

MANAGEMENT SCIENCES FOR HEALTH AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

A HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP IMPROVING HEALTH WORLDWIDE

The United States has been a global health leader for decades, developing and funding programs for polio eradication, child nutrition, vaccines, HIV and AIDS, malaria, and TB that have saved millions of lives and contributed to increased security and prosperity. Like hundreds of global health development organizations, the US-based nongovernmental organization (NGO) Management Sciences for Health (MSH) partners with the World Health Organization (WHO) in ways that are critical to our mission.



MSH RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING DIRECTLY FROM WHO to carry out programs that improve health services.



MSH USES WHO RESEARCH AND PROGRAM GUIDANCE to collaborate with other NGOs, local governments, and private partners, ensuring that work is efficient and cost-effective.



WE COLLABORATE WITH WHO PROGRAMS as part of our day-to-day work on behalf of our donors, such as the US Government through the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

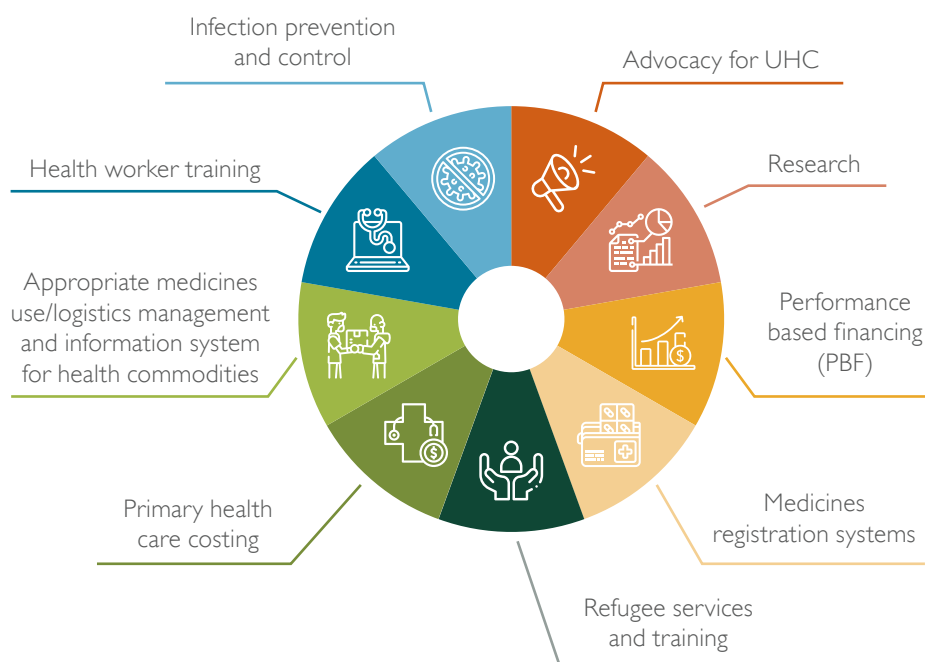


WE CONTRIBUTE TECHNICAL GUIDANCE TO WHO on developing and distributing new vaccines, preventing the spread of antibiotic resistance, and measuring how well countries are able to provide health care to their citizens.

Projects have included:

- Accredited drug dispensing outlets
- Civil society engagement for universal health coverage (UHC)
- Medicines registration in Cambodia
- Primary health care in post-war Syria
- Rapid TB testing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Seasonal malaria chemoprevention
- Tools to contain antibiotic resistance

MSH works closely with WHO in more than 20 countries to build systems, resources, technologies, and capabilities to strengthen health systems, which can benefit from WHO's advances in health research and product development.



WITHDRAWING FROM WHO WOULD BE A DISASTROUS SETBACK FOR THE US
WHO is a critical instrument for achieving progress in global health, with many of its work streams inextricably linked with those of MSH and other global NGOs. It is also a key international institution that is vital to building relationships and designing collaborative approaches.

PULLING FUNDING COULD REVERSE HARD-WON HEALTH PROGRESS.

For example, efforts to eradicate polio over the last two decades have reduced global cases by 99.9%, but loss of US funding could potentially allow annual global polio cases to jump from a few hundred to 200,000 within a decade. This work has progressed with global leadership from Rotary Clubs in the US and worldwide, partnering with WHO.

WITHDRAWAL WILL ERODE THE US'S ABILITY TO SHAPE AND LEAD POLICY.

WHO takes a lead role in global regulatory strengthening. *Although the US may attempt to remain a global health leader by rerouting funding directly to countries or through global public-private partnerships, it will have far less ability to shape guidelines such as the International Health Regulations and norms such as the WHO priority bacterial pathogen list—a catalogue of 12 families of bacteria that pose the greatest threat to human health.*

WITHDRAWAL WILL LEAD TO DUPLICATIVE AND EXPENSIVE EFFORTS.

WHO, the global coordinator for longstanding and successful health programs, is the central clearinghouse for information that guides governments, institutions, and health facilities. *The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the US's signature achievement in responding to HIV and AIDS, has relied on WHO to deliver health messages, ensure quality medications, and set health workforce standards. MSH uses a WHO benchmarking tool to help countries assess whether their medicines regulators can effectively introduce new medicines and health technology into their countries. To recreate such systems from scratch will be enormously onerous and expensive.*

WITHDRAWAL WILL SLOW PANDEMIC RECOVERY.

Withdrawing from WHO will inevitably cost lives. It will hamper or cut our access to critical health program information, such as key scientific data, health intelligence, and global insights, needed to advance research on HIV, TB, malaria, neglected tropical diseases, emerging infectious disease, and antimicrobial resistance. *Withdrawal will hurt the US response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and slow the country's ability to return to optimum health and productivity. The US could remain at a heightened risk for a prolonged period of time.*

WE ASK CONGRESS TO CONTINUE TO FUND WHO

The US helped launch and has sustained WHO, both financially and as a delegate. It is the largest donor to WHO, providing around 15% of its budget, or approximately \$450 million annually. The activities of MSH and similar organizations are a snapshot of the breadth and depth of the US's leadership and contributions to the health and well-being of millions of people around the world. The organization is a critical pillar of global health.

Withdrawing from WHO is a decision with long-lasting and potentially devastating consequences for the US and the world. We strongly urge Congress to continue to fund WHO at robust levels to ensure that the work that the US has spent decades building is not delayed, halted, or lost completely.



ABOUT MSH

MSH is a global health nonprofit. Since 1971, we have made foundational changes to health systems to protect people from disease and improve their health. We do not replace or run parallel systems in a country—we collaborate with our partners, from Ministries of Health to civil society and the local private sector, to strengthen and complement existing health systems.

Please contact Ashley Arabasadi, MSH Senior External Affairs Officer, for more information on MSH's work, aarabasadi@msh.org.