

Driving transformative innovation

Report to our
contributors

Your support is more than money—it's fuel for the dream of an equitable world. And it's essential to PATH's ability to drive transformative innovation in global health.

You are the strategic visionaries, kick-starters, and angel investors who allow us to find the next high-impact health solution and accelerate its delivery to the people with the fewest resources and greatest need.

Your partnership propels lifesaving solutions to families and communities around the world.



DOORS TO HEALTH AND HOPE

PATH touched the lives of more than 118 million people in 2012—thanks to support from you and other generous donors. Your gifts to the Catalyst Fund and other contributions open doors for PATH to reach around the world. Some take us into new regions, like highly challenged Myanmar. Others launch us into arenas with urgent, unmet needs—the rise of noncommunicable diseases, for instance, which is outpacing global attention. Through strategic investments in these and other initiatives, you create immediate impact—and set the stage for widespread introduction of solutions with immense potential.

These stories demonstrate the transformative power of your support.



Mothers and PATH donors protect newborns in Vietnam

Before she became pregnant, Bui Thi Hong (pictured above) had never heard of hepatitis B. The insidious infection of the liver takes years to manifest; when it does, it can be deadly—one in every four people infected during childhood die from virus-related conditions like liver cancer. In Vietnam's Hoa Binh Province, where Hong lives, childhood infection rates are high, while prevention—the only recourse—has been dismally low. Until recently.

In Vietnam, hepatitis B is commonly passed from mother to baby during childbirth. It's possible to prevent transmission by giving a dose of vaccine to newborns within 24 hours after birth. The challenge is to reach them quickly, especially in rural areas. PATH is addressing the issue from all angles—influencing national policy, training health workers, and supporting awareness-raising efforts.

In just five months, the vaccination rate in our pilot province, Hai Duong, jumped from 20 percent to a phenomenal 92 percent. With continued donor

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2012

More than 1,600 individual donors and family foundations provided crucial financial support to PATH in 2012. That support funded more than 20 projects—some shared below—that touched all areas of PATH's work, from taking on top childhood killers to developing tools that protect women's health.

Improving the care of newborns in Myanmar. Generous support allowed PATH to launch our first project in Myanmar, a long-isolated country with some of the highest infant mortality rates in Asia. The project is increasing the survival of newborns by improving the skills of the midwives and traditional birth attendants who deliver most babies. It's also improving access to emergency and newborn care. Now we are mobilizing resources to expand the successful approach and to address other pressing health issues in Myanmar.

Slowing the rise of breast cancer in Peru. Breast cancer rates are rising in Peru, so PATH partnered with Peru's cancer institutes and the Ministry of Health to bring breast cancer education, screening, and care closer to women. We promoted clinical breast exams in local health centers and taught providers how to identify suspicious lumps. When cancer is suspected, women are now referred to the local hospital where doctors have been trained to do biopsies and confirm the diagnosis. Support from the Catalyst Fund allowed us to more than quadruple the number of health centers involved and prove the model works. The government of Peru is now planning for an expansion, with PATH's support.

support, we are adapting the model for two more provinces, including Hoa Binh. Because Hoa Binh is more remote and women tend to give birth in health centers instead of hospitals, getting the message out can be difficult.

But Hong heard the message and knew how to protect her baby. Not long after she gave birth to her daughter, May, she asked her birth attendant to vaccinate the infant. With training provided through the project, health workers like Hong's birth attendant "now provide vaccination services with confidence," says Phan Van Vu, chief of the province's Department of the Management of Infectious Disease.

Funding for hepatitis B prevention is scarce, which is particularly tragic since, without vaccination, hepatitis B is an inevitable death sentence for infants who contract it. Support from our contributors remains critical to remove the specter of this disease.

Providing infants with the best start in life

When Njabulo was born, his mother gave him the perfect food—breast milk. But she died when he was just two months old, leaving the infant without the source of nutrients he so needed and the antibodies to keep him free from illness. Njabulo was in dire shape when he was placed in a transition home for HIV-exposed infants. Fortunately, the home was one of the few places in South Africa with a human milk bank. Fed donated mother's milk, the tiny infant began to thrive.

Human milk banks are crucial for the survival of babies like Njabulo—those who are orphaned, premature, or underweight at birth. Because PATH believes that *all* babies deserve the lifesaving protection and nutrition of breast milk, we are making it easier and more affordable for countries to introduce milk banking.



PATH/Wendy Stone

Donated milk must be pasteurized to kill potential pathogens, such as HIV and hepatitis, but commercial-grade pasteurizers are extremely expensive. With support from our donors, PATH worked with the University of Washington and the Human Milk Banking Association of South Africa to develop an easy-to-use and inexpensive pasteurization system—guided by mobile phones. Our mobile-phone app provides directions and monitors a simple heat-flash pasteurization process and then transmits data to quality assurance supervisors.

Now infants in four neonatal intensive care wards in South Africa are being fed donor milk—safely and affordably. With other South African hospitals urgently requesting the system, donors have stepped forward again to expand its use. We also hope to introduce it in other countries where vulnerable newborns are just as much in need of the perfect baby food.

Saving the lives of Cambodian children.

Our trailblazing work in Cambodia on an integrated approach to treat diarrheal disease and pneumonia yielded such convincing results that the country is fast-forwarding to national scale-up, with plans to reach more than 1.6 million children by 2014. In the rural district where we launched our pilot project, cases dropped dramatically after we trained health workers and parents to recognize and treat both health threats. Generous private support not only funded the pilot but arrived just in time to ensure the work will be expanded.

Reaching millions with family planning.

Individuals and family foundations provided critical funding to jump-start manufacturing and pilot the introduction of Sayana® Press, a new easy-to-use, long-lasting injectable contraceptive. With the support of major funders, we plan to deliver up to 12 million doses in the next four years, giving women in Africa and South Asia more control over the number and timing of their children and a better chance at a healthy life.

Ultra Rice® for African children.

PATH's Ultra Rice® technology packs micronutrients missing from local diets into "grains" made from rice flour. After introducing the fortified rice in India and Brazil, we are now testing it in Burundi. Private funds supported a biological trial to establish the ability of iron-rich Ultra Rice® to reduce anemia in children who eat it in school lunches. PATH is also working with the US Department of Agriculture to include fortified rice on the approved food aid commodities list, paving the way to reach millions of children around the world through large food aid programs.

Cervical cancer screening in Uganda.

PATH and QIAGEN co-developed the accurate and easy-to-use *careHPV™* DNA test for cervical cancer for clinics without sophisticated labs or highly skilled personnel. With donor support, we are identifying implementation plans to accelerate the test's introduction in Uganda, where few women have access to cervical cancer screening. By detecting potential cases early, women can be treated *before* cancer develops. Our strategy will be shared with other African countries interested in introducing the test.



No wrong door for people with diabetes

With the backing of our supporters, PATH is stepping forward to respond to a rapidly growing problem: a dramatic increase in deaths from noncommunicable diseases—especially cancer and diabetes—in developing and emerging economies. The global health community has worked hard to open doors to health care for devastating infectious diseases like malaria and HIV. Now, with funding from our supporters, PATH has launched a program that will make sure those doorways lead to better care for this new suite of threats.

Our starting point is diabetes, a rapidly growing threat to health and economies in low-income countries, where people develop the disease at younger ages, suffer serious complications sooner, and die earlier in life. More than half of people with diabetes worldwide (and up to 80 percent in Africa) don't even know they have it. A survey of 13 countries where we work confirmed that better community-level screening tools could make a significant difference by opening new avenues for diagnosis and treatment.

Funding from our supporters allowed us to evaluate a range of screening tools on the cusp of availability that could be used to tell people they have diabetes or are at risk and guide treatment. The information gathered with that seed funding helped leverage larger grants for studies in Cambodia, India, and Mexico. When the results are in, we hope to advance the most promising technologies and innovative approaches so that more people can access treatment sooner.

Support from forward-thinking contributors is building a firm foundation for our growing work in noncommunicable diseases. By integrating it with our work in infectious diseases—strengthening health systems to ensure that clinics that now focus on HIV, for example, also offer screening and care for diabetes and heart disease—we hope that one day there will be no wrong door for accessing critical information, tools, and services to prevent and care for these debilitating diseases.

Building our capacity in Ethiopia.

Private support helped PATH launch an office in Ethiopia, which is one of the poorest countries in the world, and now that support is developing the program's capacity and leadership. PATH is investing donor funds to raise our profile in Ethiopia and pursue opportunities to apply our global expertise in cervical cancer, nutrition, health management information systems, diarrheal disease, and pneumonia.

Supporting local production of diagnostics in Africa.

After decades of successfully advancing health technologies, PATH is now looking at ways to turn promising new technologies into commercial opportunities for Africa. The goal is to improve access to health services while creating sustainable economic benefits. Our first project is supporting the creation of a South African facility that will produce a quality-control tool for DNA diagnostic devices for drug-resistant tuberculosis. Our vision is for the facility to become the world leader in the production and supply of tuberculosis reference samples, which are used to ensure that the devices are functioning and being used correctly.

Monitoring the vaccine cold chain.

A country's health information framework may be largely invisible, but its impact on health is as significant as ensuring that a functioning refrigerator is available to store vaccines. PATH worked with a technology company to build a web-based cold chain equipment manager, which maintains a country-wide inventory of vaccine refrigerators and cold rooms and provides analysis and forecasting capabilities. The system will roll out first in Kenya.

Cultivating the next generation of

leaders. Cultivating talent in the countries we serve is key to ensuring the sustainability of our work and strengthening local economies. To encourage this talent and leadership, PATH launched a new program—PATH to Careers—that provides early experience to recent graduates and transitions them into skilled professionals.