



**10** YEARS  
OF SAVING  
LIVES

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# Impact, value and effectiveness

**Saving  
children's  
lives**

**A call  
for action and  
resources  
for the  
GAVI Alliance**

**NEW YORK  
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***The GAVI Alliance - investing in cost-effective, evidence-based public health interventions through proven delivery mechanisms.***

For more detailed information, including data sources, see 'Investing in immunisation through the GAVI Alliance – the evidence base', available at [www.gavialliance.org](http://www.gavialliance.org)

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## The GAVI Alliance: impact, value and effectiveness

Through the GAVI Alliance, the international community has established an effective funding mechanism for supporting immunisation and health systems, and for introducing new vaccines in developing countries. GAVI directly helps to reduce child mortality (MDG 4) but also contributes to the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals.

### Impact

- By the end of 2009, the GAVI Alliance **had prevented 5.4 million future deaths** through supporting routine immunisation against hepatitis B, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) and pertussis (whooping cough), and one-off tactical investments in immunisation against measles, polio and yellow fever. The introduction of these vaccines have protected millions more people against debilitating illness and disability.
- WHO and UNICEF attribute the steady **climb in global immunisation coverage** seen in the last decade to the work of the GAVI Alliance. In 2008 coverage for three doses of the diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine (DTP3) in low-income countries reached 79% - the highest level ever. In GAVI's first decade, more than 257 million additional children were immunised with GAVI-funded vaccines.
- By aggregating demand for vaccines and pooling significant funds, GAVI creates economies of scale, which encourages vaccine manufacturers to expand production capacity and attracts new suppliers to the market. Competition **reduces prices**, making vaccines more affordable to developing countries. For example, the price of pentavalent vaccine has dropped from US\$ 3.62 in 2007 to US\$ 2.96 in 2010, a fall of almost 20%. GAVI's **market-shaping impact** helps to ensure the sustainability of donor investments.
- GAVI plays a critical role in setting **new global standards for safe injection practices**. Under its Injection Safety Support programme, GAVI provides three years funding to national immunisation programmes for auto-disposable syringes. Countries are expected to find sustainable financing to continue injection safety programmes at the completion of GAVI support. Results are highly promising. A 2008 study found that out of 58 countries that had received the **catalytic support**, 30 continued with fully government-funded programmes, 11 relied on a mixture of donor funding and government support and 15 used other donor funding. Only two countries were not able to sustain support after GAVI's funding ended.
- GAVI's investments in health systems strengthening (HSS) are helping to ensure that immunisation and other health services reach the women and children who need them most. GAVI has **pioneered new approaches to HSS** increasing the effectiveness of support by lowering transaction costs on countries and reinforcing national ownership of health policies and plans.

## Value

- Vaccines are a **cost-effective** preventative intervention, **representing one of the 'best buys' in public health**. Studies show GAVI vaccines are all cost effective, according to standard classifications and also when compared to other interventions. Some even generate significant sustainable cost-savings from the reduced need for treatment and care. The benefit is multiplied by the herd immunity effect, whereby protection is indirectly transferred to those not vaccinated.
- Pneumonia is the world's biggest killer of children with 95% of deaths occurring in Africa and Asia. **New vaccines against pneumococcal disease** are now available in formulations that specifically address the types of disease found in low-income countries.
- Vaccines against rotavirus, the leading cause of severe diarrhoeal disease in young children, are now recommended by WHO for inclusion in all national immunisation programmes. While other types of diarrhoea such as those caused by bacteria and parasites can be prevented through improvements in sanitation and hygiene, rotavirus is so contagious and resilient that improving water and hygiene does not significantly impact incidence or mortality. Immunisation is the **most effective way to prevent severe episodes of rotavirus diarrhoea**.
- Pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccines have the **potential to avert an additional one million child deaths each and every year**. Growing developing country demand is outpacing available funds.
- As a **public-private global health partnership**, the GAVI Alliance unites individuals and organisations around a shared mission of bringing new vaccines to the children of the world's poorest countries. The Alliance **leverages the core competencies of partners**, including UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank and provides incentives for improving and developing new ways of doing business. Through the Alliance, partners have developed performance-based approaches to development aid, tested and proved innovative financing mechanisms, and introduced new technologies to boost immunisation coverage.
- GAVI is at the forefront of **innovative financing for development**. The International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) has had a sea-change effect on the levels and predictability of funding for immunisation and the pilot Advance Market Commitment (AMC) is set to bring about affordable, appropriate pneumococcal vaccines for developing countries.

## Aid effectiveness

- GAVI's business model, programming approach and innovation in development financing seeks to **maximise the effectiveness of its support** to developing countries. GAVI also contributes to international efforts to improve aid effectiveness by **contributing experience and learning from others**.
- The internationally-agreed **Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness is a core tenet of GAVI's approach**. Specifically, GAVI addresses each of the Paris Declaration principles the following way:

### ***Country ownership***

GAVI provides support to expand access to immunisation at the request of countries, committing support for the duration of individual countries' health and immunisation plans. Such predictability enables countries to better plan and increases the value of the support. A successful innovative co-financing programme has significantly increased country ownership.

### ***Alignment***

GAVI provides support for countries' own priorities as set out in their national immunisation and health plans. National immunisation programmes are the vehicle for GAVI support, which is audited wherever possible using the countries' own procedures.

### ***Harmonisation***

By pooling resources at the global level and working through an Alliance partnership model, international support for developing countries' immunisation and health plans is better harmonised. GAVI also actively supports harmonisation efforts through the International Health Partnership. To further streamline external support behind national plans, GAVI is working with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, the World Bank and the World Health Organization to set up a new Health Systems Funding Platform.

### ***Managing for results***

GAVI encourages a focus on results such as increased immunisation coverage. Countries receive financial rewards for additional children vaccinated, year on year. In line with the Paris Declaration, GAVI measures results using existing country data.

### ***Mutual accountability***

GAVI brings together its partners in the Alliance Board, which holds all parties to account for their respective responsibilities. At the country level, GAVI's approach encourages an inclusive partnership. Providing information on aid flows is also a part of this commitment. GAVI transparently reports fund flows on its website and to the OECD data base, and is a founding partner of the International Aid Transparency Initiative.



2 Chemin des Mines  
1202 Geneva  
Switzerland

Tel. +41 22 909 65 00  
Fax +41 22 909 65 55

[www.gavialliance.org](http://www.gavialliance.org)  
[info@gavialliance.org](mailto:info@gavialliance.org)