PATH works globally to unite the historically siloed sectors of primary health care (PHC) and epidemic preparedness and response (EPR). In doing so, we aim to partner with countries to co-create global, national, and local interventions to address infectious disease epidemics, effects from climate change, antimicrobial resistance, and other emerging barriers to health equity.

What we do

We partner with countries to prepare for and respond to emerging infectious diseases and address antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

We use a One Health approach that recognizes the link between human, animal, and environmental health, ensuring partnerships with organizations and experts across disciplines to prepare for and respond to emerging health challenges. Working closely with country partners, we update standard operating procedures, train staff, and strengthen real-time surveillance systems to detect and respond to pathogens of greatest public health concern, including antimicrobial-resistant infections and zoonotic diseases.

We support primary health care as the first line of defense against emerging infectious diseases and AMR

Robust health security networks emerge from strong PHC systems. By translating and leveraging COVID-19 responses, PATH supports countries to strengthen PHC systems so they are equipped to identify and respond to health emergencies while sustaining essential health services. It is evident that community-based surveillance, diagnostic networks, and robust vaccine coverage are critical tools in the fight against preventable diseases and AMR, and we strive to confront these challenges at the local health care level.

We champion local solutions and solve market failures

By decentralizing laboratory networks and expanding testing options, PATH partners with countries to reduce the burden on central laboratories and offer individuals and communities faster and more reliable diagnostic results, which leads to better surveillance. Through inclusive innovation and a human-centered design approach, PATH’s Living Labs Initiative accelerates the pace of health innovation by co-creating with users to rapidly design, test, and scale solutions to their long-standing challenges. By addressing market inequities and inefficiencies across the value chain, PATH can increase availability, affordability, and access to useful tools, products, and other health solutions.

We use data to drive timely, community-informed policy- and decision-making

By connecting digital capabilities—including surveillance reporting, laboratory diagnostics, and immunization program data—PATH supports country partners to identify emerging health challenges and make data-driven decisions for public health action. PATH experts have developed best practices for data quality, management, and reporting at a global level to ensure that information is available and accessible for dissemination and public use.
### Improving policies, strategies, and guidelines for health service delivery during and after pandemics

**INDIA**
Starting in 2020, PATH supported government officials, policymakers, and health care workers across five states to prepare response plans, policies, and road maps to fight COVID-19. PATH also assisted the government in identifying a cost-effective, sustainable, and scalable model to improve COVID-19 testing capacities and in providing tele-counseling for local communities. So far, the project has reached more than 16,494 citizens.

### Helping health care systems detect and respond to antimicrobial resistance

**TANZANIA**
PATH worked alongside the Government of Tanzania to implement their National AMR Surveillance Framework and to link LabNet with the national electronic integrated disease surveillance and response (eIDSR) system. PATH currently works with four AMR sentinel sites in the country to train staff, implement AMR susceptibility testing, and report AMR surveillance data with international data sharing platforms such as the World Health Organization’s WHONET.

### Supporting primary health workers to become key players in epidemic preparedness and response and AMR

**KENYA**
In Kenya, PATH worked with the Ministry of Health to provide virtual training for health workers, emphasizing the importance of risk reduction and treatment adherence for people living with noncommunicable diseases and mental health issues during the pandemic.

### Current and recent EPR and PHC project highlights

**Enhancing Global Health Security: Expanding Efforts and Strategies to Protect and Improve Public Health (US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)**
- Myanmar, Senegal, Tanzania, and Vietnam, global

**Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (US Agency for International Development)**
- Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam

**UK Fleming Fund Country Grants (Mott MacDonald)**
- Kenya, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Zambia

**Discovery & Exploration of Emerging Pathogens — Viral Zoonoses (US Agency for International Development)**
- Senegal, Vietnam

**Scale-Up (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)**
- Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala

**Impact Lab (Sall Family Foundation)**
- India

**COVID-19 Respiratory Care Response Coordination (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation)**
- Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Kenya, Malawi, Senegal, Tanzania, Vietnam, Zambia

**Healthy Markets (US Agency for International Development)**
- Vietnam