

IFFIm: The International Finance Facility for Immunisation



Bringing together capital market investors and children in the world's poorest countries. **Both benefit.**

The challenge



In the developed world, protection from disease through immunisation is taken for granted. But every year in poorer countries, some 24 million children miss out on vaccinations against the most common diseases, making them vulnerable to sickness, disability and death.

Every year, approximately 2.3 million children die from easily-preventable diseases such as diphtheria, pneumonia, diarrhoea and yellow fever – a massive and inexcusable loss of human potential.

One of the main reasons for this global failure is a lack of predictable, long-term funding that allows developing countries to plan and implement programmes to protect and improve their children's health.



“A child’s access to life-saving vaccines too often depends on where he or she lives in the world. Vaccines taken for granted in rich countries still don’t get to millions of children in the developing world. This is a solvable problem.”

Melinda Gates
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The solution



The International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) exists to rapidly accelerate the availability and predictability of funds for immunisation.

The funds raised by IFFIm are used by the GAVI Alliance, a public-private partnership working to reduce vaccine-preventable deaths and illness among children under five.

The GAVI Alliance (formerly the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation) provides funds to purchase and deliver vaccines and strengthen health services in 72 of the world's poorest countries.

A total anticipated IFFIm disbursement of US\$ 4 billion is expected to protect more than 500 million children through immunisation.

The additional resources raised by IFFIm ensure that GAVI can save lives by providing reliable and predictable funding over the long term.



“Investing in IFFIm bonds is a sound investment, with both financial returns and human benefits. The payback in lives saved is immediate.”

Dr Alan Gillespie
IFFIm Board Chairman

How IFFIm works



The International Finance Facility for Immunisation was launched in 2006 thanks to the initiative of the United Kingdom Government. IFFIm is also supported by France, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Norway and South Africa who have together pledged to contribute US\$ 5.3 billion to IFFIm over 20 years. This strong financial base enables IFFIm to have a triple-A rating from the three major rating agencies.

IFFIm raises finance by issuing bonds in the capital markets and so converts the long-term government pledges into immediately available cash resources. The long-term government pledges will be used to repay the IFFIm bonds. The World Bank acts as financial adviser and treasury manager to IFFIm.

IFFIm's initial offering in November 2006 raised US\$ 1 billion among institutional investors globally and a second offering in March 2008 raised the equivalent of US\$ 223 million from private individuals in Japan.



"IFFIm is building a remarkable bridge between investors and children in the world's poorest countries. IFFIm has made it possible for GAVI to commit to support countries for as long as 10 years."

Dr Julian Lob-Levyt
Executive Secretary, GAVI Alliance

Results



Immunisation rates in the developing world are once again on the rise.

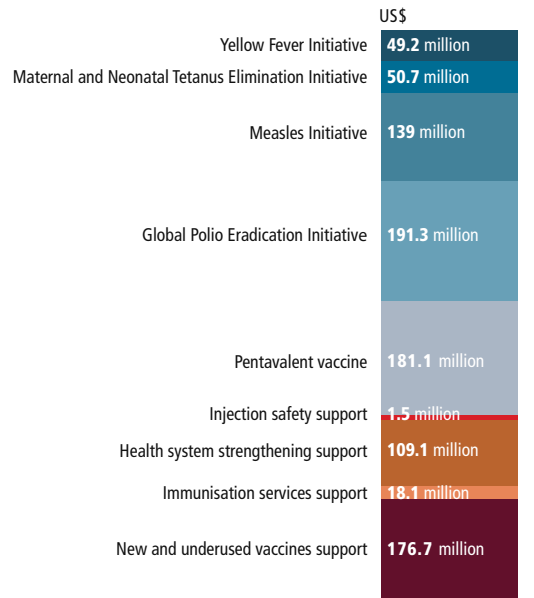
By December 2007, IFFIm's support had allowed the GAVI Alliance to double its spending on immunisation and local health services.

By March 2008, GAVI had already disbursed 90 per cent of IFFIm's initial US \$ 1 billion. This support helped immunise 14 million children against hepatitis B, 4 million children against yellow fever, and 4 million children against *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib).

IFFIm funds directly helped prevent a yellow fever epidemic in Cameroon in 2007 and strengthened the push to eradicate polio as a major global health problem. >>

How IFFIm funds are spent

November 2006 to March 2008



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IFFIm funds are also assisting countries to quickly address health system bottlenecks that limit their ability to provide vaccines to children.

For example, Ethiopia has a plan to train 30,000 health workers to provide immunisation and other health services to 15,000 remote rural communities. Thanks to IFFIm, the Government of Ethiopia received US\$ 76.5 million to support its plan which is on track to have all the health workers trained and deployed in communities by the end of 2008.

With a competitive market-based rate of interest and a secure triple-A rating, IFFIm provides investors with a solid financial return. For the world's poorest children, IFFIm's innovative "injection" of support helps ensure that they are protected from disease and can go on to live healthy and productive lives.

For further information please visit www.iff-immunisation.org

"Supporting children's immunisation is undoubtedly the best investment we've ever made."

Bill Gates
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation





The GAVI Alliance is a public-private partnership of major stakeholders in immunisation. It includes developing country and donor governments, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the vaccine industry in both industrialised and developing countries, research and technical agencies, civil society organisations and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Since it was launched at the World Economic Forum in 2000, GAVI has prevented more than 3.4 million future deaths and helped protect 213 million children with new and underused vaccines.

www.gavialliance.org



World Bank Group

The World Bank is a global development cooperative owned by 185 member countries aimed at helping to overcome poverty and improve standards of living for people worldwide. As the Treasury Manager for IFFIm, the World Bank manages IFFIm's finances according to prudent policies and standards. This includes IFFIm's funding strategy and its implementation in the capital markets, rating agency and investor outreach, hedging transactions and investment management. The World Bank also coordinates with IFFIm's donors and manages their pledges and payments and IFFIm's disbursements through the GAVI Alliance.

www.worldbank.org



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