

GLOBAL HEALTH Infectious Disease

FACTS AND STATISTICS

- Pneumonia kills more children (approximately 2 million) each year than any other disease—more than AIDS, malaria and measles combined. It accounts for nearly one in five child deaths globally (UNICEF).
- Diarrhea is the second biggest killer of children under age five, but 90 percent of children would be saved if treated properly (WHO).
- About one-third of the world's population has worm infestations like water-borne schistosomiasis or soil-transmitted infections that include hookworm, roundworm and whipworm (WHO).
- Malaria is endemic in 107 countries, with sub-Saharan Africa hardest hit (UNICEF).
- Each year, an estimated 1 million deaths are caused by malaria, with 80 percent among African children under age five (UNICEF).
- Measles kills as many as 500 children per day, with 95 percent of these deaths in low-income countries with weak health infrastructures (WHO).
- Tuberculosis (TB) accounts for nine percent of deaths among women between the ages of 15 and 44, and it is the single biggest infectious disease killer of women in the world (WHO).
- Childhood TB often goes undiagnosed in children from birth to 15 years of age. Better training for health workers and improved access to TB services can prevent illness and death for thousands of children each year (WHO, STOP TB 2012).



PROGRESS SO FAR

- The number of children under age five dying each year from preventable causes – including infectious diseases – is on the decline. In 1990, an estimated 12.4 million children died. As of 2011, it reduced to 7.6 million. We are still far from the 2015 goal to reduce that to 4.13 million.
- In 2011, partners, including governments and corporate organizations, of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization committed US\$4.3 billion to immunize more than 250 million children by 2015.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

Community case management: With community case management, community health workers are trained to identify, treat and prevent disease, as well as encourage seeking additional care at local health facilities. Community case management can help prevent 70 percent of pneumonia-related deaths in children under five, prevent malaria-specific mortality by 60 percent, and prevent deaths from diarrhea by 93 percent by introducing oral rehydration therapy and 23 percent by introducing zinc.

Partnership for pediatric tuberculosis: World Vision is partnering with the Desmond Tutu Centre for Pediatric Tuberculosis to improve our evidence base for diagnosis and treatment of childhood tuberculosis, which is lagging far behind diagnosis and treatment of TB in adults.

Partnership with the Global Fund: World Vision partners significantly with the Global Fund to deliver infectious disease-related projects worldwide. See World Vision's Global Fund brochure to learn more.

To learn more, visit www.wvi.org/health