Project Examples

Asia/Middle East

Asia, International Healthcare Holdings: In 2012, IFC’s $50 million equity investment in Asian health care provider, International Healthcare Holdings, helped to finance its cross-border expansion. IHH has hospitals, clinics and medical education services in Brunei, China, India, Macedonia, Malaysia, Singapore, Turkey, and Vietnam, making it one of a few companies leading the globalization trend in the provision of health care services in emerging markets.

India/United Arab Emirates:

Zulekha Hospitals: IFC’s 2010 financing to Zulekha Hospitals, a U.A.E.-based woman-owned business, will bring affordable services to a second-tier Indian city and create new jobs. Zulekha is using $21 million of IFC’s $24 million debt financing to build a new 189-bed hospital in Nagpur where access to health services is low and patients must travel several hundred miles for care. IFC’s remaining $3 million financing is covering energy-efficient upgrading in Zulekha’s Sharjah, U.A.E. facility.

Sub-Saharan Africa

South Africa, Life Healthcare: In 2010, IFC joined forces with leading South African provider Life Healthcare to assist its emerging market expansion and help transfer its hospital management expertise. IFC acquired a 5 percent equity stake in the company for about $93 million and is working to support Life Healthcare’s growth and expansion in India and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Africa: IFC Strengthens Private Health Care: In 2008, IFC published “The Business of Health in Africa: Partnering with the Private Sector to Improve People’s Lives.” The report’s findings encouraged IFC and its partners to increase their focus on health care in Sub-Saharan Africa, led IFC to invest in two health-focused private equity funds, and encouraged local banks to increase their lending to the sector. IFC is also working with governments to improve the business environment for health companies, reform private health regulation, and expand public-private partnerships.

Latin America

Brazil, Rede D’Or: In 2010, IFC invested 55 million Brazilian reais ($33.80 million) in Rede D’Or, one of Brazil’s largest private hospital networks, to expand its facilities, build new hospitals, increase access to affordable care, and strengthen efficiency.

Colombia, Tecnoquímicas: In 2008–2009, IFC’s $25 million equity investment and $20 million debt financing helped Colombian pharmaceutical manufacturer, Tecnoquímicas, expand regionally. Outside Colombia, the company now has operations in Ecuador, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

Southern Europe

Turkey, Yapi Kredi Leasing (YKL): In 2010, IFC’s $25 million financing to Turkey’s Yapi Kredi Leasing (YKL) is helping to provide SMEs with access to the latest technology related to health care. Leasing can assist health care SMEs conserve scarce capital and increase income.

IFC Products and Services

IFC has developed innovative financial products that broaden our advisory services capacity and enhance our corporate governance, environmental, and social expertise. We have a team of specialists dedicated to investments in private health care and life sciences.

Our financial products enable companies to manage risk and expand access to foreign and domestic capital markets. They include:

- Long-term Loans (in many currencies)
- Syndicated Loans
- Equity/Quasi-Equity Finance
- Municipal Finance
- Risk Management Products
- Structured Finance Products (Partial Guarantees, Securitizations, and Risk Sharing Facilities in many currencies).

IFC is uniquely positioned to mobilize donor financing to provide advisory services to clients. IFC also introduces clients to an unrivalled network of international health care and life sciences contacts through sponsored events, such as a health care conference held every two years.
Investing in Private Health Care in Emerging Markets

Why is IFC Involved in Health?

- To expand access to quality health care to lower- and middle-income groups.
- To introduce innovative means of financing and delivering services.
- To improve standards of quality and efficiency.
- To facilitate the international exchange of best practice.
- To help institutions obtain access to finance.
- To complement the public sector in order to achieve national health goals.

IFC’s Mission

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, creates opportunity for people to escape poverty and improve their lives. We foster sustainable economic growth in developing countries by supporting private sector development, mobilizing private capital, and providing advisory and risk mitigation services to businesses and governments.

How to Apply for IFC Financing

A company or entrepreneur seeking to establish a new health care or life sciences project or expand an existing one can approach IFC directly with an investment proposal. IFC’s Website, www.ifc.org/health, offers more details on how to apply.

Facts about IFC’s Activities in Health Care and Life Sciences

- IFC is the world’s largest multilateral investor in the private health care sector in emerging markets.
- To date, IFC has provided financing of more than $2.2 billion to 164 private health care and life sciences projects in 53 countries.
- Currently, IFC has 86 active health care and life sciences projects across all regions.
- IFC-supported health projects treat about 12 million patients annually.

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IFC’s Engagement in the Health Care Sector?

Health is a basic human need but many people in developing countries have no access to health care. By investing in this critical sector, IFC is contributing to improved access to high quality care for people of lower-income levels. By working with partners who are willing and able to bring best practices to health care and life sciences, IFC is promoting the growth of efficient and effective companies to generate an important public good in an economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable way.

Across the emerging markets, the private sector plays a significant role in health service and life sciences, often representing a majority of all health service expenditure. Recognizing the significance of the private sector’s role, governments are increasingly exploring ways to enhance the efficiency and quality of provision through public-private collaboration. IFC’s roles include direct and indirect investment in health care and life sciences companies, sharing industry knowledge, raising management and clinical standards, increasing development impact, and informing government policy.