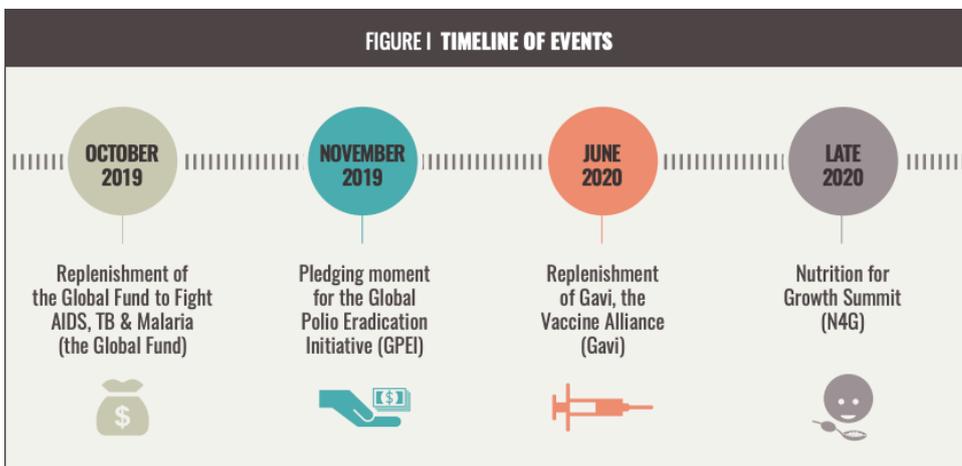


Building Health for All, Brick by Brick

Support the UK's continued funding for health and nutrition.

2019 and 2020 provide a big opportunity for the UK to continue supporting some important global health initiatives – international aid programmes that collectively reach millions of people to treat or prevent diseases and save millions of lives. In June, the UK announced a historic £1.4 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. And a conference this November to gain new funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) will be a chance for the UK to pledge £400 million over 3 years to help end this crippling disease of poverty. Then, in summer next year, the UK will host a conference to renew funding for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and in Japan, the next 'Nutrition for Growth' event will be a chance for the UK to continue its leadership on fighting malnutrition and providing all children everywhere with the chance to live a healthy, productive life. Together, these investments build a vital platform for meeting the world's commitment to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by 2030. This remarkable vision is achievable, but it's important to show our leaders that there is strong public support for these global health initiatives. This month, as the replenishment of GPEI approaches, and as Ministers and civil servants plan for the funding moments in 2020, please write to Secretary of State Alok Sharma MP, asking him to support all these health initiatives to build health for all, brick by brick.



Source: [Accelerating Progress on Global Health](#)

A focus on global health

Last month, the UK signed a political declaration at the UN to accelerate progress on achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC). UHC is the concept that everyone should have access to the health services they need without being forced into financial hardship. Currently, the high cost of healthcare around the world leads to around 8.6 million deaths per year, and pushes approximately 100 million people into poverty. 2019 and 2020 provide a unique window of opportunity to put the words of the political declaration into action.

Good health is vital for a productive and fulfilling life, alongside access to education and economic opportunities. But while progress has been made toward UHC, such as increasing the coverage of essential vaccines, and tackling diseases such as TB and

malaria, [at least half of the world's population](#) still cannot obtain essential health services.

Building global health brick by brick

The UK has a strong track record on global health, as a leading donor to organisations such as Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. It also initiated the 'Nutrition for Growth' agenda in 2013, and funds nutrition programmes around the world. As existing funding comes to an end, all these important health programmes will need renewed financial commitments from donors in 2019 or 2020. Never before have these opportunities lined up together so closely, which is why this year and the start of next year, we need to ensure that the Government directs UK aid spending firmly toward achieving UHC.

It is now time to go further and faster in our efforts to improve global health. Over the next nine months, we have the chance to ensure that [all the bricks of the global health infrastructure are fully financed and able to support each other](#). Investment in vaccination, nutrition, and tackling infectious diseases like TB are some of the best ways to save lives and prevent illness. They complement each other and, at the same time,

will undermine each other if they are not all properly prioritised and supported. Health financing moments are an opportunity to improve how these partnerships work together to tackle health and nutrition together, and collectively support strong, sustainable health systems.

What exactly is happening this year?

In June, the UK announced [a historic £1.4 billion](#) for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria over 3 years, an investment that will help save the lives of 2 million people around the world. Thank you for your campaigning on this! This early pledge has already [helped persuade other donors](#) to [make ambitious pledges in advance](#) of the Global Fund's sixth replenishment conference in Lyon on 10 October, which will seek to raise at least US \$14 billion to [step up the fight](#) against the diseases, saving 16 million lives.

Then, [a pledging conference in Abu Dhabi](#) in November calling for new funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) will be a chance for the UK to pledge an additional £400 million over 3 years, contributing to the US \$3.27 billion needed to end this crippling disease. In July, we asked you to help raise the importance of polio eradication with DFID Minister Andrew Murrison. Thank you to everyone who shared the letters they received back from him. [World Polio Day](#) (24 October) will be an important moment to gain renewed political will for polio eradication, and we are hoping to see strong support from the new Secretary of State for International Development, Alok Sharma MP.

And in 2020?

The job doesn't stop there! In summer 2020, [the UK will host a conference](#) to renew funding for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the organisation that creates equal access to vaccines for children living in the world's poorest countries. Founded in 2000, it has helped to immunise more than 690 million children and has prevented more than 10 million deaths. In 2015, the UK

pledged £1 billion over 5 years to Gavi, and is its largest donor. As conference host, the UK will have a strong interest in ensuring an ambitious replenishment to enable all children to receive all 11 WHO-recommended vaccines – something that the world is still a long way off track to achieve.

Later next year, Japan will host the Nutrition for Growth summit – a chance for the UK to continue its global leadership on fighting malnutrition, which costs the global economy US \$3.5 trillion annually in lost productivity and healthcare costs. Undernutrition currently plays a role in nearly half of all under-5 child deaths, and hinders the development of at least 200 million more children.

Political will is needed more than ever

The UK Government must continue to see strong public support for all these global health initiatives, in the face of other spending commitments and ongoing political turmoil. Each investment in global health supports the efficacy of the others; and a failure to support one compromises the efficacy of them all. For example, in order to get the most from their investment in Global Fund, DFID must invest in vaccines, as vaccine-preventable illnesses can kill people living with HIV or increase a person's susceptibility to TB.

We hope the Government's financial pledge to the Global Fund will be followed by a pledge of £400 million to GPEI, and support for Gavi and Nutrition for Growth next year. We look forward to seeing the UK continuing its historic support for all these initiatives; but it would be dangerous to take this for granted. Please help maximise the chances of strong UK funding for these life-saving health initiatives by writing to the Secretary of State, Alok Sharma, explaining why all these health initiatives work together to achieve health for all, and asking for ambitious financial pledges on global health, starting with GPEI replenishment this autumn, and followed by Gavi and Nutrition for Growth in 2020.

Take action!

This month, please write to the Secretary of State for International Development Alok Sharma, asking him to support all the global health interventions that need additional funding in 2019 and 2020. Please explain your personal reasons for supporting these health initiatives, which work together as vital building block of sustainable health systems and achieving health for all.

Contact details: Rt. Hon. Alok Sharma MP, Secretary of State, Department for International Development, 22 Whitehall, London SW1A 2EG. Email: DFIDCorrespondence@dfid.gov.uk

Or you can tweet your support using #100WaysAidWorks or #UKAid. Please let us know that you've taken action by emailing Dela at delanderson@results.org.uk.