

HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES

Unlocking the power and potential of women around the world

Merck KGaA
Darmstadt, Germany

THE WORLD TODAY

865 million

The number of women across the globe who are not reaching their economic potential due to preventable causes.¹

\$28 trillion

Estimated amount that would be added to the annual global GDP by 2025 if women were to participate in the economy at the same level as men.²

217 years

According to the 2017 World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap report, it will take 217 years until women have equal pay and representation in the workplace.³

SOLUTIONS

- All women should have access to health solutions and awareness of the options available to them to advance their health and well-being.
- We must reduce the severe detriments to women's health caused by trying to balance family and workplace responsibilities.
- We are all responsible for creating equitable workplaces.

65%

Non-communicable diseases are the leading cause of death for women and account for an estimated 65% of all female deaths worldwide.⁴

x6

Women who have caregiving responsibilities are six times as likely to suffer from depression or anxiety compared to women without caregiving responsibilities.⁵

We have a responsibility to do better. Healthy women lead to healthy economies.

At Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, we see the bigger picture of how health and prosperity are intertwined for women, and we are committed to doing our part.

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WHAT IS HEALTHY WOMEN, HEALTHY ECONOMIES?

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. For 350 years we have helped patients through innovative treatments and meaningful collaborations. Our commitment to a healthy society goes far beyond delivering medicines that can help to create, improve and prolong life. As a provider of solutions for diseases that affect women disproportionately, such as thyroid disorders, multiple sclerosis and infertility, we are investing in initiatives that can help to improve major aspects of women's health, from awareness to education, access to healthcare and government programs. **We aim to unlock the power and potential of women and in doing so create a positive impact for global economic growth.**

Originally conceived in 2015 within the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation and in collaboration with the governments of the United States and the Philippines, **Healthy Women, Healthy Economies aims to identify and implement policies that advance women's health and well-being to support their economic participation. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is the founding private sector partner in Healthy Women, Healthy Economies and is expanding and making it part of our core commitment by supporting research to quantify the impact and forming collaborations to advocate for change.**

The Healthy Women, Healthy Economies initiative strives to unleash the economic power of women by bringing governments, employers and other interested stakeholders together to help to improve women's health so women - and by extension their families - can join, thrive, rise in their communities and live better lives.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Our **Embracing Carers initiative** recognizes that caregivers are a critical element to the healthcare continuum, and that the act of caregiving disproportionately affects women across the world. We are actively engaged in quantifying this impact and advocating for progress on behalf of those filling this rewarding and challenging role.
- We are **working to develop policies** to help reduce the impact of managing the dual responsibilities of paid and unpaid work on women in the workplace, in collaboration with Dr. Felicia Knaul, a renowned economist currently leading the examination of women's paid and unpaid labor in Canada, China, Chile, Mexico and Peru.
- Healthy Women, Healthy Economies follows the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals** aimed at improving women's health and empowerment.

Contact the Healthy Women, Healthy Economies team at HWHE@merckgroup.com

SOURCES

¹ Women, Work and the Economy: Macroeconomic Gains from Gender Equity, IMF, pg. 4, Sept 2013: <http://bit.ly/1eZUmXc>

² The Power of Parity: How Advancing Women's Equality Can Add \$12 Trillion to Global Growth, McKinsey & Co., September 2015: <http://bit.ly/20ZkOK4>

³ The Global Gender Gap Report 2017, World Economic Forum, November 2017: <http://bit.ly/2xWtWmC>

⁴ Non-Communicable Diseases: A Priority for Women's Health and Development, World Health Organization, 2011: <http://bit.ly/24O1X40>

⁵ Caregiving: The Impact on the Workplace, Health Advocate, 2010: <http://bit.ly/1yjqHV>

