

## Fact Sheet

THE UN FOUNDATION & VODAFONE FOUNDATION TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP'S  
MHEALTH FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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In many parts of the world, epidemics and a shortage of healthcare workers continue to present substantial challenges for governments and health providers, but the explosive growth of mobile communications in these areas offers new hope for the promotion of quality healthcare.

A core pillar of the UN Foundation and Vodafone Foundation Technology Partnership is its Mobile Health (mHealth) for Development program, which is **leveraging rapid advances in mobile technology to improve public health and patient outcomes in the developing world**. Our mHealth activities include:

- **Bringing mHealth Tools to Scale in the Developing World**

Working with the World Health Organization (WHO), the nonprofit DataDyne.org, and country Ministries of Health, the UN Foundation-Vodafone Foundation Technology Partnership is **developing a sustainable and scalable technology solution to quickly collect vital health data that in turn equips decision makers with the right tools to make smart decisions about critical public health issues**, making it easier to combat deadly diseases and save lives.

DataDyne.org's free and open source EpiSurveyor software for mobile devices is decreasing the cost of health data collection while increasing the capacity of developing-country health workers. By the end of the first quarter of 2009, more than **1000 health workers in 22 Sub-Saharan African countries** are participating in this program. This expansion in the Sub-Saharan region is seen as a first step toward a more global integration of sustainable technologies to improve healthcare in the developing world.

- **Furthering Public Dialogue about the Potential of mHealth**

At the GSM Mobile World Congress in February 2009, the Partnership launched the report *mHealth for Development: The Opportunities of Mobile Technology for Healthcare in the Developing World*—the most comprehensive report of its kind with over 50 examples of mHealth projects. The report follows a brochure on the same topic that also examines trends in wireless technology solutions being used to drive change in international public health. These publications are featured online and in various forums worldwide.

- **Incubating and Expanding mHealth Projects**

The UN Foundation-Vodafone Foundation Partnership, along with the Rockefeller Foundation and other key players in the global health arena are spearheading an effort to create an **mHealth Alliance—a body that will facilitate global innovation and ensure maximum impact in the field of mobile mHealth**. Its goal is to advance the adoption of scalable, sustainable, open-standards health solutions, and make these tools available to the broadest possible audience.