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Health in Action Expands to More Schools in Brazil

*Partnership with Mondelēz International Foundation and IEE will benefit disadvantaged children*

STERLING, VA (November 29, 2018): INMED Partnerships for Children is pleased to announce the expansion of our highly impactful Health in Action program in Brazil, in partnership with the Mondelēz International Foundation. This school-based participatory education initiative has benefited more than 431,000 children in 1,005 schools across three states of Brazil, in addition to training nearly 14,000 teachers, 2,866 cafeteria workers and thousands of parents in nutrition and healthy lifestyles since 2010.

"Based on the great success of the first and second phases of Health in Action, we plan to incorporate more communities, institutions and innovations," said Grazielle Parenti, Director of Corporate and Government Affairs for Mondelēz Brasil. For example, Health in Action will be incorporated into Mondelēz International’s Cocoa Life program, which seeks to strengthen the communities of its cocoa producers.

An impact report, released at the Phase III launch event, documented that the Health in Action program has had a significant impact on children's nutritional status. For example, up to 65% of children who were outside a normal weight range at the beginning of the program improved their body mass index (BMI). The results also suggest that the program had an impact on reducing obesity in relation to local averages, with up to 73% fewer obese children and 58% more children in the ideal weight range at Health in Action schools compared to city-wide rates. These
successes were driven in part by the implementation of school gardens to improve the nutritional value of school meals as well as lessons in gardening and healthy choices that children take home to their families.

“With the involvement of families and communities, we have achieved exceptional results,” said Parenti. “The Health in Action program has significantly improved the quality of life of thousands of Brazilians.”

Phase III will focus on expanding Health in Action within three states, including a new location in the northern Amazon state of Pará, and will include physical education activities led by the Instituto Esporte & Educação (IEE). “We are very proud of what we have accomplished thus far with the Mondelēz International Foundation and communities in Brazil, and are excited to scale the impact of our Health in Action program even further into the north of the country,” said Dr. Linda Pfeiffer, Founder and CEO of INMED Partnerships for Children. “In addition to increasing access to fresh food through school gardens and educating children, teachers, cafeteria workers and parents about healthy eating, INMED and our Para Crianças team look forward to introducing aquaponics to this region to increase food security and better nutrition while promoting environmental protection and climate-change resilience.”

INMED is a leader in the use of aquaponics and climate-smart agriculture to reduce malnutrition and obesity, promote climate-change adaptation and bolster the economies of distressed regions in Latin America, Jamaica and South Africa.

**About INMED Partnerships for Children:**

INMED Partnerships for Children is a nonprofit international development organization that has worked in more than 100 countries to create pathways for disadvantaged children and families achieve self-reliance and success. Through multi-sector partnerships, INMED builds effective systems that deliver innovative and sustainable approaches to break complex cycles of poverty. INMED’s programs in adaptive agriculture/aquaponics, maternal and child health and nutrition, and youth development have made a sustainable impact on the lives of millions of children and their families since 1986. Learn more at [https://inmed.org](https://inmed.org) and [https://paracrianças.org.br](https://paracrianças.org.br).

**About the Mondelēz International Foundation**

The Mondelēz International Foundation is the international philanthropic arm of Mondelēz International. The Foundation is focused on three areas of action: investing in community programs that promote healthy lifestyles in at-risk communities around the world; providing humanitarian aid through cash and product when disaster strikes; and inspiring colleagues to contribute time and talent to help our local communities thrive. To learn more, visit [www.mondelezinternational.com/impact/community-partnerships](http://www.mondelezinternational.com/impact/community-partnerships)