenges

- Complexity of global health
- Intersection of multiple actors, NGOs, United Nations, national governments
- MDGs require basic improvements (water, food, poverty, education etc)
- Weak infrastructure in developing world
- Need to strengthen existing health systems

Traditional Actors

- WHO
- MDGs
- WHO Director General
- Secretariat

New Actors

- Roll Back Malaria
- Partners

Global Health Initiatives

- Emerging trend in global health
- Programs targeted at specific diseases
  - Bonus: resources support other health efforts, too
- Between 1998 – 2000, launch of 3 major global health initiatives:
  - Roll Back Malaria
  - Stop TB
  - GAVI
Roll Back Malaria

- Coordinate global response to reduce deaths from malaria
- Increased access to:
  - Effective treatment
  - Prevention tools (bed nets)
- Responds to malaria outbreaks
- Assists in development of new products for the prevention and treatment

Malaria Global Action Plan

- Objective: Scale-up interventions to reach 80% of populations at risk
- Estimate that 4.2 million lives could be saved by 2015 in 20 highest burden African countries
  - Current annual funding: $1 billion
  - Funding Needed: ~$6 billion (gap of $5 billion)
- Level of coverage is far below target
  - 66.2 million bed nets provided
  - 730 million needed to achieve target

GAVI

- Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization
- Private/public partnership launched in 2000
- Strengthen childhood immunization programs, especially in developing countries
- Innovative approaches (AMC)

GAVI Stats

- 5.4 million deaths prevented (2001-2009)
- 43% of vaccines are produced by drug companies in developing countries
- Committed $4 billion to countries through 2015

Global Health Partnerships: Benefits

- Increased profile of target diseases
- Large-scale new funding
- Greater civil society and private sector participation
- Use key technical and operational strategies
- Accelerated progress
- Supported global public goods
- Secured economies of scale
- Led innovation

GHP: Concerns

- Poor coordination and duplication
- Additional training needed for implementation
- Variable country ownership
- Poor alignment with country processes
- Health system capacity/human resources problems
- Low or uncertain sustainability
Examples of Multi-lateral Organizations

- United Nations
  - WHO
  - UNAIDS
  - FAO
  - UNFP, etc
- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, Malaria
- World Bank

Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

- International financing institution (just handles the money; others implement it)
- Created in 2002 to increase resources for 3 diseases
- Support large-scale prevention & treatment measures in 144 countries
- $19 billion in total funding

Examples of Global Health Actors

- Past Presidents (USA)
- Foundations
- Rich & Famous People
- Students!

Past Presidents

- Former US presidents raise awareness & funding for global health issues
  - Jimmy Carter (Carter Center)
  - Bill Clinton (Clinton Foundation)
  - George W. Bush (PEPFAR program)
- Very influential in international community

The Carter Center

- Founded in 1982 with Emory University in Atlanta
- Supports Peace & Global Health Programs
- $87 million annual operating budget & 160 employees
  - “Graduated” over 2000 student interns
- 2002 Nobel Peace Prize

Global Fund Stats

- **HIV/AIDS:**
  - 2.8 million people on ARV treatment
  - 120 million HIV counseling and testing sessions
  - 930,000 HIV+ pregnant women received PMTCT treatment

- **Tuberculosis:**
  - 7 million new cases detected and treated
  - Supported programs for 48% of TB cases globally

- **Malaria:**
  - 122 million bed nets distributed
  - 142.4 million drug treatments delivered
Carter Center: War on Diseases

- Focus on neglected tropical diseases
- Base for International Task Force for Disease Elimination (ITFDE)
  - Guinea worm
  - Lymphatic filariasis
  - River blindness
  - Trachoma

"We believe good health is a basic human right, especially among poor people afflicted with diseases who are isolated, forgotten, ignored, and often without hope."

Clinton Foundation

- Established in 1997 to raise funds for presidential library and variety of programs
- 7 global initiatives – all related to health & poverty
- NGO with 1,100 staff and volunteers in more than 40 countries
- Does not grant money to other programs - funds its own projects

Clinton Global Initiative

- Founded in 2005
- Hosts annual meeting to coincide with UN General Assembly
- Membership is by invitation only
  - Fee $20,000 (most tax deductible)
- Commitments to Action
  - Private sector mixes business & philanthropy
  - CGI University

The Rockefeller Foundation

- Founded in 1913
- Mission: To promote the well-being of mankind throughout the world
- First grant: $100,000 to American Red Cross to establish headquarters in DC
- Builds & endows first schools of Public Health in the United States
- Developed Yellow Fever Vaccine
- Agricultural engineering & green revolution
- Co-founds Children’s Vaccine Initiative & IAVI

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

- Originally formed as the William H. Gates Foundation (1994), then renamed BMGF (1999)
- Principle that every life has value
- Named Persons of Year in 2005 by TIME
- Apply business techniques to giving
**Foundation Stats**

• Headquartered in Seattle
• 874 employees
• $68 billion endowed
  – Dispersed ~$24 B
• Grants support work in over 100 countries

**Gates & MDGs**

• Recent trend to address underlying causes of poor health
• New emphasis on maternal/child health
• Infectious diseases– still priority– with $10 billion committed to vaccines

**Grand Challenges in Global Health**

• Gates has spent over $450 million to encourage innovation for unsolved problems
• Aims to develop new tools to improve health in developing world
• People that think “outside of the box”
• Variety of disciplines: engineering, chemistry, statistics, business & medicine/health

**Grand Challenge Explorations**

• Launched in 2008
  – Open to everyone (students, too!)
  – Open to any organization – colleges, non-profits, government labs, etc
• Must have a cool INNOVATIVE idea
• No preliminary data & short 2-page application
• $100k to start
  – If it works, up to $1 million

**Warren Buffett**

• Rich, American investor
• Co-trustee of Gates Foundation
• Pledged to donate most of his wealth to charity
  – Has committed $30 billion in shares to the Gates Foundation
  – One catch: Foundation must spend money in same year
• $600 Billion Challenge

**Bono**

• U2 lead singer and activist
• Co-founder of DATA organization (Debt, AIDS, Trace & Africa) in 2002
• ONE campaign to end extreme poverty
• RED campaign to fund HIV/AIDS
• $150 million contributed to The Global Fund
Jeff Sachs

- American economist
- Co-founded the Millennium Villages Project
- Director, The Earth Institute at Columbia University
- Special Advisor to the United Nations

Students

- You can be a powerful force for positive change
- Volunteer time, skills and enthusiasm
- Raise money & awareness for organizations (support fundraisers)
- Future leaders in global health

Important International Experience

- Many global health jobs require (or strongly recommend) international experience
- How do I get experience?
- INTERN or VOLUNTEER for overseas duty
  - 1000s of NGOs working internationally
  - Grassroots Organizations
  - Faith-based Organizations
  - Peace Corps
  - Public Health Coursework (international field experience)

Global Health Career Paths

- Consider MDG targets
  - Maternal & child health, poverty reduction, infectious diseases, environmental sustainability..
- Opportunities for public health professionals (epidemiologists, community health workers, health scientists...)
- Health service delivery: doctors, nurses, dentists, physician’s assistant, EMTs..
- Program support: program managers, statisticians, communications, IT service, engineers, economists, etc

Potential Employers

- In-country field consultants
- Disaster relief organizations
- Immigrant/refugee health organizations
- Research and academic institutions
- International agencies
- Other NGOs
- Multi-lateral agencies (such as WHO, UNICEF, World Bank)
- Governmental agencies (USAID; in-country Ministry of Health...)

Key Training Opportunities

- USAID: Global Health Fellows Program/Internships
- The Corps: Peace Corps, Global Health Corps, US PH Commissioned Corps
- CDC: EIS Officers, Public Health Fellowships, Internships (assignment locations based in United States)
- NGOs: PIH, MSF, RedCross
- Carter Center

Check out the WEBSITES in Recommended Career Resource folder in Week 15. It includes LINKS to current public health job openings, fellowships, internships and training opportunities!
Future of Global Health

• Funding
• Sustainable development
• Weak public health and/or health system infrastructure hampers an effective program
• Tremendous progress & awareness in recent years
• Globalization & technology will contribute...
• Greater involvement of private citizens and grassroots organizations

Practice Questions

• Contrast traditional vs. new actors in global health.
• Define Global Health Initiative
• Compare and contrast Presidential foundations
• What famous American investor has pledged most of his fortune to charity, particularly Global Health?
• Name 2 health services careers in global health.
• Name 2 public health careers.
• Name 3 potential global health employers.

Foundations of Global Health

Hope you enjoyed the course!