CONNECTING THE RIGHT PIECES

TO END POVERTY
“Every child deserves to have access to health care and economic opportunity. The power of partnerships can make this a reality.”
—Dr. Linda Pfeiffer
Mobilizing Multi-Sector Partnerships to Break Complex Cycles of Poverty

Breaking complex cycles of poverty to transform the lives of vulnerable populations is akin to assembling an intricate jigsaw puzzle. The finished work requires many pieces, such as regional governments, municipalities, health agencies, school systems, private-sector firms, nonprofit organizations, thought leaders and change agents. Each piece plays a key role and must connect well with the other pieces to create a beautiful picture.

For more than 30 years, INMED Partnerships for Children has been a leader in envisioning a world where all children have access to health care and economic opportunity. To achieve this lofty goal, we've developed the unique ability to assemble the right multi-sector partnerships to solve the most difficult health and development challenges in struggling regions. In many cases, our work has enabled high-risk communities to avoid impending crisis as a result of climate change, endemic disease, and lack of adequate health care and education.

While INMED can't solve all the world's problems, our programs in adaptive agriculture, health and nutrition, and disease prevention have made dramatic improvements in the lives of millions of people in more than 100 countries. Read on for a summary of our current work in Brazil, Peru, the Caribbean, Southern Africa and the U.S. Each represents a puzzle worth pursuing.

Tackling Public Health Problems with Comprehensive Solutions

The Challenge
Preventing soil-transmitted helminth (STH) infection has been INMED’s longest ongoing program—initially in Latin America, Africa and Asia, and with a focus today on Peru, where STH is a leading cause of malnutrition and anemia.

Our Solution
In Peru, we’re partnering with health agencies, municipalities, educational systems, corporate sponsors and the national government to facilitate mass campaigns with enough mebendazole donated by Johnson & Johnson (J&J) to treat up to 75% of children and others at risk. Treatment is reinforced with preventive health, hygiene and sanitation education and a commitment by the Government of Peru to bring clean water and sanitation to all Peruvians—helping to prevent reinfection and pursue the goal of elimination of STH as a public health problem.

The Outcomes
We’re pleased to report that we’re turning the tide on STH infection.

With INMED’s help, Peru can be the first endemic country in 70 years to eliminate STH as a public health problem.

With the support of J&J, INMED’s efforts have now become a major component of Peru’s Ministry of Health 5-year “National Plan for the Reduction and Control of Anemia and Chronic Child Malnutrition in Peru,” which will include 2 National Deworming Days annually.

In Brazil, where we have led public health initiatives since 1994, INMED’s Healthy Children, Healthy Futures program has reached more than 3 million children; trained more than 30,000 teachers, cafeteria workers and community health workers; and engaged more than 5 million family and community members.

Image at right: President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski leads the nation in participating in Peru’s first National Deworming Day. Photo courtesy of Republica.
Economic Development Through Adaptive Agriculture & Aquaponics

The Challenge
Urgent climate-change threats and improper farming are causing degraded soils, water scarcity, food insecurity, deforestation, widespread malnutrition and economic decline in disadvantaged communities in Peru, Jamaica and South Africa.

Our Solution
We partner with corporate sponsors, regional governments, municipalities, financial institutions, schools and other stakeholders to implement adaptive agriculture programs in disadvantaged communities to foster climate-change adaptation and economic development.

INMED is a global leader in facilitating adaptive agriculture and aquaponics projects in developing regions to help vulnerable communities thrive physically, socially and economically. At the heart of our program is aquaponics, an innovative agricultural technique that combines fish farming with hydroponics (soilless crop production) in a closed system that provides year-round crop production, requires no chemicals or fertilizers and consumes 90% less water and far less energy while producing crop yield at least 5 times higher than traditional farming.

INMED has developed a simple, scalable system using local materials to make aquaponics accessible to families, small-scale farmers, communities, schools, businesses and government institutions.

In partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank Multilateral Investment Fund, Caribbean Development Bank and the United Nations Environmental Programme/Danish Technical University Partnership, INMED Caribbean recently launched a four-year initiative to provide access to financing and markets, training and technical assistance to help small-scale farmers, women and youth start aquaponics enterprises in Jamaica. The program is also supported by Jamaica’s Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries; Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation; and Rural Agriculture Development Authority to ensure sustainability.

INMED is working to scale that model in South Africa, where there is significant interest in a similar national program.

In Peru, INMED Andes is partnering with the regional government of Ucayali and local universities to establish a Center for Aquaponics Innovation, Research and Production to provide training and technical support to help the region’s fish farmers expand their enterprises and strengthen food security.

The Outcomes
As an economic-development tool, INMED’s adaptive agriculture/aquaponics model is bringing subsistence farmers into the mainstream economy while providing income-generating opportunities for head-of-household women, youth and individuals with disabilities in South Africa and Jamaica. It is providing fresh, nutritious produce and fish to supplement school meals in South Africa and Peru. As an environmental preservation tool, INMED aquaponics is helping to protect and proliferate endangered species of Amazonian fish in Peru. Ultimately, INMED aquaponics is a critical strategy for helping vulnerable populations adapt to climate change. Learn more at https://inmed.org/aquaponics.
Improving Health & Nutrition

The Challenge
Indigenous, impoverished and under-educated women living in remote or disadvantaged communities often lack access to adequate health care, leading to high maternal and infant mortality rates. Women living in poverty also often lack the skills and resources to raise healthy, self-sufficient children, potentially leading to child abuse and neglect or other poor outcomes in child development.

Our Solution
INMED has developed a large portfolio of highly successful programs in health and healthy lifestyles—from community health agent training to maternity waiting homes to child abuse prevention. Following is a brief summary of our current initiatives:

Peru: INMED and INMED Andes have partnered with a variety of stakeholders to improve maternal and child health outcomes in remote regions, including:
- Training community health workers to promote prenatal care and institutional births, identify danger signs in pregnancy and refer mothers and infants to appropriate health care.
- Delivering health and domestic violence education in indigenous languages.
- Establishing maternity waiting homes to allow late-stage pregnant women from remote regions to reside with their families near well-equipped and staffed birthing facilities.
- Engaging communities in sustaining the positive changes created through the program.

Brazil: Through a variety of participatory education activities, Healthy Children, Healthy Futures has promoted the importance of nutrition, hygiene and healthy lifestyles in schools since 1994 and is still going strong. Similarly, Health in Action and INMED’s latest program in Brazil, Crescer Saudável (Growing Healthy), seek to improve nutrition and access to healthy food for preschool and primary school children by establishing school vegetable gardens, as well as providing nutrition education for children and resources for mothers, teachers, food preparers and community health workers.

South Africa: Health in Action South Africa focuses on school-based participatory education and activities in nutrition, physical activity and healthy lifestyles, as well as access to fresh produce and fish via school gardens and aquaponics. Our Break Time Buddies initiative plays an important role in the success of the Health in Action program by training unemployed youth who have graduated secondary school to lead fun physical education activities during daily recess time and to assist with classroom health education.

USA: INMED’s Family & Youth Opportunity Center near our international headquarters in Sterling, Virginia provides educational services, guidance and resources that low-income families need to raise healthy, self-sufficient children and build strong family units. Programs focus on after-school academic enrichment, mentoring, adult and youth skills development, family education and homelessness prevention.

The Outcomes
INMED’s maternal and child health initiatives in Peru have helped reduce maternal and infant mortality rates in the Ucayali region. Healthy Children, Healthy Futures has reduced hunger and improved the nutrition and health of hundreds of thousands of children in Brazil. Health in Action South Africa is improving the health and nutrition of more than 100,000 primary school children in 116 schools in at-risk communities in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth. And our Family & Youth Opportunity Center the U.S. is narrowing the opportunity gaps for families living in poverty.

Learn more at https://inmed.org.
Looking Back — Looking Forward

Thirty years ago, INMED was founded to fill a critical piece of a very important puzzle: getting the right medicines and supplies to communities that needed them, at a time when donated pharmaceuticals often caused more problems than they solved. As an honest broker, we gained the trust of local institutions, learned about their needs and saw the missing pieces of a much larger puzzle: how to sustainably improve child, family and community health.

From there, INMED began delivering health and nutrition education, training community health workers, strengthening health systems to improve maternal and child health care, and integrating preventive health education and deworming treatment in schools. We developed school gardens to improve the nutritional value of school meals, promoted community gardens and supported small-scale agriculture.

Along the way, we’ve trained teachers to become more effective educators; promoted healthy lifestyles, physical activity and HIV/AIDS prevention; and guided parents to provide a healthy, safe and nurturing home environment for their children.

Each of these programs is linked by our philosophy that partnerships are the key to lasting change. But the work of bringing together partners to confront challenges in a way that achieves sustainable, positive impact is complex. INMED’s distinct role is as a facilitator, a mobilizer, a catalyst—and we are unique in that we also contribute technical expertise and maintain a local presence. We inspire confidence among those we’re investing in that we’ll be there for the long term. As we look to the future, we’re assembling the pieces of four major puzzles:

**Helping small-scale farmers break the cycle of poverty**
- Delivering training in intensive, climate-adaptive techniques to cost-effectively and sustainably increase production.
- Equipping farmers for success through business planning.
- Expanding access to training through online platforms.
- Working with banks to open access to financing for those traditionally excluded, bolstering economic development.
- Fostering business clusters to supply larger markets.
- Reframing and revitalizing agriculture as a viable career for youth.

**Eliminating soil-transmitted helminths as a public health problem**
- Mobilizing stakeholders—from communities to the top level of government—to commit to the fight against intestinal parasites.
- Leveraging government investments in clean water and sanitation to strengthen the impact of deworming treatment.
- Documenting/mapping infection data and treatment coverage for data-driven targeting of efforts toward the elimination goal.

**Improving health and nutrition**
- Reaching into remote communities to ensure that infants get a healthy start in life and mothers have access to health care.
- Increasing access to fresh foods and nutrition education.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles for all ages.

**Bridging the opportunity gap for vulnerable children**
- Expanding academic and social support to at-risk children and tackling barriers that limit their potential.
- Strengthening family stability and self-sufficiency via financial literacy, workforce development and parenting education.
- Promoting volunteerism to confront the significant opportunity gap reflected in high school graduation rates among low-income and minority children in America’s wealthiest county.

We believe our vision is within reach. We invite you to join us in its pursuit. Visit us at https://inmed.org.
Celebrating more than 30 years of transforming millions of lives around the world

INMED Partnerships for Children
Healthy Children, Bright Futures

21240 Ridgetop Circle, Suite 115 • Sterling, Virginia 20166 USA
Telephone: +1 703-729-4951 • Web: https://inmed.org