

## **BIOTERRORISM PREVENTION AND RESPONSE: A NEW MODEL FOR BIOLOGICAL THREAT REDUCTION**

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### Abstract

The deliberate use of biology for harm is a problem that spans many familiar problems, but equates to none, and a diverse set of professional communities—from public health, and scientists to law enforcement, emergency managers and the intelligence community—find themselves on the front lines in dealing with it. However, existing approaches to preventing and protecting against bioterrorism are not well suited to a problem with such a decentralized set of actors or diversity of perceptions, and they do not effectively establish the linkages that can identify and take advantage of synergies among communities that deal with different aspects of the problem.

Over the past three years, CSIS has developed a new approach for biological threat reduction. It is an approach that is comprehensive, international, and interdisciplinary—a framework that aligns with and could be adopted to implement Secretary General Annan’s call for a global forum of stakeholders. In this framework, traditional security models—arms control, nonproliferation, and diplomatic approaches—play an important role, but they need to be supplemented by new mechanisms to address changing threats, technologies, and times.

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