



# THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH Global Health Academy



The Global Health Academy is a vibrant, evidence led academic community and cross-disciplinary structure. **We showcase, support and help enable global health research, learning and networks – advancing the University’s global ambitions and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**

Achieving improved health for a greater proportion of the world's population is one of the most pressing problems of our time.

The Global Health Academy helps to advance the University’s vision to **delivery impact for society** by drawing together resources and relationships within and beyond the University community **to enable better and more equitable health for all.**

The Academy offers creative spaces for ideas, connections, learning and research to advance global solutions across disciplines and sectors. It is a gateway to the University for students, for global and local partners, for alumni from low and middle income countries and for those working in challenging fragile contexts.

Innovative learning programmes and positive student experiences

Impactful research into action programmes

Global and local partnering and networks

## Values Underpinning Our Work

### The Equality of Humanity

We are born equal, there is no innate hierarchy within humanity, but we are born into very unequal circumstances. Our mission is to tackle the inequalities that surround us, and in doing so to respect and value the life of all others.

### Collective, Collaborative Effort

Challenges in global health can only be combatted by working in partnerships with different communities, agencies and disciplines, listening to different discourses in order to develop shared understandings of problems and their solutions. Through building on existing excellence and by creating chances for novel combinations, we can collectively drive change. Innovation isn’t only about new things but about bringing old ideas into new spaces.

### Listening, Curiosity and Creativity

We operate with the conviction that the answers to many of the world’s challenges are in the world already – just not in the places or with the people that we traditionally expect will have answers. Listening to those who are on the edges of communities or who have remained unheard because of oppression, discrimination or poverty, and listening to those living in different contexts who build local solutions from repurposed tools, can help us find answers.

## Global Academies at the University

The University of Edinburgh has five Global Academies:

- Global Health Academy
- Global Development Academy
- Global Environment & Society Academy
- Global Justice Academy
- Global Academy for Agriculture and Food Security

The Academies are innovative, cross disciplinary and highly visible vehicles for advancing our global ambitions. As articulated in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), global challenges are interconnected and require urgent, creative and interdisciplinary solutions.

Working together and housed in the University’s Colleges, the Academies work to:

- Build internal capacity in the University’s world leading research and teaching to respond to these global challenges
- Connect research and teaching relating to global challenges across colleges supporting the wider University academic community’s global aspirations
- Engage students across disciplinary boundaries with a view to building future leadership for global challenges
- Generate new interdisciplinary conversations and projects capable of addressing global grand challenges,
- Catalyse new global partnerships with practitioners, international organisations and governments, to better address global challenges.
- Communicate the University’s contributions to tackling global challenges.



Working to support the **creation, curation and implementation of global health knowledge across a diverse global community** including practitioners, trainers, researchers, policy makers, business, local community and international agencies.

### Distinctive Approach

- Breakthroughs in global health will be forged through **partnerships and working with communities**.
- We focus particularly on health issues affecting the greatest number of people worldwide – these people typically live in **low and middle income countries** (LMIC).
- Research and education increasingly recognises the imperative of **interdisciplinary approaches**.

The Global Health Academy is housed in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

## Our Objectives

### 1. Leadership in Learning

Support and develop powerful educational resources and study programmes to empower global health professionals.

### 2. Leadership in Research

Enable and advance impactful research programmes including cross-disciplinary and multi-country studies.

### 3. Leadership in Relationships of Influence

Foster networks, strategic partnerships and communities of practice within and beyond the University.

## What We Offer our activities in brief

### Innovative learning programmes and positive student experiences

**14 interdisciplinary online Masters programmes** tailored to LMIC. Globally distinctive in structure:

- **low bandwidth** – accessibility where internet access is less developed
- **part-time** – enabling ongoing professional work
- 3 years with **staged accreditation** after each year (certificate, diploma, masters)

Range of **CPD short courses** for professionals

Annual **Summer School** (co-hosted with universities based in Rwanda and Uganda)

Global Health Academy **Learning Hub** for University of Edinburgh students studying and/or engaged with global health issues

**Global Health PhD Programme**

**Global Compassion Initiative**

**Profiling and supporting University of Edinburgh global health initiatives** including online and on-campus Masters programmes; contributing to teaching, societies and events.

### Impactful research into action programmes

**Seven thematic areas of global health research at the University**

1. Planetary Health, One Health and the Determinants of Health
2. Care Pathways and Care at Life Stages
3. Illness Specific (Infectious Diseases; Non Communicable Diseases and Co-morbidities; Mental Health)
4. Technical Innovation and Big Data
5. Global Surgery
6. Health Systems and Global Health Governance
7. Compassion, Wellbeing and Ethical Health Care

**Initiating partnerships** between staff and **LMIC partners**

Supporting the writing of **grant applications**

Supporting **skill development** in relation to **setting up and sustaining cross-country research partnerships**.

### Global and local partnering and networks

Wide Global Health Academy **Membership** promoting ongoing engagement in learning and emerging research for students, staff and other interested individuals and organisations

Co-hosting **workshops** (locally and internationally) including with national government ministries, universities, industry and NGOs.

**Hosting and contributing to high level conferences and conversations** – including hosting the 2018 Planetary Health Meeting in Edinburgh.

**Sharing research and developments** with wide range of global agencies and advocates (including UNDP, UNAIDS, UK Government All Party Parliamentary Group)

**University of Edinburgh Planetary Health lead** in partnership with the Wellcome Trust, The Lancet and the Planetary Health Alliance.

Supporting **Alumni Clubs** around the world in making Planetary Health Pledges.