In the past decade, global investments have led to great progress toward improving the health of children in developing countries. Yet, pneumonia and diarrhea still cause more than 25 percent of all child deaths.

Nearly 90 percent of child deaths due to pneumonia and diarrhea occur in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

Controlling pneumonia and diarrhea should be a global priority and tackled simultaneously to achieve the greatest impact.

In 2013, UNICEF and WHO launched the Integrated Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Pneumonia and Diarrhoea (GAPPD) to provide a cohesive approach to ending preventable pneumonia and diarrhea deaths. The plan is designed to inform national programs and policies to provide a framework to protect children, prevent disease, and treat children who do become sick. The GAPPD provides an agreed-upon package of cost-effective, lifesaving tools and interventions that, when universally available, will help end preventable child deaths.