



Major Donors Announce Commitments to NTD Programs

Recognizing the extraordinary dividends that investments in NTD control efforts yield, Accenture, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), The Hoffman Fund—a partner of the Alliance for Global Good, Merck & Co., Inc., Pfizer, Inc., and the Inter-Development Bank have announced and reaffirmed major donations that will leverage the \$34 million investment by the Gates Foundation.

Accenture

Accenture, through Accenture Development Partnerships and Accenture's Health & Life Sciences practice, is exploring ways to assist the Global Network Program Management team with up-front scoping, planning, and mobilization of the first phase of the Gates Foundation grant. During this phase, Accenture plans to assist the Global Network with identifying and mapping entities involved in NTD elimination; defining a global operating model; mobilizing the global network's global and regional leadership teams; and developing a framework for measuring the performance and impact of the initiative.

"Accenture is pleased to team with the Global Network and the Gates Foundation to advance the important work that has already been done to eradicate NTDs. We welcome the opportunity to not only help plan and develop an operating model that focuses the global resources that have been amassed to deal with this critical issue but also to make a significant impact, helping individuals where the need is most acute. Working together, we can achieve the Global Network's goal of eliminating NTDs by 2020."

—Mark Foster, Group Chief Executive, Managing Consulting & Integrated Markets

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)

Over the last decade, GSK has donated over one billion albendazole treatments for LF elimination efforts in 48 countries around the world, in addition to giving £1 million a year in cash grants to Global Alliance to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis partners as part of its pledge to donate albendazole to every country that needs it until the disease is eliminated. Moving forward, in 2010 GSK will expand this partnership with the Alliance by providing up to 600 million tablets per year to meet the growth of the LF programme, especially in India.

"The remarkable progress in fighting LF and other NTDs demonstrates what can be achieved through partnership. We applaud the announcement from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to help fight NTDs. Working together, we have a real possibility to eliminate these devastating diseases and alleviate human suffering."

—Andrew Witty, Chief Executive Officer

The Hoffman Fund—a partner of the Alliance for Global Good

The Hoffman Fund furthers the Hoffman family's long tradition of service to the community and global health. James E. Hoffman, from Hillburn, New York, was a leader in the Hillburn and Suffern, New York communities his entire life. His two sons are both committed to community service and philanthropy. Michael P. Hoffman, President of the Hoffman Fund, is the founder of Changing Our World, Inc. (CW), an international philanthropic services company and part of the Omnicom Group (NYSE:OMC). James E. Hoffman, Jr. is the founder of Engineering Solutions & Products, Inc. (ESP), a solutions provider for Engineering, Technical and Consulting services in response to Department of Defense requirements.

"The Hoffman Fund is deeply honored to work with the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to help end the scourge of neglected tropical diseases. I believe strongly that this global collaboration will not only help us meet the goal of controlling NTDs by 2020, but will empower donors around the world to connect more closely with the communities they support, and with one another."

—Michael P. Hoffman, President





Major Donors Announce Commitments (continued)

Inter-American Development Bank

With the seed money provided under the grant, the IDB—in close collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases—is launching a trust fund to challenge local governments to eliminate and control NTDs. Grants will be made to local governments and NGOs conditional on meeting NTD control and elimination goals, and on making complementary investments in water, sanitation, drainage, solid waste and housing upgrades. The cost of controlling five priority NTDs via medical interventions amounts to \$137 million and would allow the trust fund to deliver 200 million treatments and save more than 1 million life years that would otherwise be lost to these preventable causes.

"Neglected tropical diseases affect approximately 200 million of the poorest people in the Americas. Eliminating these diseases, while ambitious, is possible through collaborative efforts. We are honored and committed to working with the Gates Foundation, Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases, PAHO, and other potential partners on these efforts. It is an opportunity to control NTDs by 2020 while contributing to the reduction of poverty and the bridging of inequality."

—Luis Alberto Moreno, President

Merck & Co., Inc.

In 1987, Merck committed to donate its drug MECTIZAN for as long as necessary to help eliminate river blindness as a public health problem. In 1998, Merck expanded this commitment to include lymphatic filariasis (LF) in countries where the two diseases co-exist. This donation of MECTIZAN is expected to reach more than 1.1 billion treatments during the 2009-2015 time period. Additionally, Merck will invest more than \$40M in direct financial support for the administration, operations and logistics of the MECTIZAN Donation Program.

"This generous grant by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to the Global Network will build on existing efforts and enable even more people to be reached by Merck's MECTIZAN Donation Program for onchocerciasis and lymphatic filariasis."

—Geraldyn Ritter, Vice President of Global Public Policy and Corporate Responsibility

Pfizer, Inc.

Pfizer is committed to working with a coalition of partners toward elimination of blinding trachoma globally by 2020. To date Pfizer has demonstrated a significant public commitment by donating more than 145 million treatments of Zithromax valued at more than \$2.8B and providing more than \$35M in financial support for administration, operations and logistics of the International Trachoma Program and for treatment and prevention strategies.

"Pfizer's commitment to the International Trachoma Initiative was initiated in 1998, with two projects, a little more than half-million antibiotic treatments and supporting slightly more than 5,000 site-saving surgeries. Today, the program has grown significantly reaching 18 countries, involving multiple partners, providing more than 25 million treatments and more than 75,000 site-saving surgeries. Four countries in which ITI works are on track to eliminate trachoma in the next two years: The Gambia, Ghana, Mauritania and Vietnam. In 2009, Pfizer will increase its annual donation of Zithromax treatments by 10% up to 39M as we continue to work with the International Trachoma Initiative and other partners and governments toward the global elimination of blinding trachoma by 2020."

—Jeffrey B. Kindler, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

