



# The Exemplar

March 2021

Hi Friend,

South-South learning is at the very heart of Exemplars in Global Health.

Our mission is to identify Exemplars—those that have outperformed their peers in specific global health challenges—and provide them with a platform for teaching their neighbors how to accelerate progress.

Towards that end, we are devoting this month's newsletter to highlighting new South-South learning opportunities and insights.

Earlier this month, Exemplars research partners joined leaders from around the world to participate in the Consortium of Universities for Global Health 2021 virtual conference. Below, Exemplars in Global Health's Dr. Gloria Ikilezi shares highlights from her panel on how Rwanda, Bangladesh, and Uganda maintained essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Exemplars research partners also published new findings on nutrition informed by Ethiopia, Nepal, and Peru's remarkable progress in reducing stunting. The article, highlighted below and published in *The Lancet* earlier this month, features an updated list of 11 key evidence-based recommendations for improving maternal and child nutrition.

We're also excited to announce a partnership with Amref Health Africa to pilot a South-South mutual learning platform. The partnership will launch with a series of three discussions showcasing findings from two sub-Saharan countries that have made remarkable progress on reducing stunting. The discussions will outline learnings and best practices to highlight how other countries can achieve similar success. Dr. Githinji Gitahi, CEO of Amref, highlighted the pilot in his opening remarks at the AHAIC 2021 conference and we look forward to sharing more as the program moves forward.

Examples of South-South learnings appear throughout our country narratives on the Exemplars platform. Read how [Rwanda adopted Kenya and Uganda's innovative model of training volunteers to screen children for malaria](#); and how [successful conditional cash transfer programs in Mexico and Brazil informed Peru's Juntos program](#), which helped Peru cut stunting by half. Likewise, we explain how [Ethiopia's health leaders were inspired by India's success](#) in allowing community health workers to treat patients with antibiotics.

Our services and research team stands ready to help you learn from your neighbors' success. Please ask us [how we can help you](#).

Best wishes,  
Niranjan Bose

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

Want access to even more research and data? Go beyond email and register for the Exemplars in Global Health platform today!

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

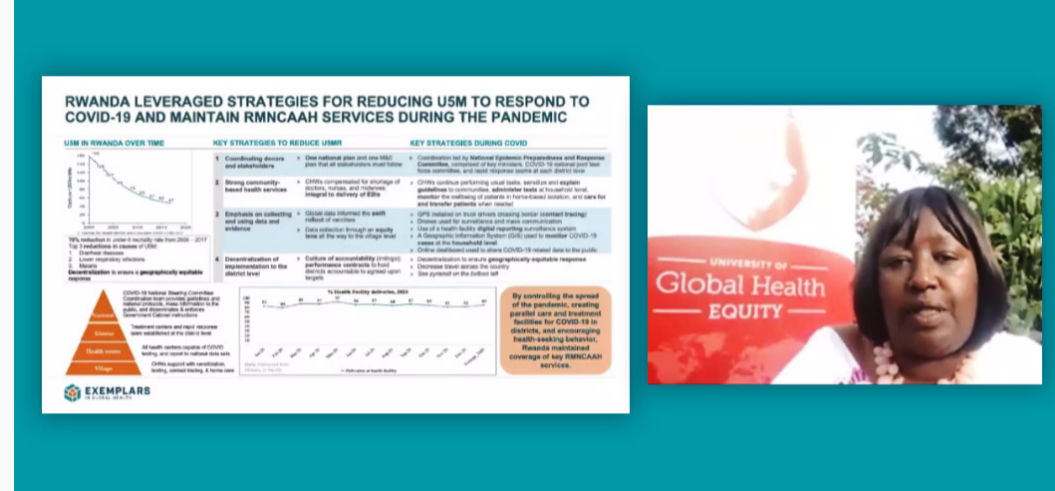
## UPCOMING EVENTS

[IFPRI's Stories of Change, Thursday, April 1](#)

On April 1, Exemplars in Global Health will join IFPRI's Stories of Change program to discuss insights from our research in childhood stunting reduction. Join the IFPRI seminar to learn more about our research on Ethiopia, the Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Peru, and Senegal's success reducing stunting at scale.

[Register Here >](#)

## FEATURE



### How Rwanda, Bangladesh, and Uganda are Maintaining or Resuming Essential Health Services During the Pandemic

Written by: [Gloria Ikilezi](#)

During the recent Consortium of Universities for Global Health's virtual conference, Exemplars in Global Health research partners shared lessons on how Exemplar countries are maintaining or are resuming essential health services through the pandemic. Dr. Agnes Binagwaho, Dr. Mushtaque Chowdhury, Dr. Nadia Akseer, and Dr. Rhoda Wanyenze presented their emerging findings on the innovative strategies being used to sustain delivery of essential health services. Rwanda's CHWs, for example, are educating, testing, treating, and contact tracing in their communities. By minimizing the spread of the virus; and educating, protecting, and equipping its health workers; Rwanda has minimized disruptions to the delivery of primary healthcare. For more on how countries are maintaining and strengthening essential health services during the pandemic, follow the link below.

[Read More >](#)

### THE LANCET SERIES ON MATERNAL AND CHILD UNDERNUTRITION PROGRESS

| 2013 RECOMMENDATIONS  | 2021 RECOMMENDATIONS  |
|---|---|
| Periconceptual folic acid supplementation or fortification  | Large-scale food fortification for prevention of MN deficiencies  |
| Maternal calcium supplementation  | Maternal calcium supplementation in low intake populations  |
| Maternal BEP supplementation  | Maternal BEP supplementation in undernourished populations  |
| Maternal MN or FA supplementation   | Maternal MN supplementation   |
| Vitamin A supplementation   | Vitamin A supplementation in deficient contexts   |
| Promotion of breastfeeding  | Breastfeeding promotion and counseling  |
| Complementary feeding education and food provision (food insecure), complementary feeding education (food secure) | Complementary feeding education and food provision (food insecure), complementary feeding education (food secure) |
| Preventative zinc supplementation   | Preventative zinc supplementation   |
| Management of MAM and treatment of SAM  | RUSF for management of acute malnutrition   |
| Zinc for management of diarrhea   | Therapeutic zinc supplementation for diarrhea   |
|   | Preventative <b>SQLNS</b> for optimizing health and growth in children  |

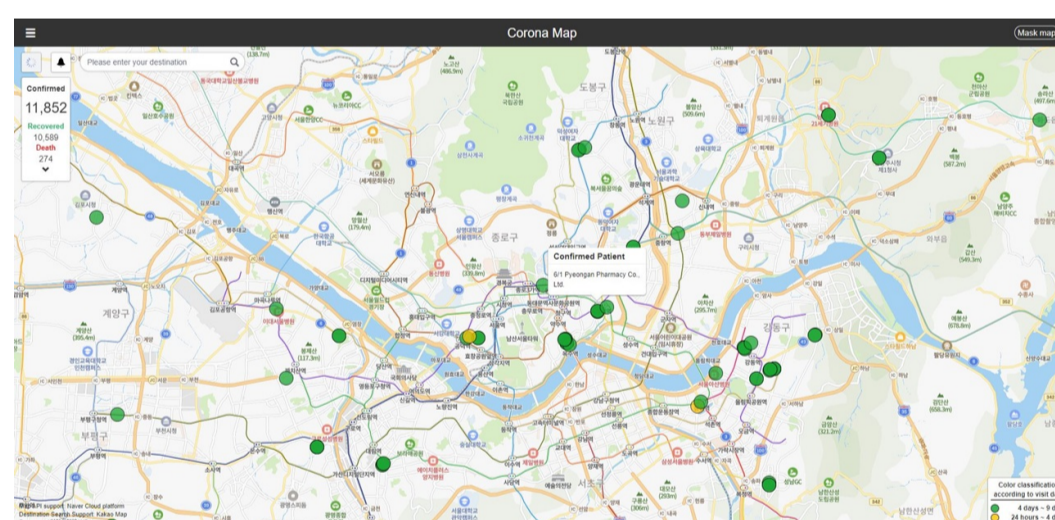
### A Revised Framework for Nutrition Interventions and an Expanded List of Recommended Nutrition Interventions Published by The Lancet

Written by: [Emily C. Keats](#), [Jai K. Das](#), [Rehana A. Salam](#), [Zohra S. Lassi](#), [Aamer Imdad](#), [Robert E. Black](#), [Zulfiqar A. Bhutta](#)

New research supported by Exemplars in Global Health and published in *The Lancet* this month provides a revised framework for nutrition interventions, confirms the recommendations from the [2013 Lancet series on maternal and child nutrition](#), and adds to the list of recommended nutrition interventions for which there is strong evidence.

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## PLATFORM FEATURES

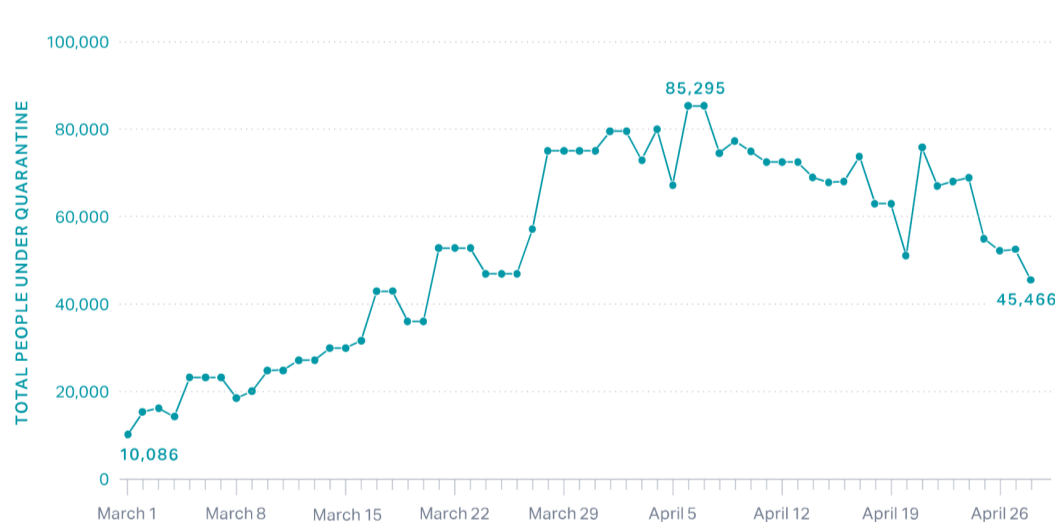


### Updated Analysis of South Korea's Success Addressing COVID-19

Written by: [Ariadne Labs](#), Department of Medicine, Seoul National University College of Medicine, and Exemplars in Global Health

Exemplars research partners update their analysis of South Korea's COVID-19 policies and programs. The country's ambitious testing system; robust contact tracing system; clear communications about prevention; a strict quarantine policy; and data-driven reopening approach with detailed social distancing guidelines helped South Korea minimize infections (under 100,000) and deaths (under 2,000).

[Read More >](#)



### Updated Analysis of Vietnam's Success Preventing COVID-19

Written by: [The Partnership for Health Advancement in Vietnam](#), [Oxford University Clinical Research Unit](#), the Ministry of Health of Vietnam, the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Hanoi University of Public Health, World Bank in Vietnam, and Exemplars in Global Health

More than one year into the pandemic, Exemplars research partners revisit and update their early analysis of Vietnam's policies and programs in response to COVID-19. They find that the country's unique contact tracing approach and quarantine strategy, based on possible exposure rather than on symptoms, helped Vietnam contain the virus. Aside from one outbreak in Da Nang in August, Vietnam has largely minimized community transmission of COVID-19 while keeping its economy relatively open. The country of 96 million has seen fewer than 40 deaths from COVID-19 thus far.

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## ASK AN EXPERT

### We're Here to Help

Whether you're a global health funder, decision maker, or practitioner, our Ask an Expert feature can help answer your toughest questions. Simply enter your question using the link below and a member of our extensive expert network, which includes prominent academic researchers, global health experts, and in-country program implementation specialists, will provide a detailed response. All questions are kept anonymous and can be answered privately.

[Ask Us >](#)

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## ABOUT

### Exemplars in Global Health

Exemplars in Global Health is more than just a research platform. We also offer governments, researchers, NGOs, and funders a variety of support services. Our services include conducting desk research, organizing study tours and workshops, and longer-term collaborations to support the design or implementation of evidence-based programming and strategies.

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