



Update from IHP

December 2018

Firm Foundations

I was reminded this week of the importance of foundations by friends who are rebuilding their home. They are investing a good proportion of the budget on improving the base, the starting point on which their new home will rest. On visiting the building site, I wasn't met with beautiful new curtains or plush carpets, but by scaffolding, mortar and cement. It was exciting to see what the house would look like from the plans, but it was also clear that nothing could progress until these firm foundations were in place.

The impact of IHP's work is clearly seen in vulnerable and disaster-hit communities, where there is often no resource to plan or invest in the building blocks of a secure and satisfying life - health, education, employment. This is true in South Sudan, where a combination of natural disaster and conflict has driven millions of people from their homes, leaving over 4 million people dependent on aid for survival. IHP's medicines, delivered through qualified aid agencies, are a life line, and we are delighted that we have been able to invest so much in South Sudan during 2018.

Our visit to Lebanon

As well as responding in disaster situations, IHP is also helping communities lay important foundations for the future. Recently, colleagues visited a project supported by IHP in Lebanon. This country has the highest number of refugees per capita in the world – approximately 25% in a population of 6 million. Our partners, Anera have led economic, health and education projects for the most marginalised in the region for over 60 years.

Samar Yassir, Anera country director explains the health challenges they face: *"In Lebanon, we have a weak health system, with multi-layered problems. The capacity of the government to meet the needs of its citizens is severely limited. The outcome is that thousands of vulnerable people are unable to access basic services for their health needs.*

One of the major barriers for people is the cost of medicines to enable treatment, which is very challenging for the poorest people in this country."





Through Anera's long-term partnership with IHP, many in the community are able to access medicines. People like Adnan, who explains:

*"We had to leave Syria because of the war...our whole village was shelled, it's not safe. I live here in the refugee camp because it is the cheapest place to live but ... the dirty environment means that either my wife or I, or one of our four children, are often coming down with different illnesses. This is difficult as it is expensive to be treated at the hospital if you are Syrian, but **I am deeply grateful for this clinic that will give me the medicines for free if they have them available.**"*

Though life is difficult in Lebanon, IHP is working to help people like Adnan rebuild his life by supporting essential health programmes. And the impact for the long-term is clear. Cost savings made from access to donated medicines mean that more funds are available for strengthening the health system through activities such as training of health workers.

15 Years and Counting

2019 will be an important year for IHP, as we will be marking our 15th anniversary. As well as thanking partners and demonstrating the impact of our work, we will be using this milestone as an opportunity to plan for the future.

Just like my friend's house, we need to invest in the foundations that underpin the core of the charity, and so, as part of the plans for our anniversary, we will be making judicial investments in our fundraising resource and increasing our voluntary fundraising target by an additional £50,000.

At the same time, we are planning to create a Disaster Response Fund which will enable us to react quickly to deliver essential medicines and supplies. This will cost a further £100,000 but will secure 300,000 medical treatments which will be available within days (rather than weeks) of a disaster.

We will be speaking more about this in the coming year but please [email](#) or call Tina Gear (07811 815658) if you would like more information about how you might support these initiatives.

Good Gifts at Christmas

If you are wondering what to buy someone who has everything, can we recommend that you look through the Good Gifts catalogue? IHP's Essential Health Packs are featured in the

catalogue and we'd love to be able to see more people receive these valuable resources. For more information, please [visit their site](#). If you want to [support IHP directly](#) then remember that for every £10 you donate, we can send 30 treatments. As one recent recipient in Lebanon put it, **"Our lives depend on it"**.

Happy Christmas,



Adele Paterson - CEO

Did you know?

IHP has delivered over 4 million treatments to 29 countries this year including:

- 976,000 treatments to Guatemala
- 551,000 treatments to South Sudan
- 303,000 treatments to Yemen

IHP is all about partnerships and this year we have been delighted to partner with Pfizer as their charity of the year and look forward to the next two years as charity partner with Accord Healthcare.

Contact Info:

Phone: +44 (0) 20 3 735 5489

Email: info@ihpuk.org

International Health Partners (UK)
Unit 402, Clerkenwell Workshops, 27/31
Clerkenwell Close,
London EC1R 0AT
UK

Charity Number: 1105455

Company Number: 5044723

You are receiving this email because you have previously expressed an interest in the work of IHP. If you no longer wish to receive emails from us, please use the unsubscribe link below.