

STRENGTHENING POLICIES TO SAVE LIVES



In 2013, PATH and our partners touched the lives of 219 million people with new vaccines and drugs, breakthrough health tools, and powerful strategies to diagnose, treat, and prevent illness. PATH's advocacy complements its technical contributions by aligning US policies and priorities with the health needs of women and children around the world.

Thanks in part to US investments, more women are surviving pregnancy and childbirth and 17,000 fewer children die each day from preventable causes than did just over 20 years ago. Congress has and will continue to play a key role in ensuring that the United States is investing in high-impact, cost-effective solutions that have the power to save lives.

The US government plays a critical leadership role in supporting lifesaving programs; thanks in large part to US commitments, **maternal and child mortality rates have dropped by almost half since 1990.**

Sustaining a strong US investment in global health research and development

Recent advancements in global health are due in large part to new tools and technologies—products such as bednets to protect against malaria, antiretrovirals to treat HIV/AIDS, and oral rehydration therapy for children with diarrheal disease. Many of these solutions were created or scaled up through US-funded programs, demonstrating the power of technology to transform health. The United States is the world's leading investor in the development of cost-effective and lifesaving medical technologies for conditions that impact the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

US support for global health R&D connects American ingenuity with public health benefit. New tools for both current and emerging health needs will ultimately provide low-income countries with the solutions to tackle their most pressing health challenges and chart a course for self-sustainment.

Fulfilling the US commitment to end preventable maternal and child deaths

Every child deserves to celebrate their fifth birthday, and modeling shows us that it is possible to end needless deaths of women and children within a generation. Building on more than two decades of bipartisan support for child and maternal survival, in 2012, the United States led the Child Survival Call to Action, committing—along with 175 governments around the world—to put an end to preventable child and maternal deaths by 2035. With support from Congress through robust funding and smart policies, the United States can make good on this promise.

Maximizing US contributions to global immunization

Immunization is one of the most successful and cost-effective interventions ever developed, saving the lives of an estimated 2.5 million people each year. To continue to stop deaths caused by vaccine-preventable diseases, it is essential to maintain US technical and financial support for global immunization efforts through multilateral and bilateral programs.

Ensuring children have access to lifesaving vaccinations no matter where they are born is possible. Scaling up critical vaccines for the world's most vulnerable children could avert more than 20 million deaths within a decade.

