

GHTC input to USAID Draft Policy Framework
August 1, 2022

For comment on *Section I. Confront the greatest challenges of our time:*

- The Policy Framework is missing a clear reference to USAID's support for health research, development, and innovation. According to the Lancet Commission on Investing in Health, even if current global health technologies were widely scaled, the world could still not achieve our health-related Sustainable Development Goals. Likewise, USAID will not be able to achieve its long-term health objectives without new tools. USAID has for decades been one of the world's most important partners and sponsors for developing health technologies designed for use in low-resource settings, and those fit-for-purpose health technologies, including vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, and other medical devices, are essential for strengthening health systems in places with limited or inconsistent access to electricity, running water, highly trained health care workers, cold storage, or laboratory services. USAID's Policy Framework should state that new health technologies are essential for improving public health and strengthening health systems globally and that the agency has a critical role in supporting the development of those technologies. (References: <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0140092>; <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2018/10/05/we-need-breakthrough-technologies-to-reach-the-sustainable-development-goal-targets-for-health/>)

For comment on *Section IIB. Embrace more inclusive development partnerships:*

- USAID's support for localization and inclusive development should include *inclusive innovation*: empowering communities and local researchers to guide or lead all types of research at every stage, from setting innovation priorities and prototype development to clinical trials and implementation science.