

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Global Health
Strategic Plan 2012-2015



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Featured on the cover:

(front) The National QA team at the Nigeria National EQA Center in Zaria, Nigeria, preparing QA panels for the upcoming Phase II RTK Evaluation;
(back) Dance troop at lab opening ceremony in Lesotho

Global Health Strategic Plan 2012-2015

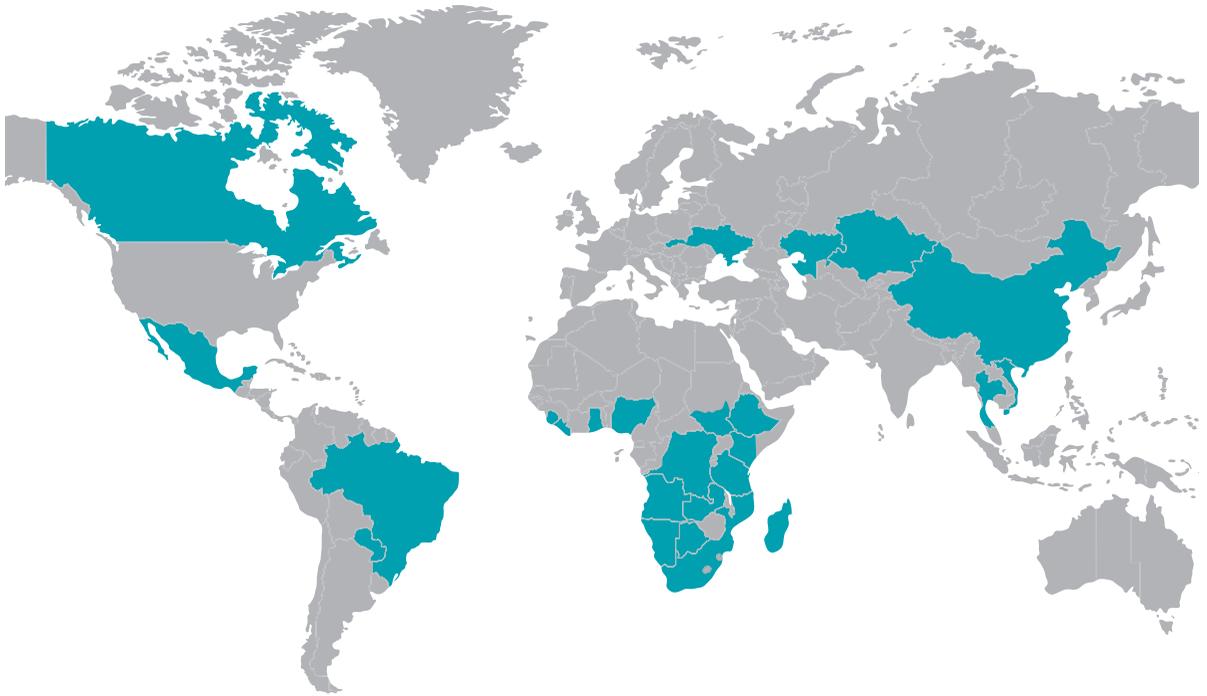
APHL's Global Health Mission is to improve the quality of laboratory practice and strengthen national public health laboratory networks internationally. With financial support primarily from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, APHL provides technical assistance and training in strategic planning, laboratory-based surveillance, testing methods, laboratory management, and information systems.

APHL members who participate in the international activities of the Association are experienced public health laboratory practitioners. APHL coordinates its international activities from its Silver Spring, Maryland, USA headquarters with a staff of laboratory professionals and program managers who have expertise in laboratory quality practices and significant experience in international laboratory systems.

APHL's work includes in-country consultations and trainings in methods and systems management, set-up of testing services including instrument selection and validation, development and implementation of quality management systems and EQA programs. APHL also supports planning and development of national public health laboratories and public health laboratory surveillance systems, as well as practical trainings and fellowships in US public health laboratories and universities. Specific laboratory-related activities include guidance in the strategic planning process for national laboratory systems; technical trainings in microbiology, immunology and clinical chemistry methods; implementation of EQA programs for HIV testing; implementation of drug sensitivity testing for tuberculosis; assistance with laboratory functional design; development and implementation of laboratory information systems; and guidance in the development and implementation of national laboratory quality assurance systems. For detailed information on projects and initiatives, visit www.aphl.org.

APHL works closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and participates in WHO Committees and planning meetings related to strengthening laboratory capacity and quality practices around the world. APHL projects include work in Africa, South America, Eastern Europe, Asia, Mexico and the Caribbean. Through a memorandum of understanding, APHL also collaborates with the Canadian Public Health Laboratory Network on common surveillance and technical issues.

APHL's global health vision is to have a strong national public health laboratory in every country, and to see these laboratories collaborate to protect and promote the health of all people.



Where We Work:

- Angola
- Bangladesh
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Canada
- China (Hong Kong)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Lesotho
- Madagascar
- Mexico
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Paraguay
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- Sudan
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Ukraine
- Vietnam
- Zambia

GOAL 1

Support the strengthening of public health laboratory systems that are sustainable and improve public health outcomes.

OBJECTIVE 1. Outcomes and Effectiveness

Incorporate monitoring and evaluation in all APHL international activities

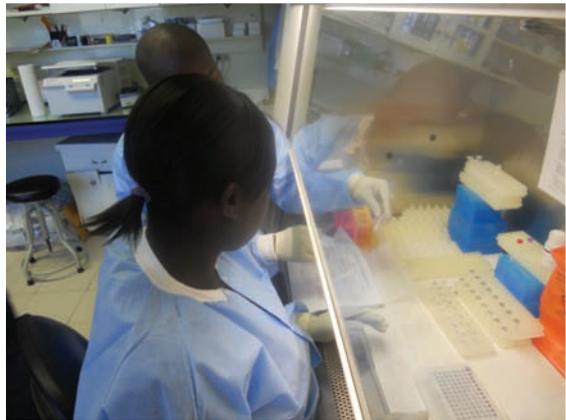
OBJECTIVE 2. Laboratory Systems

Continue to promote the following laboratory system areas:

- a. Development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national laboratory policy and strategic plans
- b. Accreditation (Quality Management Systems)
- c. Networks
- d. Information Systems
- e. Linking/Integrating Laboratory-based and Clinical Disease Surveillance

OBJECTIVE 3. Consultation

Provide expert consultation and assistance internationally on laboratory science, quality management systems, network development, good laboratory practices, information systems, strategic planning and laboratory policy



Laboratory staff receiving HIV viral load training at the Laboratoire National de Santé Publique, the Haitian national public health laboratory

OBJECTIVE 4. Workforce and Human Capacity

Advance the training, leadership development, recruitment and retention of a competent workforce to meet global public health laboratory needs through collaboration between all APHL Programs, members and committees to foster partnership, innovation and breakthrough results

- a. Laboratory Leadership and Development - Continue to identify, develop and train emerging leaders through the APHL/GWU International Institute seminars and collaborative initiatives globally with academic institutions
- b. Training and Professional Development - Maintain and enhance the development, implementation and evaluation of training and professional development opportunities, especially in the areas of laboratory management, process improvement, quality management systems, information systems and laboratory-based disease surveillance

OBJECTIVE 5. Country Partnerships

Develop and sustain country relationships and partnerships with ministries of health, national public health reference laboratories and professional medical laboratory societies to strengthen public health laboratory infrastructure

- a. Promote twinning programs between APHL member institutions and national public health reference laboratories and academic institutions
- b. Develop funding mechanisms for twinning programs
- c. Promote partnerships with national laboratory medical societies and promote development of national public health laboratory associations



Launch of ASLM in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; APHL senior advisor Ralph Timperi, Laboratory Practice & Management, (right), pictured with Dr. Fatim Cham, HIV Laboratory Technical Office, WHO-AFRO, and Dr. Guy-Michel Gershy-Damet, Regional Advisor for HIV/AIDS laboratories, WHO-AFRO

GOAL 2

Increase the visibility, status and influence of APHL international public health laboratory activities and those of the international public health laboratory community.

OBJECTIVE 1. Strategic Communications

Develop and implement communications and marketing plans for international activities, internally and externally to APHL, to increase utilization of tools and to achieve the objectives of the APHL Global Health Strategic Plan

OBJECTIVE 2. Advocacy

Develop and implement an advocacy plan for APHL international activities that assist in securing funding for the laboratory community from diverse federal agencies and other funding sources

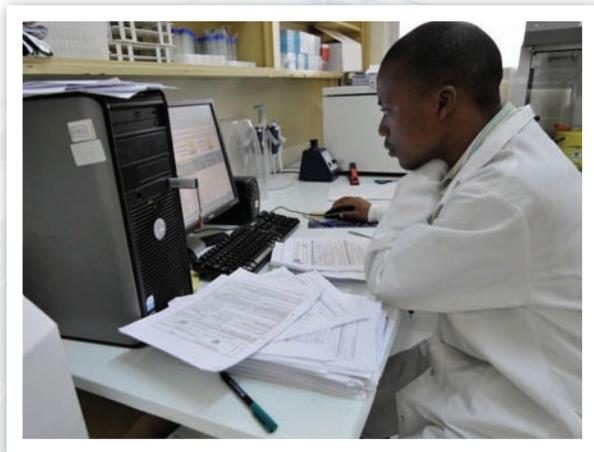
OBJECTIVE 3. Present and Publish

Promote the roles and contributions of public health laboratories and laboratorians to the public, media, policy makers, funders, and other external constituencies

- a. Develop and publish timely APHL website and blog content on international activities
- b. Develop international work contributions for publication in scientific journals
- c. Develop international work conference submissions (abstracts for presentations, posters, etc.)

OBJECTIVE 4. Association Building & Network Development

Promote the development of international laboratory associations and networks



Laboratory technician working with laboratory information system (LIS) in the National Reference Laboratory in Maputo Central Hospital, Mozambique

GOAL 3

Strengthen collaboration, coordination and governance across APHL Programs doing international work.

OBJECTIVE 1. Governance

- a. Develop and implement a framework for Global Health Committee oversight
- b. Define role of Global Health Committee and Program in providing guidance and advice, and in reviewing international work
 - i. Yr 1: Collect Information
 - ii. Yr 1: GHC makes recommendations to the board by end of 2012
 - iii. Yr 2 and Yr 3: Implementation of governance process for GHC, GHP and international work



Annual Meeting attendees tour the EPA Research and Development Laboratory (Those pictured include two members of the Ethiopian Public Health Laboratory Association, Dr. Aytenew Ashenafi and Dr. Almaz Abebe Tadesse)

OBJECTIVE 2. Communications

- a. Strengthen communications among APHL Programs
- b. Reporting to the Board of Directors

OBJECTIVE 3. Guidance

Provide guidance documents, tools and support for members, staff and consultants who participate in international work

GOAL 4

Assure that APHL has the infrastructure, resources, tools and partnerships to support its international initiatives.

OBJECTIVE 1. Funding

- a. Diversify and secure stable funding for APHL international initiatives
- b. Develop strategies to increase consultation as a resource generation option

OBJECTIVE 2. Human Capital

- a. Strengthen capacity in-country to support APHL international initiatives
- b. Ensure sufficient staff, member, and consultant resources through an appropriate organizational model

OBJECTIVE 3. Partnerships and Collaboration

- a. Actively seek out and maintain partnerships that strengthen APHL international activities and programs (MOH, academic, corporate, public private partnerships, etc.)

OBJECTIVE 4. Products & Services

- a. Diversify, develop and promote APHL international program tools and services (training packages, guidance documents)

OBJECTIVE 5. Member Participation

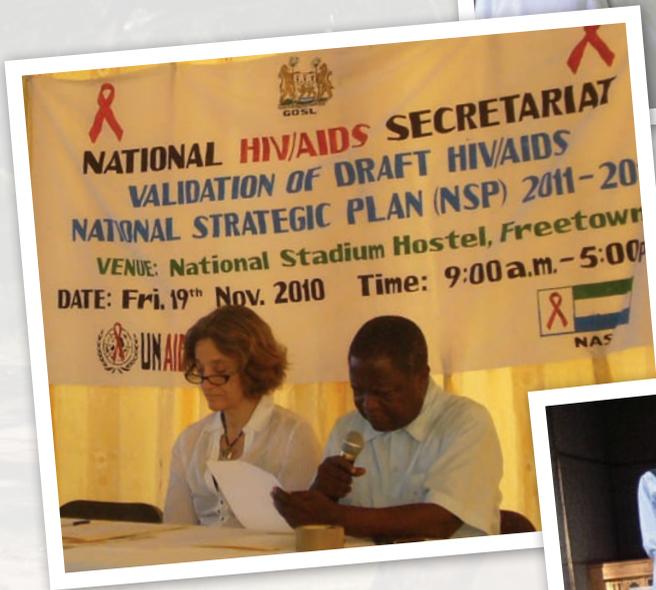
- a. Define, describe and promote member role in projects; Clearly outline expectations and opportunities
- b. Demonstrate value of international initiatives to members



Assessment Team outside the Institute of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases in Kiev, Ukraine: (left to right) Dennis Ellenberger, Chuck Vitek, Eric Blank, Harvey George, Eugenia Larionchik

Ensuring Global Health

Students training with blood samples in the Hematology Unit, Laboratory Section, Coast Provincial General Hospital in Mombasa, Kenya



Laura Shelby, CDC-GAP Country Project Officer for Sierra Leone, with a lab representative at the stakeholder's planning meeting to draft an HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan in Freetown, Sierra Leone

Erik Reisdorf, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, (back row, left) pictured with Andrew Corwin, CDC, (bottom row right) Traykhouane Phouthavane, deputy chief of laboratory division, NCLE, (bottom row, center) and other laboratory professionals in Laos





◀ Dance troop at a lab opening ceremony in Lesotho

▶ APHL consultant, Thomas Toni, trains staff at the Laboratoire National de Santé Publique in Port-au-Prince, Haiti



◀ APHL Mozambique consultants Solon Kidane and August Oficiana work on the evaluations and pre- and post- test FLLM documents



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