Vision
At Health Action International (HAI), we are dedicated to advancing policies that enable all people to realise the human right to the highest attainable level of health. To make this a reality, our team and global network of implementing partners carry out research to inform evidence-based advocacy for equitable access to affordable medicines and healthcare.

Mission
Inequality, overstretched health systems, climate change, the impact of conflict, the growth of new technologies, and the irrational use of medicines are just some of the factors that threaten global health and well-being, with vulnerable and marginalised communities at particular risk of harm. HAI focuses on creating long-lasting change to government and industry policies and practices, rather than on temporary solutions. We pursue advocacy from the patient level right up to the highest levels of government.

Impact
As a result of our work, more people can access the medicines and services they need because they are affordable and available, and health commodities on the market are safe, effective and address true health needs.
HAI develops bespoke research methodologies, and coordinates and conducts training with local partners on data collection on a range of health issues. Our high-quality research can often be found in respected, peer-reviewed journals, such as the BMJ and Lancet. Our research base is strengthened by our doctoral programme, supervising both internal and implementing partner candidates to complete their PhDs.

Working with our in-country partners, we use a combination of extensive policy expertise and local knowledge to transform evidence into context-specific recommendations to improve the health and wellbeing of people the world over.

A clear advocacy and communications strategy is the pathway to lasting change. Working with our extensive network of implementing partners, we capitalise on and benefit from local civil society capacity to create successful in-country advocacy roadmaps.

Dedicated monitoring and evaluation, bespoke programmatic Theories of Change, logframes and policy outcome analyses, such as outcome harvesting, are key features of our planning, monitoring and evaluation, enabling an adaptive framework for learning and results-based programming.

Through our work with partners, beneficiaries and others, we maintain that decolonisation and degrowth are necessary tenets to achieve sustainable change. We resolve that in the end ownership should lie with the people most impacted. Our strength lies in our global network of partners and grassroots organisations who can implement and own projects and interventions tailored specifically to the context and needs of the target group.

Official Relations Status at the World Health Organization (WHO) allows us and our partners to intervene at the centre of global health policy making, including at the World Health Assembly and WHO governing bodies.

We are members of various global health initiatives, including the Dutch Global Health Alliance and the Dutch Global Health Hub, in which we have a particular focus on sexual and reproductive health, antimicrobial resistance and climate change.

Our suite of policies, informed by our core values, ensure we live up to our mission, whether through our inclusive gender and safeguarding policies, our green commitments, or our empowering image use practices.

For over 40 years, we have built a reputation as a reliable partner for change.

Multistakeholder Engagement

A key pillar of our work is that we bring together actors from civil society, government, the private sector and faith-based institutions to engage in evidence-based policy making across a number of health-related issues, particularly sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Projects

We work across a number of project areas, from sexual and reproductive health to access to insulin. We develop and deploy engaging campaigns for the prevention and treatment of snakebite envenoming, and the growing influence of artificial intelligence on healthcare. We champion equitable access to medicines, vaccines and diagnostics, including during health emergencies and pandemics. Cross-border health threats, such as antimicrobial resistance and climate change, cut across much of our work, as does transparency and good governance.

Roads Less Travelled

At HAI, we never shy away from a challenge. As such, we continue to galvanise civil society action on often overlooked areas of falsified and substandard medicines, unregulated markets and access to medicines for substance use disorders. These issues don’t grab the headlines, but nonetheless can have a huge impact, often on the most disadvantaged and marginalised groups.