The Product Development Partnership III Fund (PDP III) contributes to innovation of healthcare products and technologies specifically aimed at diseases and conditions related to poverty and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

PDPs are public-private partnerships set up to accelerate the development and availability of products which are unlikely to attract private investment while in development. The fund focuses on the development and availability of affordable, effective medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and innovative products for neglected diseases and conditions, with a view to combating poverty and inequality. The fund is executed by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO.nl) at the instigation of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and will run from 2015-2019.

Why PDP III?
Despite the progress made over the last decade in research and development (R&D) and innovations in global health, more than 10 million people worldwide are still dying each year from infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other poverty-related diseases and conditions. Many countries have large-scale shortages of effective, accessible and affordable medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and other healthcare products. Additionally, women and children are still at greater risk of health problems due to unplanned pregnancies and unsafe abortions, and medicines and healthcare products are often not adapted to specific target groups such as young people and children, or to conditions in developing countries. This situation raises the mortality rate and prevents people from studying or contributing to their country’s productivity, which puts pressure on economic and development goals.

The target group’s lack of purchasing power and the lack of commercial incentives mean there is still insufficient investment in R&D and innovation in the areas of healthcare products and technologies specifically aimed at diseases and conditions related to poverty and SRHR. Accordingly, such products and technologies are all but non-existent, or unaffordable for the very poorest. Only a small proportion of global health research focuses on conditions that account for a large proportion of the global disease burden.

Selected Product Development Partnerships

| Total budget of the selected applications | € 604,834,298 |
| Contribution by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs | € 86,300,000 |
The following organizations receive funding:

1. The Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) – DNDi’s mission is to improve the quality of life and the health of people suffering from neglected diseases using an alternative model to develop drugs for these diseases and by ensuring equitable access to new and field-relevant health tools. www.dndi.org

2. FIND - FIND’s mission is to turn complex diagnostic challenges into simple solutions to overcome diseases of poverty and transform lives. www.findiagnostics.org

3. The International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) - IAVI’s mission is to ensure the development of safe, effective, accessible, preventive AIDS vaccines for use throughout the world. www.iavi.org

4. The International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM) - IPM’s mission is to provide women with safe, effective and affordable products they can use to prevent HIV and protect their sexual and reproductive health. www.ipmglobal.org

5. The Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) - MMV’s mission is to reduce the burden of malaria in disease-endemic countries by discovering, developing and delivering new, effective and affordable antimalarial drugs to cure and protect vulnerable populations. www.mmv.org

6. The TB alliance - The TB Alliance’s mission is to dramatically impact the tuberculosis pandemic by developing new, significantly improved, faster-acting and affordable TB treatments that are available to those who need them. www.tballiance.org

About RVO.nl

Your ambitions include doing business in emerging markets and developing countries. You want to contribute towards a healthy local business and the sustainable economic development of a country. Sometimes you encounter obstacles in relation to financing, a lack of knowledge about market opportunities, or the absence of a business network. You also have to deal with Corporate Social Responsibility and other laws and regulations. For all these questions relating to international enterprise, contact the Netherlands Enterprise Agency. We are your partner in the area of Sustainable, Agricultural, Innovative and International enterprise. For more information, visit www.rvo.nl.

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