Why does global health R&D matter?

Research and development (R&D) for new health technologies is vital to conquering the major disease threats of our times and building a safer, healthier world for all.

Despite tremendous progress in global health, millions of people still suffer or die each year because we don’t have the right tools to combat many long-standing health challenges. And new health threats are emerging at a rapid pace that threaten lives and economies both at home and abroad.

- **6.7 MILLION** die each year from HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis (TB), and other poverty-related and neglected diseases.
- **354 MILLION** productive life years are lost annually from poverty-related and neglected diseases.
- **1 OUT OF 12** children in sub-Saharan Africa dies before their 5th birthday.
- **30X** increase in annual disease outbreaks since 1980.
- **3X** Americans die annually from drug-resistant infections.
- **23K** spent by US government combatting the 2014 Ebola outbreak.
- **3 BILLION**

To continue to make progress against both long-standing and emerging global health threats, new drugs, vaccines, diagnostics, and other tools are urgently needed.

Unfortunately, diseases that strike the world’s poorest places offer insufficient commercial incentive to spur private-sector-led research. US government investment is critical to jumpstarting the research process and moving products along the path from promising discovery to lifesaving technology.

**New technologies** have proven their ability to cure and even eradicate diseases. Through sustainable investment in global health R&D, we can make the elimination of TB, AIDS, malaria, and other diseases possible and protect the world—including Americans—from emerging disease threats.

And by **creating tools** that make people healthier, we can unlock opportunity for millions of people around the world, helping individuals, communities, and nations thrive.
New tools are urgently needed.

- **HIV/AIDS**: 2.1 million people become newly infected with HIV annually.
- **MATERNAL HEALTH**: 14x greater maternal mortality in under-resourced regions than in developed countries.
- **MALARIA**: 1/2 the global population remains at risk of malaria, with drug resistance growing.
- **CHILD HEALTH**: 6.3 million children under the age of five die each year.
- **TB**: 1.4 million people die annually from TB, with drug resistance growing.
- **NTDs**: 1 billion+ people in 149 countries worldwide remain affected by neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).