

infrastructure to establish, strengthen and scale-up CRVS systems to be universal and sustainable.

In addition, the Canadian Network for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, with support from the Government of Canada, are collaborating to develop a suite of tools for high quality, evidence-based program planning and evaluation. These tools will:

- help assess the health and rights of women and children in developing countries,
- improve the monitoring and reporting of women's and children's health, and
- contribute to more robust research methodologies on the health of women and children.

INNOVATING TO IMPROVE HEALTH

Canada has played a lead role in establishing innovative public-private partnerships, such as the Born On Time partnership and the Zinc Alliance for Child Health (ZACH).

Born On Time, a partnership between NGOs, governments and the private sector, seeks to reduce premature births and newborn deaths caused by complications during pregnancy in Ethiopia, Bangladesh and Mali. Canada's investment of \$20 million has attracted new partners and has already leveraged a \$10 million contribution from Johnson & Johnson.

ZACH was established as an alliance between Teck Resources Ltd. and the Micronutrient Initiative, with support from the Government of Canada, and is valued at \$20 million over five years (2011-2016). As a result of ZACH, 22 million children under the age of five with diarrhea have been treated with zinc and oral rehydration salts, and more than 50,000 healthcare providers have been trained on the use and benefits of zinc and oral rehydration salts in treating diarrhea.

The Government of Canada's \$225 million Development Innovation Fund—Health, managed by IDRC and implemented by Grand Challenges Canada, funds health innovators in low and middle-income countries and Canada. It concluded its last full year of programming in 2015-2016 with its Stars in Global Health – Portfolio, which featured new diagnostic devices, drug delivery technology, and business models that give clients greater access to healthcare treatment and provide them with social support services.

The Scaling-up Birth Registration Using Innovative Technology project in Tanzania, a \$10 million partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), is scaling up a new birth registration system with Tanzania's birth registration agency in partnership with Tigo, a mobile service provider. The system uses leading-edge technology to quickly upload records of all birth registrations to a centralized system through text messages sent from mobile phones. This allows for real-time monitoring of birth registrations at national, regional and local levels and greatly simplifies the registration process.

CANADA'S EFFORTS TO SUPPORT POLIO ERADICATION IN PAKISTAN

Polio is an infectious disease that mainly affects children under the age of five.

One in 200 infections leads to irreversible paralysis, with five to 10 percent of those paralyzed dying when their breathing muscles become immobilized. Pakistan accounts for 85 percent of all cases found worldwide. Despite significant progress, polio can still spread rapidly across borders. This means that adequate surveillance, high levels of immunization coverage and rapid outbreak responses are essential.

In April 2016, Canada announced a contribution of \$40 million over three years for two initiatives implemented by UNICEF and the World Health Organization in Pakistan. These will improve community acceptance of polio vaccination and the detection and tracking of polio, as well as the monitoring of all polio eradication efforts.

