

2018 APHL™ ANNUAL MEETING

and twelfth government environmental laboratory conference

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Pasadena Convention Center

#aphl



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APHL Twinning Program

Overview of Public Health Institutes and Laboratory Twinning

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What is Twinning?

- Development of a long-term linkage between a US public health laboratory and an international partner-laboratory (usually the national PH reference lab).
- Activities involve the ongoing exchange of expertise/best practices and information through email, web-based meetings, and exchange visits between the laboratories.

What is the Purpose of Twinning?



- Intended to be a mutually beneficial partnership
- Provide ongoing learning/development opportunities for both labs



APHL Partners in Twinning

World Health Organization

CDC

- Division of Global HIV/AIDS and TB
- Division of Global Health Protection
 - National Public Health Institute (NPHI) Program

International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI)

- 100 member organization from nearly 100 countries
- Work to strengthen NPHIs using peer-to-peer model and evidence based international framework for NPHI development

What Are National Public Health Institutes (NPHIs)?



U.S. CDC



NETHERLANDS RIVM



CHINA CDC

- National-level agencies or networks that provide leadership and coordination for public health
- Usually part of the Ministry of Health, or closely attached to it
- Promote evidence-based decisions, policies, and programs
- Serve as credible authorities on public health issues

IANPHI: Linking & Supporting the World's NPHIs

Founders of IANPHI, Jeff Koplan (US) & Pekka Puska (Finland), envisioned a community of the world's NPHIs.

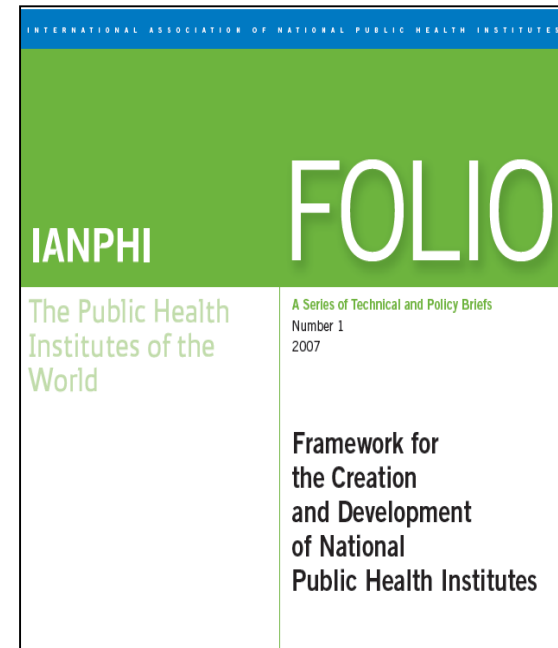
IANPHI would:

- Link organizations like US CDC, Public Health Agency of Canada, China CDC, etc. (termed 'NPHIs')
- Provide peer support, information sharing, assistance to low-resource countries



IANPHI's Framework for NPHIs

- Developed by an IANPHI core group that included WHO
- Ratified by IANPHI in 2007
- Defines an NPHI
 - Core Attributes
 - Core Functions
- Describes a process for creating or enhancing an NPHI



Core Attributes of an NPHI

- National scope of influence
- Focus on major health problems
- Scientific basis for decisions
- Linkages inside and outside of government, and to local, national, and international organizations



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Core Functions of an NPHI

- Disease surveillance
- Emergency preparedness and outbreak response
- Disease-specific control programs
- Public health workforce development
- Occupational and environmental health
- Public health research (evidence base for policies & programs)



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Why NPHIs?

Substantive improvements to public health systems require a national focal point

- Build country ownership/home for public health
- Coordinate public health functions/response
- Create a “go-to place” for workforce development, cross-cutting informatics, linkages among public health organizations, etc.
- Develop strategic & action plans for targeted public health response
- Facilitate use of evidence to guide policies and programs



Twinning Roles & Responsibilities

Funder: Sets the mandate

US PHL/International PHL:

- Identify gaps
- Define and implement scope of work
 - Technical expertise on essential public health functions targeted to a country's public health priorities
- Report to APHL

APHL: Coordinating body



APHL Twinning Program

Considerations for Successful Twinning Program

- State and country regulations and policies
- Documentation in place (MOU)
- Budget

APHL Twinning Success Stories



Acknowledgments

CDC NPHI Program

Botswana Ministry of Health

American Society for Microbiology (ASM)



Thank you!

Questions or Interest in Twinning?

Contact:

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