

STRATEGY 2021-2025 - Centre for International Health

Established in 1988, the Centre for International Health (CIH) at the University of Bergen (UiB) is an inter-Faculty Centre for research and training within the field of Global Health.

VISION

To provide excellent global health research and training contributing to improved health and equity

MISSION

CIH works in partnerships with research institutions in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), and aims to:

- Coordinate and conduct high quality, relevant and innovative global health research
- Teach, supervise, and facilitate learning in global health
- Disseminate research and engage in policy discussions on pertinent global health issues

GLOBAL HEALTH

In accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG3), CIH defines “global health” as an area of research, education and practice that focuses on improving health and achieving health equity, especially in LMIC. The field of global health promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and involves subject areas both within and beyond the health sciences. For CIH, mutual post-graduate capacity strengthening and genuine partnerships with implementing institutions are integrated and essential features of global health, in compliance with SDG4, on Education and SDG17, on Partnerships.

PARTNERSHIP

CIH aims to strengthen capacity in global health through research and training in partnership with academic institutions and other research entities in LMICs. An important prerequisite for establishing mutual and sustainable research partnerships is that genuine collaborative effort is involved in the conception, development, and implementation of projects.

SCIENTIFIC PRIORITIES

In line with the SDG agenda, CIH will focus on collaborative research and capacity strengthening to promote improved health and equity in LMICs. We will concentrate on the 'unfinished agenda'; the leading social, environmental and political determinants of the burden of disease in LMIC, including maternal, adolescent and child health and infectious diseases, as well as nutrition, child growth and development. Priority will also be given to non-communicable diseases and injuries, in particular chronic respiratory diseases and mental health. We will also engage in research on health policy, health systems and health consequences of migration, climate change and inequality. CIH will emphasize research on implementation and interventions that can cost-effectively and equitably improve health.

ACTIVITY PLAN

- 1) Coordinate and conduct high quality, relevant and innovative global health research by**
 - a) ensuring the continuation of the Centre for Intervention Science in Maternal and Child Health (CISMAC) and encouraging development of new, relevant centres of excellence in research, education and innovation.
 - b) strengthening research groups at CIH
 - c) including partners at other units at UiB and outside UiB in joint research and innovation proposals and projects
 - d) organizing an annual open CIH Day to promote collaboration.

- 2) Teach, supervise and facilitate learning in global health by**
 - a) developing and operating online courses together with partner institutions
 - b) participating in supervision of students/candidates at partner institutions
 - c) strengthening the CIH/CISMAC research school
 - d) developing joint proposals to enhance teaching and learning at CIH and partner institutions
 - e) encouraging staff at CIH to gain status as meritorious teachers by expanding their pedagogical portfolio.

- 3) Disseminate research and engage in policy discussions on pertinent global health issues by**
 - a) strengthening CIH's relationship with policy makers, such as Norad, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WHO and UN
 - b) engaging in political discussions relevant for the academic development of global health issues, e.g., development of grant opportunities and formal recognition of teaching in LMIC
 - c) communicating CIH's work effectively in relevant national and international networks, e.g., by arranging ECTMIH, the 12th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health
 - d) keeping CIH websites up to date and developing a bi-annual CIH Newsletter.