



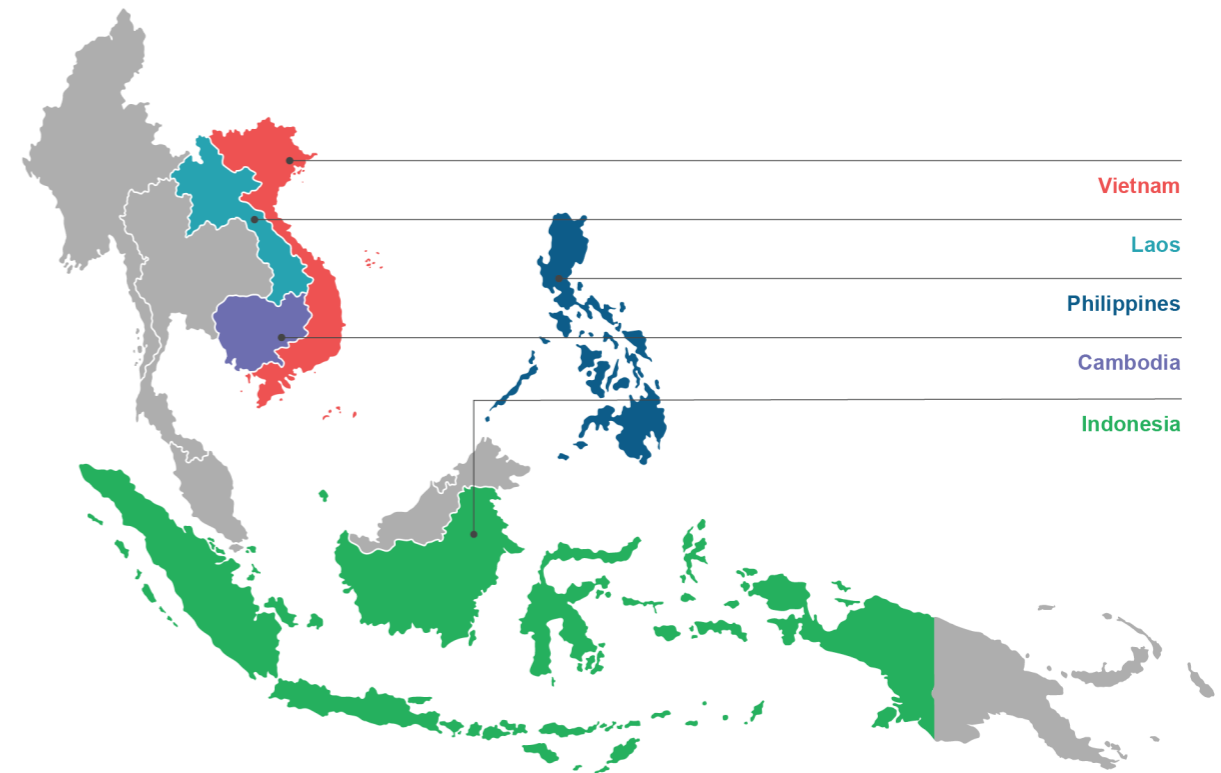
PATH in
Southeast
Asia

PATH is a global nonprofit dedicated to achieving health equity. With more than 40 years of experience forging multisector partnerships, and with expertise in science, economics, technology, advocacy, and dozens of other specialties, we develop and scale up innovative solutions to the world's most pressing health challenges.



Since 1980, PATH has been working alongside leaders, communities, and local change makers to develop sustainable systems for tackling shifting health challenges in five Southeast Asian countries - Vietnam, Laos, Indonesia, Cambodia, and the Philippines. We support work to expand sexual, reproductive, maternal, and child health services, and to address infectious, noncommunicable, and vaccine-preventable diseases.

Today, as rapid social and economic changes transform the region, we are leveraging our expertise in partnership with governments, the private sector, civil-society organizations, and social entrepreneurs to advance health equity.



What we do

Primary health care

Primary health care (PHC) is a whole-society approach to health that aims to maximize the level and distribution of health and well-being through comprehensive care, empowered communities and people, and multisector policy and action. PATH enhances PHC through community-oriented, data-driven, and integrated care innovation for all.



Community volunteers screen a Co.opMart customer for hypertension. The "Transforming the NCD response" in Vietnam project brought hypertension screening closer to home, with screening points in convenient, everyday locations like supermarkets. Photo: PATH/Hung Nguyen Manh.



In Vietnam, a lay provider assists a client to test themselves for HIV. In 2016, the USAID/PATH Healthy Markets project partnered with the Ministry of Health to introduce HIV self-testing in the country. Self-testing services have now been scaled up nationwide through a range of distribution models, enabling greater convenience, confidentiality, and choice for key populations at risk for HIV. Photo: PATH/Ian Taylor.

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)

PATH has worked in Vietnam to develop resources and mechanisms to prevent and control NCDs, including:

- Partnering across sectors to educate, equip, and motivate individuals to look after their own health.
- Increasing access to preventive care by bringing services like blood-pressure screening to community settings.
- Improving quality of care across the public and private sectors by training clinicians and setting up peer-support networks.
- Making long-term care more effective by addressing NCD risks in youth, increasing access to PHC services, and developing digital tools that track and support people at risk and patients being served.

HIV, tuberculosis (TB), and viral hepatitis

Our work in the region leverages game-changing technologies and approaches for achieving the elimination of HIV and viral hepatitis and ending TB, including:

- Transforming the role of the community to play an active part in shaping HIV and viral hepatitis service delivery, including through the establishment of Vietnam's first-ever community-led HIV clinics. Community partners have been instrumental in piloting and scaling key innovations including HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis, HIV self-testing, and community-based HIV and viral hepatitis screening.
- Re-defining collaboration with the private sector through shared-value partnerships, resulting in more than US\$12.5 million private-sector investment generated over eight years.
- Leveraging state-of-the-art tools and digital systems for improved TB detection, surveillance, patient support, and treatment adherence, leading to the identification and treatment of more than 15,000 new cases.
- Deepening public-private partnerships to effectively drive advocacy, service delivery, communications, and knowledge transfer for better HIV, TB, and viral hepatitis outcomes.
- Strengthening Vietnam's capacity to develop, use, and manage strong HIV and viral hepatitis digital health systems, from the community to tertiary care levels.

Sexual and reproductive health

Principles of choice and equity guide all aspects of PATH's sexual and reproductive health work. This work includes:

- Improving access to high-quality abortion services, including medical abortion services; developing clinical training and practicums on providing safe abortion services; counseling clients for post-abortion family planning and contraception; and delivering technical assistance to support provincial and district health facilities in providing comprehensive and quality abortion services.
- Advocating for an operational plan that advances a total market approach to contraceptives.
- Strengthening cervical cancer prevention through screening and treatment of adult women, partnering with provincial-level partners to pilot a "screen and treat" model, enhancing the referral system for cervical cancer treatment, and working with the Ministry of Health to develop national guidelines for cervical cancer control.



PATH supported the Institute of Vaccines and Medical Biologicals of Vietnam to complete phase 1/2 of clinical trial for its COVID-19 vaccine candidate and advance to Phase 3 as a booster dose. The vaccine is made in chicken eggs, much in the same way a traditional influenza vaccine is made, meaning that affordable manufacturing capacity already exists for large-scale pandemic production. Photo: PATH/Matthew Dakin.

Maternal, newborn, and child health and nutrition (MNCHN)

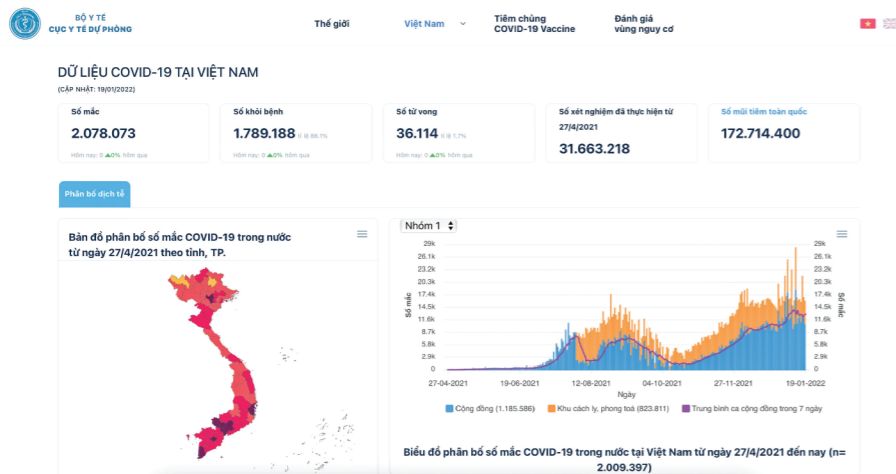
PATH applies a people- and community-centered approach, innovative tools, and evidence-based advocacy to develop, introduce, and scale sustainable MNCHN models. Our work in the region includes:

- Growing capacity for Laos' Ministry of Health in better governance of MNCHN activities and the development of national strategies; sharing best practices through training and learning exchanges on key priority actions.
- Supporting the establishment of the first human milk bank in Vietnam to improve access to donor human milk for up to 4,000 high-risk infants annually.
- Supporting the White Ribbon Alliance in Indonesia and Vietnam to help strengthen community action and capacity to address maternal mortality.
- Developing, testing, commercializing, and scaling the use of appropriate and effective health technologies in resource-poor settings.
- Working with the ministries of health in Vietnam and Cambodia to develop and pilot national diarrheal disease control guidelines for children.

Vaccines and immunization

PATH works to strengthen immunization programs in Southeast Asia to protect children from vaccine-preventable diseases across the region. Our specific work includes:

- Identifying essential vaccines - including for hepatitis B, human papillomavirus, and Japanese encephalitis - and advocating for their inclusion in the national immunization program.
- Supporting countries to improve policies, build capacity for health staff, strengthen the vaccine supply chain system, and increase community knowledge, acceptance, and demand for vaccination.
- Applying best practices and exploring innovations to increase equitable COVID-19 vaccination, especially for hard-to-reach populations.
- Providing technical assistance to vaccine manufacturers (including those producing affordable egg-based influenza and liquid formula rotavirus vaccines, and most recently COVID-19 vaccines), carrying out international-standard clinical trials, and navigating regulatory and licensing processes to bring vaccines to market.
- Growing the National Immunization Information System (NIIS) from a small-scale pilot into a comprehensive digital system that tracks vaccination records and vaccine stocks. NIIS is now implemented in all 63 provinces, with 15,000 facilities and 27,000 users across Vietnam.



PATH provided technical assistance to develop a real-time reporting system for tracking suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases in just nine days for the Vietnam Ministry of Health. Photo: PATH/Hanh Nguyen.

Epidemic preparedness and response

PATH partners with a network of government agencies, health care providers, laboratories, and communities to strengthen health security and pandemic preparedness and response. Our work on disease surveillance and response in the region, which dates back more than 15 years, includes:

- Improving infectious disease detection and surveillance through strengthening diagnostic networks, surveillance systems, and data collection systems and tools, and establishing online reporting systems and event-based surveillance systems for diseases like severe acute respiratory syndrome, dengue, and COVID-19.
- Enhancing national and institutional capacity to detect and characterize antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in priority pathogens and to strengthen infection prevention and control. In Vietnam, PATH worked with government and implementing partners to develop the country's first national digital surveillance network for AMR and health care-associated infections, an AMR digital surveillance system for the animal health sector, and new tools to enhance data quality and use at the national level and within the hospital sites of these networks.
- Enhancing the preparedness and response to COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases. PATH worked with the Vietnam Ministry of Health to conduct a nationwide survey of 1,000-plus hospitals to quantify the supply of and demand for medical oxygen and respiratory care equipment during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey results provided critical information and data, and indicated short- and long-term recommendations for the efficient delivery of oxygen and medical equipment.

- Supporting the establishment of integrated, sustainable human and animal health specimen referral systems, promoting the increased use of the Vietnam Animal Health Information System, and supporting the implementation of event-based surveillance following the One Health approach
- Fostering integrated and interoperable information systems that incorporate immunization data, surveillance reporting, and laboratory diagnostics to identify threats and trigger an informed response.

Malaria

PATH partners with countries to identify, develop, and advance next-generation vaccines, diagnostics, vector control tools, and digital and data innovations to control and eliminate malaria. This work includes:

- Accelerating and sustaining access to a suite of new diagnostics and drugs for *P. vivax* malaria by partnering with national malaria programs in Vietnam on operations research studies and developing evidence-based strategies to introduce these new tools.
- Integrating malaria surveillance systems with Public Health Emergency Operations Centers to efficiently leverage existing resources, leading to faster case investigation and response times and increased capabilities for malaria case investigations needed to eliminate the disease.

How we work



Enhancing meaningful shared-value local partnerships - particularly by building trust and collaboration with governments, the private sector, and civil society.



Promoting implementation science and convening global and local expertise in the end-to-end design process to introduce and scale inclusive innovations that meet community needs.



Leveraging digital health technologies and strengthening the availability, quality, and use of data to improve decision-making, optimize reach of health interventions, and support better disease detection and surveillance.



Instilling a culture of collaboration, learning, adaptation, and co-creation to catalyze impact, drive quality improvement, and promote effective social and behavioral change communication.



Exploring, introducing, and scaling models that increase health system resiliency, build capacity for the local health workforce, deepen public-private partnerships, and promote sustainable health care models.



Promoting gender-sensitive and climate-responsive solutions.

Partner with us

Strategic partnerships with governments, social investors, community groups, and businesses are central to our work. We are continuously finding new, cost-effective ways to turn ideas into action to bring good health within reach of people and communities throughout Southeast Asia.

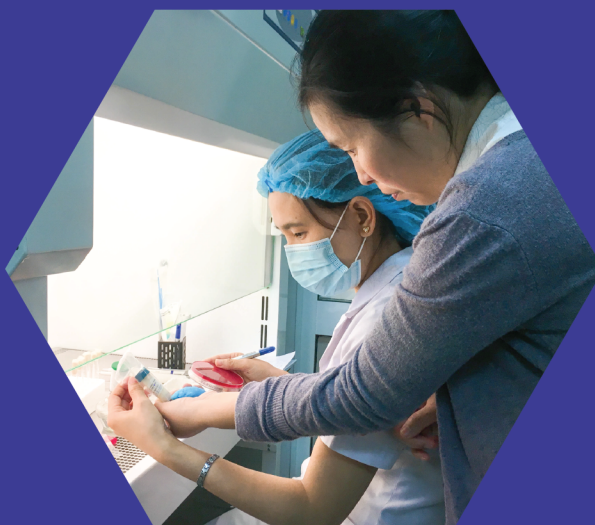
Would you like to work with us?

Contact our Southeast Asia hub in Hanoi:

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Above: Lab staff take milk samples to test the quality of a pasteurized donor human milk batch. In Da Nang, Vietnam, PATH and partners helped to establish the country's first-ever human milk bank, promoting optimal infant health when mothers are unable to provide their own milk. Photo: PATH/Kimberly Mansen.

On the cover: PATH's technical team guides staff from a commune health center in using the National Immunization Information System during a supportive supervision trip in Hanoi. These efforts aim to strengthen Vietnam's transition to a paperless immunization system. Photo: PATH/Vu Ngoc Dung.

Page 2, from left: PATH partners with the Vietnam National Institute of Malaria, Parasitology, and Entomology to conduct training for an operations research study on G6PD testing. Photo: PATH/Spike Nowak; PATH supports hospitals in Vietnam in strengthening the capacity surrounding infection prevention and control in hospitals and healthcare-associated infection surveillance. Photo: PATH.