Well Trod Paths to Failure in Global Health Innovation

Photo: Sunita Bai sharing knowledge of soya & wheat, Rajasthan

David Aylward
My Point of View: Radical Transformation Required

The Present: siloed, institution-based, expensive; not reaching the poor; unsustainable and ill-matched to current and future needs.

The Next Step: prevention; earlier and more integrated interventions reducing the human burden and system costs of illness care.

The Future: holistic wellbeing; improving human capacity to be the best that one can be, to achieve one’s full potential--including risk reduction and illness care.
Person-Centered Vitalness: 4 Key Sources

Health
- Institutions and professionals
- Frontline/information

Environment
- Water
- Sanitation
- Air

Food Systems
- Nutrition
- Agriculture

Community
- Education
- Workplace
- Security

Person Family
This transformation implies new platforms, alternate financing or reimbursement models, and major economic and institutional disruption. It also implies new market opportunities.

But the most important determinant, ultimately, may be consumer demand. Isn’t vitality—not only avoiding illness but functioning at the peak of our physical and mental capacity—what we really want?
Failure to Think in Systems: Complex Adaptive Systems
Letting the Medical Community Lead
Letting Academia Lead

Letting Donors Lead
Letting Hubris and Ignorance Lead
Letting IT Lead; Ignoring IT’s Power
Ignoring Economics and the Private Sector
Failure to focus on people: on workers, on consumers