



Christian organizations provide a substantial share of health services in health facilities, community-based programs, and churches. They reflect the health ministry of the global church.

Faith actors “*reach the last mile*” – remote villages, urban slums, or any community that lacks access – providing a substantial amount of facility- and community-based health services, and training health workers. They donate and deploy health workers, medicines, and commodities to underserved areas and during emergencies.

Partners and donors need timely data on these services’ scope, location, and nature and basic information about connecting with local and global Christian health organizations for partnerships, especially when faced with health emergencies.

A lack of data about these facilities, community programs, training institutions, and drug distribution networks leads to an undercounting of Christian health assets and exclusion from planning, partnerships, and research.

## Christian Health Assets Landscape

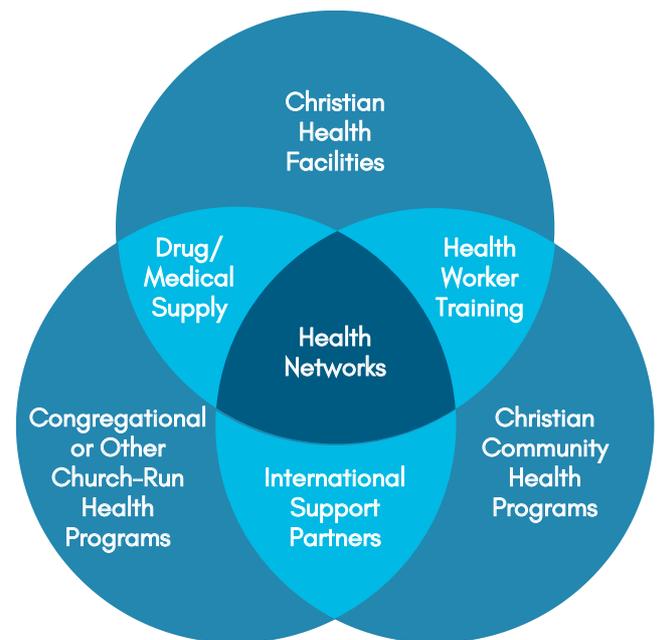
The landscape refers to a broad and complex array of organizations, services, and partners commonly referred to as “health assets.” These assets include organizations that directly serve populations and train or support direct service providers.

### Direct service organizations include:

- Christian Health Care Facilities
- Christian Community Health Initiatives
- Congregational or Other Church-run Health Programs

### Support organizations include:

- Networks of facilities and programs, such as the Christian Health Associations
- Drug and Medical Supply Organizations
- Health Worker Training Institutions
- International Support



The nature of diseases and determinants of health are changing rapidly in many low- and middle-income countries. New partnerships and scalable strategies are urgently needed to confront new challenges. New financing opportunities and service delivery technologies are also changing the nature of services and access to data. Many partners have amassed vital expertise and datasets about their work.

Each national health framework has local data mandates and requirements, making it impractical to have a “one size fits all” global data standard. Nevertheless, we can encourage the inclusion of faith actors and, in turn, help faith actors provide better-quality data. Public-private partnerships and efforts to comprehensively strengthen health systems underscore the urgency of improved access to data. Governments can collaborate with faith actors to achieve common health objectives.

At the same time, data can be utilized in unhelpful ways. In the worst case, opposing groups can use data to undermine faith-based health assets.

The **Christian Health Asset Mapping Consortium** is an association of organizations addressing the urgent need for quality data and information on the Christian health asset landscape across the globe.

## Purpose

**Vision:** Stakeholders of Christian health assets will have better information about Christian health asset data and the nature of those services, especially in low- and middle-income countries.

**Mission:** This Consortium will increase resources, learning, and partnerships in Christian health services by improving understanding of the nature, scope, and location of those services.

**Values:** The core values of the Consortium are transparency, data awareness, data quality, partnership, and inclusive data governance.

## Goals/Objectives

### 1. CHAMC Maintains a “Registry” or Database of Databases

Rather than collect and warehouse all global data, CHAMC maintains a list of databases on faith-based health: who has what data, and how stakeholders can access it. This registry includes information about the types of entities, ownership of data, updates, and data accessibility. When possible, CHAMC will publish summaries of the data.

### 2. CHAMC Shares Analyses to Help Decision-Makers

CHAMC reports are used by funders, partners, policymakers, and others who seek information by sharing data updates about Christian health services.

### 3. CHAMC Improves Representation Through Quality Data on Christian Health Services

CHAMC identifies and shares resources with its network to improve data quality, fostering a learning community focused on improving data access and utilization. CHAMC monitors the evolution of technology, standard datasets (e.g., DHIS2), and/or data streams from ministries of health, WHO, and others and identifies ways to improve their reflection of faith actors and, in turn, work to improve quality data from local actors.

## Who Needs This Information?

**Data and mapping on Christian health assets will be helpful to the following audiences:**

- Policymakers who seek to plan for health systems.
- Donors who seek to support Christian health services.
- Church structures that need to understand their role in health services.
- Partners who seek collaboration opportunities
- Researchers who wish to study and evaluate health services and innovations.

## Founding Members

- Africa Christian Health Associations Platform
- Catholic Health Association (US) International Outreach
- Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH)
- International Christian Medical and Dental Association
- The Dalton Foundation
- World Council of Churches

**CCIH also serves as the secretariat for the Consortium.**

## Products

The Consortium prioritizes sharing updated summary data to improve the scope and quality of data on faith-based health systems flowing into global databases.

### [How Strengthening Data on Faith-Owned Health Facilities Supports Health Systems](#) (June 2023)

This brief reviews the 2019 World Health Organization’s Sub-Saharan Africa Health Facilities Database, compares the results with externally verifiable data, and highlights the importance of strengthening partnerships, inclusion, and recognition of faith-owned health facilities alongside public health facilities in national health registries.

### [Sub-Saharan Africa Data Summary](#) (May 2023)

This data brief highlights 22 Christian Health Networks in Sub-Saharan Africa, including more than 8,000 Christian health assets in 17 countries. The Christian Health Asset Mapping Consortium prioritizes sharing updated summary data like this to improve the scope and quality of data on faith-based health systems flowing into global databases.

## Get Connected!

Engaging with the Consortium is a great way to stay informed about the Christian health landscape and develop partnerships. Here are some ways to get involved:

- Want more information? Check out <https://faithhealthassets.org/>
- Have resources to share? Join our Listserv by searching [Mapping-Consortium@googlegroups.com](mailto:Mapping-Consortium@googlegroups.com) in Google and select "Ask to Join Group."
- Have data to share? Fill out the dataset registry form here: <https://faithhealthassets.org/dataset-registry/>

Still have questions? Send us an email at [mapping.consortium@ccih.org](mailto:mapping.consortium@ccih.org)