

Intro to Global Health

Obj. 13.1: Discuss the problem of global health disparities.



What do you know about global health?

List **global health issues** that you have heard of (i.e. unsafe drinking water, HIV/AIDS, etc.) in the spaces around the globe in the box below. List as many as you can think of.



What is Global Health?

Global health is the health of populations in a global context; it has been defined as "the area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide."

Koplan JP, Bond TC, Merson MH, *et al.* (June 2009). "Towards a common definition of global health". *Lancet* 373 (9679): 1993–5.

DISCUSS

Naming Countries: Developed vs. Underdeveloped/Developing

There has been recent controversy about the continued use of the terms "developed" (for Western nations which typically have advanced economies, less poverty, and better healthcare) and "developing" or "underdeveloped" (for countries with high rates of poverty, less advanced infrastructure/economies, & poor health outcomes). **Why do you think these terms, which were coined in the 1960's are falling out of favor?**



Investigating Health Around the World

Challenge: *Gather research on a country with great health needs in order to present information at a worldwide "Forum on Global Health."*

1. With a partner, select a country (each country should only be chosen by ONE pair in the class) The country should be classified by the world bank as a low-income or lower-middle income economy.

Link: <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups>.

2. Locate the country on the map and place a pin or marker on it.
3. Research the health landscape & health status of populations in that country.
 - a. What are the major health issues that lead to morbidity (illness) and mortality (death)?
 - b. What populations are most vulnerable?
 - c. Does the country have any POSITIVE health measures or outcomes, as compared to other nations with similar income?
 - d. What previous initiatives, programs, or interventions have been used in the past or currently to improve health outcomes? Were they successful or not? Why?
 - e. What health infrastructure & services are lacking or needed?
4. What 3 top priorities should the country focus on to improve the health of its population? Why?

