

Press backgrounder

Through the Philips Foundation's volunteering program, the following five impact project received substantial support from Philips employees, which included collaboration on digital campaigns, physical activity challenges, brain challenges, and fundraising efforts:

Supporting United Nations Foundation's [Shot@Life Campaign](#) – reaching children with lifesaving vaccines: Shot@Life works to increase access to vaccines for children around the world, an effort that could prevent almost one-third of childhood pneumonia deaths every year. In addition to being one of the safest, most cost-effective, and proven ways to save lives, vaccination programs result in economic savings and strengthen global health security in an increasingly connected world. Through this partnership, Philips employees have contributed to over 20,000 pneumonia vaccinations.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Afghanistan – [treating children with pneumonia in hospitals](#): 18% of the children admitted to the Mirwais Regional Hospital's pediatric ward in Kandahar are diagnosed with pneumonia. Philips employees have funded, directly to the pediatric ward, pneumonia treatment for almost 1,000 of these children.

The Netherlands Red Cross through the Ethiopian Red Cross Society in Ethiopia – providing clean cooking stoves for families: In Ethiopia, around 35 thousand children per year die of pneumonia. Traditional stoves and open fires, together with poor ventilation, result in excessive exposure to indoor smoke, almost doubling the risk of childhood pneumonia. The project provided over 2,000 families with more efficient stoves that improve indoor air quality.

Amref Health Africa in Malawi – increasing the number of community health workers: Community health workers bring health closer to the people in some of Africa's most marginalized communities. This project trains Malawi's community health workers. It has already paid for the training of almost 1,300 of them, in topics such as 'health promotion and disease prevention', 'health promotion activities for children under five', and 'danger signs in children under five'. As part of this training, they learn how to prevent childhood pneumonia, how to recognize its symptoms in children under five, and what to do if they suspect a child has pneumonia.

Save the Children in Nicaragua – training and equipping community health workers: 30% of families in Nicaragua live in rural areas that are at least two hours away from health facilities and qualified health staff. In these areas, the under-five mortality rate is over three times higher than that for the wealthiest 20% of the population, with pneumonia being one of the main causes of death. This project teaches community health workers on how to assess, classify, treat, counsel, and facilitate referrals to specialized care for sick children.

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With support from the Philips Foundation, Save the Children was able to continue working in ten rural communities. The training of community health workers and health personnel were carried out to initiate the care of sick children in these communities.