



The Exemplar

July 2022

Hi Friend,


Earlier this month, World Population Day 2022 highlighted an important upcoming milestone: our global population will reach eight billion this year. The day also underscored the challenges the world will face as we become more populous than ever. From social inequality to health inequity, a world of more people can suggest ours may become a world of more problems.

But what if more people actually meant more opportunities?

In the recent past, we have seen great progress in global health. Between 1990 and 2020, the global maternal mortality ratio has decreased from 244 to 152 deaths per 100,000 live births. Since 1990, the global under-five mortality rate has been cut by over half. Stunting, which in 1990 affected 40 percent of the world's children under five, today affects 22 percent. More children than ever are receiving the life-saving vaccines they need, and mass drug administration, the primary tool used in the control and elimination of five neglected tropical diseases, reaches more people than it has in all our history.

Progress can be, and has been, made possible. As our population grows, we must harness existing lessons to help catalyze positive change. My colleague Prarthna Desai said, in a recent reflection on the lessons from the World Health Assembly, that **"building long-lasting momentum for this work will require prioritization."** I am certain that through prioritization, we can create a future in which all eight billion of us can prosper.

Best,
Niranjan Bose

 **Gates Ventures**
Niranjan Bose, PhD
Managing Director, Health and Life Sciences

Neonatal and Maternal Mortality

In some countries, more than 1 in every 100 live births result in the death of the mother. Around the world, an estimated 2.4 million newborns each year die within the first month of life. Exemplars in Global Health aims to study key factors at individual, household, community, and national levels that were key to reducing neonatal and maternal mortality in seven Exemplar countries from 2000 to 2017.

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FEATURED STORIES & ANALYSIS



Lessons for scaling global health success from the World Health Assembly

Following this year's World Health Assembly, Exemplars in Global Health Director of Partnerships & Impact Prarthna Desai reflects on the gathering and her discussions about partnerships, collaboration, and the importance of research into positive outliers.



Untangling the complex pathways towards maternal, late fetal, and newborn survival and health

Dr. Neha Singh (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine) and Dr. Andrea Blanchard (University of Manitoba's Department of Community Health Sciences) on the framework they helped develop to explain how some countries are helping pregnant women and newborns survive.



Chile, England, Ethiopia, and Jamaica show paths to reducing teen pregnancies

How four countries have pioneered new ways of significantly decreasing adolescent pregnancy rates, which in turn help achieve global health goals and support women's empowerment.



WHO: Togo has eliminated trachoma

By focusing on screening and treatment, the country has eliminated one of the leading causes of blindness – a disease so old it has been found on the eyelids of Egyptian mummies.

How countries are strengthening food security to reduce stunting

As war in Ukraine disrupts food systems and pushes the price of key staples out of reach, strategies to reduce childhood stunting are revisited.

Neonatal and maternal mortality in seven Exemplar countries

Learn about our framework to study reducing neonatal and maternal mortality in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, India, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, and Senegal, from 2000 to 2017.

Vaccine delivery Exemplars: Zambia

Read about the essential components we are researching in vaccine delivery systems that have increased immunization coverage over the last 15 years.

Anemia among women of reproductive age: accounting for 50 million lives lost

Explore Exemplars research focused on global and regional anemia reduction among WRA, with specific programs and policies that could become templates for similar gains in other LMICs.

EVENTS

World Breastfeeding Week 2022 (#WBW2022 #WABA) August 1-7, 2022
Every year, the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) coordinates and organizes World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding worldwide.

72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa (#RC72AFRO) August 22-26, 2022
Held in Lomé, Togo, and also virtually, the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa agenda includes discussions on the region's progress in UHC, health emergencies, and well-being.

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ABOUT

Become an Exemplar

Join a passionate and dedicated community of global health leaders working on the biggest challenges of our times. Take advantage of critical learning from countries around the world as you tackle similar problems at home. And, add your knowledge and voice to a robust and growing set of resources designed to ensure the positive and most equitable global health outcomes.