GLOBAL REACH, LOCAL IMPACT.

Bloomberg Philanthropies
Annual Report 2022-2023
Cover: In the South Pacific, Bloomberg Philanthropies works with our partners to protect critical ocean reefs and ecosystems in national and international waters. Protecting the ocean is key to our efforts in the global fight against climate change, which we continue to strongly support around the world.

Credit (cover and inside cover): © Björn Svensson/Wildlife Conservation Society
ABOUT

Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in 700 cities and 150 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. We focus on five key areas for creating lasting change: the Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health, in addition to special Founder’s Projects. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg’s giving, including corporate, foundation, and personal philanthropy, as well as Bloomberg Associates, a pro bono consultancy that works in cities around the world.

Mike has committed the vast majority of the profits from Bloomberg L.P., the global financial technology, data, and media company that he founded in 1981, to support the work of Bloomberg Philanthropies.

In 2022, we distributed $1.7 billion globally. Over his lifetime, Mike has given $14.4 billion to philanthropy.

APPROACH

Our unique approach is grounded in Mike’s experience in business, government, and philanthropy, and it guides all of our work to save and improve lives.

- **Look for unmet needs** that can be addressed with proven solutions
- **Remain flexible** to invest boldly and quickly in order to maximize impact
- **Rely on data** and continually measure progress
- **Focus on cities** to drive progress
- **Identify and engage strong partners**
- **Lead from the front** and do not hesitate to address controversial issues
- **Utilize advocacy** to accelerate change
“By investing in mayors and local leaders, we can scale and spread change faster than ever – and help make this period of unprecedented urbanization a time of unprecedented global progress.”

The news this year has often featured stories of cities on the brink of collapse, with rising crime rates, homelessness, empty offices, failing schools, and shrinking tax bases. This phenomenon, called the “urban doom loop,” is not new to those who lived through the 1980s or post-9/11 era. Breaking free from this cycle requires extraordinary effort, and success is not guaranteed, but it is possible. I have seen it firsthand.

The stakes are high because we are living in a time of unprecedented global urbanization. Over the last 50 years, the proportion of the world’s population living in cities has increased from one-third to over half, and it continues to grow rapidly. This means that global progress on major issues – including poverty, public health, education, and climate change – will increasingly depend on the actions of cities and their local governments.

The growing importance of cities also means that national governments are increasingly reliant on city governments to achieve their goals. In the United States, for instance, Congress is directing a historically large amount of funding to cities through spending bills like the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. However, the success of these bills depends on the ability of cities to access and utilize this funding effectively, which requires expertise, innovation, and collaboration.

As cities continue to grow, they also become increasingly complex to govern. Local governments must provide more services to more people while also dealing with a broad array of complicated challenges, including disruptions caused by climate change. Mayors are setting ambitious goals to address these challenges. Unfortunately, however, too often they are falling short of their own aspirations. There are three major obstacles blocking their progress.

The first is pre-emption. Conservative state legislatures, often with encouragement from special interest groups, are increasingly passing laws that limit local autonomy. This pre-emption push undermines mayors’ ability
to effectively address issues that impact their constituents’ lives, like public health and safety, even though mayors are held accountable for making progress on those issues.

A second limitation facing cities comes from the left, in the form of well-intentioned regulations and requirements that end up creating overly burdensome obstacles that block progress on crucial priorities, such as building affordable housing, mass transit, and renewable energy. Public input is essential to government action, but proceduralism has run amok – and the public is paying a heavy price. It is imperative to have rules and regulations that allow projects with broad public benefits to proceed, without being subject to years and even decades of legal review roadblocks. Similarly, city governments need the ability to be flexible in situations where there is no antecedent. The past few years have underscored that fact, with the unprecedented local challenges posed by the pandemic and the accelerating climate crisis. State and national laws should be adaptable to changing conditions, especially as city leaders increasingly take the lead in addressing pressing issues. They can’t afford to have their hands tied by overly rigid laws and court decisions that don’t permit practical solutions.

The third primary limitation affecting cities has nothing to do with laws and budgets and everything to do with capabilities. It’s one thing to have the authority, funding, and approvals to undertake a project. It’s another to execute it successfully. That requires building strong teams based on merit and competence. It requires giving civil servants the tools and power to innovate. It requires holding them accountable for success, using data and rigorous evaluations to determine what works and what doesn’t. And it requires fostering partnerships with businesses and communities to solve shared challenges.

At Bloomberg Philanthropies, we’re working to help cities tackle all of those challenges, by empowering mayors, building up the capacity of city governments, and helping them to act boldly. The Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University plays a central role in this effort, bringing together a range of resources for cities, including executive training for mayors and senior staff. In more than half of the 100 largest U.S. cities, the mayor is a graduate of or currently enrolled in the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative. We’re also supporting city leadership through the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University. The center leads programming and research to help city governments grow more creative, agile, and effective.

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in 700 cities worldwide to spread best practices and help mayors expand their capacity to do big things. These efforts include collaborating to fight noncommunicable diseases, supporting local climate change efforts, empowering leaders with better data on carbon emissions and air pollution, using public art to strengthen communities, improving public schools, addressing the causes of the racial wealth gap, and providing pro bono expertise to help mayors tackle their priorities.

By investing in mayors and local leaders, we can scale and spread change faster than ever – and help make this period of unprecedented urbanization a time of unprecedented global progress.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
I recently had a meeting that took me back to the beginning of one of our longest-running and most successful initiatives, and it left me feeling incredibly inspired about the future.

Back in 2011, U.S. coal production was hovering around its all-time peak. Opposition to coal was a third rail across the political spectrum, but the science was growing increasingly clear: Burning coal was the greatest obstacle to progress in the climate fight, both in the United States and globally, and it was a deadly threat to public health.

Here in the United States, a cap-and-trade bill had recently failed to pass Congress, leaving the prospects of any action on climate in doubt. So, when we learned that the Sierra Club was making progress on an effort called Beyond Coal, which aimed to stop the construction of new U.S. coal-fired plants, we knew we had to act. Together with the Sierra Club, we built a groundbreaking national campaign that involved the first comprehensive effort to map and gather data on every coal plant across the country, along with critical information on their economic performance and pollution levels, allowing us to develop a powerful plant-by-plant strategy. And we set a concrete goal: closing one-third of the country’s existing coal plants by 2020.

In the years that followed, we won fight after fight, quickly beating our original goal. We also ran into new challenges: The construction of new gas-fired power plants began to undercut our progress, and the development of clean energy lagged far behind. In response, we expanded our ambitions by launching the Beyond Carbon campaign in 2019 to build on our coal efforts, block planned gas plants, and support clean energy policies at the state level. We also funded workforce development programs in regions long dependent on fossil fuels.

In April 2023, we convened our partners in this work at Bloomberg Philanthropies for the first time since before the pandemic. It was a chance for Mike and me to sit down with the leaders we’ve collaborated with from the very start, and review just how far we’ve come.

We’ve now helped retire more than 70% of all U.S. coal plants, and we’re aiming to close the remaining 30% by the end of the decade. That success led us to expand our work globally, first to Europe in 2017 and now across 32 additional countries, including 25 developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Meanwhile, Beyond Carbon has helped block nearly one-third of all planned U.S. gas capacity and ensured that 20 states and territories now have 100% clean energy laws in place.

At our meeting, we also discussed new challenges and opportunities — and how to finish the job we started. It was an affirmation of how much is possible with the right team and the right strategy. And it made me think about how, in many ways, this program has epitomized the approach we bring to all of our work. Across each of our program areas:

**We look for unmet needs** where others haven’t stepped in, and where we can make a difference. For instance, in Bangladesh, where drowning is the leading cause of death for children under five, we launched a drowning prevention program that the government has now taken over and committed to scaling to 200,000 kids every year. To share another example, we expanded our work to help more arts organizations in...
the United States and United Kingdom use digital technology to build their audiences, grow revenue and fundraising, and deliver programming. And globally, we quickly grew the reach of our free Bloomberg Connects app, bringing dozens of new cultural partners onto the app to share their content with audiences.

We lead from the front, no matter how strong the opposition, and we don’t hesitate to tackle controversial issues. In the United States, through Everytown for Gun Safety, for example, we helped pass the first federal gun safety legislation in a generation, following a series of devastating acts of gun violence. When the U.S. Supreme Court stripped federal protections for abortion rights, we stepped up our work with key partners to defend and expand protections at the state level. And our national charter school initiative is in the midst of creating 150,000 new classroom seats.

We identify and engage with strong partners who can work closely with our team to drive progress. This year we made another major investment in our longstanding tobacco control program, which works with the World Health Organization and a wide array of other partners in more than 110 countries, including Mexico, where our partners helped pass a landmark smoke-free law after nearly a decade of advocacy.

We invest in data-driven tools that allow us to target our resources effectively and hold ourselves accountable for results. In September, we launched an online database that shares key data on U.S. racial wealth disparities to help decision-makers drive policies and programs to respond.

We remain flexible to invest boldly and maximize our impact, branching out in new directions as conditions change. After the United States passed major legislation with historic funding for cities, we created an effort with our partners to help mayors and their teams navigate the programs and submit strong applications. As part of our efforts to protect the ocean, we quickly committed support during the Our Ocean Conference in Panama to help developing nations adopt a new global treaty to protect 30% of international waters by 2030. And in New York City, in the span of a few months, we created a summer learning program for K-8 charter school students, after data revealed the crisis in learning loss brought on by the pandemic. The program’s success led us to expand it to seven new cities this summer.

We use advocacy and lobbying to back critical state policies and laws. Our advocacy efforts secured a major victory in the U.S. fight against growing teen e-cigarette use, after we defended California’s ban on flavored tobacco products from a ballot referendum backed by the tobacco industry. Nationally, we’ve now helped pass nearly 80 state and local flavor bans.

And we focus on cities, as Mike discusses in his letter – and as you’ll read about throughout this report. For instance, our pro bono Bloomberg Associates team added two new client cities over the past year, Tampa and Phoenix, and led a wide range of projects to improve residents’ lives. And we joined with partners in Israel and South Africa to expand the reach of our leadership training work for mayors and their senior staff, building on our successful Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative.

The approach we bring to these efforts, and many more, goes back to the beginning, even earlier than the beginning of our coal work in 2011. It comes out of Mike’s experiences in business, government, and philanthropy, and it helps us make an impact that spans the globe. Our work is also driven by our longest and strongest partnership of all: with Bloomberg L.P. The vast majority of the company’s profits go to Bloomberg Philanthropies, which fuels all the work we’ve done to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people – and all the work ahead.

Patricia E. Harris
CEO, Bloomberg Philanthropies
ENVIRONMENT

Driving Global Action on Climate Change

Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Environment program tackles one of the world’s greatest challenges: the climate crisis. With government and business leaders, experts, and grassroots advocates, we are taking bold action to build a more sustainable economy. Our work is:

• Driving the **U.S. transition from coal and methane gas** to clean energy

• Stopping the expansion of **petrochemicals** in key U.S. states

• Advocating for **global coal plant closures and clean energy policies** and mobilizing capital

• Leading **sustainable finance work** by supporting the private sector to reach net-zero emissions, disclose climate risks, and invest in the clean energy transition

• Supporting **local climate action** with mayors and other local leaders

• Partnering with cities to **improve air quality**

• Protecting **ocean ecosystems** and coastal communities

In western Pennsylvania, our efforts helped secure the retirement of this major coal plant, the Keystone Generating Station.
Driving the U.S. Transition Away from Fossil Fuels

Bloomberg Philanthropies has long been at the forefront of the U.S. fight to end coal and accelerate the transition to clean energy, beginning with our partnership with the Sierra Club on the grassroots Beyond Coal campaign in 2011. In 2019, building on that campaign’s success, we launched Beyond Carbon to retire all remaining U.S. coal plants by 2030, block proposed methane gas plants, and support states and climate leaders to pass strong clean energy policies. In 2022 alone, through grassroots pressure, litigation, advocacy, and other strategies, the program secured retirements of 17 coal plants, blocked 34 new gas plants, and helped three states pass 100% clean energy or net-zero emissions policies. In the decade between 2010 and 2020, this work delivered more than 80% of all the progress the United States has made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2022, Bloomberg Philanthropies launched a new campaign to block the construction or expansion of new U.S. petrochemical facilities, a major source of carbon emissions, air pollution, and cancer-causing toxins. Petrochemicals are a broad group of chemicals that are derived from gas and oil and used to make plastics and fertilizers. Our Beyond Petrochemicals campaign aims to block roughly 120 proposed facilities that would produce petrochemicals, concentrated in five states: Texas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. Existing facilities already meet the current demand for petrochemicals, and these planned facilities threaten to subject local communities to even greater health and climate risks.

Retired over 70% of all U.S. coal plants since 2010
Blocked 31% of proposed gas capacity since 2020
18 states and 2 territories now have policies to reach 100% clean energy or net-zero emissions

In September 2022, our partners used litigation and grassroots organizing to block the massive Formosa petrochemical plant, which was proposed along the Mississippi River between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The plant would have released carbon emissions equivalent to three coal plants, along with other toxic pollutants.

Chambers Power Station (top), a coal plant we helped retire in Carneys Point, New Jersey, is transitioning to a clean energy transmission and storage facility. Mike joined key partners (bottom) to launch the Beyond Petrochemicals campaign in September 2022.
Accelerating the Global Clean Energy Transition

Beginning in 2017 with the launch of the Europe Beyond Coal campaign, Bloomberg Philanthropies has worked to **end coal and accelerate clean energy investment globally**. In Europe, this work has retired more than 52% of the continent’s coal plants. Similar campaigns have secured the early retirement of one-third of Australia’s plants and one-third of South Korea’s plants, and canceled more than half of Japan’s planned plants. We have also supported additional research, advocacy, and technical assistance in China, India, and Indonesia to help lay out a path for the clean energy transition. In 2022, we expanded this work to 25 developing countries across Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America with the greatest threat of new coal and the greatest potential for clean energy development.

Bloomberg Philanthropies also leads and supports a wide array of efforts to **mobilize the private sector in the global climate fight**. Mike chairs the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), which shares guidelines to help companies quantify and disclose risks posed by climate change, bringing greater transparency to the financial impacts of the climate crisis. He also co-chairs the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) with Bloomberg Philanthropies board member Mark Carney, which helps financial institutions and other private-sector organizations commit to reaching net-zero emissions, create credible and science-based transition plans, and invest in the global transition to clean energy.

**More than 550 financial institutions with assets of $135 trillion have committed to reaching net-zero through GFANZ**

**Spotlight: Global Coal to Clean Energy Work**

- **Ongoing work in 7 countries and Europe**
- **Work launched in 2022 in 25 developing countries**
Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in local climate action across the United States. America Is All In, which Mike co-chairs, is the most expansive coalition of leaders ever assembled in support of U.S. climate action, rallying thousands of cities, states, tribal nations, businesses, and more to meet the Paris Agreement goals. In 2022, the group released a landmark report that showed how the country, with the critical steps taken by local leaders together with ongoing federal action and funding, can meet its national target to halve carbon emissions by 2030.

We also work closely with two leading city networks committed to the climate fight: the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy. C40 includes nearly 100 major cities whose mayors have committed to reducing emissions and strengthening their climate resilience. Three-quarters of C40 cities are cutting per capita emissions faster than their national governments, and they have reduced air pollution by 5% since 2018. The Global Covenant is an alliance of more than 12,000 cities and local governments focused on creating ambitious targets to limit emissions and reporting on their progress. Mike serves as president of the board of C40 and as co-chair of the Global Covenant.

**Spotlight: Breathe London**

Together with Mayor Sadiq Khan, we have supported the deployment of more than 200 low-cost air sensors across London to improve access to reliable, localized, real-time air quality data. The resulting data has helped Mayor Khan make the case for closing school streets to traffic and expanding the city’s Ultra Low Emissions Zone with charges for high-emitting vehicles. This work has led to four million more residents breathing cleaner air.

**Improving Global Air Quality**

Bloomberg Philanthropies supports efforts that improve air quality management to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect public health. Since 2019, this work has helped seven cities – Brussels, Denver, London, Milan, Mumbai, Paris, and Warsaw – deploy hundreds of air quality sensors, analyze data, and pass policies to reduce pollution. We also partner at the national level with India and Indonesia to help manage air pollution and support the transition to clean energy. In total, we have helped pass more than 30 clean air policies.
Bloomberg Philanthropies works with global partners to protect the world’s ocean from the threats of climate change, overfishing, and pollution. In 2022, we launched a new phase of the initiative to help achieve the United Nations’ goal of protecting 30% of the ocean by 2030, boosted by the recent adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. We are supporting global partners to advocate for data-driven solutions, community involvement, and policy change that can help safeguard marine ecosystems, including coral reefs. This work is critical both to the global climate fight and to the livelihoods of coastal communities.

Protecting Ocean Ecosystems and Coastal Communities

Strengthened the protection of 10.8 million square miles of ocean

Helped pass 17 national laws on ocean conservation

Reached commitments from 10 countries to publish data on fishing vessel locations

Bloomberg Philanthropies works to protect ocean ecosystems, like this reef in Fiji (top), and the health and livelihood of coastal community members, like this fisherman in Brazil (right). In 2022, our CEO Patti Harris announced a new phase of work to help protect 30% of the world’s ocean by 2030 (left).
Convening Global Leaders to Accelerate Action on Climate Change

Throughout 2022, Bloomberg Philanthropies brought together world leaders, mayors, experts, and climate advocates on critical environmental issues.

In September, we co-hosted the Earthshot Prize Innovation Summit with The Earthshot Prize to highlight groundbreaking climate innovations and solutions. We also co-hosted the UN Climate Action: Race to Zero and Resilience Forum, convening business, government, and local leaders with the United Nations to showcase and support local climate action in the lead-up to COP27.

In October, at the 2022 C40 World Mayors Summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the C40 Cities Bloomberg Philanthropies Awards recognized the 10 most ambitious, impactful, and replicable global climate projects in cities. The winning cities are cleaning the air, improving waste management, expanding green spaces and bus lanes, and much more.

In November, we served as an official partner for the UN’s COP27 climate summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, where we made a series of major announcements to expand our work on the clean energy transition in developing countries, bring data and transparency to private sector climate commitments, and build new public-private partnerships. In the 45 days leading up to the summit, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Bloomberg L.P., and our partners also took more than 90 actions to support the UN’s climate agenda.

At the Earthshot Prize Innovation Summit (top), we recognized the winners and finalists of The Earthshot Prize alongside CEO Hannah Jones and world leaders such as New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. At the C40 World Mayors Summit (middle), we announced the 10 best city climate projects, such as electric bus deployment in Pune, India. And at COP27 (bottom), we continued to build on our ambitious efforts to fight climate change.
Supporting Student Success

Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Education program focuses on expanding educational opportunities and giving more students a chance to pursue their dreams. Our work is:

- Expanding **access to high-quality charter schools** across the U.S.
- Ensuring that more **high-achieving, lower-income students apply to and attend top U.S. colleges and universities**
- Investing in **career and technical training in high schools**
- Supporting **university partnerships** to expand opportunities for students at Johns Hopkins University, Princeton University, and New York University
- Advocating for **pro-reform K-12 policies**

A student at Bronx Design and Construction Academy in New York City learned electrical knowledge and skills through a career and technical education program. Bloomberg Philanthropies is working with the city to expand these programs and reach more students.
Strengthening K-12 Education

Bloomberg Philanthropies works to increase access to high-performing public charter schools in 20 key metro areas, with the goal to create 150,000 new charter seats by 2026. The historic initiative, which builds on Mike’s longtime support for education reform in New York City and nationally, is expanding high-performing charter networks, creating new and innovative charter schools, and strengthening existing schools. In partnership with leading local and national organizations, our support is helping public charters to improve their academic offerings, recruit talented teachers, build and launch schools, and attract support for additional charter seats. Since the initiative’s launch, our partners have developed a pipeline of nearly 65,000 seats to be opened in the coming years.

Nearly 65,000 new charter seats committed toward 150,000 seat goal

In 2022, driven by data on student learning loss caused by the pandemic, we launched Summer Boost NYC to support summer learning at public charter schools across New York City. The program provided more than 16,000 K-8 students with summer learning and enrichment opportunities, and we saw strong progress, with the percentage of students meeting standards nearly doubling in math and more than doubling in English. The program’s success led us to expand it to seven additional cities in 2023: Baltimore, Birmingham, Indianapolis, Memphis, Nashville, San Antonio, and Washington, D.C.

We also support Global Cities, Inc., a nonprofit whose flagship Global Scholars virtual exchange program uses technology to connect students ages 10 to 13 with peers in cities around the world. The program, which is now connecting more than 11,500 students in 51 cities, provides a project-based curriculum and facilitates collaboration to help students develop the knowledge and skills to succeed in an increasingly interconnected world. In total, it has reached more than 105,000 students since 2013.
Bloomberg Philanthropies’ CollegePoint program provides free virtual college advising to help talented, lower-income high school students apply to top U.S. colleges and universities and navigate the financial aid process – with a new focus on supporting those who would be the first in their families to attend college. The program has provided free advising to 64,000 students since 2014.

Through the American Talent Initiative, launched in partnership with the Aspen Institute and Ithaka S+R, we bring top schools together to enroll more high-achieving, lower-income students. The coalition now numbers 137 colleges and universities committed to this work. Since 2016, despite enrollment challenges created by the pandemic, participating schools continue to enroll talented, lower-income students and share strategies to accelerate this progress.

Bloomberg Philanthropies also works with select universities on other strategic partnerships and support for students, including:

- Making Johns Hopkins University need-blind and loan-free for undergraduates in perpetuity;
- Launching the Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellows Program at New York University for students interested in pursuing careers in public service; and
- Creating the Emma Bloomberg Center for Access and Opportunity at Princeton University to promote access and opportunity for students from first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented backgrounds.

In March 2023, we convened nearly 100 college and university presidents from our American Talent Initiative to discuss strategies for enrolling more high-achieving, lower-income students.
Over 90,000 students have participated in programs we support

Building 21st-Century Job Skills

Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in U.S. career and technical education to improve skills- and jobs-based training in high schools, with the goal to provide greater economic mobility and opportunities in growing fields. The initiative supports work-based programs that offer high school students apprenticeships and paid experience in workplaces, and school-based career programs that provide students with industry credentials and experience within their school curriculum. We invest in programs across the country that have become national models, including CareerWise Colorado, an innovative apprenticeship program that has now been replicated in Washington, D.C., New York City, and Indiana with our support.

Spotlight: Career and Technical Education

In 2022, we expanded our career and technical education work to New York City as part of a city-led partnership to connect 3,000 students across more than 50 schools with paid multi-year apprenticeships. This work prepares students for careers in technology, healthcare, business, and more.

In Indianapolis, Indiana, students at George Washington Community High School, which we support through our career and technical education program, benefited from career pathways and training for in-demand fields like healthcare.
Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Public Health program takes on the world’s leading causes of death from noncommunicable diseases and injuries. We follow the data, build strong partnerships with governments and other organizations, and spread proven solutions to save lives. Our work is:

- Reducing global tobacco use and youth e-cigarette use in the U.S.
- Improving road safety
- Promoting healthy diets to combat obesity
- Preventing cardiovascular diseases
- Strengthening health data collection in low- and middle-income countries
- Mobilizing cities to reduce noncommunicable diseases and injuries
- Combating the U.S. overdose epidemic
- Protecting access to reproductive healthcare
- Investing in drowning prevention
- Addressing challenges to U.S. life expectancy with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Children in Vietnam received survival swimming classes with support from our drowning prevention program, which identifies local solutions to save lives from drowning.
Reducing the Use of Tobacco and E-Cigarettes

Since 2007, Bloomberg Philanthropies has led global efforts to reduce tobacco use in more than 110 low- and middle-income countries. Working with national and local governments, we have advocated for a package of proven policies that can save lives, such as banning smoking in public places, raising taxes on tobacco products, and banning tobacco advertising. In February 2023, we announced another major investment in our work to continue passing strong tobacco control policies. Globally, our efforts have helped drive down global cigarette sales, with roughly 750 billion fewer cigarettes sold in 2021 compared to 2012. Based on progress to date, we are projected to save over 35 million lives by 2030.

**Spotlight: Tobacco Control**

In February 2022, after nearly a decade of advocacy from our partners, Mexico passed a landmark law that bans smoking in indoor public places and bans all tobacco advertising. We have also advocated for additional measures, like raising a tax on tobacco products. Beginning in 2019, we have also worked to reduce teen e-cigarette use in the United States, an epidemic that threatens to hook a new generation on nicotine. To date, the program has helped pass 79 state and local bans on flavored e-cigarettes, which have been shown to attract younger users, including 25 new bans in 2022. In November 2022, we helped to defend California’s flavored tobacco ban from a ballot referendum supported by the tobacco industry that sought to overturn it. With our support alongside partners like the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, voters overwhelmingly upheld the ban in a major victory for our work.

Together with legislators, advocates, and other partners in California, our advocacy efforts helped protect the state’s ban on all flavored tobacco products from a ballot referendum, backed by the tobacco industry, that sought to overturn it.

**Reached 69 countries with smoke-free laws, up from 10 in 2007**

**Helped cut global smoking rates by 23% over 12 years**

**Helped pass 79 U.S. state and local bans on flavored e-cigarettes**

In Mexico City, our partners led a campaign to promote tobacco control measures, including this message to “protect boys and girls from tobacco.”
Strengthening Global Road Safety

Bloomberg Philanthropies works in low- and middle-income countries to prevent road traffic crashes, which kill roughly 1.3 million people and injure up to 50 million every year. Our initiative helps implement proven interventions that protect everyone on the road, such as reducing speeding and drinking and driving, improving road infrastructure and vehicle safety standards, increasing the use of helmets and seatbelts, and strengthening data collection. In 2022, our support helped Colombia and Mexico pass major national laws that aim to save lives by reducing speeding and other dangerous road behavior and improving vehicle safety. In total, we have helped strengthen 100 national and subnational laws.

Nearly 4 billion people protected by at least one new or improved road safety law

Progress to date is projected to save 312,000 lives

Mobilizing Cities on Public Health Challenges

Launched in 2017 through Mike’s role as World Health Organization Global Ambassador for Noncommunicable Diseases and Injuries, the Partnership for Healthy Cities is a network of 70 cities focused on reducing noncommunicable diseases and injuries. In March 2023, we hosted the first Partnership for Healthy Cities Summit in London with over 200 mayors and city delegates, where we recognized five cities for their outstanding efforts on public health challenges: Montevideo, Uruguay, for food policy; Mexico City, Mexico, for road safety; Vancouver, Canada, for data management and surveillance; Athens, Greece, for overdose prevention; and Bengaluru, India, for tobacco control.

In March 2023, at the Partnership for Healthy Cities Summit in London, we recognized mayors and representatives from the five winning cities for their outstanding public health efforts.
Promoting Healthy Diets to Prevent Diet-Related Diseases

Bloomberg Philanthropies leads global work to promote policies that tackle unhealthy diets, which contribute to rising obesity rates and other diet-related diseases. Together with partner organizations, researchers, and emerging young leaders, our initiative supports the adoption and evaluation of key policies, such as restrictions on unhealthy food marketing, front-of-package warning labels, taxes on unhealthy foods and beverages, and healthier food in schools.

Spotlight: Food Policy

In 2022, our partners in Colombia secured major wins in the country. After nearly six years of advocacy, Colombia’s Congress approved a tax on sugary drinks and ultra-processed products, making it one of just a handful of countries to tax both categories. Following the tax approval and in the face of intense industry opposition, the Ministry of Health finalized a strong regulation for front-of-package warning labels based on our partners’ recommendations. Because of our partners’ efforts, a court also ordered the ministry to create a committee to monitor implementation, free of influence from the food and beverage industry. It marked the first time that a court authorized civil society to monitor a public health regulation.

In Kumasi, Ghana, local residents and health professionals marched to raise awareness of the harms of sugary drinks and the need for taxation.

Preventing Cardiovascular Diseases

Through a partnership with Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative founded by Dr. Tom Frieden, former director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Bloomberg Philanthropies also supports efforts to prevent cardiovascular diseases, the world’s leading cause of death. The initiative works predominantly in low- and middle-income countries and focuses on three key strategies: improving treatment of high blood pressure, eliminating artificial trans fats, and reducing sodium. Bloomberg Philanthropies has directed funding to help reduce risk factors in over 60 countries, including priority countries like Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, India, and countries throughout the Americas.
Preventing Drowning Deaths

To address a leading cause of injury-related deaths, Bloomberg Philanthropies supports local, data-driven solutions to save lives from drowning deaths in countries with high drowning rates, such as Bangladesh, Ghana, Uganda, and Vietnam.

Spotlight: Drowning Prevention

Beginning in 2012, when we discovered that drowning was the leading cause of death for children under five in Bangladesh, we tested solutions to save lives. We funded more than 2,500 community daycare sites to supervise and help educate kids at the same time and found that they reduced drowning deaths by as much as 88%. In 2022, our success spurred the government of Bangladesh to take over the program and commit to scaling it from 50,000 children to 200,000 annually.

In Vietnam, over 26,000 children have now passed a survival swimming course that we supported.
Defending Access to Reproductive Healthcare

In 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in its ruling on Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, eliminating federal protections for the right to abortion. Mike has continued to strongly support organizations that are fighting to protect and expand abortion rights, as he has for decades. Following the decision, he was a leading supporter in successful state advocacy efforts. He helped elect pro-choice majorities to state supreme courts through public education campaigns, backed ballot measures in Kansas, Kentucky, and Michigan, and supported pro-choice candidates nationwide. After many states criminalized abortion, our team worked with partners to provide legal resources and aid for providers, patients, and supporters.

Training a New Generation of Public Health Leaders

In 2016, we established the Bloomberg American Health Initiative at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to address declining U.S. life expectancy and train new public health leaders. The program focuses on five major health threats facing the United States: addiction and overdose; risks to adolescent health; environmental challenges; food systems for health; and violence. It supports full scholarships for Master of Public Health and Doctor of Public Health fellows, with the requirement that each prospective fellow apply with a collaborating organization and continue working with that organization in the community for at least a year after graduation. To date, 339 students have graduated or are currently enrolled in the program.

In December 2022, the Bloomberg American Health Summit drew over 400 experts, officials, journalists, and advocates. Speakers included Pennsylvania Governor-elect Josh Shapiro, New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, and Bloomberg School faculty and fellows.

Combating the U.S. Overdose Epidemic

To address record overdose deaths and declining life expectancy in the United States, Bloomberg Philanthropies leads efforts to combat the overdose crisis by increasing access to medication treatment and supporting harm reduction interventions. Our initiative focuses on three core strategies: developing and implementing effective policies and interventions in seven key states; creating and disseminating tools that can guide all states; and pushing for federal reform through lobbying, education, and awareness. In 2022, the initiative helped pass important legislation in Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico, as well as nationally.
Global Reach
Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in 700 cities and 150 countries

- The Arts
- Environment
- Education
- Government Innovation
- Health Data Collection
- Pro-Bono Consulting
- Leadership Training
- Employee Volunteering
- Career Mentoring
- Climate Action

- Supporting arts and cultural organizations to strengthen the creative landscape that is critical to social and economic stability in cities
- Working to ensure that students have the skills to succeed and the opportunity to realize their potential
- Fighting the climate crisis and moving the world toward a clean energy future by working with a wide range of partners on the highest-impact global climate solutions
- Helping local leaders shape city government ability to identify challenges, develop meaningful solutions, and improve lives
- Providing world-class consulting and membership in cities across the globe to improve residents’ lives
- Forging projects, funding in unique efforts led by Bloomberg Philanthropies

- Global Reach in 700 cities and 150 countries

- Investing in unique efforts led by mentorship in cities across the globe
- Providing world-class consulting and member support from governments’ ability to identify challenges, and improve residents’ lives.
- Working with a wide range of partners on preventing preventable deaths from tobacco.
- Fighting the climate crisis and moving the world toward a clean energy future by working with a wide range of partners on the highest-impact global climate solutions.
- Helping local leaders shape city government ability to identify challenges, develop meaningful solutions, and improve lives.
- Providing world-class consulting and membership in cities across the globe to improve residents’ lives.
- Forging projects, funding in unique efforts led by Bloomberg Philanthropies.
Bloomberg Philanthropies supported *The Walk*, in which a 12-foot-tall puppet known as Little Amal has traveled around the world to focus attention on the needs of young refugees. Little Amal’s journeys are produced by The Walk Productions in association with Handspring Puppet Company.

**ARTS**

**Investing in the Arts to Strengthen Communities**

Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Arts program draws on the belief that arts and culture have the power to inspire creativity, spark collaboration, and build community around the world. We support artists, public art projects, and cultural institutions to strengthen the creative landscape in cities and improve residents’ quality of life. Our work is:

- Helping cultural organizations use **digital technology** to engage audiences
- Supporting **vibrant public art** projects
- Providing **management training** to strengthen local arts organizations
- Sponsoring **individual cultural organizations** worldwide
Enhancing Cultural Experiences Through Technology

Bloomberg Philanthropies has long supported cutting-edge digital initiatives in the arts. Our Bloomberg Connects app features easy-to-use digital guides to a wide array of cultural institutions, from museums and galleries to historical sites and botanical gardens, across over 75 cities globally. It was created in 2019 by Bloomberg Philanthropies in partnership with engineers and designers at Bloomberg L.P., and in 2022 it continued to grow quickly and welcomed dozens of new cultural institutions across the world. We also added new accessibility features, support for 28 languages, and other improved functions.

Over 200 institutions live on the app, and growing

Over 1.5 million user downloads

Download the Bloomberg Connects app here
Available on the Google Play Store or Apple App Store

London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE, a free cultural destination created at Bloomberg’s European headquarters in London, is just one of many arts institutions accessible on the Bloomberg Connects app. A visitor used the app to learn about Oliver Beer’s Albion Waves.

A visitor to the Frick Madison in New York City used the Bloomberg Connects app to explore the museum’s exhibitions.

Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Digital Accelerator program is supporting digital innovation and infrastructure at nearly 100 cultural organizations in the United States and United Kingdom. The initiative provides guidance and training aimed at strengthening their digital efforts to grow fundraising, drive revenue, and deliver dynamic programming.

Spotlight: Digital Accelerator Program

Through the Digital Accelerator program, New York City’s Tenement Museum upgraded its ticketing and customer management systems to add new fundraising capabilities, including the ability to donate when purchasing tickets. The program brought in more than 1,200 new donors, an 88% increase over the previous year.
Supporting Vibrant Public Art

The Asphalt Art Initiative supports cities to create vibrant art projects on streets, pedestrian areas, and public infrastructure that make them safer and more attractive. In October 2022, at Bloomberg CityLab, we announced an expansion of the program to 19 new cities across Europe, building on our work in 45 cities. In April 2023, we further expanded the program and will support projects in up to 20 cities in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. Bloomberg Associates has also produced a guide with tools and case studies to help more cities create asphalt art.

64 cities supported to create projects in the U.S. and Europe

8,000 downloads of the Asphalt Art Guide in 90 countries

Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Public Art Challenge invites mayors, artists, community leaders, and residents to collaborate on temporary public art projects that address critical issues in their communities. In 2022, building on successful Challenges in 2014 and 2018, Bloomberg Philanthropies launched the third Public Art Challenge, which will award up to 10 winning cities $1 million each to carry out their projects.

An evaluation of the 2018 Challenge, completed in 2022, found that it:

Provided $100 million in total economic benefits for the five winning cities

Reached over 18 million in-person views

Spotlight: Asphalt Art Initiative

As part of our Asphalt Art Initiative, we commissioned a study of the impact of art on street safety, using historical crash rates and real-time analysis of driver and pedestrian behavior. Across nearly two dozen asphalt art sites, we saw strong evidence that art installations improve road safety, with a 50% decline in crashes involving pedestrians or cyclists and a 27% increase in the rate of drivers yielding to pedestrians with the right-of-way.
Strengthening and Partnering with Arts Organizations

Our Arts Innovation and Management (AIM) program has supported local arts organizations by providing general operating support along with management training to enhance their strategic planning, board development, fundraising, and marketing. Since its launch, AIM has strengthened 740 cultural organizations in 14 U.S. cities and Puerto Rico.

The Bloomberg Arts Internship provides young people with meaningful paid work experience at cultural organizations in New York City, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston, and Washington, D.C., along with job-readiness training and college preparation.

More than 200 high schoolers interned at over 100 cultural organizations in 2022

More than 1,300 students have now participated

Bloomberg Philanthropies has also built cultural partnerships with 700 arts institutions and countless artists in nearly all capital cities throughout the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. As one of the largest philanthropic funders of the arts globally, we support exhibitions, artist commissions, educational programs, the world’s most important art gatherings, and more.

Among many other cultural partnerships, Bloomberg Philanthropies has long supported The Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Roof Garden Commission series. The latest installation features Lauren Halsey’s architectural sculpture, the eastside of south central los angeles hieroglyph prototype architecture (I).
FOUNDER’S PROJECTS

Investing in Efforts to Improve Lives Worldwide

Bloomberg Philanthropies supports unique efforts to address issues that fall outside of our core program areas. Like our other areas, these Founder’s Projects emerge from Mike’s personal experiences in business, government, and philanthropy.
Investing in Institutions at the World Trade Center

Elected mayor just weeks after the attacks of September 11, 2001, Mike led New York City through the aftermath, including rebuilding the World Trade Center site and reinvesting in Lower Manhattan. Today, he chairs the boards of two institutions that anchor the site: the 9/11 Memorial & Museum and the Perelman Performing Arts Center.

The 9/11 Memorial & Museum bears solemn witness to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and February 26, 1993, and has become one of the most visited sites in New York City, with over 60 million visitors to the museum since 2014. It honors thousands of victims and recovery workers and preserves their stories for young people and future generations with no memory of the attacks. In 2022, the Memorial & Museum named Beth Hillman as its new president and CEO.

The Perelman Performing Arts Center (PAC NYC), set to open in September 2023, will be a modern and forward-looking arts center that establishes Lower Manhattan as a cultural destination. It is the last piece in the rebuilding of the World Trade Center site. Designed with highly flexible and innovative theater spaces, PAC NYC will host a wide array of performances in dance, music, theater, film, media, and chamber opera that give artists new opportunities to create and engage with audiences from around the world. Bill Rauch serves as artistic director, and in 2022, PAC NYC appointed its first executive director, Khady Kamara.

The John Zuccotti Theater (left) is one of three highly adaptable theater spaces at PAC NYC. The restaurant space (right) will house a restaurant led by chef Marcus Samuelsson.
Investing in Women’s Economic Independence

Since 2007, Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Women’s Economic Development program has invested in nonprofit partners to connect women to income-generating activities that lead to economic independence. Each woman in the program receives an individualized plan that helps her become self-reliant. Our partners in this work, including Women for Women International, Sustainable Growers, CARE International, and Nest, span a range of focus areas and approaches, and together we are:

- Working with national governments and partners in Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Tanzania to reach major economic development targets;
- Enrolling women in training programs based on market assessments, and providing them with program plans focused on building their economic independence through vocational training, skills-building, health and wellness education, savings education, and guidance on enrolling children in school; and
- Creating partnerships with nonprofits and the private sector that allow women to connect with sustainable income-generating activities and access international markets.

To date, our investments have enrolled nearly 725,000 women in training programs that help lead to economic independence and indirectly benefit more than 2.8 million children and family members.

In South Carolina (top), we have supported women sweetgrass weavers. In Rwanda (middle), we funded six classrooms, built from 525,000 bricks hand-pressed by women, to house trainings. And in New York (left), we hosted governors, ministers, and mayors from Rwanda, Nigeria, Sudan, and D.R. Congo to develop a women’s economic development plan for their countries.

Spotlight: Women’s Economic Development

Our partnership with Sustainable Growers, which trains women coffee growers in Rwanda, D.R. Congo, and Tanzania to produce specialty coffee and access international markets, was highlighted on the world stage in 2022 as a global best practice program for advancing the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.
Accelerating the Pace of Black Wealth Accumulation in the U.S.

Our Greenwood Initiative works to accelerate the pace of wealth accumulation for Black individuals and families in the United States and address systemic underinvestment in Black communities.

In 2020, to help address racial health disparities and increase the number of Black doctors, we made a major investment to reduce the burden of debt for more than 975 students at America’s four historically Black medical schools: Meharry Medical College; Howard University College of Medicine; Morehouse School of Medicine; and Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. Nearly 450 students have now graduated, and we have doubled the percentage of students who graduate without medical school debt and helped increase the number entering primary care residencies, working in public hospitals, and serving underserved communities.

We also partnered with Johns Hopkins University to launch the Vivien Thomas Scholars Initiative, which aims to support a new, more diverse generation of scholars and researchers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. The initiative will permanently support 100 students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) to pursue PhDs in STEM at Johns Hopkins. The first cohort enrolled in 2022.

In 2022, the Greenwood Initiative also launched the Black Wealth Data Center and its Racial Wealth Equity Database to tackle the issue of inaccessible and insufficient data on racial wealth disparities. The new database houses more than 35 datasets across five key topics – assets and debt, education, housing, employment, and business ownership – to empower decision-makers with reliable data that can drive policies and programs to advance racial wealth equity.

Learn more at blackwealthdata.org

“Growing up, becoming a doctor was something rare in the Black community. I never knew physicians that looked like me, nor did I have family working in the medical field. But, I was always reminded that this needed to change, and I could be a part of that change.”

— Dr. Asanté Quintana
Meharry Medical College Class of 2022
Current Resident in Ophthalmology, Weill Cornell Medicine

Students from the first class of Vivien Thomas Scholars at Johns Hopkins met with Mike and JHU President Ron Daniels.
Strengthening Johns Hopkins University and its Home City

Mike has long been committed to his alma mater, **Johns Hopkins University**, where we support a wide range of scholarships, endowed professorships, capital projects, and research. His historic $1.8 billion gift in 2018 made Johns Hopkins need-blind for undergraduates in perpetuity.

His commitment has helped make the Bloomberg School of Public Health a leading force in public health research, and we have also supported the Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children’s Center, the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute, and the Bloomberg~Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy. The interdisciplinary Bloomberg Distinguished Professors program endows 100 professorships that span at least two university schools.

Beyond the JHU campus, Bloomberg Philanthropies supports **efforts across Baltimore** to strengthen small businesses and expand youth success. Beginning in 2017, we joined Goldman Sachs to expand its 10,000 Small Businesses program to Baltimore, where over 500 entrepreneurs have graduated and now employ more than 7,600 people. One of the 2022 participants was Joni Holifield, a longtime partner who founded nonprofit HeartSmiles to provide leadership development and entrepreneurship opportunities for young people. In partnership with HeartSmiles, Urban Alliance, and 10,000 Small Businesses, we support up to four years of leadership training and mentorship, work opportunities, and college advising for Baltimore high school students.

Many of our programs also work in Baltimore, including our Asphalt Art Initiative, which helped create three installations to improve street safety around a local elementary school.

**Spotlight: Johns Hopkins in D.C.**

Bloomberg Philanthropies has also supported the creation of Johns Hopkins’ new campus in Washington, D.C., set to open in Fall 2023. The building at 555 Pennsylvania Avenue, formerly the Newseum, will be the D.C. home for 11 of the university’s schools, including the School of Advanced International Studies.
Fighting for Common-Sense Gun Safety Reforms

Everytown for Gun Safety is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the United States, with 10 million supporters and a network of over 2,000 current and former mayors, 1,500 gun violence survivors, and 400 Students Demand Action volunteer groups. As mayor, Mike co-founded a coalition called Mayors Against Illegal Guns to advocate for gun safety laws, which merged with the grassroots group Moms Demand Action to form Everytown in 2014.

The organization has advocated for critical state laws and for executive actions. In 2022, Everytown played a key role in passing the first federal gun safety legislation in over 25 years, which enhances background checks, provides funding for states to enforce red-flag laws, and cracks down on gun trafficking. Everytown’s “Demand a Seat” program also trained volunteers to run for political office.

Helped elect over 140 gun safety volunteers to office in 2022

Supporting a Public Library in Mike’s Hometown

In Mike’s hometown of Medford, Massachusetts, Bloomberg Philanthropies supported the opening of a new public library, named in honor of his parents. The Charlotte & William Bloomberg Medford Public Library was officially dedicated in June 2022 and contains over 123,000 volumes, vibrant art, community spaces, and more.

In June 2022, over 1,000 advocates from Everytown and its grassroots networks, Moms Demand Action and Students Demand Action, rallied outside the U.S. Capitol in support of federal gun safety legislation. Moms Demand Action founder Shannon Watts spoke, along with Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and other leaders.

Mike, his sister Marjorie Tiven, and their family were joined at the library opening by community members and local leaders.
Strengthening City Governments to Improve Residents’ Lives

Globally, more people live in cities than ever before, and they are increasingly on the front lines of the world’s most pressing challenges. Local governments have a leading role to play in developing solutions but often lack the resources and expertise to make progress. Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Government Innovation program aims to help by strengthening city halls and their capacity to address major issues and better serve residents. Our work is:

• Improving city leadership through management training
• Supporting cities to better use data and innovate more effectively
• Developing, scaling, and spreading ideas to tackle city challenges
• Convening city experts to share solutions

We provided data trainings that led city staff in Syracuse, New York, to develop a new model for repairing and maintaining sidewalks. The city is now following the data to proactively identify, repair, and maintain sidewalks to improve accessibility.
Investing in Leadership Training for City Leaders

Many mayors enter office without practical management experience or a network of peers to share ideas. In response, Bloomberg Philanthropies partnered with Harvard Business School and Harvard Kennedy School in 2017 to provide world-class leadership and management training for mayors and their staff. The Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative has now provided intensive classroom sessions and support to 232 mayors and 394 senior staff from 31 countries. In April 2023, we opened the Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University, home for all of our work together to empower city leaders, including a “First 100 Days” program for new mayors, endowed faculty positions, and graduate student fellowships.

To spread our impact, we have also joined local partners in Israel and South Africa to support additional training programs globally. The Bloomberg-Sagol Center for City Leadership at Tel Aviv University, launched in 2022 with the Sagol family, and the African Mayoral Leadership Initiative at the University of Cape Town, supported in 2023 with Big Win Philanthropy, will reach 20 mayors in Israel and 20 mayors in Africa every year.

Helping U.S. Cities Secure Historic Federal Funding

After the United States passed major funding for issues like climate and infrastructure, we recognized that few cities had the capacity to complete competitive applications, so we created a program to help mayors navigate and apply for the historic federal funding available. With the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National League of Cities, and other partners, we launched the Local Infrastructure Hub to provide webinars, workshops, and additional application support for cities. Online sessions have featured speakers like Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm, and White House Infrastructure Coordinator Mitch Landrieu. We have engaged more than 900 cities to date.

Spotlight: Local Infrastructure Hub

In February 2023, the Local Infrastructure Hub helped 48 cities win nearly $250 million through the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All program to improve their road infrastructure and save lives. In total, 66 cities participating in our program have been awarded $327 million, with additional funding rolling out in the coming years.

In 2022, we brought together the sixth class of mayors and senior staff for separate weeks of intensive classroom leadership and management sessions in New York City.
Driving New Frontiers in City Data Use and Innovation

Data and innovation are critical problem-solving tools, but local governments often lack the skills and capacity they need. In city halls, Bloomberg Philanthropies spearheaded the creation of innovation teams (“i-teams”), composed of experts in data analysis, design, and project management, to take on mayors’ toughest challenges. We have also supported innovation trainings on this work for other city staff, with a focus on strengthening cities’ digital services. We have now spread i-teams to more than 50 cities globally and trained thousands of city staff. This work is housed at the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University, along with the Cities of Service program that promotes citizen engagement and volunteerism to address cities’ needs.

Trained more than 12,000 city leaders to better use data
Reached more than 250 cities globally

Spotlight: Innovation Teams

In Mexico City, Mexico, the i-team worked to expand access to the city’s digital services site, called “Llave CDMX.” The team helped simplify and streamline the user experience, while adding 28 additional services and the ability for residents to submit questions. As a result, the site added 1.1 million users in just six months, who can now access birth certificates, pay parking tickets, get construction permits, and more.

Syracuse, New York, with support from the city’s i-team, is digitizing its current paper-based procurement process and working to better reach minority- and women-owned businesses. In addition to ensuring that city procurement can happen much more quickly and efficiently, this project makes it easier for a new and diverse set of vendors to learn about contracting opportunities and connect with the city.

To improve cities’ use of data, we lead programs that work with cities to better solve problems and deliver data-driven services. The What Works Cities Certification program rates how effectively cities use data to govern and provides them with training and other support to improve. In 2022, we built on this work with the launch of the City Data Alliance, which will partner with 100 cities in North and South America to bring their use of data to an even higher standard through focused coaching, technical assistance, and policy change. Our work aims to embed effective data use in city governance, improving policymaking and benefiting residents for years to come.

Spotlight: City Data Alliance

Through the City Data Alliance, Fortaleza, Brazil, is working to spread best practices around data use across all city departments. As part of their work to eliminate illegal dumping, city staff are now compiling data on neighborhood waste from different departments, city systems, and resident complaints to more efficiently organize and assign trash collectors’ routes.
Developing, Scaling, and Spreading Good Ideas

Since 2013, Bloomberg Philanthropies has run a series of regional and global competitions to spark innovative, replicable ideas that address cities’ biggest challenges. The Mayors Challenge has provided 38 winning cities with funding and technical assistance to realize their ideas across five rounds of the competition – in the United States (twice), Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and globally.

We’ve also launched efforts to replicate the most successful winning ideas in other cities worldwide, expanding the impact of the Mayors Challenge even further. From improving sustainability around waste to strengthening language development for young children, our efforts are helping spread effective programs to reach millions of residents in cities globally.

38 winning cities named to date
Over 320 cities replicating successful ideas

Convening City Experts to Share Solutions

In 2022, we reconvened the largest annual summit for mayors, innovators, artists, and urban experts at Bloomberg CityLab. Held in person for the first time since 2019, the summit in Amsterdam brought together more than 500 city leaders and experts, including 40 mayors, to discuss solutions to pressing challenges. At the event, we also expanded our support for asphalt art projects to 19 European cities and launched a new effort to help 10 cities create bike lanes and other infrastructure.

Spotlight: Mayors Challenge

Istanbul, Turkey, was a winner of the 2021 Global Mayors Challenge for the “Pay-It-Forward” program, a social support and solidarity effort that matches residents burdened by unpaid utility bills and other needs with those willing to provide financial assistance. Following a catastrophic earthquake in February 2023, the program pivoted to add an “earthquake relief” option in partnership with local supermarkets, facilitating donations of food, hygiene items, and more than $120,000 in just two weeks.

Spotlight: Mayors Challenge Replication

Guadalajara, Mexico, won the 2016 Mayors Challenge for a project, called “Visor Urbano,” to digitize the city’s paper-based licensing and permitting process and reduce corruption. Championed by Mayor Enrique Alfaro Ramírez, who has gone on to become governor of the state of Jalisco, the successful project has been replicated in 90 cities across the region and beyond, reducing costs, corruption, and wait times.
BLOOMBERG ASSOCIATES

Providing World-Class Consulting to Cities

Bloomberg Associates is the philanthropic municipal consulting arm of Bloomberg Philanthropies. Founded in 2014, our Bloomberg Associates team works with client cities on a wide array of projects to improve residents’ quality of life. Across this work, we take a strategic, collaborative, and results-oriented approach to make cities stronger, safer, more equitable, and more efficient.

• 19 cities engaged since 2014

• $3.3 billion in city and private funding invested in projects we supported or created

• 55,000 hours of pro bono support provided in 2022

Bloomberg Associates supported the creation of Tampa Soulwalk, which celebrates the rich history of the city’s Black communities.
Partner City Spotlights

Chicago, Illinois

Bloomberg Associates has supported a series of projects in Chicago. To address disparities in tree canopy coverage, we helped create the “Our Roots Chicago” campaign, which will use a data tool developed by our team to prioritize underserved neighborhoods and plant 75,000 trees over the next five years. We also helped the city’s Chief Data Technology Officer organize a new Digital Service Office, including launching a website, assisting with public outreach, and producing the Chicago Digital Equity Plan, summarizing the city’s plan to expand internet access to all residents.

Detroit, Michigan

Following the 2020 U.S. Census, which suggested that Detroit suffered a 10% drop in population, our team successfully worked with the city in a comprehensive process to find those who were missed during the 2020 count. Detroit submitted the results to the Census Bureau, which approved them and updated the city’s census data. In a major win, the decision will provide millions of dollars in additional federal funding for the city over the remainder of the decade.

Lima, Peru

In Lima, Bloomberg Associates helped expand and improve access to public space. Our team created a toolkit to help target spaces that would benefit the greatest number of residents, with a special focus on areas that could be safe and welcoming for children to play. After an initial rollout with 17 public spaces, the program has grown to include over 50 parks, parklets, and other areas throughout Lima, benefiting residents of all ages.

London, United Kingdom

We partnered with London to create a network of major institutions working together to support the recovery from COVID-19, address social and economic inequalities, and fight the climate crisis. Our team has provided strategy, policy, and project management support, and these institutions have pledged to dedicate hundreds of millions of pounds to local procurement and hiring, mentoring for young people, and facility decarbonization. We also helped design and launch the city’s Business Climate Challenge, which partners with local Business Improvement Districts to provide free technical assistance that helps businesses reduce their energy use and emissions. In the program’s first year, participants reduced their energy use by an average of 16%, surpassing the 10% target. It has now scaled to support more than 200 businesses across the city.
Phoenix, Arizona

Phoenix is our newest client city, where our projects are in their early stages. Our team is working with the tourism bureau to ensure that major events hosted in the city are selected strategically and provide valuable community benefits. We are also helping the Office of Arts & Culture gather feedback to strengthen communications and better collaborate with key stakeholders. Our work will continue to expand moving forward, as we support the city’s efforts to increase affordable housing, improve access to good jobs, and reconnect residents to the area’s natural resources.

Tampa, Florida

Our team began working in Tampa in 2022, where we helped to develop Tampa Soulwalk, an art and heritage trail that tells the rich history of Tampa’s Black communities and the city’s diverse arts and culture sector. The trail spans 46 miles and 25 neighborhoods and includes nearly 100 stops that visitors can explore, with more than 25 public art installations in development. Bloomberg Associates also helped design a bike path that connects the city’s downtown with the University of Tampa and major cultural institutions, providing safer crossings for thousands of students, pedestrians, and cyclists every day. We are continuing to build out other work in Tampa to expand affordable housing, support workforce development, and improve tree canopy cover.

Milan, Italy

Our Bloomberg Associates team is working with Milan on a school-based iteration of the city’s Piazza Aperte (“Open Plazas”) program, which transformed and reclaimed over 40 plazas and public spaces for pedestrians with our support. We are helping to select and implement projects at schools across the city, focused on improving safety and quality of life for students as well as local residents.

Newark, New Jersey

We supported Newark’s creation of a new “Newark360” master plan, which will guide the city’s land use, development, preservation, sustainability, and neighborhood revitalization efforts over the next 10 years. After extensive community engagement, the plan was adopted in September 2022 and awarded “Outstanding Plan of the Year” by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association. We also worked with the city on a comprehensive, data-driven plan to end chronic homelessness over the next three years. Developed with more than 100 public, private, and nonprofit partners, as well as dedicated residents, it focuses on building partnerships, expanding housing, and eliminating barriers to service.

With our support, Milan created over 40 new pedestrian plazas for residents.

Bloomberg Associates helped Newark develop a data-driven plan to tackle chronic homelessness.
Harnessing the Team’s Talents to Serve Local Communities

Founded by Mike in 1981, Bloomberg L.P. is a global leader in business and financial data, news, and analysis. The vast majority of the company’s profits go to Bloomberg Philanthropies, and giving back has always been a pillar of the company’s culture. The Corporate Philanthropy program leverages the time and talents of employees and builds upon deep client relationships to create a lasting impact in the communities where employees live and work.

Employee volunteers in Dubai planted mangroves, among the more than 18,300 employees globally who volunteered over 131,000 hours in 2022.
With our support, designer Thomas Heatherwick created the Tree of Trees as the centerpiece for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth’s Platinum Jubilee celebration. The 70-foot sculpture was made of reclaimed steel and featured 350 living, potted trees. After the celebration, the saplings were planted throughout the United Kingdom, honoring the Queen’s longstanding dedication to bringing greenery into urban areas.

Impact by the Numbers

Our Corporate Philanthropy programs and partnerships tackle critical issues, with a focus on supporting vulnerable and underresourced communities, promoting an inclusive global economy, expanding access to data and technology, and supporting new and diverse voices in the media.

In 2022:

Engaged 18,382 employees
Volunteered 131,847 hours
Reached 614 cities
Supported 1,979 nonprofits
Facilitated 38,653 mentoring experiences
Created 87,460 aid kits
Planted 10,190 trees
Distributed 810,142 meals
Addressing the World’s Most Pressing Needs

In 2022, in response to pressing global challenges, including humanitarian and environmental disasters, Bloomberg provided financial assistance, offered pro bono expertise from employees, and assembled more than 87,000 care packages. Our employee giving program contributed $10.2 million to nonprofit organizations.

To help those affected by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, we launched our largest-ever employee campaign. Nearly 2,700 employees in 61 cities contributed financially or volunteered, packing over 47,000 relief kits, providing almost 1.7 million meals to refugees, and supporting displaced journalists, Ukrainian students, and other efforts to reach those in need. Bloomberg provided free advertising via print, TV, and radio for partners to raise additional funds.

We also stepped up to tackle the climate crisis, including campaigns to address natural disasters fueled by climate change. Through our employee-led sustainability program, employees in 31 cities took actions that saved over 56 metric tons of carbon emissions.

To support global wetlands, employees in nine cities cleaned rivers, removed invasive vegetation, or planted mangroves. We also supported projects in schools and communities to inspire a new generation of climate leaders.

Promoting an Inclusive Global Economy

Bloomberg has a legacy of helping make financial markets more accessible and transparent, and our philanthropic programs have continued to advance that mission. In 2022, employees facilitated more than 38,600 mentoring interactions with small business leaders, young people from underrepresented backgrounds, and many others, with the goal of helping to train the next generation of community, business, and finance leaders.

We have supported scholarships for high-achieving, lower-income college students in the United Kingdom, and tailored employee mentoring for students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the United States. To expand opportunities for women, we built a number of partnerships that are educating young women about financial markets, providing mentorship and training sessions, and strengthening women-owned businesses.

Spotlight:

In 2022, Bloomberg partnered on the launch of the Greater Bay Area Fintech Talent Initiative, which connects university students from diverse backgrounds with leaders in finance and other mentoring opportunities. The region, which includes Hong Kong, is poised to become Asia’s biggest technology powerhouse, and young, diverse talent has a critical role to play.
Supporting New and Diverse Voices in News and Media

Bloomberg leads a series of programs to help ensure that new and diverse voices have the opportunity to learn about and contribute to reporting and analysis in news and media. For many years, we have supported business and financial journalism education programs aimed at diversifying journalism and strengthening reporting, reaching more than 25,000 promising students and mid-career journalists in 46 countries.

In 2022, we led workshops to help refugee journalists restart their careers in the United Kingdom and supported displaced journalists and their families as part of our response to the crisis in Ukraine. Employees across Europe also organized sessions for more than 1,700 students focused on countering the spread of online misinformation in news.

Expanding Access to Data and Technology

Drawing on a wealth of expertise in data and technology, Bloomberg works with students and nonprofit partners to strengthen data skills and unlock opportunity in an increasingly digital world. Engineers and designers at the company continued to collaborate with Bloomberg Philanthropies on the free Bloomberg Connects app, which provides digital guides to cultural organizations globally. Through a wide variety of other initiatives, employees taught students from underrepresented groups coding, technical, and soft skills to help them prepare for successful careers. We also provided nonprofit partners with technical assistance to improve their use of data and technology.

As part of our ongoing support for open-source software projects as a key driver of innovation in technology, Bloomberg launched a Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) Contributor Fund in 2022. Through the program, employees are now able to nominate and vote on open-source projects that will receive our philanthropic support.

Employees in Mumbai shared their technical expertise with nonprofit partners.
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Bloomberg Philanthropies works to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. Our 2022-2023 Annual Report covers a snapshot of our impact across 700 cities and 150 countries.

To learn more and stay up-to-date on our latest progress, visit bloomberg.org and follow us on social media.

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Inside Back Cover: In Indonesia, Bloomberg Philanthropies works with our partners to protect ocean ecosystems and coastal communities.

Credit: © Eko Krisna/Wildlife Conservation Society

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Our Approach

**Look for unmet needs**
that can be addressed with proven solutions

**Remain flexible**
to invest boldly and quickly in order to maximize impact

**Rely on data** and continually measure results

**Focus on cities**
to drive progress

**Identify and engage strong partners**

**Lead from the front**
and do not hesitate to address controversial issues

**Utilize advocacy**
to accelerate change

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