



## **Importance of Building Research Capacity for Health in Disadvantaged Global Settings**

Northeast Brazil is characterized by large health and social disparities, with particularly negative impacts on women and children residing in the region. It is also a region of Brazil with very low health research capacity, including laboratory capacity. This presentation will describe the current state of health research capacity in the Rio Grande do Norte state of Northeast Brazil and the implications of this low capacity on major health concerns, including Zika virus infection. It will also provide a brief overview about a new project we are launching to improve health