



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

**UNU-IIGH**

The UN Thinktank on Global Health

# United Nations University International Institute For Global Health (UNU—IIGH) – Strategy 2019-2023

## About us

Established in 2005 with an endowment from the Government of Malaysia and based in Kuala Lumpur, UNU—IIGH is part of the United Nations University, which is comprised of 14 research and training institutes. UNU—IIGH aims to build knowledge and capacity for decision-making by UN agencies, UN programmes and Member States and advance evidence-based policy on key issues related to sustainable development and global public health.

### Mission

Build knowledge and capacity for decision-making by UN agencies, UN programmes, and Member States about global health issues

### Goal

Advance evidence-based policy on key issues related to sustainable development and health

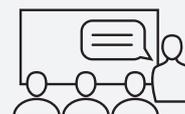
### Objectives



**Translate**  
evidence  
to policy.



**Generate**  
policy-relevant  
analysis.



**Strengthen**  
capacity for local  
decision-making.

### Main Tactics



**Host**  
(fellows,  
PhD Students,  
visiting  
scholars)



**Network**  
(experts  
and policy-  
makers)



**Partner**  
(with UN  
agencies and  
academic  
institutions)



**Advocate**  
(for  
change)



**Disseminate  
and  
communicate**  
(findings and  
results)



**Monitor  
and  
report**  
(shifts in  
policy)

**What we do** - To achieve its mission and further its goal, UNU—IIGH has three main objectives:



## 1. Translate evidence to policy

As a designated “think tank” for the UN system, UNU—IIGH serves as a “policy hub” to support UN agencies and others to translate and disseminate global guidance and recommendations to make them relevant for country-level decision makers. It does this by:

- *Convening policy dialogues* and serving as a hub and platform, bringing together experts, academia, policy-makers and implementers to generate actionable recommendations, build consensus on key global health issues and catalyze action. To inform the discussions, UNU—IIGH reviews existing evidence, conducts secondary data analyses, and develops background papers with recommendations.
- *Informing Member States and UN agencies* through communication and dissemination of



## 2. Generate policy-relevant analysis

For each strategy period, UNU—IIGH has the opportunity to scan the environment to identify key areas where it is uniquely positioned to contribute to the policy debate through its own analysis. Following a comprehensive assessment, in this strategy period, UNU—IIGH will focus on gender and health by:

- *Reviewing evidence* to identify gaps and set a global research agenda.
- *Developing analytic tools* to inform the design, implementation and evaluation of programmes.
- *Informing policy processes* through training, workshops, symposia and policy dialogues.



## 3. Strengthen capacity for local decision-making

Leveraging its presence in Malaysia and the strength of the Malaysian public health system, UNU—IIGH will serve as a hub for South-South learning, bringing together academics, professional associations, researchers and policy-makers. The main activities of this pillar are:

- *Supporting South-South Engagement* with a focus on linking low- and middle-income countries.
- *Developing knowledge products* to inform global policy, such as short course curricula and textbooks. To the extent that it is relevant and applicable, Malaysia’s experience may be used as a case study for best practice and health systems learning.
- *Conducting trainings and seminars* that bring multiple stakeholders together to enhance governments’ capacity in public health.

## How we work

In all of its programming, UNU—IIGH aims to serve a policy hub function and play the role of a neutral convener, leveraging its position within the UN and network of UNU sister institutes, as well as its location in Asia. The Institute conducts a variety of activities, including the review and synthesis of evidence around issues critical to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Health Goal (SDG 3).

Working in partnership with other UN agencies and academic institutions, UNU—IIGH networks experts, practitioners, policy-makers and academics and serves as a platform for critical thinking, exchange of knowledge and tools, policy influence, and consensus-building; advocates for evidence-based policy and the public support needed for change; disseminates and communicates findings and results that are practical, implementable and understandable; and monitors and reports to the office of the UN Secretary-General on critical policy shifts and trends in global health.

UNU—IIGH also hosts fellows in support of its programming and conducts seminars, capacity building, and public events, as well as ‘flagship’ courses for the region, including on human rights, implementation research, and governance and global health.

## Partnership

Partnerships are key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and are central to UNU—IIGH’s approach to problem-solving. UNU—IIGH has significant experience in partnering across the UN system, as well as with government ministries, civil society organisations, and the private sector. Located in Malaysia, the Institute brings low- and middle-income country voices and leadership to the policy dialogue table. As a member of the UN family, it leverages associated networks and the UN’s status.

UNU—IIGH’s “non-aligned” position with respect to any particular UN agency or Member State, supported by its endowment, ensures academic independence and enables the Institute to bring a broader, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach to its global health work.

## UNU—IIGH

UNU—IIGH Building  
 UKM Medical Centre,  
 Jalan Yaacob Latif, Bandar Tun  
 Razak, 56000 Cheras  
 Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
 Website: [www.iigh.unu.edu](http://www.iigh.unu.edu)  
 Email: [iigh-info@unu.edu](mailto:iigh-info@unu.edu)