Reflections

By Rick Beckett, President & CEO, Global Partnerships

As the year draws to a close, I reflect, as many do, on the state of our world, and especially on the reality experienced by the poorest and most vulnerable among us.

I’m encouraged by progress that’s been made. Extreme poverty rates are on the decline. People are living longer, healthier lives. More developing countries are growing in ways that share some of the fruit of economic progress with those living “at the base of the pyramid.” Markets are increasingly engaged, alongside the public and philanthropic sectors, in addressing global poverty.

At the same time, literally billions of people who have been born into poverty are suffering. Too many struggle to meet even their most basic needs, and they do not have access to pathways out of poverty. If you’re one of those people, global statistics are of little consolation. We still have a lot of work to do.

When the sheer magnitude of the challenge feels overwhelming, I try to remember a simple truth – these women and men want nothing more than the opportunity to earn a living, to provide their families with a safe home, nutritious food, good education and healthcare. They want to create a better life.

What I’ve learned over the last decade at Global Partnerships is that it’s possible to create that kind of shared opportunity. When we keep our eyes and hearts open – when we focus on what actually serves people, when we work to ensure that the power of markets is used for good, when we thoughtfully and relentlessly invest our effort and resources in expanding opportunity, when we take risk for the right reasons – progress is possible. Our efforts create the very hope that we seek.

Rosa. Josefina and her son Juan. Lucila. Gloria. Theresa and Peter. These are but a few of the people who are now living better lives, because of their hard work and your commitment to expanding opportunity. In the last year alone, Global Partnerships, through its impact investing in social enterprises, positively impacted the lives of more than 1 million people in 14 countries on three continents. Together, we are making a difference.

In this edition of IMPACT, you’ll read about Rosa Cruz Payehuanca. Hers is a remarkable story of resilience and courage. It is also a story about the power of opportunity. It’s the kind of story that reminds me of what’s possible. It is one of more than a million stories. Each one matters.

So as this year comes to a close, let us celebrate all that has been done. And let us recommit ourselves to the work ahead – to creating a world where everyone has the opportunity to create a brighter future for themselves and their families.
To Live a Healthy Life

Rosa Cruz Payehuanca is a business owner, a mother of three children and in good health. Rosa’s achievements are admirable, not just as a woman facing poverty in Peru, but as a person who strives through adversity to build a better future for herself and her family.

Rosa was raised in the town of Puno, located along the northwestern bank of Lake Titicaca in Peru. After completing high school, she moved to Arequipa – Peru’s largest city after the country’s capital, Lima – to start a career and raise a family. She and her partner had three children while Rosa worked as a domestic employee. However, at the age of 29, Rosa was faced with two major shocks in her life: she and her partner separated – leaving her three children in her sole care – and a major earthquake rocked Arequipa. Facing these two setbacks, Rosa moved with her children back to her hometown of Puno to start anew.

Puno is a regional market hub and a tourism town. It is also one of the cities where Global Partnerships’ partner Pro Mujer Peru operates. One of the most respected microfinance organizations in Latin America, Pro Mujer helped Rosa turn her misfortune in Arequipa into opportunity in Puno. Pro Mujer provided Rosa with a loan of approximately $100 USD to start her own enterprise baking and selling cakes, as well as to purchase some essentials for her children like school supplies and a bed.

Rosa became her own boss, instead of working for someone else. As a result, not only was she building a business, but she could also spend more time with her children. Her business was a success. She received multiple small loans from Pro Mujer, enabling her to pay all her cake baking and household expenses. And the business education she received from Pro Mujer helped her to expand and increase her income over time. She began to thrive. But then Rosa was hit by another shock. This time to her health.

“In a Pro Mujer health campaign, I had my Pap test done and I was diagnosed with advanced cancer. I got scared and had to have a biopsy,” reflects Rosa. “I was told that I had to do an operation immediately, which had a cost of 3,000 soles ($875 USD).”

Our partner Pro Mujer has developed a powerful combination of financing with health services tailored specifically for women. Early diagnosis and preventive care can save people’s lives and precious financial resources.

When you are living on the edge of poverty, finance and health care can make the difference between being pulled back into poverty and having the resilience to fight back like Rosa.

“Today I feel good and continue to do health checks. I do this for my children because they still need me,” says Rosa. “The most important thing is to have good health, because with good health you can achieve all your goals, both family and personal.”

Rosa’s success amidst these storms and shocks is heroic. Battling cancer, raising a family as a single mother, and building a business after disaster struck – Rosa has made the most of her opportunity with assistance provided by Pro Mujer. Her determination and ability have enabled Rosa to balance a healthy business, healthy children, and her own health – the three most treasured parts of her life.

Your support for GP helps people like Rosa unlock their potential. You provide the footholds to climb out of poverty that otherwise traps so many.
Barb and Pat

Monthly Giving

"Following college graduation in the 60’s, I spent two years with the Peace Corps in India. That experience was my first exposure to real poverty. It helped form my lifelong commitment to doing what I can to help people have a better life. As we traveled the world, my husband has joined me in my passion to support people in need. We are so pleased to be monthly donors to Global Partnerships, which has given us a successful channel to help others."

- Barb Carey
GP Supporter

Barb Carey and her husband Pat have been Global Partnerships supporters for 15 years. They are monthly donors and also members of the Global Partnerships Impact Circle, our planned giving program.

You can join Barb and Pat to become a GP monthly donor. Giving monthly:

- Is a convenient way to make your donations automatically
- Sustains our work year-round with a consistent flow of philanthropic capital
- Allows GP more flexibility to allocate funds to where it is most needed

Visit globalpartnerships.org/donate to easily sign up today, or call Alison Driver at (206) 456-7834.

Impact Journeys

Have you always wanted to travel to Kenya? To Nicaragua? To Peru? Join our seasoned staff on GP’s inaugural Impact Journey to Kenya, June 2017!

This trip will take you from the rural farms of the Kenyan countryside, to wildlife sanctuaries, to informal settlements outside Nairobi.

Our Seattle and Kenya staff will introduce you to our partners and their clients to give you an opportunity to learn from them first-hand.

To learn more about Impact Journeys, visit: globalpartnerships.org/get-involved/travel or contact Alison Driver at (206) 456-7834 or adriver@globalpartnerships.org

THE ROUNDUP

OUR IMPACT
Fiscal Year 2016
[July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016]

1.1 million lives were impacted as a result of GP’s investments in partners

80% of our partners’ clients are women – women shoulder most of the burden of disease from lack of affordable health care and are disproportionately excluded from access to essential resources like financial services

68% of our partners’ clients live in rural areas – GP targets rural populations since they are underserved by financial and energy markets

10 new social enterprises partnered with GP

3 new partners in Kenya joined our portfolio as our first investments in our expansion to sub-Saharan Africa

Peter, Theresa, Gloria, Ana, Josefina and Juan are a few of the individual lives impacted by our work whose stories are featured in our annual report.

To view our full annual report, visit globalpartnerships.org
IN THIS ISSUE

2016 in Review
GP CEO Rick Beckett reflects on the impact we created together this year.

Impact in Action
Meet Rosa, a single mother who has overcome hardship to build a healthy business to provide for her three children.

Perspectives
Hear from longtime GP supporters and why they choose to give monthly.

Thank you to the more than 700 people who attended Global Partnerships’ 14th Annual World of Opportunity Luncheon on October 13th. Highlights included:

• Keynote speech from Rosemary Muthomi, the founder of an innovative social enterprise in Kenya helping farmers grow and market green beans

• Video featuring Agnes Kwamboka, an entrepreneur providing for her children and improving sanitation in her community through our partner Sanergy

Watch Rosemary and GP CEO Rick Beckett’s speeches at globalpartnerships.org/luncheon