



# ADVANCING THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a sweeping agenda to advance health and well-being, ensure environmental protection and deliver peace and prosperity. The 169 associated targets represent a complex network of interlinking systems. Understanding these connections and enhancing synergies—while managing tradeoffs—is critical to bringing the SDG agenda to fruition.

## Strengthening Health Systems to realize GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

At Abt Associates, helping governments around the globe fulfill the promise of equitable, high quality health care, while minimizing financial risk, is a major priority. We collaborate with every level of government, from villages to national ministries, to increase health systems' performance. Across more than 40 countries, we strengthen health policy, support effective health financing and assess coverage gaps to focus valuable resources where they are needed most. We adopt a multidisciplinary approach to health system strengthening, leveraging our expertise in areas such as climate change, education and governance, and zero in on enabling health systems to improve delivery of live-saving programs.



**BOLD  
THINKERS  
DRIVING  
REAL-WORLD  
IMPACT**

[abtassociates.com](http://abtassociates.com)



Abt's global portfolio spans health, the environment, governance, economic development and social policy. We work in low-, middle- and high-income countries and bring an integrated perspective to today's intractable challenges. Our approach is grounded in data and a deep understanding of complex systems.



OUR FOCUS AREAS

Education, Youth & Families  
Environment & Energy  
Food Security & Agriculture  
Gender Equality & Social Inclusion  
Governance & Justice  
Health  
Housing, Communities & Asset Building  
Workforce & Economic Mobility

OUR ENABLING CAPABILITIES

Communications & Behavior Change  
Data Capture & Surveys  
Digital Transformations  
Research, Monitoring & Evaluation  
Technical Assistance & Implementation

Increasing financial protection against catastrophic health expenditures

In Ethiopia, we supported the scale up of the national Community-Based Health Insurance program to cover **14.5 million people**. Working with our technical experts, Ethiopia has doubled the rates of health service utilization in 318 districts, reduced out-of-pocket health expenditures for the national population by 4 percent, and increased enrollment in health insurance from 1 to 18 percent.



Reaching the most vulnerable with needed care

In Papua New Guinea, we worked through a local non-governmental organization, Susu Mamas, to help rehabilitate health facilities and establish more than 100 rural outreach clinics to deliver reproductive and sexual health, antenatal and postnatal care services and breastfeeding support to more than **23,000 women**. Abt provided technical assistance, grants and research management, procurement and logistics services to local partners to increase access to care for disadvantaged rural populations.



Ensuring quality while expanding access

In Uganda, we contributed to the sustainability of the private health care system. We strengthened the capacity of 33 districts to work with private providers to increase access to quality obstetric, newborn and postpartum family planning services for poor women through the use of vouchers. From 2016 to 2018, **149,137 subsidized vouchers** were sold; one result was that more than 58,000 newborns were delivered in high-quality facilities with skilled attendants.



Testing new payment and delivery models of care

Lowering cost without sacrificing quality of care is a priority for health systems, irrespective of a country's level of wealth and development. In the U.S., we conducted a study involving 60,000 Medicare beneficiaries to test whether bundled payments, a new payment and delivery model that keeps costs under a predetermined target price, resulted in reduced care quality. The results indicate that both **quality of care and patient-reported care experiences were not jeopardized** under this new scheme.



Integrating HIV/AIDS services into social health insurance

In Vietnam, we ensured financial sustainability of HIV/AIDS services by supporting the transition from donor funding to domestic resource mobilization through management, policy and financing strategies. As a results, Vietnam formally added HIV/AIDS services to its social health insurance, centralized procurement of antiretroviral drugs, and integrated HIV outpatient clinics into the public service delivery system, making them eligible for reimbursement by the social health insurance. This expanded coverage is projected to **avert more than 2,500 HIV-related deaths by 2022.**



Facilitating a data-driven total market approach

In Kenya, Senegal and other countries, we work with private pharmacies and larger health facilities to increase private sector reporting into government health management information systems (HMIS) via DHIS2-based platforms. These efforts will generate more frequent, routine service statistics from the private sector to complement data coming from public and NGO facilities. Together, they will give government stakeholders a more **accurate understanding of the total health system.**



# Bold Ideas. Real Results.

Abt Associates is an engine for social impact, dedicated to moving people from vulnerability to security. Harnessing the power of data and our experts' grounded insights, we provide research, consulting and technical services globally in the areas of health, environmental and social policy, technology and international development.



**BOLD  
THINKERS  
DRIVING  
REAL-WORLD  
IMPACT**

## **WORK WITH US**

[bdu@abtassoc.com](mailto:bdu@abtassoc.com)

## **PARTNER WITH US**

[abtassociates.com/registry](http://abtassociates.com/registry)

## **JOIN OUR TEAM**

[abtassociates.com/careers](http://abtassociates.com/careers)

**JULY 2019**

**[abtassociates.com/](http://abtassociates.com/)**

[abtassociates.com/what-we-do/focus-areas/health/health-systems](http://abtassociates.com/what-we-do/focus-areas/health/health-systems)

