



The Exemplar

June 2022

Hi Friend,

Global health news is never far from the headlines. Last week, the U.S. overturned its constitutional right to abortion. Weeks prior, an outbreak of the soon-to-be-renamed monkeypox virus was detected. Before that, new polio cases were making front pages. And three years in, COVID-19 continues to shape our global conversation.

While such stories can – and should – cause alarm, there is often news behind the news that shows how great progress in global health has been achieved.

About abortion, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said it is “firmly rooted in international human rights law and is at the core of women and girls’ autonomy and ability to make their own choices about their bodies and lives.” In Francophone West Africa, a targeted effort to prioritize sexual reproductive health as a human right has helped the uptake of contraception double since 2011, improving equity, mortality, and health in the region.

While earlier this year Mozambique and Malawi saw outbreaks from a non-native strain of the Wild Poliovirus Type 1, the African continent has extensive lessons it can apply from its success eradicating polio in 2020.

For monkeypox, which is experiencing a vaccine shortage, lessons from the eradication of smallpox, and those from successful vaccination campaigns in countries like Nepal, Senegal, and Zambia may help us address issues of equity and vaccine access.

And in the case of COVID-19, whether it’s improved vaccination campaigns, or the enlistment of community health workers to prevent disruptions to the delivery of essential health services, there are silver linings to be celebrated.

As we approach the start to the second half of 2022, I hope you will take some time to explore the good news that often exists behind the news, so you can help apply the hard-fought lessons of success from so many positive outliers, and use them to fight global health setbacks.

Best,
Niranjana Bose

Gates Ventures
Niranjana Bose, PhD
Managing Director, Health and Life Sciences

In the face of consistently challenging news, what global health successes or achievements do you think deserve more recognition and celebration?

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FEATURED STORIES & ANALYSIS



How access to modern contraception protects women and saves lives

Director of the Ouagadougou Partnership Coordination Unit Marie Ba shares how the OP overcame barriers to provide millions of women access to reproductive health services.



What the eradication of smallpox can teach us in the fight against monkeypox

See how the monkeypox outbreak in Europe and North America presents an opportunity to take lessons from the eradication of smallpox and revisit best practices in vaccine delivery and pandemic preparedness.



Polio lessons from Africa can help Mozambique and Malawi contain new outbreaks

See how the continent’s successful strategy to become polio-free in 2020 can be applied to keeping the crippling disease at bay.



One of COVID-19’s biggest takeaways: the pandemic is an opportunity to invest in CHW programs

Hear expert voices amplify the importance of community health workers not only in helping prevent pandemics, but also in helping maintain health service equity and access during emergencies.

How did Thailand reduce child undernutrition by more than half within one decade?

Read about the country’s achievement, which is recognized as one of the best examples of a successful national nutrition program.

How did Peru reduce its under-five mortality rate by 56 percent in 15 years?

See how the country used health and poverty reduction initiatives, along with health system and WASH investments, to significantly reduce child deaths.

How did Liberia ensure that 70 percent of its rural population have access to care?

Learn how the country’s extreme poverty and recent civil war were not deterrents to delivering care to the majority of its one million rural residents.

EVENTS

Global Health Security Conference 2022 (#GHS2022 #HealthSecurity) June 28- July 1, 2022

The Exemplars COVID-19 team is proud to be attending this event, which will gather current health ministers, former leaders, and over 300 experts and implementers to discuss the pressing global health challenges of our time, including climate-sensitive diseases, pandemic preparedness, and equitable access and innovation.

High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (#SDGs #HLPF) July 5-15, 2022

Established in 2012 at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the central United Nations platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the global level.

World Population Day (#WorldPopulationDay) July 11, 2022

World Population Day, which seeks to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues, was established by the then-Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1989, to promote reproductive health rights of everyone, everywhere.

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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.