

## **LETTER FROM THE CEO**

Adolescent girls in Kenya are paired with older mentors who encourage them to further their education.

Mothers in Vietnam are supported to give infants the best start in life through landmark legislation and promotion of breastfeeding best practices.

Researchers from around the world bring together experience and skills to develop the next generation of family planning technologies.

Making the right connections can transform lives.

This past year, we connected as never before. Our reach was global; our impact, lasting. Our experts in health, education, nutrition, environment, economic development, civil society, gender equality, youth, research, technology, communication and social marketing linked people to ideas, to information, to skills, to services, to unimagined possibilities.

Partnerships with middle and high schools leveraged the latest research on dropout prevention. Farmers learned how to use low-cost video and radio to share critical information to improve productivity and earnings. Researchers collaborated to assess a novel device that helps prevent HIV. People, ideas, results — all transformed through vital connections.

In FHI 360's 2012 annual report, you will read about just a few of the connections that distinguish our unique ability to bring a 360° perspective to some of the world's most complex human development challenges. And you will see how we translate this perspective into customized solutions that are making a real difference in people's lives around the world.

Ensuring our work is relevant and leads to sustainable results guides our every step. Informed by sound evidence and decades of collaborative in-country experience, we design our programs and initiatives to strengthen the capacity of communities and nations to solve problems and drive progress for years to come.

Ours is a journey of collaboration where our funders and partners are at the heart of all we do. Through these most vital connections we can see farther, dream bigger and achieve far more than we ever could alone. Together, we are helping people find their own ways of connecting — with one another, with knowledge, with essential services and with the tools they need to reach their highest potential.

With warm regards,

ALBERT J. SIEMENS, PHD

FHI 360 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER