

# U.S. CDC's Caribbean and Central America Regional Office



Engagement through CARPHA

The U.S. CDC's Caribbean and Central America Regional Office (CCAMRO), located in Panama City, Panama, launched in 2024 to advance regional health security through innovation and strategic partnerships. CCAMRO works with the United States' closest neighbors in the Caribbean and Central America to improve the timely detection of emerging health threats and to enhance knowledge and information sharing for improved early warning systems.

CDC CCAMRO works alongside the agency's network of subject matter experts to reinforce regional partnerships, building on decades of global health accomplishments from our overseas offices in Haiti, Guatemala, Jamaica and Mexico. This effort protects Americans from global health threats by reducing the risk of disease transmission across our borders.

## Key Areas of Focus

Together with public health experts from CDC headquarters, the CCAMRO works to:



**Fortify strategic relationships** with regional health partners such as the US Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Council of Ministers of Health of Central America (COMISCA), partner governments, and academic institutions.



**Improve early warning systems** for timely global health threat detection and rapid response.



**Improve knowledge exchange and information sharing**, as well as peer-to-peer exchange for shared capacity building.



**Strengthen collaboration with regional centers of excellence** including the Gorgas Memorial Institute, Panama's National Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT), Institute of Scientific Research and High Technology (INDICASAT), and the CARPHA Reference Laboratory.

## Regional Goals

U.S. CDC and partners collaborate to:

- **Strengthen existing and develop** new partnerships to improve regional health security objectives.
- **Improve** partner coordination, collaboration, and communication.
- **Advance** data modernization initiatives through improved disease surveillance and health information systems.
- **Strengthen** surveillance systems to better understand and predict disease trends.
- **Promote** public health science and research to ensure evidence-based health policy, guidelines, and recommendations.
- **Strengthen** the capacity of governments to effectively respond to public health emergencies.
- **Improve** ability of countries in the region to address vector-borne and vaccine preventable diseases.
- **Promote** science and innovation in public health.
- **Strengthen** public health laboratories.



## U.S. CDC's Regional Offices

Regional offices support U.S. CDC to prevent, detect and respond rapidly, efficiently, and effectively to health threats wherever they occur. Regional offices are part of a U.S. CDC network of regional and country offices in over 60 countries. Since 2020, U.S. CDC has established six regional offices, covering Eastern Europe/Central Asia, the Middle East/North Africa, South America, Southeast Asia, Central America and the Caribbean, and East Asia/Pacific. Incorporating a regional approach to U.S. CDC's work in countries around the world further strengthens the agency's ability to strategically advance global health security; implement a sustainable, long-term overseas structure; expand the reach of technical assistance and programs; and respond rapidly to disease outbreaks.

## U.S. CDC's Global Health Mission

For over 80 years, U.S. CDC has served as the lead public health agency for the United States. U.S. CDC's mission is to protect health and safety by preventing, detecting and responding to disease threats, anytime and anywhere U.S. CDC supports partner governments to build health programs, address health threats, enhance sustainable and country owned public health systems, and improve health outcomes. Through partnerships, U.S. CDC supports people around the world to live healthier, safer, longer lives.

## U.S. CDC's Global Health Activities



Ensuring interoperable data and surveillance systems that detect, identify and monitor disease threats and produce high quality, timely data to inform public health action



Building public health laboratory systems that rapidly and accurately detect, track and inform public health action



Training and developing a multisectoral health workforce and coordinated essential public health services to prevent, detect, and respond to disease threats and integrate national public health functions



Developing systems, tools, and processes that enhance response to public health emergencies including implementation of prevention and mitigation strategies and countermeasures



Supporting research, implementation science and public health evaluations to inform best practices for preventing diseases and countering health threats



Promoting resources and relationships that can develop and support the use of evidence-based public health policy, communicate risk, and disseminate prevention messages

For more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth>



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