Report to our philanthropic donors
2023

PATH
Philanthropic gifts are vital to our work meeting urgent health needs around the world. Our partnerships with governments, health departments, local communities, and civil society organizations are made stronger with the support of donors like you. We are glad to share our 2023 philanthropic report, which provides just a few details of the invaluable ways your generosity has helped to advance PATH’s mission through flexible funding—from advancing a revolutionary new drug formulation, to strengthening health product manufacturing in Africa, to making mental health services more accessible in Vietnam.

Last year, more than 1,000 donors made a combined total of over $2.7M in philanthropic contributions.

Catalyst Fund

As our most flexible and far-reaching fund, the Catalyst Fund supports key projects, expands critical partnerships, and strengthens our ability to communicate our impact. For the philanthropist who prioritizes equity, this fund allows our public health professionals to allocate your gifts where they are most urgently needed. It also supports our ability to provide fair salaries and benefits to our teams.

Harnessing climate data to manage infectious disease

Using malaria cases, a machine learning model, and climate data from the European Space Agency, this project studied how climate change and human activity influence malaria transmission in Vietnam. The team created an interactive tool that provides real-time data visualization. These visualizations enable public health officials to get ahead of climate emergencies—anticipating increases in transmission and proactively accelerating malaria elimination efforts in those areas. Though this effort focused on malaria in Vietnam, the project team hopes to develop a predictive tool to combat climate-related diseases across Southeast Asia.

Improving Malawi’s digital health system

Digital health systems can make it easier to deliver affordable, high-quality care. But in most countries, digital health systems are fragmented and inefficient. This project is helping to strengthen data sharing and accessibility across health systems in Malawi. A key effort involves building a registry of uniform terms for diagnoses, illnesses, and treatments to facilitate the sharing of health data. The team is also helping to enhance the capacity of software developers, and assisting other PATH projects with digital components as a liaison with the Ministry of Health. With support from the Catalyst Fund, PATH has emerged as a trusted partner in digital health.

Expanding access to mental health services in Vietnam

One in seven adolescents experiences a mental health disorder, but most receive no treatment. This is often due to poor understanding, social stigma, and limited access to mental health services. With support from the Catalyst Fund, this project will pilot a mental health app with students in Vietnam. The app will help screen for mental health disorders, connect adolescents to school counselors, and help students manage their symptoms. It will also provide information and advice through an AI chatbot. The goal is to break down barriers to mental health support, equip adolescents with services that help them prioritize their well-being, and demonstrate how schools can play a critical role in mental health prevention and care.

Fighting antimicrobial resistance in Senegal and Tanzania

One of the leading public health threats of the 21st century is antimicrobial resistance caused by overuse or incorrect use of antibiotics. There is clear guidance on how to reduce antimicrobial resistance; however, guidance can often overlook the social, behavioral, and market incentives that drive antibiotic use. This is especially true in low- and middle-income countries. In partnership with Pfizer and the Bay Area Global Health Alliance, this project team is designing a financing approach that creates incentives for health providers in Senegal and Tanzania to optimize antibiotics use. If successful, this outcomes-based approach has the potential to curb the rise of antimicrobial resistance, as well as its expected mortality and impact on economic development.

Science and Technology Fund

The Science and Technology Fund was created to align with our strategic priority to improve lives with science and technology. For the philanthropist who prioritizes health advancements like vaccines and diagnostics, digitally connected medical devices, and mobile apps for health workers, this fund accelerates the kind of groundbreaking innovations for which PATH has become known.

Building global consensus for vaccine research

Global collaboration for vaccine research and development is a critical component to developing safe and effective vaccines against viral threats. A Global Vaccine Research Collaborative could promote collaborative research of vaccines ahead of, and during, outbreaks. With support from the Science and Technology Fund, PATH is working to build consensus for such a collaborative. The initiative launched during the third G20 Health Working Group with stakeholders engaged in vaccine research, regulation, development, and manufacturing. Participants identified key priorities for global collaborative action including a shared research knowledge base and a well-coordinated network of networks. The goal of the Global Vaccine Research Collaborative is to enable equitable access to vaccines at the global level, to optimize resources, and to avoid duplication of efforts.

ON THE COVER: A nurse administers a COVID-19 vaccine at Entebbe Regional Referral Hospital in Uganda. To support the vaccine’s rollout and to combat misinformation, PATH developed an advocacy and demand-generation handbook for the Ministry of Health and equipped nearly 150 journalists with key messages and points of contact to verify vaccine information before publication. Photo: PATH/Deogratias Agaba.
The right solutions at the right time

These examples from Senegal, Tanzania, Malawi, Uganda, Vietnam, and more showcase what is possible when supporters trust PATH to allocate funds as needed, and in alignment with locally defined priorities.

We thank you for your trust and your generosity. Together, we are moving humanity forward.

Health Systems Fund

The Health Systems Fund was created to align with our strategic priority to increase health system capacity and resilience. For the philanthropist who prioritizes improving access to quality health care and equipping the health workers that provide it, this fund strengthens health systems in countries and communities all over the world.

Transforming diabetes care with heat-stable insulin

Insulin is a lifesaving medication for people with diabetes. Though the World Health Organization considers insulin an essential medicine, only one in two diabetes patients worldwide can access it. Barriers to insulin access include the high cost of the medicine, the difficulties of managing frequent injections, and the need for a complex cold chain infrastructure to keep the drug at the right temperature during transportation and storage.

Scientists from PATH’s formulation team have developed a heat-stable insulin, which has the potential to improve accessibility and adherence for millions of people around the world. With support from the Health Systems Fund, the team demonstrated that their novel formulation achieves lower and sustained glucose levels in diabetic rodents for longer than eight hours and holds up better than liquid insulin at high temperatures and high humidity. They will continue testing its stability and effectiveness and are working toward a product that is easy and inexpensive to transport, store, and administer.

Emerging Health Threats Fund

Finally, our Emerging Health Threats Fund was created to align with our strategic priority to prepare for and respond to emerging health threats. For the philanthropist who prioritizes issues like infectious disease outbreaks, climate change, and antimicrobial resistance, this fund helps ready health systems around the world for current and future challenges.

Documenting the effects of climate change on human health

“The Climate and Us” is a groundbreaking series produced by BBC StoryWorks that offers a unique perspective on how the climate crisis is impacting human health. The series highlighted PATH’s initiative in Uganda where we are addressing anthrax outbreaks that often follow devastating floods.

“Preventing zoonotic diseases like anthrax is critical, as many families depend on their animals for their livelihoods.”

Dr. Laura Lydia Adong
Mbale Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Uganda

The Emerging Health Threats Fund supported both the production and marketing of the film, allowing millions of people to learn about the problem as well as our innovative approaches to combat the threat. This project helps advance health equity, ensures countries and communities are prepared for the effects of climate change, and demonstrates PATH’s critical role in climate change adaptation.

PATH's latest formulation advance—heat-stable insulin—has the potential to radically improve access and adherence for millions of people living with diabetes.