

Pathfinder At A Glance

Our Vision

Pathfinder envisions a world where everyone, even in the most challenging environments, has what they need to be healthy, thrive, and live the life they choose.

Our Mission

We build lasting and trusted local partnerships to strengthen health systems, forging resilient pathways to sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.

Our Approach

Trusted Partner

Our trusted local partnerships with governments and civil society organizations have strengthened and expanded health systems and services, allowing women, young people, and entire communities to access sexual and reproductive healthcare and other essential services, even in the most challenging environments.

Community- and Country-Led

From program design through implementation and institutionalization, we listen closely to our community partners and run programs that drive sustained local impact. Today, we are moving assertively to fully adopt a country-led, community-focused model. This means being run from the countries we serve, with decisions made close to where our work is happening.

Expanded Response

Pathfinder acts decisively to constantly adjust, adapt, and meet the needs of the people we serve. We increasingly strengthen new services and systems and deploy new technologies and solutions that increase communities' resilience to conflicts, climate change, pandemics, and natural disasters. By responding to the new demands facing women, young people, and their communities, we help them to meet the growing challenges they face every day.



Above: Seema Kumari works as a peer educator for sexual and reproductive health in Bihar, India, under Pathfinder's YUVAA project. Photo Credit: Sarah Peck

Pathfinder Impact in 2022



130 million contraceptive methods were provided through Pathfinder-supported programs.



6.3 million people younger than 25 received contraception through Pathfinder-supported programs.



128,194 women reached with safe abortion and postabortion care through Pathfinder-supported programs, an 140% increase from the previous year.



By 2030, Pathfinder aims to reach **10 million** women and girls with integrated health, equity, and climate programs.

Adolescents & Youth

Pathfinder programs understand that young people are not homogenous, and we therefore implement a variety of age- and life stage-tailored approaches. These approaches consider factors which influence young people's lives at the individual (e.g., knowledge and skills), relational (e.g., engaging peers, partners, parents), social (e.g., school and work environment), and structural (e.g., services and government laws and policies) levels. We apply a positive youth development lens that normalizes adolescent development and supports all adolescents and youth, inclusive of marginalized groups such as those with disabilities, and those living in rural areas or with HIV.

Contraception & Family Planning

Voluntary contraception helps individuals exercise their basic human right of deciding freely whether, when, and how many children they want to have. We know contraception means better health, more girls in school, and greater resources for families, communities, and nations. Pathfinder partners with decision-makers to make sure modern contraception is available wherever needed at an affordable cost so people of all ages can choose the method that's best for them.

Safe & Comprehensive Abortion Care

Unsafe abortion remains a leading cause of pregnancy-related deaths, particularly in countries where legal barriers, stigma, and poorly resourced health systems prevent women from accessing safe abortion and postabortion care services. Globally, deaths due to unsafe abortion account for 8-11% of all maternal deaths—the majority of which occur in low-income countries. Pathfinder works to make existing abortion services safe where the law allows for it and more accessible through advocacy, education, and health systems strengthening.

Maternal, Newborn & Child Health

810 women die daily from preventable complications of pregnancy and childbirth. Pathfinder focuses on eliminating preventable maternal and newborn deaths by making sure women and newborns can access quality care at every stage—before, during, and after pregnancy.

Climate Resilience

Climate hazards like storms and extreme heat threaten health directly, and a changing climate shifts how people live and interact with the world around them. This can exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and inequities among marginalized groups, including women and girls. At Pathfinder, we're responding to the climate crisis with integrated programs that advance health, equity, and local climate solutions. Applying a rights-based approach, our programs support climate resilience, with a focus on improving the health and agency of women and girls.

HIV & AIDS

HIV remains one of the most serious global health threats of our time. In 2017, 1.8 million people were infected with HIV, and 940,000 died of AIDS-related causes. Pathfinder delivers comprehensive care to people living with HIV and their families at times and locations that are convenient to them and supports key populations—including men who have sex with men, prisoners, female sex workers, and transgender women—to make sure they can exercise their rights and receive quality services free from stigma, discrimination, or judgment.

Gender-Based Violence

In their lives, one in three women will experience physical or sexual abuse. Many more will experience psychological violence. Yet less than one percent of global humanitarian funding is spent on sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response activities. Pathfinder uses gender-transformative approaches—ones that seek to transform harmful gender norms; reduce the impact of GBV on sexual and reproductive health and rights; and change the policies, structures, and systems that hold individuals of all genders back.

Primary Health Care

To achieve universal health coverage, primary health care systems—which tend to be people's first point of contact with health care—must be strong. Pathfinder works closely with governments to make sure comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care is part of the essential package of services provided through the primary health care system.

Pathfinder International is driven by the conviction that all people, regardless of where they live, have the right to decide whether and when to have children, to exist free from fear and stigma, and to lead the lives they choose. As a global health organization with locally led, community-driven programs, we support women to make their own reproductive health decisions. We work with local partners to advance contraceptive services, comprehensive abortion care, and young people's sexual and reproductive rights in communities around the world—including those affected by poverty, conflict, climate change, and natural disasters. Taken together, our programs enable millions of people to choose their own paths forward.

PATHFINDER

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