



The Ripple Effect 2.0: from global health to domestic gains

Briefing for advocacy and communications partners

Impact Global Health

Please note that the report will be published on 20 January 2026 and is under embargo until then. The URL will not be live until then.

What is this report about?

Global health R&D delivers extraordinary returns for everyone: saving lives, strengthening economics and accelerating scientific progress. Our previous *Ripple Effect* report showed that \$71 billion invested in global health R&D funding from 2007–2023 catalyzed \$511 billion in GDP growth, 643,000 jobs, and 20,000 patents, a multiplier effect proving that global health investment drives domestic prosperity.

Building on this macro-level evidence, The Ripple Effect 2.0 moves a step further by measuring product-specific health and economic impacts in HICs. It focuses on three case studies: the shingles vaccine (Shingrix), the JADA System for postpartum haemorrhage, and BCG as a treatment for bladder cancer.

The report provides quantitative, country-specific proof points showing how innovations originally developed to address health needs in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are now improving health outcomes and delivering economic value across the United States, United Kingdom, Japan, and Europe.

What new data is available?

For the three selected innovations (Shingrix, the JADA System for postpartum hemorrhage, and BCG as a treatment for bladder cancer), we combined desktop research, literature synthesis, and validated modelling techniques to:

- Quantify health impacts in Europe, Japan, UK and USA, including:
 - lives saved,
 - cases or recurrences averted, and
 - reductions in disability-adjusted life years (DALYs).
- Estimate economic benefits by calculating the societal value of health gains and health-system cost savings.
- Approximate the incremental cost-effectiveness ratio for each product.

All data and results are publicly available:

<https://www.impactglobalhealth.org/insights/report-library/ripple-effect>

Key impact numbers, by 2050, from the three health innovations across Europe, Japan, UK and USA

- 411,000 lives saved
- 33 million cases of disease averted
- Nearly 6 million DALYs prevented
- \$91 billion in projected health-system savings across these four markets

Selected country-level health impacts illustrate the scale and diversity of these benefits:

- UK: approximately 16,000 lives saved from bladder cancer using BCG
- European Union: around 17 million cases averted through Shingrix vaccination
- USA: an estimated 597,000 PPH cases effectively controlled using the JADA system
- Japan: approximately 106,000 bladder cancer recurrence cases averted due to BCG treatment

What are the key messages?

1. Innovations developed for LMICs are being adopted and scaled in HICs across different health areas
2. These innovations deliver measurable health improvements and economic returns
3. Investing in global health R&D builds resilience, strengthens innovation pipelines, and safeguards the future

How does *Ripple Effect 2.0* change the way global health R&D should be talked about in today's political and economic climate?

The findings reinforce a shift away from framing global health R&D primarily as donor support or development assistance. *Ripple Effect 2.0* shows that these investments generate tangible domestic returns for HICs, including lives saved, costs avoided, and long-term economic value.

In a context of fiscal tightening and inward-facing policy priorities, this evidence supports positioning global health R&D as a strategic investment that delivers a wide range of benefits at the domestic level including savings to national health systems, innovation capacity, and economic resilience.

Why do these findings matter now for high-income countries?

Many HICs are facing converging pressures, including ageing populations, rising chronic disease burdens, stretched health systems, and constrained public budgets. The report demonstrates that global health R&D has already produced tools that help address these challenges domestically.

Products such as Shingrix, BCG, and the JADA System illustrate how earlier investments aimed at LMIC needs are now delivering concrete health and economic benefits in donor countries, supporting the case for sustained investment even at a time of heightened strain.

What are the calls to action?

Sustain investment and reposition global health R&D as a strategic driver for growth

At a time of fiscal pressure and shifting geopolitical priorities, sustaining investment in global health R&D requires clearer articulation of its domestic value. The evidence in *The Ripple Effect* shows that investments originally directed toward global health needs generate measurable health gains, cost savings, and economic value within HICs. Positioning global health R&D within broader economic, innovation, and security frameworks can help maintain continuity of investment even as traditional aid narratives come under strain.

Create financing approaches that protect innovation pipelines during transition

With announced budget cuts and growing uncertainty, the global health R&D ecosystem is entering a period of heightened fragility. Avoiding long-term losses in innovation capacity will depend on financing approaches that provide predictability across the R&D lifecycle and support platform technologies with demonstrated spillover potential. The product pathways highlighted in *Ripple Effect 2.0* reinforce the value of mechanisms that prioritize continuity and multi-year funding rather than short-term cycles.

Strengthen the enabling conditions for sustainable innovation ecosystems

Long-term returns from global health R&D depend on more than individual products. Economic and health gains are maximized when investments are accompanied by strong regulatory systems, skilled workforces, access to risk capital, and supportive policy environments. As demonstrated by the innovations in this report, these enabling conditions increase the likelihood that early research translates into scalable solutions with lasting domestic and global value.