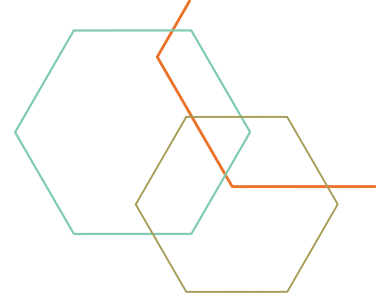




## *RPA'S BIG BET*

# Eliminating Lead Poisoning Innovation Fund

A new R&D Fund to advance lead-detection technology



### *Solutions for an urgent yet tractable global challenge*

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More than 50% of children in low- and middle-income communities (LMICs) suffer from significant levels of lead in their blood. This results in 1.5M deaths annually—more than HIV/AIDS and malaria combined—and accounts for 20% of the gap in educational outcomes between high- and low-income countries. The negative impact on global GDP is at least \$1.4 trillion.

Despite the scale of these harms and the tractability of the problem, donors spend only \$15 million each year tackling this key matter of environmental justice and equity. Nonetheless, over the past few years, the world has achieved outsized progress in fighting lead exposure in developing countries at manageable costs and accelerated timelines. We must build on this progress to achieve bigger results and eradicate lead poisoning.

To help, RPA is leading a core component of the Partnership for a Lead Free Future (PLF), in launching a \$10M Fund for innovation and technology to address the lead crisis. Complementing PLF's country-level coordination strategy, RPA's Fund will focus on advancing lead detection technology, both in the blood and in the environment. This is an inflection point to make headway on this serious global issue.

### *Our Approach*

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Fund promising innovations and technologies to advance low-cost, portable, and affordable tools to measure blood lead levels and lead in the environment.



Launch an innovation prize program that will elevate breakthrough solutions that may have been previously underfunded.



Establish expert advisory board across public, private and social sectors alongside frontline communities to shape the fund's strategy, source the pipeline, and vet specific opportunities.

