



## About IPM

**The International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM)** accelerates the development of safe, effective and affordable microbicides for women in developing countries. Microbicides are vaginal products being developed to prevent the transmission of HIV during sexual intercourse. Based in the United States with offices in South Africa and Belgium, IPM works with partners around the world.

**IPM is a non-profit product development partnership (PDP).** The PDP model is an important way to accelerate product development by bridging the public and private sectors and speeding access to effective products.

**Since its creation in 2002, IPM has assessed existing microbicide resources and filled gaps.** For example, IPM has expanded capacity to test candidate compounds; established critical infrastructure to develop and evaluate appropriate formulations to maximise the safety, efficacy and acceptability of different active drugs; built a manufacturing facility for clinical trial materials and established clinical trial sites in Africa. IPM serves as a resource for the microbicide field by funding or leveraging resources to support the drug development projects of other entities and making its screening and manufacturing facilities available to other microbicide developers.

**IPM has expanded the pipeline of promising microbicide candidates.** IPM has acquired royalty-free licenses from major drug companies to develop, manufacture and distribute antiviral compounds as microbicides. These licenses ensure that microbicides can be distributed at low cost in developing countries. Affordability and availability of manufacturing capacity are important factors in IPM's prioritisation of drug candidates, ensuring that future products will be accessible to women most at need.

**IPM is focused on developing next-generation microbicides, which contain antiretroviral (ARV) drugs.** IPM is continuing with safety and expanded safety trials of its lead candidate, dapivirine, while also pursuing pre-clinical research of several other ARVs for use as microbicides. At the same time, IPM works to streamline regulatory pathways and ensure distribution and market acceptance of microbicides.

**IPM lays the foundation for rapid access to microbicides for women in developing countries.** IPM is working with international organizations to help strengthen the capacity of developing countries to approve and regulate new pharmaceutical products, studying lessons from the launch of other health products and reviewing the readiness of key countries for microbicide distribution in terms of manufacturing, health systems, policies, and social and economic infrastructure.

**IPM works with partners around the world to develop, advocate for and raise awareness of microbicides.** IPM collaborates with a variety of other groups critical to reaching its objectives, including academia, government, industry, public health institutions, advocates and nongovernmental organisations.

*Continued*

### Headquarters

8401 Colesville Road, Suite 200  
Silver Spring, MD 20910 USA  
TEL +1-301-608-2221  
FAX +1-301-608-2241

### IPM Belgium

Rue du Trône, 98, 3rd floor  
1050 Brussels, Belgium  
TEL +32(0)2 507 1224  
FAX +32(0)2 507 1222

### IPM South Africa

PO Box 3460  
Paarl 7620 South Africa  
TEL +27-21-860-2300  
FAX +27-21-860-2308/9

[www.ipm-microbicides.org](http://www.ipm-microbicides.org)



**To date, IPM has received more than US\$225 million (€154 million) in confirmed financial commitments** from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, the UN Population Fund, the World Bank, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

**Investment in microbicide research, development and advocacy must double.** In 2006, US\$217.4 million (€182 million) was committed to microbicide research, development and advocacy worldwide. Funding for the microbicide field needs to continue to increase each year to ensure timely development of a safe and effective microbicide.

*February 2008*