National Institutes of Health Fellowship Training Program

Global Health and International Development Career Paths

Andrew Clements, PhD
U.S. Agency for International Development, Bureau for Global Health

13 September 2011
U.S. Agency for International Development

• USAID: independent federal government agency that supports advancement of broad-based economic growth, democracy and human progress in developing countries

• Annual budget: approximately $12 billion

• Location: headquarters (technical, operational, and regional bureaus) in Washington DC.; field offices in over 80 developing countries

• Website: http://www.usaid.gov/index.html
USAID Assistance to Developing Countries

- Health
- Governance
- Environment
- Agriculture
- Education
- Economic Growth and Trade
- Humanitarian Assistance
USAID Assistance to Developing Countries

- Health (Focus of Presentation)
  - Reproductive Health
  - Maternal and Child Health
  - Nutrition
  - HIV/AIDS

- Other Infectious Diseases
  - Tuberculosis
  - Malaria
  - Neglected Tropical Diseases
  - Avian Influenza
  - Emerging Pandemic Threats
Usual Career Paths for Health

M.P.H.
(usually with development experience)

Ph.D., M.D., D.V.M.
(usually no development experience)

Direct-hire, career positions
(Washington and field)

Fellowships and other temporary positions
(Washington and field)
Transition: Bench Science to Development

• Generally no direct involvement in research/science
  • In touch with researchers in U.S. and developing countries
  • Research/science less “basic” and more “applied”

• Necessity of contributing to governmental processes
  a.k.a. “feeding the beast”

• Frequent changes in plans, staff, etc.

• Transitioning to a “bigger” world
  • From “micro” view to “macro” view
  • More people to interact with

• Opportunity to learn about public health and development

• Opportunity to influence policy, programming, budget
Using Science to Influence Policy/Programs: H5N1 Avian Influenza in Animals and Humans

Sources = OIE, WHO, and Ministry of Agriculture/FAO reports between 11/1/03 and 9/7/11.
USAID Fellowships (including Health)

• AAAS Science and Technology Fellowships:
  American Association for the Advancement of Sciences
  http://fellowships.aaas.org/

  Note: requires a doctoral-level degree (PhD, ScD, MD, DVM, etc.) and U.S. citizenship (dual citizenship from U.S. and another country is acceptable)

• Global Health Fellows Program:
  Public Health Institute
  http://www.ghfp.net/content.fsp?id=40815

  Note: requires U.S. citizenship or U.S. permanent resident status, Masters or other advanced degree in public health or a related field, work experience in a public health capacity, with work experience in a developing country and/or resource poor setting preferable