

AUGUST 2024

## Putting Women in the Driver's Seat of their Health and Wealth

Pathfinder opens doors for women and girls to forge their own path ahead, live the lives they choose, and build the healthy, prosperous future they deserve. We ensure women and girls can access essential healthcare, from reproductive health and family planning services to immunizations and maternal healthcare, **allowing women to make informed decisions about their futures.**

*Above: Pinki Kumari and Kachan Kumari worked as social entrepreneurs with Pathfinder's YUVAA program in India to market contraceptives and other health products to young couples.*



*Masai women's microfinance group in Tanzania.*

### WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP & ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Pathfinder places women at the forefront, ensuring their voices and ideas are represented and put into action, and they have the resources they need to succeed. By investing in women, we invest in a healthier, more equitable and resilient future for all.

- We encourage women's participation in the workforce, generate women's demand for financial services, and promote market-based solutions for women's economic empowerment.
- We engage women in developing solutions to climate adaptation, accelerating climate resilience, furthering climate justice, and advancing reproductive rights.
- We strengthen career pathways for women in the health workforce, elevating them to leadership positions and supporting them to drive the health agenda in their countries.
- We advocate for laws and policies that advance women's health and rights.

## EGYPT

### WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (WESEP)

Donor: USAID

[WESEP](#) is providing 200,000 women with employment opportunities and access to digital financial services. In Egypt, only 18% of working-age women are participating in the company. We are working to change that by incentivizing companies to hire and retain women, fight workplace inequality, early the Egyptian Gender Equity Seal, and implement the UN Women's Empowerment Principles.

## BANGLADESH & PAKISTAN

### ADVANCING THE LEADERSHIP OF WOMEN AND GIRLS TOWARDS BETTER HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

Donor: Takeda Pharmaceuticals

We build the resilience of communities in Bangladesh and Pakistan to withstand climate shocks and emergencies through [women-led preparation, response, and recovery](#). This includes shifting harmful gender norms that hold women back. Women and girls experiencing frequent climate disasters are connected to health services, engaged in developing climate-adaptation solutions, and offered access to environmentally friendly livelihoods. In Bangladesh, 4,000 women earn money through agricultural trades and sewing since attending livelihoods trainings. In Pakistan, almost 1,000 women are climate change champions who spread awareness about climate resilience and discuss the value of women's decision-making with male allies.

## TANZANIA

### MOMENTUM INTEGRATED HEALTH RESILIENCE (MOMENTUM) & TUUNGANE

[MOMENTUM](#) and [Tuungane](#) support communities in Tanzania to develop savings and loan groups for women. Women diversify their incomes through environmentally friendly businesses, such as beekeeping and soap making. Members receive information on sustainable natural resources management and are linked to information on sexual and reproductive health and maternal and child health services. Almost 3,000 women living in Tanzania's Greater Mahale region are members through MOMENTUM.

## ETHIOPIA & MOZAMBIQUE

### HER FUTURE, HER CHOICE

[Her Future, Her Choice](#) has worked to ensure adolescent girls and young women in Ethiopia and Mozambique can fully exercise their rights and live without fear or violence or discrimination. The project increased access to quality sexual and reproductive healthcare and provided protection from gender-based violence, in addition to helping young women and girls finish school and earn an income. More than 600,000 young women and girls received contraception through the project in Mozambique.

## KENYA

### DARWIN INITIATIVE: PAIRING COMMUNITY CONSERVATION AREAS WITH SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE IN LAKE VICTORIA

In Kenya, [The Darwin Initiative](#) cultivates a new model for responsible aquaculture that safeguards native species, while engaging women as entrepreneurs and leaders in the fishing industry. The project has distributed boats to women's groups, allowing women to employ men and claim ownership of the entire income earned from a fish harvest. The project has also helped women earn leadership positions in local beach management units, allowing them to govern and make the fishing industry more conducive to supporting women.

LEARN MORE

[pathfinder.org](https://pathfinder.org)



*Pheisha Auma, Susan Omedo and Lydia Akinyi, in Kenya, showcasing the boat and fishing gear from the Darwin Initiative.*

**PATHFINDER**