

# Partnering with multilateral development banks to build sustainable immunisation systems

- **Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance** is expanding its work with multilateral development banks (MDBs) by deepening existing partnerships and entering into new ones.
- Collaboration between Gavi and the **World Bank Group** will grow during 2026–2030, with increased joint work on financing, vaccine manufacturing in Africa and global health security.
- Gavi and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** are scaling up sustainable funding of health and immunisation projects, including providing up to US\$ 1 billion in financing to AIIB member countries eligible for Gavi support.
- Gavi and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** are increasing access to sustainable financing for health and immunisation programmes for Gavi-eligible countries in Asia and the Pacific.
- The **European Investment Bank (EIB)** is providing Gavi with €1 billion in financing to accelerate access to vaccines against viruses with pandemic potential; and to support routine immunisation.

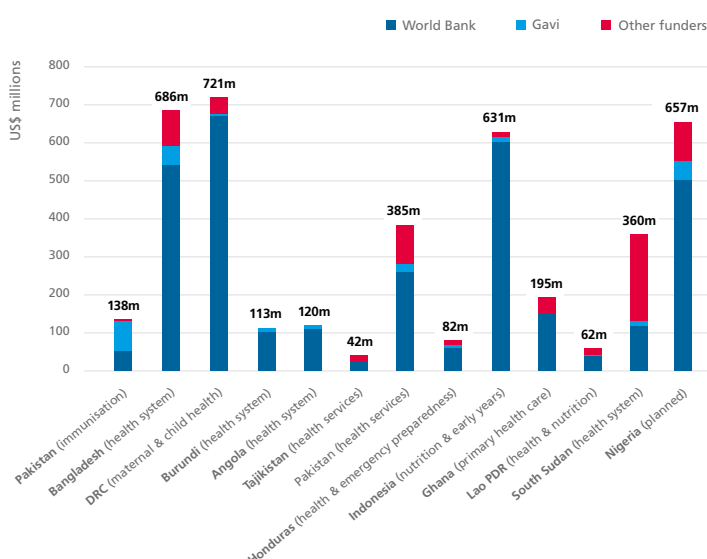
## A history of successful partnership

The World Bank, one of Gavi's four founding partners, is the oldest and best-known multilateral development bank (MDB). Over the past decade, it has committed some US\$ 3.2 billion in financing for health and nutrition projects in 12 countries – including recent programmes in Indonesia, Pakistan and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) – alongside US\$ 278 million in planned grants for these projects from Gavi.

Gavi funds immunisation-related elements of these projects, such as cold chain infrastructure and vaccines, while the World Bank finances health systems more broadly.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Gavi partnered with two more MDBs – the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the European Investment Bank (EIB) – to help lower-income countries buy additional COVID-19 vaccine doses beyond those funded by donors.

Health, nutrition and immunisation projects jointly financed by Gavi, the World Bank and other funders, committed 2016–2025



Note: Amounts quoted include Gavi's contributions to joint projects only. They do not include Gavi funding for vaccine procurement and other supported programmes, nor do they include domestic government funding. Other funders include: United States Agency for International Development, UNICEF, Gates Foundation, Global Financing Facility (GFF), Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Health Results Innovation Trust Fund (HRITF), Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), European Union and the Governments of Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Australia.

## Financing accelerated progress

Gavi's funding model fosters the long-term sustainability of immunisation by encouraging countries to invest in new vaccines and take greater ownership of vaccine programmes.

At its heart is a co-financing policy that ensures governments pay a proportion of the cost of every vaccine provided by Gavi, with some rare exceptions, helping countries prepare for the time when they can self-fund the immunisation of their populations.

Vaccinating a child in a health clinic is just the final step of a complex journey that includes many essential processes, from training health workers and maintaining the cold chain, to data collection and raising public awareness.

Gavi provides some funding for these vital elements, but it is ultimately for countries to build the health systems needed to support effective vaccination programmes. By accessing financing from MDBs, countries can do so more quickly and accelerate a wide range of benefits, from saving lives and protecting health, to increased productivity and economic growth. Projects that pool grants, finance and expertise from MDBs, Gavi and other partners can also benefit countries through lower transaction costs, simpler reporting and reduced duplication (see Indonesia case study below).

Gavi expects MDB financing to become increasingly important to countries as they transition out of Gavi support, especially at a time of falling development assistance from some donors.

### What our experts say

**"MDB financing helps countries to cover the big humps of investment needed to introduce or sustain coverage of a vaccine on terms they can afford, often on a concessional basis."**

**Charles Bleehe**  
Head of Development Finance at Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

### What are multilateral development banks?

Multilateral development banks (MDBs) are international institutions set up by multiple countries.

They support low- and middle-income countries through loans, credits and grants for projects such as building hospitals, delivering clean water and providing transport infrastructure.

Where MDB financing needs to be repaid, the interest they charge is often lower than commercial rates and is calibrated to the country's income level.

MDBs also provide other support, including technical assistance, training, policy advice, networking opportunities, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

## Deepening existing partnerships

Gavi is building on its successful track record of joint financing with MDBs to spread the benefits of immunisation further and faster in low- and middle-income countries.

Its collaboration with the **World Bank** will deepen during Gavi's next strategic period (2026–2030), with increased joint work on financing, vaccine manufacturing in Africa and global health security.

The **European Investment Bank (EIB)** is the financing arm of the European Union. Beyond its support during the COVID-19 pandemic, the EIB is providing Gavi with €1 billion in liquidity to accelerate access to vaccines for viruses with pandemic potential (such as Ebola); and to support routine vaccination against diseases like measles, malaria and human papillomavirus (HPV). Gavi is exploring how to work with the EIB in new ways, such as shaping markets to lower costs for new vaccines.

## Multilateral development bank partnerships in numbers

**US\$ 4.2bn**

combined financing committed by World Bank, Gavi and others for joint health, nutrition and immunisation projects during 2016–2029

**12**

countries in which Gavi, the World Bank and other funders have agreed to collaborate on joint health, nutrition and immunisation financing projects since 2016

**US\$ 1bn**

financing available from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) alongside Gavi funding for health and immunisation projects

**US\$ 278m**

Gavi grants for partnership projects alongside other financing from the World Bank and others during 2016–2029

**€ 1bn**

financing provided by the European Investment Bank (EIB) to Gavi to accelerate access to donor funds for vaccines to protect against viruses with pandemic potential; and to support routine immunisation

## Embarking on new partnerships

Gavi has entered into new partnerships with MDBs to expand immunisation financing, enhance programmatic sustainability and support successful transitions from Gavi support.

On 13 May 2025, Gavi and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** announced a landmark partnership to scale up sustainable financing for health and immunisation projects in AIIB member countries eligible for Gavi support. This will provide up to US\$ 1 billion in financing to support public sector health projects, which can be complemented with Gavi funding, subject to country demand. Gavi and the AIIB will also explore greater use of innovative financing approaches, such as the use of donor liquidity mechanisms that can rapidly mobilise funds to support immunisation or emergency response.

On 12 June 2025, Gavi and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** announced a new partnership to enable Gavi-eligible countries in Asia and the Pacific to access sustainable financing for health and immunisation programmes, climate-resilient health systems, and immunisation-related advocacy and knowledge sharing. Gavi is also exploring the use of innovative financing approaches to support this work.

Gavi is currently in discussion with other MDBs, with a view to establishing further partnerships—including the use of financing facilities to better support sustainable vaccination programmes in low- and middle-income countries.

### CASE STUDY: LAO PDR

#### Partnering to save more lives

Between 2000 and 2020, the **Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR)** recorded significant improvements in health indicators, including life expectancy and child mortality. Many gains were however slowed or lost due to disruptions to essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The country has also faced fiscal challenges and periods of high inflation. In 2024, Lao PDR was estimated to have the highest mortality rate among children aged under one year in South-East Asia.

Phase 2 of the five-year Health and Nutrition Services Access Project (HANSA2) is designed to provide a basic package of nutrition, health and immunisation services in districts with high needs, with a particular focus on reducing maternal and infant mortality. The US\$ 62 million fund is being financed with a US\$ 39 million World Bank loan and three grants (including a US\$ 2 million grant from Gavi).

By pooling their efforts, partners can leverage each other's strengths, cut duplication and improve efficiency. Early results are positive: the proportion of infants receiving three doses of the five-in-one pentavalent vaccine (containing DPT, hepB and Hib) increased from 60.8% in August 2024 to 91.9% in April 2025 in previously low-coverage districts.

### CASE STUDY: INDONESIA

#### Investing in health and nutrition

Some 571,000 children in Indonesia did not receive a single dose of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis-containing vaccine in 2023. That means the country was home to almost 1 in 25 'zero-dose' children worldwide that year.

Also in 2023, Gavi agreed to contribute US\$ 15 million—alongside grants from other donors and a US\$ 600 million World Bank loan—to finance phase 2 of the Investing in Nutrition and Early Years (INEY2) project.

The five-year partnership aims to improve health and nutrition across Indonesia, and includes targets to reduce the proportion of unimmunised children and increase the number of fully immunised children.

Indonesia transitioned from Gavi support to fully self-financing its routine vaccination programme in 2017 and pledged to become a Gavi donor in 2024.



Salakham Health Center, Lao PDR  
Credit: Gavi/2024/Running Reel