

Saving lives, ending infectious diseases, and making the world a safer place

Parliamentary Candidates Briefing 2024

If you are elected as an MP, please support global health by ensuring the UK continues to be a major donor to both Gavi and the Global Fund by championing their replenishments in 2024/25.

The COVID-19 pandemic reinforced what we already knew: no one is safe until everyone is safe. Yet today, preventable diseases like AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, cholera and measles remain global threats that kill millions every year – particularly children and other vulnerable people – strain health systems, undermine gender equality, and hamstring economies.

Following the next election, there will be the funding replenishments of both [Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance](#) and [The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#). These are global health initiatives that provide countries with critical support to prevent and treat infectious disease threats, working in areas of most need to roll-out vaccination programmes, increase equitable access to medicine, and strengthen health systems. How countries contribute to these replenishments demonstrates the scale of their commitment to tackling global challenges, including by supporting locally-driven agendas, fostering equal partnerships and advancing progress towards globally-agreed UN Sustainable Development Goals.

At a glance, in countries where they support health programmes:

Gavi Since 2000

- Delivered 19 different crucial vaccines to the world's lowest income countries.
- > 1 billion children vaccinated through routine programmes
- > 17.3 million future deaths averted, with another > 2.3 million averted by roll-out of Covid-19 vaccines through [COVAX](#)
- > US\$220.5 billion in economic benefits in countries supported
- US\$54 in health and economic benefits for every \$1 spent (study from 73 countries)
- In 2022, 20 countries accessed cholera, Ebola, meningococcal and yellow fever vaccines through Gavi-supported emergency stockpiles a total of 33 times
- In 2023, >US\$1.8 billion approved in support of African vaccine manufacturing
- In 2023, 18 million doses of RTS,S malaria vaccine were allocated to 12 countries.

Source: Gavi, ['Facts and Figures'](#), October 2023

The Global Fund Since 2002

- 59 million lives saved through prevention and treatment programmes.
- AIDS-related deaths reduced by 72% and new HIV infections reduced by 61%
- TB deaths have been reduced by 36% (excluding people living with HIV)
- In the absence of TB control measures, deaths would have increased by 129% and TB cases by 38%
- Malaria deaths have reduced by 28%
- In the absence of malaria control measures, deaths would have increased by 90% and malaria cases by 79%
- >US\$9 billion of Global Fund investments to be spent in the 50 most climate-vulnerable countries to support health programs from 2023 onwards

Source: Global Fund, [Results Report](#), 2023

As a Member of Parliament, by encouraging the UK to maintain and increase support for The Global Fund and Gavi, you will help to:

Build stronger, more resilient and sustainable health systems globally:

Gavi and The Global Fund collaborate in health systems strengthening through joint investments in service delivery, logistics, supply chain capacity strengthening and health data management systems. This investment keeps system capacities well-positioned to respond to crises including emerging health threats, conflict, climate change or other humanitarian disasters. This ensures strong global health security for all, including the UK.

The Global Fund is the world's largest multilateral provider of grants for strengthening health systems, investing US\$1.5bn a year from 2021–2023. Both Gavi and the Global Fund invest in community-led health responses, and are investing to strengthen local and regional production of health tools (like vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics) in order to ensure greater access and timely delivery of responses to health risks.

Deliver for women and girls:

Gavi and the Global Fund both recognise the disproportionate impact that global health challenges have on women and girls, but also that they are part of the solution; for example, women make up the majority of the health workforce (70%); the foundation of strong and resilient health systems.

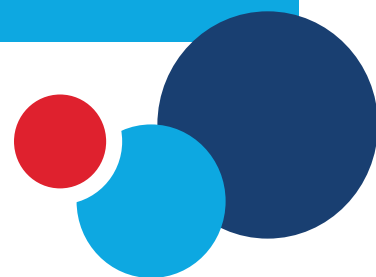
Gavi works extensively delivering HPV vaccines to prevent cervical cancer, with this work supported by Global Fund programmes that deliver screening and testing. Since 2012, Gavi has worked with 29 countries to introduce the vaccine and 9.8 million girls have been vaccinated. In 2022, Gavi launched an accelerated effort to **vaccinate an additional 86 million girls by the end of 2025**. Notably, **women living with HIV are 5 times more likely to develop cervical cancer and AIDS-related illness remains the leading killer of women of reproductive age** (UNAIDS, 2023). The work of Gavi and the Global Fund is improving these outcomes for women.

Mitigate the impacts of the climate crisis:

The climate crisis is exacerbating the spread of infectious diseases through extreme events, shifting climates, as well as population displacement and compromise of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure. In 2022, flooding in Pakistan drove [a fivefold increase in malaria](#) (from 2021). Investing to end preventable diseases now will help mitigate the worst impacts of the climate crisis on people's health, and ensure health systems are resilient to deal with emerging challenges worldwide.

Case study: Making the British-backed malaria vaccines a success story

Children under 5 account for 80% of malaria deaths in Africa, but it doesn't have to be this way. British-backed science and innovation have led to groundbreaking developments in the field of malaria prevention, with the creation of the first ever approved malaria vaccines – RTS,S/AS01 and R21/Matrix-M. Thanks to British innovation and collaboration, [the RTS,S vaccine reduced mortality from all causes by 13% and reduced hospitalisation by 22%](#) for severe malaria in children eligible for the vaccine. Wide rollout of the vaccines has already begun, with 28 countries across Africa due to receive a malaria vaccine in the next couple of years. However, the success of these vaccines will depend on how they are effectively rolled out alongside existing malaria tools such as bed nets and preventive drug therapy. A coordinated, global effort is needed to ensure that malaria vaccines reach their full potential. This requires collaboration between key organisations, including Gavi and the Global Fund, alongside ambitious investment from affected countries and donors. Funding for both organisations is crucial in order to save as many lives as possible and make the malaria vaccines the success story we know they can be.





This briefing, and the missions of The Global Fund and Gavi, are supported by:



If you wish to discuss, or are interested in championing, the UK's leadership in global health, please contact saoirse@stopaids.org.uk. Please also let us know if there are any specific topics touched on in this briefing of particular interest to you.