

# Policy proposals for Congress and the Biden-Harris administration to strengthen global health R&D



For more information on these policy proposals, view GHTC's full report [Meeting the moment, fueling the future: Policy recommendations for a new era of US leadership in global health R&D](#).

## US Agency for International Development

- Double funding for global health programs, including for innovation activities; establish voluntary minimum funding targets for research and development (R&D) from these increases across global health funding lines.
- Report program-level spending on R&D more regularly and transparently.
- Establish a chief science and product development officer within the Global Health Bureau.
- Create and robustly fund a standing Grand Challenge for global health security.

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Increase funding for the Center for Global Health, the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, and the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination and Tuberculosis Trials Consortium.

## National Institutes of Health

- Expand focus on product development and translational research for health areas that lack a commercial market.
- Progressively increase funding for the Fogarty International Center by \$10 million each fiscal year.
- Sustain funding growth for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and the Office of AIDS Research.
- Review impacts on global health research from COVID-19 and provide enhanced funding and grant flexibilities to mitigate those impacts.

## Department of Defense

- Protect malaria and parasitic disease research programs within the Department of Defense, potentially through creation of a dedicated funding line.
- Retain malaria and tuberculosis (TB) on the list of eligible diseases for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs.
- Increase funding for antimicrobial research programs.

## Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority

- Establish a permanent funding line with an annual appropriation of at least \$300 million to enable sustained work on emerging infectious diseases; antimicrobial resistance, including drug-resistant TB; and pandemic influenza.
- Prioritize development of products that are deployable in low-resource settings in the United States and around the world and require minimal infrastructure and medical expertise.
- Continue to report on work on emerging infectious diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and pandemic influenza in the five-year budget plan of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and provide regular, publicly available updates on both COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 funding.

## Executive Office Leadership

- As the administration builds its leadership structure for responding to COVID-19 and evaluates options for improving the whole-of-government response to pandemics, ensure that the US Agency for International Development—the only US agency specifically charged with improving global health and development—is at the table.
- Hold global convenings that elevate global health research and principles of equity; the right to science; and needs-driven, country-led approaches in R&D.

## Multilateral Leadership

- Authorize and support US participation in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations with annual appropriations of at least \$200 million, and facilitate ongoing scientific collaboration with key US agencies.
- Push for the inclusion of R&D capacity strengthening in multilateral health preparedness frameworks.
- Advance commitment to innovative financing models and unlock investment from international financial institutions to strengthen R&D capacity in low- and middle-income countries.
- Promote collaboration between the Food and Drug Administration, the World Health Organization, and other international partners to improve regulatory coordination and harmonization to facilitate product approvals.