

# HER HEALTH, HER LIFETIME, OUR WORLD

## Unlocking the Potential of Adolescent Girls and Young Women

In October 2015, CSIS launched a Task Force on Women's and Family Health in the belief that there is a timely opportunity—and pressing need—for U.S. leadership in this critical area. **The Task Force has generated a bold vision for a major U.S. initiative by the Trump administration with the goal of securing the health and prospects of adolescent girls and young women (ages 10–24 years) in 13 low-income countries.**

Visit [vision2017.csis.org](http://vision2017.csis.org) for more.

## WHY THIS POPULATION?

Too often, adolescent girls and young women, especially those living in poverty, fall through the cracks: they live with high risks of early marriage, unintended pregnancy, and gender-based violence. But we know that when women and girls are healthy and educated, they become skilled, productive leaders, capable of seizing opportunities and promoting economic growth. Over the course of their lives, they create stronger families, more secure communities, and expanded markets. In turn, the United States benefits from a safer, more prosperous world.

# THE ACTION PLAN

This proposal provides a feasible, cost-effective, and forward-looking platform that Americans across the political spectrum have consistently supported and builds on the record of longstanding global health leadership by the United States.

**1 FOCUS ON 13 LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES** with U.S. investments and significant need: Bangladesh, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

**2 BUILD ON EXISTING U.S. INVESTMENTS** in health, food security, education, gender-based violence prevention and response, economic empowerment, and programs to prevent child marriage.

**3 SPEARHEAD NEW, AMBITIOUS GOALS IN FOUR KEY AREAS:** maternal and newborn health, family planning, nutrition, and immunization against HPV to prevent cervical cancer.

**4 INTEGRATE U.S. GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT,** with a focus on the Secretary of State, USAID, and U.S. missions in the target countries.

**5 SUSTAIN HIGH-LEVEL DIPLOMACY** to drive partnerships with governments, multi-lateral institutions, the private sector, civil society, faith-based organizations, and foundations.

**6 PUT INNOVATION AT THE CENTER BY** investing in data, spurring research and development, incentivizing integration, and expanding the role of the private sector.

**7 MOBILIZE ROBUST FINANCING FROM MULTIPLE SOURCES,** including bilateral assistance and multilateral agencies, as well as industry and foundation partners, to cover the annual cost of \$634 million.

In addition to pronounced economic and security benefits, this initiative promises profound health impacts.

## MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH

26,300 maternal and 490,000 newborn deaths averted.

## NUTRITION

25 percent reduction in anemia among adolescent girls and young women, contributing to the global goal of 265 million fewer women with anemia and 800,000 child deaths averted.

## FAMILY PLANNING

5.4 million users reached, 1.3 million unintended pregnancies averted, and 3,600 maternal deaths averted.

## HPV VACCINE

235,000 lives saved and 650,000 cases of cervical cancer averted.