

Strategic plan for Centre for Global Health 2021-2023

The Centre for Global Health (CGH) is an initiative of the Faculty of Medicine (FoM) at the University of Oslo (UiO) as part of the agenda to meet the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) challenges. The CGH emulates UiO values as a steward of scientific tradition, culture and methodology in global health¹. The world is facing challenges that require efforts from the entire global community. Finding sustainable solutions to global health problems is urgent in an increasingly globalized and unequal world.

The CGH's ambitions are to mobilize cross-sectorial, multi- and interdisciplinary global health research², to be a hub for capacity development³ in research based global health education⁴, and a facilitator of community engagement, knowledge-based dialogue, and public opinion formations related to important global health discussions⁵ thus ultimately contributing to sustainable development.

Vision

The UiO CGH is a multi- and interdisciplinary hub for education and research capacity development in global health, contributing to sustainable development through collaboration and networking.

Mission

Advance capacity for global health research, education and communication at UiO and partner institutions.

Objectives⁶:

- Develop and facilitate research projects in selected global health areas across units at UiO
- Advance capacity for research education in global health nationally and internationally
- Disseminate global health knowledge to students and faculty at the UiO, as well as to the wider community of researchers, decision makers and the general public
- Establish and consolidate formal cross-sectoral networks of researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders within selected areas at UiO, in Norway and globally.

¹ Koplan et al. The Lancet 2009 [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(09\)60332-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60332-9)

² Multidisciplinary: people from different disciplines working together, each drawing on their disciplinary knowledge. Interdisciplinary: integrating knowledge and methods from different disciplines, using a real synthesis of approaches. Transdisciplinary: creating a unity of intellectual frameworks beyond the disciplinary perspectives.

³ Capacity building is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as "the development of knowledge, skills, commitment, structures, systems and leadership to enable effective health promotion...[with] actions to improve health at three levels: the advancement of knowledge and skills among practitioners; the expansion of support and infrastructure for health promotion in organizations, and; the development of cohesiveness and partnerships for health in communities" Smith et al Health Promot Int, 2006

⁴ Global health education is an area of training that focuses on health issues directly or indirectly caused by transnational factors as defined in Koplan et al Lancet, 2009

⁵ Pratt et al, Am J Bioethics, 2020

⁶ Faculty of Medicine Board defined CGH objectives, May 2019, slightly rephrased

Milestones

By end of 2022 the CGH will:

1. Function as a multi- and interdisciplinary force for global health across UiO with participation in active research grants
2. Make available local and web based high quality global health education competency training
3. Serve as partner or organizer of national and international global health conferences

By end of 2023 the CGH will:

1. Be defined as UiO: Global Health⁷, actively advancing the UiO strategy and the 2030 agenda
2. Be a partner in multiple global health research projects lead by UiO or international researchers
3. Participate in networks with international partners as a key resource in research education capacity development and training

Strategies to reach CGH objectives:

1. Increase CGH visibility and engagement internally at UiO⁸
2. Increase faculty engagement by establishing a Global Research Education and Collaboration in Health (REACH) faculty network at UiO
3. Increase student engagement in CGH in collaboration with a Student Advisory Committee
4. Advance user participation and community engagement capacity in CGH activities
5. Harness capacity and competency for cross-sectoral, multi- and interdisciplinary global health research and research education at UiO and discrete partners
6. Compile, facilitate and disseminate education and training advancing competencies in global health leadership and research
7. Serve as a nexus for global health activities at UiO through an updated and engaging website
8. Advance global health knowledge through conferences, seminars, webinars and communications
9. Actively solicit of financial support and grants for strategic activities

Annual activities will operationalize the strategies in various ways, and intermediate milestones defined. The CGH leadership will develop the annual plans. The CCH Board will undertake a mid-term review in order to make updates and necessary adjustments.

⁷ UiO:Energy, UiO:Life Science and UiO:Nordic <https://www.uio.no/english/research/strategic-research-areas/>

⁸ The CGH is organized with a Deputy Director from each of the three institutes of FoM reporting to the Director. The Deputy Directors are responsible for initiating and running CGH activities at their institute.